

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Carvain's Silk Moire'

Courtesy American Camellia Society

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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 to the Secretary. Annual dues: \$7.50.

OFFICERS

MEYER PIET, Pres.
757 Anoakia Lane, Arcadia 91006
Tel. 355-6947

GRADY, PERIGAN, Vice Pres.
11147 Daines Dr., Arcadia 91006
Tel. 448-9795

MRS. BERNICE GUNN, Secretary
8421 California Ave., Whittier 90605
Tel. 693-5967 (Area Code 213)

DIRECTORS

CAREY BLISS
533 N. Sequoia, San Gabriel 91775
Tel. 282-8160

SERGIO BRACCI
5567 N. Burton Ave., San Gabriel 91776
Tel. 286-4338

GEORGE LEWIS
1691 La Cresta, Pasadena 91103
Tel. 681-1479

ROBERT A. EASTMAN
1973 Aliso, Costa Mesa 92626
Tel. (714) 548-3624

TED B. MITCHELL
520 N. Segovia, San Gabriel 91775
Tel. 287-4011

LEE GAETA
4209 N. Cedar Ave., El Monte 91732
Tel. 444-4698

I. JOHN MOVICH
3929 Williams Ave., LaVerne 91705
Tel. (714) 622-1961

WILLIARD F. GOERTZ
1835 Carlisle Dr., San Marino
Tel. 282-5665

ERNIE PIERI,
601 Elm, San Gabriel 91775
Tel. 287-5977

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MR. WILLIAM E. WOODROOF

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FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES

GEORGE ROBB
P.O. Box 313
Putoruru, New Zealand

OLWEN LAURIE
Box 10083, Te Rapa
Hamilton, New Zealand

THE CAMELLIA REVIEW: HAROLD E. DRYDEN, Editor, 820 Winston Ave., San Marino, Tel. 793-4214

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THE COVER FLOWER

C. JAPONICA 'CARVAIN'S SILK MOIRE'

This 9 year old chance Japonica seedling was originated by Jon Laird Carvain of Fort Worth, Texas and is being propagated by Jackson's Nursery and Garden Center of Tyler, Texas. The semi-double coral pink medium sized flowers are heavily moired with white. The flowers do not shatter or bullnose and are long lasting. Blooming time is mid-season. We are told that gibbing does not induce early blooming.

S. C. C. S. 1973 AWARDS

The Southern California Camellia Society Awards Committee has decided that there are varieties of merit in four of the five categories for which Awards are made by the Society, and the Society has honored these varieties and originators as follows for 1973:

The **MARGARETE HERTRICH AWARD**, for outstanding japonica seedling, to 'Granada', originated by Monique Peer of Park Hill, Hollywood, California, and propagated by Nuccio's Nurseries.

The **WILLIAM E. WYLAM AWARD**, for outstanding boutonniere japonica (small and miniature) to 'Pink Smoke', originated by David L. Feathers of Lafayette, California.

The **FRANK L. STORMENT AWARD**, for outstanding reticulata or hybrid with reticulata parentage, to 'Arch of Triumph', originated by David L. Feathers.

The **DR. JOHN TAYLOR AWARD** for outstanding hybrid with other than reticulata parentage, to 'Angel Wings', originated and propagated by Kramer Bros. Nursery of Upland, California.

No award was made for the **WILLIAM HERTRICH AWARD** for outstanding mutant or sport.

Formal presentation of symbols of the awards will be made at the Society's annual supper at Descanso Gardens in June.



THOUGHTS

from the editor

One of the things that has been disturbing me has been the gradual reduction in the number of camellia nurseries that grow camellias for the hobbyists, who are alert to the new varieties that originate both locally and in other areas, and where there is a good chance of finding the latest. We once had three such nurseries in the Pasadena area—Nuccio's, McCaskill's and Marshall's. Kramer Brothers, not far away, did not go as far as the other three in keeping up with new varieties but they were always one of the four that were available to us. Domoto's in the San Francisco Bay Area took care of the north.

Marshall's passed out of the picture with Les Marshall's death. Verne McCaskill gives less attention to new varieties. Kramer Brothers is exclusively wholesale and specializes in the "bread and butter varieties" that are the life-blood of all nurseries. I am informed that Domoto's is gradually phasing out insofar as camellia hobbyist interest is concerned. That leaves us two nurseries in California that are alert to the new varieties—Nuccio's and Al and Vera Parker's relatively new Redwood Empire Nursery at Sebastopol in the north.

I am not a nurseryman, but I have been around them enough to know that there is little profit in handling all the new varieties that the hobbyists collectively are interested in. Their money is in the established varieties, those that will grow on their own roots and have general public acceptance. Their "profit" from the new varieties is in their own personal pleasure in growing them and in their associations with the camellia people who call on them. After all, these camellia nurserymen who we sometimes take for granted are at heart camellia hobbyists who have elected to make their livings by growing the plants that are our pleasure.

Where do we camellia hobbyists come in?

First, we must recognize that we have a vital interest in their continued prosperity. To stay right here at home, the camellia people in Southern California would take it on the chin if Nuccio's should elect to follow Kramer's pattern and become exclusively wholesale. There is nobody on the horizon who would take their place for the camellia hobbyists.

Second, accept the purchase of new varieties as a part of the cost of the hobby, just as fertilizer and fir bark. I am not so naive as to suggest that grafting go out the door. But we should stop "looking for a scion", particularly before a variety hits the market. Give the nurseryman an opportunity to at least recover his costs of introducing new varieies.

We are serving our own interests when we serve their's.

Harold E. Dwyer

HIGO CAMELLIAS—LET'S TALK ABOUT THEM

Bill Donnan

Pasadena, California

I chuckle when I read the title of this article. It reminds me of our first grandchild, Lisa. When she started to talk she was a real magpie and she would chatter away, usually mimicing her elders. She would climb up on my lap and say, "Let's talk Ganty, - *you talk first!*" That's exactly the way I feel! All I know about Higo camellias is what others have told me or what I have researched. So, if there's someone out there in the readers group who knows all about Higos, I'll climb up on his lap and say, "You talk first!"

Maybe we ought to start by trying to categorize the Higo camellia. As you all know the genus CAMELLIA is divided into more than 80 "species", differing from one another by floral and leaf characteristics. The 1972 Camellia Nomenclature lists 89 different species. There is nothing about Higo anywhere in this listing. But wait a minute! What about Snow Camellias? Aren't the Higos supposed to be Snow Camellias?—We better look under *C. rusticana*, Old Buddy! So we look under *C. rusticana* (Snow Camellia) and we find that they are listed as a sub-species of *C. japonica*. Also in reading further about the genus CAMELLIA we find that there is a bit of an argument regarding whether *C. rusticana* is a real species or a sub-species. Then to compound the argument, we find that perhaps the Higo is not a true snow camellia, but rather a hybrid cross between the so-called *C. rusticana* and *C. japonica*.

Are you confused? Well, I want to quote from some of the real experts on both snow Camellias and Higo camellias. I ran onto some information written by Mr. Jack Craig, who lives in Japan and who has had two

articles published in the 1971 American Camellia Society Yearbook. Craig's first article is entitled "The Snow Camellia In Japan" and he describes it as a *C. rusticana* who's native habitat ranges from 900 to 4200 feet elevation on the Island of Honshu. He goes on to say that *C. japonica* also grows wild on Honshu, but, in this area, it's verticle range only extends about 150 feet above sea level.

Craig's second article is entitled "Japan's Higo Camellias" and he tells a fascinating tale about how the Higos were developed. To paraphrase from Craig's article: "About 450 years ago, Japan was ruled by a military dictator, the supreme commander of all the samurai. The samurai lord of the ancient city of Higo (now Kumamoto) fostered the improvement of many flowers according to the samurai taste,—"In the case of the camellia, the desire was to epitomize that quality appreciated by the samurai more than any other; that of open-heartedness.—"With the "blood" of both snow camellias (*C. rusticana*) and of *C. japonica* in the matrix, the desired plum blossom center of the snow camellia was enlarged and united with the vigor and upright tree habit of the *Camellia japonica*. The resulting five to nine petaled, single flower has a burst of stamens in the center, shaped much like those of a plum blossom.—"The flower is considered to be of a proper proportion only when the diameter of the stamen burst is at least half that of the flower." It is this open-hearted quality which all the various Higo-produced camellias have in common.

Another authority which I should like to cite is a most beautifully illus-

(Continued on next page)

trated book entitled: "CAMELLIA—It's Appreciation and Artistic Arrangement", by Choka Adachi. (Incidentally, the Preface of this book, published in Japan in 1960, was written by the late Ralph S. Peer.) In a short chapter on "Snow Camellias" the author alludes to the fact that *C. rusticana* is merely the wild form of *C. japonica*. He states that the snow camellias come in all sizes, colors, forms, and configurations; singles, doubles, formal doubles, peony, pompoms and miniatures. There are about 1500 varieties of this wild ancestor which have been classified.

In a second chapter in the above cited book, entitled "About Higo-Camellia", the author states that "It (the Higo) belongs to *C. japonica* taxonomically". He goes on to describe the origin of the Higo much along the same lines as Craig's description and he states that the true Higo has the characteristic open-faced, plum-blossom conformity. In Adachi's book there is a nomenclature list of 50 Higo varieties prepared by The Higo Camellias Society of Kumamoto, Japan. The book also has 26 gorgeous color plates of Higos.

A third authority is a large (8" x 12"), slip-cased, beautifully bound volume entitled, "CAMELLIAS". Unfortunately most of the text is in Japanese and the author is untranslatable by me. Yet, in an English language Introduction one learns that YUKI TSUBAKI (The Snow Camellia) is, in a sense, the ancestor of the KYO-TSUBAKI (The Camellia of Kyoto - *C. japonica*). Also, in the Introduction, there is a paragraph about HIGO-TSUBAKI (The Higo Camellia). In describing the Higo they indicate that: "There is an element of the *C. japonica* in the Higo strain, but the shape of the flower is much improved, much more thrilling than the older KYO-TSUBAKI. (*C. japonica*)

One last citation and then we will

open the discussion. The Preface of the above mentioned Japanese language book was written by Prof. E. G. Waterhouse and his picture is in the frontpiece. In discussing the book and the beautiful color plates, Prof. Waterhouse states: "Simplicity has for me enormous appeal. Wabisuke, Choh-Chidori, Yuri-Tsubaki, and Miyako-Dori suit my mood and give me great delight, and I turn again and again to the superb pictures of these Higo Camellias".

Well, that is what the experts say; and since I am an opportunist, and find myself in hot water, I may as well take a bath! I'm going to take the bit in my teeth and try to summarize what I think the Higo Camellia really is!

(1) The Higo Camellia is a hybrid cross of *C. rusticana* and *C. japonica*; and I hasten to add that this statement only holds if *C. rusticana* is indeed a separate species.

(2) The Higo bloom is a large, 4" to 6", open-faced flower with 5 to 9 petals. The bloom is characterized by a large burst of stamens which cover half the face of the flower in a plum-blossom effect. The colors vary from white to red, including some with stripes and some of the blooms are fragrant.

(3) The Higo is not a Snow Camellia, as such. Its up-right growth suggests that it would not survive in the heavy, wet snow conditions of the Island of Honshu.

In Craig's article on "The Snow Camellia In Japan" he states that the reason these camellias can survive is that they have extremely flexible branches—"so flexible that they can be wrapped around your finger like a piece of cord,"—"Instead of the snow sifting through the branches, it gathers on the branches, sticking there and gradually weighting the branches to the ground,"—"The camellia plant spends the cold winter months pressed flat against the ground

and covered by from 6 to 10 feet of snow.”—“In the spring when the snow melts, the branches spring upward and the buds form immediately.”—“In laboratory tests, conducted in Japan, the leaves of snow camellias suffered more damage in low temperatures than did the leaves of *C. japonica*”—“Underneath the snow cover the temperatures never drops below 32 degrees and the ground never freezes.”

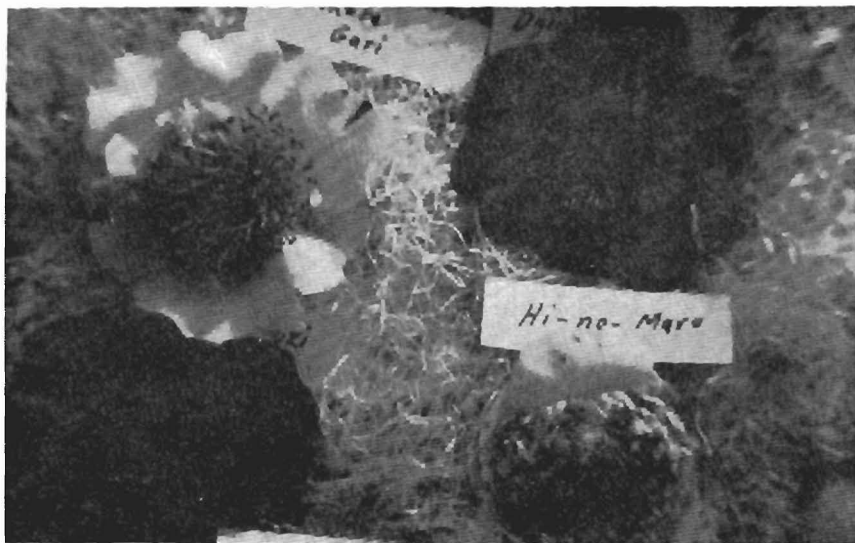
All of the above information taken from Mr. Craig’s article reminds me of a visit I made, as part of a Cultural Exchange Mission to the USSR in 1958. We were out in the Kazakhstan Steppe, about 300 miles west of Novosibirsk, looking over their new wheat lands. At one of the Russian Experiment Stations they showed us some apple trees they had developed to withstand the cold Siberian winters. The two-foot high trunks had long springy branches, which were trained to grow along the ground. An ordinary upright apple tree would split open it’s trunk and die in the 50

degree below zero winter temperature, but these “bush apples” would be covered by snow and thus survive the winter.

So, as I say, the Higos are probably no more cold resistant than, say, BERNICE BODDY which is a good frost resistant variety. By the same token, one can question whether *C. rusticana* (The Snow Camellia) is cold resistant.

Let’s get back to the Higo Camellia and continue our discussion. The interest in Higos and Snow Camellias in California centers in three locations. Mr. John M. Herndon of Sacramento has some; the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino has some; but by far the largest and most diversified collection can be found at the Nuccio’s Nursery in Altadena. Early in 1970 Nuccio’s Nursery commissioned Mr. Jack Craig to pick out about 30, each, of the best Higo and *C. rusticana* in Japan and send them here for propagation. The shipment of scions arrived that spring

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Nuccio’s Nurseries think that Higo camellias will become popular for gardens after they become known.

and were grafted onto *C. sasanqua* root stock. Nuccio's now has some 35 *C. rusticana* and over 40 Higo plants growing in their new-introduction lath house. These are all 2½ year old grafts and most of them have bloomed. The blooms of the *C. rusticana* range in color from white to pink to red; and in shape, form, and size, from single, to double to formal, to peony, to miniature. The plants all have the characteristic springy branches and bushy growth conducive to survival under wet snow conditions.

On the other hand, the Higo plants are all vigorous, straight and upright in growth. Furthermore, the Higo blooms are all singles with from 5 to 9 petals and they all have the characteristic large burst of stamens. They range in color from white to red with some stripped red-white and two or three have quite fragrant blooms. From these imports Nuccio's Nursery plans to choose about 8 to 10 each of the *C. rusticana* and Higo to

propagate for sale.

What does the future hold for the Higo Camellias? As a landscape plant they would be ideal. The mass of color from these large whites or pinks would be very effective. As a source of new genes to create new hybrid blooms they might be an important contribution to our present mix. Apparently there was a concentrated period of in-breeding needed to produce the present strain of Higo. Crossing with *C. reticulata* might produce something sensational. As a source of new blooms for the camellia hobbyist and for the future shows they are, to say the least, a new innovation. As everyone knows, the tastes for what constitutes "the best bloom of the show" has changed over the years. The Higos, with their large open-faced petals and the immense cluster of stamens could catch on. For example, here is Bill Donnan, that old rock-ribbed, purest; who loves the formal double blooms; who has

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Fred Hamilton (left) won the Award of Merit at the recent Descanso Gardens show for most points won with Honor Table flowers, on the scale of 5 points for Best, 3 points for Runner-up and 1 point for Court of Honor flowers. Grady Perigan, Show Chairman, presented the Certificate at the S.C.C.S. March meeting.

RETICULATAS AND THE CALIFORNIA "COLD-SPELL"

Howard E. Burnette
Castro Valley, California

During the early part of this year's camellia blooming season we were asked to write a short summary on how we grow Reticulata Hybrids. We purposely abstained since we thought that perhaps it would be of more interest to report how our Retics were effected by a prolonged northern California freeze during the past winter. Most of our garden plants (jade plants, ornamental succulents and cymbidium orchids) were completely wiped out. The camellia collection suffered frozen leaves, buds and flowers and some tip burn; however, we were most fortunate that we lost only a few seedling plants.

Normally the only variation in our northern California winters is the amount of rainfall that we receive, taking in stride an occasional cold-spell. Frost periods range from mid-December to the first of April and once in a while night-time temperatures will drop to a cool 24° but the daytime ambients will raise to 40° - 50° F. This past winter the weatherman has let us have both extremes—double our annual average rainfall and delivering us a solid week of freezing weather. During the middle of December we were stunned with evenings as cold as 14°F while our daytime temperatures hovered below 30°F. Garden hoses were frozen and some people even experienced frozen water lines. Cold, drying winds compounded the problems of container camellia culture.

The shock of our freeze was heightened by the fact that our blooming season had started early and it promised to be an outstanding flower year. Bloom size, color and form was exceptionally good and then—ZAP! ZAM! ZOWIE! The cold winds which preempted the freeze took its toll. All

flower buds showing color either abscised or rotted in place and many blooms were frozen solid. Freezing is a drying process and some tubs were rendered further distress by the drying winds, and hand watering was difficult due to our frozen hoses. The following observation is the result of one cold season only; however, we hope that this is the only experience on which we can base such a report.

Plants which dropped all flower buds (including the secondary buds) and a considerable amount of leaf abscission and varying amounts of tip burn—

Red Emperor (Crimson Robe x Cornelian)

Willow Wand (Yunnan Retic)

Ellie Rubensohn (Crimson Robe x Purple Gown)

Moutancha (Yunnan Retic)

Dream Castle (Crimson Robe x Coronation)

Aztec (Crimson Robe x Lotus)

Valentine Day (Crimson Robe x Tiffany)

Our specimen plant only—smaller plants were excellent

Pagoda (Yunnan Retic) Die-back set in

Show Girl (Narumi-Gata x Cornelian)

Dream Girl (Narumi-Gata x Buddha)

This group of plants had various patterns of leaf and bud drop and then tried to bloom all at once, except for an occasional secondary bud. Most flowers were under-size or the plants bloomed-out by show time. Heavy growth was instigated early.

Buddha (Yunnan Retic) Poor form.
Purple Gown (Yunnan Retic) Outstanding blooms.

Crimson Robe (Yunnan Retic) Most blooms under-size.

(Continued on next page)

Takeiyeh (Yunnan Retic) Very few blooms, but good.
 Arch of Triumph (Wild Retic Seedling) Good color depth.
 Mandalay Queen (Tali Queen Seedling) Some very good blooms.
 Butterfly Wings (Yunnan Retic) Fair size, poor form.
 Francie L. (Saluenensis x Buddha) Very few real good blooms.
 Forty-Niner (Butterfly Wings x Indian Summer) Used for grafting stock.

Our next group of plants had a performance pattern which is difficult to describe—early blooms were very good, some bud and leaf drop and now the secondary buds are blooming as good as the early flowers. These varieties were introduced by Frank Maitland and normally when good culture is practised the grower reaps a satisfactory reward. Several of his seedlings which have not been introduced have also been good performers. These are all putative hybrids of Reticulata x Japonica; Sunset, Arbutus Gum, Pink Sparkle, Silver Mist, Descanso Mist, John Taylor and Bernadette Karsten.

We have a block of four year old Reticulata seedlings (seed originated in New Zealand) which are now blooming and showing interesting colors, flower form and size. The plants show no cold damage but the plants are too small to display a true flower. Some will be grafted for evaluation:

Here is a list of unusual performers:

William Hertrich (Cornelian seedling) Excellent color and form whereas normally we have many blooms with voids on one side.
 Otto Hopper (Crimson Robe x Lotus) Absolutely no apparent cold damage but although the blooms had good color, the form was mostly flat.
 Valentine Day (Crimson Robe x Tiffany) On our smaller plants every

bloom was show quality but some rose-bud centers did not hold very long. When blooms fully open, they are long lasting.

Pharoah (Cornelian Seedling) All buds but one dropped; this flower opened to a very deep, rose-red color and held for a long time, after which it exploded with new growth.

Howard Asper (Cornelian x Coronation) Our specimen plant attempted to bloom all at once but the smaller plants had exceptionally good blooms with rich color.

We have left our list of "best performers" last:

China Lady (Buddha x Granthamiana) Perfect flowers before and after the freeze. Very cold hardy.

Royalty (Clarise Carleton x Cornelian) Outstanding performer on our two plants. Few buds lost on 3 - one year grafts. A very cold hardy variety.

Craig Clark (Cornelian Seedling) Good form, size and color.

Osmanthus Leaf (Yunnan Reticulata) All good medium size blooms.

Chittagong (Buddha Seedling)

Kohinor (Buddha Seedling)

Milo Rowell (Crimson Robe x Tiffany)

Lila Naff (Butterfly Wings Seedling)

One of the best for form, color, size and texture.

Mouchang (Cornelian x Moutancha) Interesting color and form.

K. O. Hester (Retic x Japonica) Very good for a first year performer.

Three Dreams (Buddha Seedling) Another new and interesting flower.

Cornelian (Yunnan Reticulata) All blooms were predominantly white. The color in this one is really variable.

Eden Roc (O. P. Retic Seedling) Good blooms. Sets seed readily.

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FROST EFFECT ON CAMELLIAS

Hugh Saunders

West Malling, Kent, England

Reprinted from January 1973 Journal of The Royal Horticulture Society

Last winter (January 1972) we had one very hard frost towards the end of January. The thermometer registered 0°, thus 32 degrees of frost. Fortunately there was a coating of about 4 inches of snow on the ground, so that the earth did not freeze and most of the low-growing plants and roots were protected. But as temperatures in the previous week had been in the forties (°F), the shock to exposed plants was considerable.

The immediate after-effects did not, however, seem very serious, and the only thing noticeable was the dropping of the older leaves from the camellias. But as time went on I began to see that very serious damage had been done to a number of plants and in particular to the camellias. It is my practice to make notes on frost damage, and those about camellias seemed of sufficient interest to pass on. My previous information is based upon MR. E. B. ANDERSON'S references to cold in his admirable book on camellias.

1. *Situation.* Our garden is 340 feet above sea-level, mainly on lower greensand. It is about 1 mile from Wrotham Heath, and though sheltered by the North Downs it is exposed to north-east winds coming through the "Medway gap" at Rochester.

Camellias have been growing here for some fourteen years, either against a west wall or under flowering cherries. They usually flower well and before the frost all were full of buds except 'Oleifera' which had flowered in November/December.

2. *Varieties and size.* (a) On the west wall. Mostly 5 feet wide and 4 feet high, extending outwards about 3 feet: 'Lady Clare', 'Doncke-

larii', 'Donation', 'Magnoliaeflora', two 'Oleifera'.

(b) Under trees: mostly about 3½ feet tall and bushy except for 'Adolphe Audusson' which is over 6 feet tall and 4 feet across: 'Elegans', 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Lady Vansittart', 'Nobilissima', 'Candidissima', 'Tsukumi Gurumi'.

3. *Damage.* (a) Immediate: on bushes on the wall the old leaves dropped.

(b) After one month: all the flower buds fell off except those which had been under snow.

(c) After two months: a fair number of leaves fell off plants against the wall, from 'Donation' and 'Oleifera' in particular, but branches which had been under snow showed the usual signs of growth.

(d) After three months: buds of 'Lady Clare', 'Magnoliaeflora' and 'Nobilissima' which had been under snow bloomed normally, followed later by similar buds on 'Donckelarii'. Nearly all the remaining leaves fell from upper branches except for three of the plants under trees.

(e) After four months: most plants started to make shoots, but nearly all of these dried up, particularly near extremities. Nearly all leaves had fallen off except on 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Lady Vansittart' and 'Nobilissima', which all looked very sad. All plants were copiously watered with rain water.

(f) In summer (June / July) : growth buds began to appear at the base of most plants and in many cases up to 2 feet from the ground. In no case did a bud form on wood less than ¾-inch diameter, and mostly on thicker branches. No buds were formed at joints or forks but at some distance from them. 'Oleifera' seemed

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Show Results

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

PITTSBURG, CALIFORNIA—FEBRUARY 24-25, 1973

- Sweepstakes—Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Boynton, Lodi
Runner-up—Mr. and Mrs. Sal Davi, Pittsburg
Novice Sweepstakes—Dr. J. Holtzman, Crows Landing
Challenge Award—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ehrhart, Walnut Creek
Special Award (Most Blooms on Honor Table)—Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart, Sacramento
Best Large and Very Large Japonica—'Easter Morn', Mr. and Mrs. Don Bergamini, Martinez
Best Medium Japonica—'Betty Sheffield Blush Supreme', Ralph McPherson
Best Small Japonica—'Kity', Mr. and Mrs. Peter Galli, Pittsburg
Best Miniature Japonica—'Sugar Babe', Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Batt, Windsor
Best 3 Japonicas—'Elegans Supreme', William D. Stewart, Sacramento
Best 3 Boutonnieres—'Sugar Babe', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin, Modesto
Best 6 Japonicas—'Dr. Tinsley', Dr. J. Holtzman
Best Large and Very Large Hybrid—'Valley Knudsen', Mr. and Mrs. James E. Scott, Pittsburg
Best Small and Medium Hybrid—'Dr. Louis Pollizzi', Mr. and Mrs. James E. Scott
Best 3 Hybrids—'Valentine Day', Mr. and Mrs. Sal Davi
Best Reticulata—'Lila Naff', Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart
Best 3 Reticulatas—'Lila Naff', Mr. and Mrs. Sal Davi
Best Special Culture Bloom—'Mathotiana Supreme', Mr. and Mrs. Jack P. Woo, Fresno
Best Japonica Seedling—David L. Feathers, Lafayette
Best Hybrid Seedling—David L. Feathers

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA—MARCH 3-4, 1973

- Outstanding Flower of Show—'Flame Var', Mr. and Mrs. James E. Scott, Pittsburg
Best Large to Very Large Japonica—'Guilio Nuccio Var', William D. Stewart, Sacramento
Best Medium to Large Japonica—'Flame Var', Mr. and Mrs. James E. Scott
Best Small to Medium Japonica—'Commander Mulroy', Richard F. Roggia, San Jose
Best Miniature Japonica—'Sugar Babe', Mrs. E. A. Grebitus, Sacramento
Best 3 Large to Very Large Japonicas—'Elsie Ruth Marshall', Marie Carter, Lafayette
Best 3 Medium to Large Japonicas—'Lady Kay', Jack Lewis, Concord
Best 3 Small to Medium Japonicas—'Wildfire', Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Boynton, Lodi
Best 3 Miniature Japonicas—'Fircone', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto
Best 5 Japonicas—'Kramer's Supreme', K. Finkenbeiner, Sacramento
Best 11 Japonicas—'Tiffany', Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Veghte, Modesto
Best Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid—'Aztec', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin, Modesto

- Best 3 Reticulatas or Reticulata Hybrids—'Francie L', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro
 Best Hybrid Without Reticulata Parentage—'Elsie Jury', Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ray, Sacramento
 Best 3 Hybrids Without Reticulata Parentage—'El Dorado', Mr. and Mrs. William Paschal, Walnut Creek
 Best Collection of 9 Japonica Blooms—Mrs. E. A. Grebitus, Jr.
 Best Chemically Treated Bloom—'Adolphe Audusson', Mr. and Mrs. Jack Woo, Fresno
 Best Seedling—Japonica Seedling ('Tiffany'), J. Carroll Reiners, Sacramento
 Runners-up—D. L. Feathers, Lafayette
 Mr. and Mrs. James E. Scott
 Best Bloom Exhibited by a Judge—'Granada', H. C. Rambath, Sacramento
 Sweepstakes Award—Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ehrhart, Walnut Creek

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

SUN VALLEY SHOPPING CENTER—MARCH 10-11, 1973

- Sweepstakes Award—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ehrhart, Walnut Creek
 Runner-up—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boynton, Lodi
 Novice Sweepstakes—Peter Galli, Pittsburg
 Challenge Award—James F. Scott, Pittsburg
 Best Large to Very Large Japonica—'Tomorrow Park Hill', John K. Kick, Concord
 Runners-up—'Gunsmoke Var', James E. Scott, Pittsburg
 'Elegans Splendor', Mr. and Mrs. William Puschal, Walnut Creek
 Best Medium Japonica—'In The Pink', Mrs. C. B. McKee, Sacramento
 Runners-up—'Ella Ward Parsons', Jack Lewis, Concord
 'Betty Sheffild Supreme', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto
 Best Small Japonica—'Kitty', Anthony F. Pinheiro
 Runner-up—'Tom Thumb', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony F. Pinheiro
 Best Miniature Japonica—'Little 'Un', Anthony F. Pinheiro
 Runner-up—'Sugar Babe', Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boynton
 Best 3 Large to Very Large Japonicas—'Grand Slam', Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boynton
 Runner-up—'Elegans Supreme', Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ehrhart
 Best 3 Medium Japonicas—'Lady Edinger, Jack K. Kick, Concord
 Best 3 Boutonniere Japonicas—'Memento', Jack K. Kick
 Runner-up—'Kuro Tsubaki', James D. Grant, Santa Rosa
 Best 6 Japonicas—'Easter Morn', Mrs. W. R. Breuner, Orinda
 Runner-up—'Chandler Elegans Var', James E. Scott
 Best 6 Boutonniere Japonicas—'Man Size', Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ehrhart
 Best Reticulata Hybrid—'Howard Asper', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin, Modesto
 Runners-up—'Cornelian', Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Hayes, Walnut Creek
 'Valley Knudsen', James E. Scott
 Best 3 Reticulata Hybrids—'Buddha', Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart
 Best 6 Reticulata Hybrids—'Buddha', Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Lesmeister, Carmichael
 Runner-up—'Lenard Messel', Jack Lewis
 Best Non-Reticulata Hybrid—'Elsie Jury', Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ray, Sacramento

- Runner-up—'Charlean Var', Mr. and Mrs. Chas. O'Malley, Woodside
- Best 3 Non-Reticulata Hybrids—'Julia Hamiter', Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ray
- Best 6 Non-Reticulata Hybrids—'El Dorado', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin
- Best 12 Different Varieties—Mrs. William Breuner
- Best Large Seedling—David L. Feathers, Lafayette
- Best Medium Seedling—Albert Ferreira, Lafayette
- Best Boutonniere Seedling—#S-3, David L. Feathers

KERN COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA—MARCH 10-11, 1973

- Best Flower of Show—'Julia Hamiter', Frank Anderson, Bakersfield
- Best Large and Very Large Japonica—'Premier Var', Les Baskerville, San Diego
- Runner-up—'Tomorrow Park Hill', I. John Movich, La Verne
- Best Medium Japonica—'Winifred Womack', George Priest, Bakersfield
- Runner-up—'Midnight', I. John Movich
- Best Boutonniere Japonica—'Little Man', Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale
- Runner-up—'Fircone Var', Mr. and Mrs. Bob Krause, Shafter
- Best Reticulata Hybrid Over 5"—'William Hertrich', Frank Anderson
- Runner-up—'Howard Asper', Mr. and Mrs. Bob Krause
- Best Reticulata Hybrid Under 5"—'Valley Knudsen', Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Summerson
- Runner-up—'Fire Chief Var', Mr. and Mrs. Roger Treischel, Glendale
- Best Non-Reticulata Hybrid Over 5"—'Charlean Var', George Priest
- Runner-up—'Charlean', Mr. and Mrs. Grady Perigan, Arcadia
- Best Non-Reticulata Hybrid Under 5"—'Angel Wings', Mr. and Mrs. Robert McNeil, San Diego
- Runner-up—'E. G. Waterhouse', I. John Movich
- Best 3 Japonicas—'Tomorrow Park Hill', Mr. and Mrs. Merle Gish, Colton
- Runner-up—'Elegans Supreme', Frank Anderson
- Best 5 Japonicas—'Peter Pan', George Priest
- Runner-up—'Mathotiana', Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Harbison, Wasco
- Best 3 Reticulata Hybrids—'Francie L', Dr. Leland Chow, Bakersfield
- Best 3 Non-Reticulata Hybrids—'Charlean', W. F. Harmsen, Claremont
- Best Chemically Treated Bloom—'Howard Asper', Mr. and Mrs. Sergio Bracci, San Gabriel
- Best Seedling or Sport—Sport of 'Carter's Sunburst', Dr. Leland Chow
- Best Novice Flower of Show—'Allie Habel', Peggy Kovalski, Bakersfield
- Best Novice Large and Very Large Japonica—'Tomorrow Park Hill', Virginia Alfter, Bakersfield
- Runner-up—'Tomorrow's Dawn', Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dukes, Bakersfield
- Best Novice Medium Japonica—'Finlandia Var', George Ashby, Bakersfield
- Runner-up—'Prince Eugene Napoleon', Bonnie Werner, Bakersfield
- Best Novice Small and Miniature Japonica—'Tinker Bell', Carol Nott, Bakersfield
- Best Novice 3 Japonicas—'Mathotiana', Jackie Fabbri, Bakersfield
- Best Novice 5 Japonicas—'Herme', Mrs. Stuart Witham, Bakersfield
- Best Novice Hybrid—'E. G. Waterhouse Var', Virginia Alfter

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA—MARCH 11, 1973

- Best Large Japonica—'Mrs. D. W. Davis', Mrs. Carroll Baird, Fresno

- Runner-up—'Elegans Supreme', Art Gonos Family, Fresno
 Best Medium Japonica—'Monjisu', Mr. and Mrs. Pete Grosso, Modesto
 Runner-up—'Spring Sonnet', Art Gonos Family
 Best 3 Japonicas—'Betty Sheffield Supreme', Mrs. Sheldon Lewis, Fresno
 Runner-up—'Fircone Var', Art Gonos Family
 Best Boutonniere Japonica—'Kitty', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto
 Best Hybrid Over 5"—'Crimson Robe', Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Helm, Fresno
 Best Hybrid Under 5"—'Dr. Louis Pollizzi', Mr. and Mrs. William Johnston, Fresno
 Best 3 Hybrids—'Francie L', Martha Lowe, Fresno
 Runner-up—'Coral Delight', Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harris, Fresno
 Best 9 Blooms—Jack Woo, Fresno
 Best Chemically Treated Bloom—'Tomorrow's Dawn', Mr. and Mrs. Jack Woo
 Best Seedling—Jack Mandarich, Menlo Park
 Award of Excellence—Jack Woo

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA—MARCH 17-18, 1973

- Sweepstakes—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ehrhart, Walnut Creek
 Runner-up—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boynton, Lodi
 Award of Excellence—Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto
 Best Large or Very Large Japonica—'Easter Morn', Mr. and Mrs. Jack Woo, Fresno
 Runner-up—'Granada', Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart, Sacramento
 Best Medium Japonica—'Dixie Knight', Mr. and Mrs. Jack Evans, Ivanhoe
 Runner-up—'Lady Kay Var', William D. Stewart, Sacramento
 Best Small Japonica—'Kitty', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro
 Best Miniature Japonica—'Fircone Var', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro
 Best 3 Large or Very Large Japonicas—'Jessie Katz', Art Gonos Family, Fresno
 Best 3 Small or Medium Japonicas—'Alta Gavin', Agnes Rowell, Fresno
 Best 3 Miniature Japonicas—'Fircone Var', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro
 Best 5 Large or Very Large Japonicas—'Grand Slam', Art Gonos Family
 Best 5 Medium or Small Japonicas—'Dr. Tinsley', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin, Modesto
 Best Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid—'Aztec', Martha Lowe, Fresno
 Runner-up—'Moutancha', Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria
 Best 3 Reticulatas or Reticulata Hybrids—'Moutancha', Fred Hamilton
 Best Non-Reticulata Hybrid—'Angel Wings', Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Wang, Pleasant Hills
 Best 3 Non-Reticulata Hybrids—'Brigadoon', Harold R. Studt, Sacramento
 Best Collection of 12 Different Varieties—Art Gonos Family
 Best Large or Medium Seedling—'#7-11', Jack Mandarich, Menlo Park
 Best Small or Miniature Seedling—'#169', David L. Feathers, Lafayette

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA—MARCH 24-25, 1973

- Sweepstakes—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boynton, Lodi
 Runner-up—Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ehrhart, Walnut Creek
 Best Japonica Over 5½"—'Grand Prix', Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart, Sacramento
 Runner-up—'Elegans Supreme', Art Gonos Family, Fresno

(Continued on page 20)

WOODROOF REPORTS ON NEW VARIETIES

Bill Woodroof gave his annual report on new varieties to the members of Pacific Camellia Society and guests at the Society's annual dinner meeting on April 5th. As usual, he prefaced his talk with the caution that his evaluations of the different varieties are based on observation of flowers of mature plants that have been grown under normal outdoor conditions and without the use of glass or chemical treatment, under his own lath at his home in Sherman Oaks, California. In some cases he has supplemented his observations at his home with observations elsewhere in the Los Angeles Area. He emphasized that the purpose of his evaluations is to advise other people in Southern California as to how they might expect these new varieties to bloom in their own gardens. He said that the results may be entirely different in the place of origin of such varieties, and particularly where they are grown under glass or with chemical treatment, or both.

The evaluations include information as to whether it is a second report, the description given by the originator, the description obtained from observation, the place of origin and a rating under the following schedule:

- A. Excellent, should have
- B. Good and worth having
- C. Similar to established variety
- D. Garden variety. (This rating is

used for good flowers that do not meet critical show standards but are good garden flowers. -Ed.)

ALTA GAVIN. Second report. White edged deep pink. Medium to large, semi-double. (La.) As described, 4". B

APRIL LYNN POE. Peach pink. Large, irregular semi-double. (Ala.) As described, 4½". B

AZTEC. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Rose red. Very large, irregular

semi-double to loose peony form. (Cal.) As described, 5½". B

BLACK LACE. Reticulata hybrid. Dark velvet red. Large, rose form to formal double with incurved petals. (Miss.) As described except does not hold the dark red and does not have incurved petals. D

BESSIE SHEAROUSE. Light rose pink. Large to very large, irregular semi-double. (Ga.) As described except more regular and 3-¾". C

BOB HOPE. 2nd report. Black red. Large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described, 5". A

BLUSHING BEAUTY. White blushed pink. Medium, formal double. (S.C.) As described, 3½". B

CORNELIA WALDEN. Light pink. Large, anemone form. (Ga.) As described, except more semi-double. 4". C

DOLORES HOPE. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Light rose pink veined orchid with some center petals shaded white. Very large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described, 5" plus. B to A

DORIS ELLIS. 2nd report. Pale blush pink with darker pink outer petals and coral rose center. Medium formal double. (Fla.) As described, 3½" to 4". B

DOROTHY COPELAND. 2nd report. White. Large, irregular semi-double. (Miss.) As described, 4½". B

DREAM CASTLE. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Silver pink. Very large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described, 5" to 6". B

EVELYN POE BLUSH. 2nd report. Sport of Evelyn Poe. Blush, darker at center gradually shading to lighter color with two or three pink markings. Large, full peony form. (Ala.) As described, 4" to 4½". B

EVELYN POE PINK VAR. 2nd report. Pink variegated white sport of Evelyn Poe Pink. Large, full

peony form. (Ala.) As described, 4" to 4½". B

HAHN'S SUPREME. No description by originator. Bright veined pink. Very large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) 5¼". B

JEFFREY HOOD. Deep pink. Large, anemone form. (Ark.) As described except sometimes semi-double. 5". B

KATHRYN MARBURY. Blush. Medium, formal double. (N. C.) As described. 3½" to 4". B to C

KIWI TRIUMPH. Reticulata hybrid. China Rose. Very large, irregular semi-double. (N. Z.) As described. 5" plus. B

K. O. HESTER. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Medium orchid pink. Large to very large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described, 5" to 6". A

LISA GAEL. Reticulata hybrid. Rose pink. Large, rose form double. (N. Z.) As described. 4". D

MELINDA HACKETT. Medium pink. Large, anemone form. (S. C.) As described except more full peony form. B

MY CHOICE. 2nd report. Cream white delicately tinted on edge of petals. Medium to large, full peony form. (Cal.) As described except more loose peony. 4". C

PEARLE COOPER. 2nd report. Deep pink and white. Large, irregular semi-double. (Fla.) Plant tested is deep pink to light veined red. 5½". B

PHAROAH. Reticulata hybrid. Old rose. Very large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described except generally 5". B

RHONDA KERRI. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. China rose, large semi-double. (N. Z.) As described, 4½" to 5". D

BOB ROY. Reticulata hybrid. Pale pink to deeper pink edge. Medium to large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described, 3½". C to D

SANDY CLARK. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Soft pink. Large, semi-double. (N. Z.) As described but 3½". D

SANDY SUE. 2nd report. Large, loose peony form with heavy textured petals. (Cal.) As described. B

SOUTH SEAS. Non-reticulata hybrid. Silver pink flushed rose pink on edge. Medium, semi-double to loose peony form. (N. Z.) As described, 3½" to 4". C

SUGAR DADDY. 2nd report. Medium pink. Large semi-double. (Ga.) As described, 4". C

SUNSET. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Orange red. Large to very large, irregular semi-double. (Cal.) As described, 5" plus. B

TOMORROW PARK HILL PINK. Sport of Tomorrow Park Hill without white variegation. A

TRANQUILITY. Reticulata hybrid. Rose pink. Large, semi-double

(Continued on page 21)

RELEASED THIS YEAR

**DREAM CASTLE
WILBER FOSS**

**K. O. HESTER
ELSIE DRYDEN**

RELEASED LAST YEAR

**ELEGANS SPLENDOR
(C. M. WILSON SPLENDOR)**

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BREEDING NEW CAMELIAS

W. L. Ackerman

Research Horticulturist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Glenn Dale, Maryland

Notes on a talk at Southern California Camellia Society, March 13, 1973

This is my fourth visit to California. I was in the army in 1944 and I am afraid I was just passing through. In 1952 I started a seven year tour with the Department of Agriculture at Chico. I was back for a visit in 1963. Ironically enough, I did not work with Camellias when I was in Chico from 1952 to 1959. I worked mostly with peaches, plums and apricots. The only Camellia I remember was a huge plant at the front porch of the home we rented during our first years in Chico. As I recall, it had bright red, medium sized, formal double flowers. I do not know the variety.

It was only after I was back in Maryland that I actually discovered Camellias. Here, I might just as well confess, as a plant geneticist I was looking for something to work with. The two best collections of species material at Glenn Dale (which is a plant breeder's working tools) were Rhododendron and Camellia. My predecessor had worked on Rhododendron. I wanted to be different so I chose Camellia.

In 1960 I started a program of interspecific and intergeneric hybridization of Camellias. We had 15 different species to start out with. This was soon built up to 20, and then subsequently to 28 species. We used four related genera for intergeneric crosses. These were Franklinia, Stewartia, Gordonia and Tutcheria.

Interspecific and intergeneric hybridization can be a frustrating business as anyone who has tried it knows. One makes a heck of a lot of controlled crosses and usually does not have much to show for it. I have averaged 1,000 controlled pollinations each year for the past 13 years—

that's 13,000 crosses. From this I have gotten about 1,350 hybrids—or about 10% take. Intergeneric crosses are even worse. From 1,064 pollinations I obtained 11 valid hybrids—or slightly more than 1% take. The intergeneric hybrids were:

7 *Tutcheria virgata* x *C. miyagii*

3 *Tutcheria virgata* x *C. granthamiana*

1 *C. pit. var. pit.* x *T. Spectabilis*. This last cross had been made by J. Howard Asper about a year earlier.

During the early 1960's, the camellia work was further frustrated by an appreciable lack of germination of seeds which I had struggled hard to get from the crosses. As a result I went to embryo culture. This amounts to growing the seed in bottles of nutrient agar under aseptic conditions. I used Walter Lammert's method and formulation for this, which was quite successful.

At first, I was interested in investigating the compatibility relationships between the various species within the genus. This is a good excuse to cross anything that's in flower with anything else and claim that you are fulfilling your purpose. Back where I come from this system has some advantages. I have always envied you people out here who can grow your breeding camellias outdoors and can have several hundred blossoms on one plant. My camellias are grown in a greenhouse where space is limited and usually the plants are in pots. Frequently, I am grateful if I get a couple of dozen flowers on one plant. So, you cannot always be too fussy about what crosses you make.

It is always a long wait between sowing seed and getting flowers. A

person has to do something in the meantime. So, after I was in this a year or two, I began to make leaf studies. Leaf studies are not very colorful and can be quite boring. If you don't have any flowers, they are better than nothing. They can tell you a lot as to whether your hybrids are valid or not.

Another passtime I found while waiting for flowers was making chromosome studies. Here again, chromosome studies can tell you a lot, especially if the parents were of different chromosome numbers. (Dr. Ackerman showed slides round which he discussed chromosome counts and their significance in plant breeding. -Ed.)

When flowering begins among the hybrids, more frustration sets in. Many hybrids are highly sterile, making them of little value as breeding parents for carrying the breeding program on to F₂ and F₃ generations. It is nice to know what to expect, so I started studying pollen grains under the microscope. (Dr. Ackerman showed slides of good pollen, aborted pollen, large pollen, and an elongated pollen which is found only in *Tutcheria* and its hybrids. -Ed.)

Besides species compatibility studies, I have had two main objectives. One has been floral fragrance, the other greater cold hardiness.

You are probably well familiar with *C. lutchuensis* and *C. fraterna*. These have been the backbone of our fragrance studies. Crosses involving *lutchuensis* are notoriously sterile. I ran a series of pollen tests on 96 hybrids where *lutchuensis* was the male parent. There was a range of 0 to 13% viable pollen with a mean of 5%. This is pretty poor. In 1968 we tried to do something about this. 'Fragrant Pink', which was the best of my F₁ hybrids, has only 5% viable pollen. I obtained the help of Dr. Haig Dermen, a very prominent cytogeneticist, now retired. We took 60

plants of 'Fragrant Pink' and treated 56 of them with Colchicine. After two years of work and observation, we obtained three cytochimeras. Two of the cytochimeras were 2-4-4 composition. They had a diploid skin (epidermis) and tetraploid interior. Flower parts originate from internal tissue so its acts like a tetraploid. Pollen viability increased from 5% to 83%. This has now been used in crosses with other camellias to produce triploid and tetraploid hybrids, hopefully fragrant.

Some people sell the minor species of *Camellia* short. They say the small flowers are not worth working with. It takes too many generations to get acceptable size. (Dr. Ackerman showed slides of blossoms resulting from crosses with minor species, including *C. miyagii*, *C. rusticana*, *C. kissi* and *C. fraterna*. Among the slides was a spider type camellia similar to a spider type chrysanthemum, and a flowering branch. -Ed.)

We have run into other peculiarities, such as repetitive flowering. A clone grown in the greenhouse at Glenn Dale flowers about nine months out of the year. Could this be used in the development of everblooming camellias? There are also some new colors that have resulted from these crosses.

In the 1973 *Camellia Yearbook* there was an article about the controversy over the 'Kuro Tsubaki'—*Purpurea* situation. (Dr. Ackerman showed slides of 'Kuro Tsubaki' and its long chromosomes. -Ed.) Last month I found this long chromosome also present in *Purpurea* obtained from Mr. Les Jury of New Zealand.

Most of the camellias we know are either diploids, triploids, tetraploids, pentaploids, or hexaploids. In each case the chromosomes are a multiple of the base number of 15. In cytological studies, I found that some hybrids have odd numbers of chromo-

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PLANNING A GARDEN AROUND CAMELLIAS

Douglas Thompson

Los Angeles, California

Notes on talk at Los Angeles Camellia Society, March 6, 1973

The camellia hobbyist is often limited to a city lot, hard pressed to find space for his collection. The concept of camellias displayed in a planned garden does not suit his purpose. He is really planning how he may squeeze together row after row of container plants primarily to obtain the greatest variety of best possible flowers. No one argues against this legitimate use of camellias or garden space.

The ordinary home owner, not specifically a camellia specialist, while he recognizes its landscape value, may be satisfied with a row across the front, another along the driveway and so on around the house. He merely obtains shelter and shade for plant survival, has a certain quality of blooms in great quantity in season and succeeds in his primary aim of obscuring, or at least relieving, the stark outlines of his house. This too, by its very obliquity, seems to be a legitimate use of camellias. However, a planned garden around camellias is neither of these.

The effective garden utilization of camellias is as the background of a harmonious planting, blending with other plant materials, pleasing to the eye and presenting a certain noteworthy artistic result. Whenever I think about the camellias we cherish and make a club of (and with whose blooms we vie for prizes), I seem always to come back to the point of view that the camellia belongs to the garden. It has an assured place and patrician status as it is allowed to mature in a properly integrated landscape, admired in season for flowers, but recognized as the stately background for other plants the rest of the year. Here is its unchallengeable worth to the community at large,

sans clubs, sans prizes.

A garden is a frame of mind—the dream of the gardener. In a practical world it is good to have such a dream. Indeed, camellias have dream-like qualities with winter flowers, beautiful leaves, long life and that touch of oriental mysticism provocative of ancient temple bowers. For them we create a rain forest in a desert, mix rich forest mold to replace our clay, and filter the rays of our searching summer sun. To help that frame of mind, for a successful garden with camellias, it is well to consider how the Japanese use them to build their gardens. They call this art Shibui. The quiet taste, elegance, simplicity and culture are all directed toward the expression of beauty, simplicity and restraint. For Shibui, the Japanese construct landscape pictures, some small, some large, all sizes complete with frames. They select a “scene” and strive to capture the essence of its reality. Through each scene they express contentment, character, tranquility and inner calm. They use the camellia for the frame, or as a hedge, or with a sculptured structure, or dispersed among rocks, or sprawling over a pool edge, or simply nestling against a single stone. What eventuates in its nook or corner is complete in itself, carefully contrived and coordinated, a garden in a garden, a picture in a frame.

I believe that is the secret of a planned garden. Let it be a multiplicity of singular garden “scenes”, all different but all blending into a “gallery of gardens”, designed to occupy within the available space positions of eminence like paintings in a gallery. They do not have to be large pictures. It does not need to be an extensive gallery. The pictures may

be added one at a time. Let's call it painting with plants.

In that frame of mind, consider the Camellia as the elegant shrub with which to plan. Shrubs are here loosely classified as garden material of permanent structure rising to perhaps five or ten feet. They are durable and distinctive basic elements of living landscapes. Trees are acknowledged but purposely excluded by assuming a smaller space for these garden pictures than they normally require. Shrubs provide the esthetic structure, background, interest, grouping, accent, and framework for the "scene." In many ways the camellia is ideal. It is easy to grow but slow growing, pest resistant, durable and long lived, has many forms, leaf shapes and foliage colors.

Use the camellia to create the little garden scenes. Let the hobbyist regiment his rows of containers, and the average home owner set out his sentinels along the walls. Develop one area at a time, dividing the gallery among available nooks, corners, bowers, terraces, patios and flower beds. Work for scale and balance. Do not crowd. Consider the expected size of mature plants.

The success of a garden depends entirely on how it looks. A preliminary sketch will help to visualize the final result. Anybody can do it. There are only a few basic rules and it's great fun to paint with plants, trying a favorite garden corner first.

The basic rules have to do with form, texture, color and scale. Form is provided by the rounded, oval, tailored shape of the background shrubs. Camellias should be selected to meet design needs according to growth habit. A very wide choice exists among camellia forms: upright, low growing, spreading, pendulous, compact, rounded, willowy or long branched. The propensities of each variety are described in the Nomenclature Book. As well as providing

framework and background setting, the shrub, if it is tall, gives a strong vertical accent, an exclamation point. In contrast, a wide branching shrub will lead the eye along the horizontal plane and help tie the area together. Ascending branches will lift the eye, drooping branches focus attention on the ground. The foreground of the scene should be open-center using a bit of lawn, ground cover, small flowering plants or the like. The basic principle of form is really no different from painting a picture according to the well known formula of repetition, transition, balance and emphasis. There is always a corner, porch, path, rock group, fence line or tree trunk to use as a center of interest.

Texture is provided by combining plant material of complementary and contrasting appearance. Small conifers interspersed with camellias give pleasing textural variation. They cast shadows of very different designs which intermix for startling effects. Ferns similarly enrich the textural appeal. Some of the shrubs described later on are effective companions.

Everyone is interested in color. But it is a mistake to solve a craving for color by massing large numbers of flowering plants. The flowers are short lived and contribute fleetingly while the scene being painted must hang in the gallery all year round. Foliage color, rather than flower color, is the paramount concern in landscape design. Green represents the widest range of the visible spectrum and shades of green are the essentials on the landscape artist's palette. From the myriad shades he devises the year-round background of foliage, against which to display the many perennial and annual flower colors, each in its season under the green leafy shade. Dark greens should be placed to the rear. They cause the background to recede, lending an il-

(Continued on next page)

lusion of depth. Medium greens belong further forward next to borders or plant beds. Light grey-greens are highlights to be used sparingly. The brownish and bronze tints of companion shrubs are excellent for background contrast. Both in color and shape camellia foliage permits a broad selection from dark green to light, from large glossy leaves to small dull ones, with round, long, blunt, sharp, waxy, crinkly and saw-toothed shapes in between. Much less important is the camellia flower. It need not be large nor a show stopper.

It is not suggested that a large number of camellias can be accommodated this way. Some garden pictures may only allow the use of one or two. Nor should camellias be used to the exclusion of other shrubs. Many useful companions require similar conditions of culture and location. Some which are particularly attractive because of leaf color are:

Holly—dark green

Osmanthus—several shades of green available

Mountain Laurel—yellow-green
 Viburnum—wine red stems on new growth
 Cleyera Japonica—brownish yellow new growth
 Oregon grape—purple bronze
 Japanese Boxwood—Brown bronze
 Wart Barberry—white underside
 Japanese Photonia—copper with occasional bright red
 Silverberry—brownish red
 Sweet Olive—medium green

As perennial foreground material, include all the smaller bulbs, crocus, scilla, hyacinth, daffodil, tulip and iris, and other plants such as azaleas, day lilies, the numerous native ferns, nandina, clivia and aspidistra.

Annuals complete the picture, aster, chrysanthemum, lily of the valley, coleus, lobelia, pansy, sultana, wax begonia, petunia, sweet allysum, caladium and all the rest.

Nature's palette is rich beyond conception. Just believe that you can paint with plants, one small scene at a time, and let your creative imagination find expression in planning a garden around camellias.

SHOW RESULTS (Continued)

Best Japonica 4½" to 5½"—'China Doll', Mr. and Mrs. Peter Grosso, Modesto

Runner-up—'Glen 40 Var', Mr. and Mrs. Peter Grosso

Best Japonica 3" to 4½"—'Allison Leigh Woodroof', Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Lesmeister, Carmichael

Runner-up—'Sawada's Dream', Mr. and Mrs. Peter Grosso

Best Japonica Under 3"—'Sweeti Pie', Mr. and Mrs. John Augis, San Jose

Runner-up—'Black Tie', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro, Modesto

Best 3 Japonicas Over 4½"—'Kick Off', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin, Modesto

Best 3 Japonicas 3" to 4½"—'Annette Gehry', Art Gonos Family

Best 3 Japonicas Under 3"—'Fircone Var', Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pinheiro

Best 5 Japonicas—'Mrs. D. W. Davis', Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Rankin, Modesto

Best 9 Different Japonicas—Art Gonos Family

Best Reticulata Hybrid Over 5½"—'Lila Naff', Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Wang, Pleasant Hills

Best 3 Reticulata Hybrids—'Moutancha', Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria

Best Non-Reticulata Hybrid—'Leonard Messel', Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart*

Runner-up—'Anticipation', Mr. and Mrs. James Grant, Santa Rosa

Best Hybrid Seedling—Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ehrhart

*The judges goofed here. 'Leonard Messel' is a reticulata hybrid. -Ed.

Southern Calif. 1974 Show Date Changes

The Camellia Society of Sacramento will be host to the Annual Meeting of the American Camellia Society at the time of the Sacramento Society's 1974 camellia show, the date of which is March 2-3, 1974. Normally, the Descanso Gardens and Sacramento shows are held on the same weekend. To avoid conflict between the Descanso Gardens show and the A.C.S. meeting, the Southern California show sponsors have revised the normal schedule for 1974 only and have announced the following dates for the 1973-1974 camellia season.

Early Show at Los Angeles County Arboretum—December 8-9

Huntington Gardens—January 12-13 (open show)

San Diego—February 2-3

Temple City Society show at Los Angeles County Arboretum — February 9-10

Pomona—February 16-17

Descanso Gardens—February 23-24

HIGO (Continued)

the old ALBA PLENA - Glen 40, syndrome; and he is beginning to fall in love with the Geisha Girl Higos! Move over Betty Sheffild; move over all you Tomorrows; move over all you retic hybrids; here comes the honorable Higos!

WOODROOF (Continued)

to loose peony form. (Aus.) As described, 4". D

TUI SONG. 2nd report. Reticulata hybrid. Rose pink. Large semi-double. (N. Z.) As described except red. C

VERNA HALBERT. Flesh pink. Large, irregular semi-double. (Ala.) As described except more rose form. Evaluation deferred.

W. H. RISH. No description by originator. Coral Pink. Large, ir-

regular semi-double with interspersed stamens. (S. C.) 5". B

FROST EFFECT (Continued)

quite dead.

4. *Action.* Apart from watering I took no action until July, then I systematically cut out dead wood to points above new shoots. Upon reflection I might have been more drastic because as the lower shoots gathered momentum, those higher up began to do less well. Only 'Adolphe Audusson', although seeming still to be alive everywhere, made very little new growth.

5. *Autumn.* Now that autumn is nearly over, and we have had a long spell of fine weather, good recovery has taken place almost everywhere. Only 'Lady Clare' and 'Magnoliaeflora' have made buds, and these bushes though half their former size are quite promising. 'Oleifera' suddenly began to shoot vigorously 1 foot from the ground. All the white plants are full of new leaf and look healthy. 'Nobilissima' has made a new bush about 18 inches high. 'Tsukumi' has made good shoots about 2 feet above ground. The most unhappy are 'Elegans' and 'Adolphe Audusson', the former just starting from the base, the latter miserable everywhere, but alive, and at last making three or four new shoots about 10 inches from the ground.

6. *Conclusion.* With hind sight, I think I should have been more drastic earlier, and cut the bushes back hard as soon as I saw leaves dropping off badly. But one is loathe to cut off so much that has grown over the years, forgetting the vigour below. I am sure watering was essential, and the fact that the earth did not freeze was tital too.

Once again the old rule is confirmed, that one should never be in a hurry to uproot plants damaged by frost.

COLD SPELL (Continued)

Tranquility (Cornelian Seedling)

This plant is eight feet tall in a 2 gallon can. The wind kept blowing the plant over and we feel like we viewed it mostly from above. Good performer.

Leonard Messel (Wild Retic x Mary Christian) This one is very cold hardy and is over-looked by most growers. A good performer.

A report such as this won't mean much to you unless you are a container grower. All tip growth damage was pruned by late February and new growth was evident by mid-March. We intend to fertilize sparingly in view of possible root damage from the freeze. Many of our plants are in 2 gallon and 3 gallon cans as the varieties are fairly recent introductions. In the case of the Yunnan Retics we have just about "started over" with replacement plants as the specimen plants get too big for satisfactory tub culture.

We would be remiss not to mention the Frank Pursel Hybrids. Many of you have seen these flowers in the seedling section of some recent shows where Frank has won several "Best-in-Show" awards. Of the original group of 12 seedlings which resulted from his Cornelian x Mrs. D. W. Davis crosses, four varieties show much promise and are being observed by a west coast nursery (x-4, x-10, x-11 and x-12). His x-5 is a very large, heavily veined pink semi-double flower and a prolific seed setter. Much back-crossing has been done and grafts are being made for evaluation. These seedlings have the largest, heaviest, leathery leaf patterns that we have observed. All of our plants were in the open and proved to be quite cold hardy with little or no cold damage. These plants are strong growers with heavy, large, leathery foliage. It has been difficult to get good blooms for showing from

these plants because Pursel is using many for back-crosses.

In conclusion we would like to mention that we have had many requests from various parts of the country for information on the growing of Retics in the colder climates. Now you cannot say that you didn't get a reply—you can see by the above that we were working on an answer. Of course it was also a surprise to us! It has been said that "It takes COURAGE to speak and WISDOM to listen," perhaps it takes both to write—right?

BREEDING (Continued)

somes. These are aneuploids. Cytologists have found them present in many plants and some animals. I have found only one report in Camellia, that of Longley and Tourje for the hybrid 'Salutation'. I have found 31 such aneuploids. They can effect genetic ratios and mess up a plant breeder's records if he is unaware of them. Also, they can be a useful tool in locating genes on particular chromosomes. They could also possibly help explain some of the spontaneous sports in flowers we have found, which have puzzled us.

'Mouchang' Wins R.H.S. First Class Certificate

The reticulata 'Mouchang' won a First Class Certificate at the March 1973 camellia show of the Royal Horticulture Society that was held in London. This is the highest award of the Society. The flower was entered by Dr. James Smart of Barnstaple, North Devonshire. Dr. Smart visited the United States during the 1969 camellia season and attended several of the California shows. He is building one of the largest, if not the largest collection of camellias in England. He entered in 20 classes in the R.H.S. show and won 13 firsts, 2 seconds and 3 thirds.

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Directory of California Camellia Societies

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*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY

President: Bob Krause; Secretary: Lemuel Freeman, 209 S. Garnsey Ave., Bakersfield 93309
Meetings: 2nd Monday Oct. through Apr. at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

President: Thomas Scanlin; Secretary: Mrs. George T. Butler, 1813 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 97205

Meetings: 1st Thursday Oct. through April at Great Western S/L cor. 15th St. and N. Main, Santa Ana

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

President: Horbert Martin; Secretary: Mrs. Frank P. Mack, 2222 G. St., Sacramento 95816
Meetings: 4th Wednesday, Oct. through April in Garden & Art Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento

*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Donald Martin; Secretary: Mrs. Jack Evans, P.O. Box 108, Ivanhoe 93235

Meetings: Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 17, Feb. 21 at Mayfair School, Mar. 21 at Fresno State College

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Donald R. Bergamini; Secretary: Mary A. Bergamini, 451 Dale Rd., Martinez 94553
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, Nov. through March at Sumitomo Bank, 620 Contra Costa Blvd., Pleasant Hill

JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Charles Boynton; Secretary: Mrs. Ethel S. Willits, 502 N. Pleasant Ave., Lodi 95240

Meetings: 1st Tuesday October through April in Micke Grove Memorial Bldg., Lodi

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Thomas Hughes; Secretary: Mrs. Haidee Steward, 130 S. Citrus, L.A. 90036

Meetings: 1st Tues., Dec. through April, Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Harlan Smith; Secretary: Dale Nagel, 3005 Deanna Way, Modesto 95350

Meetings: 2nd Monday October through May in "Ag" Bldg. of Modesto Junior College

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Edward A. Hays; Secretary: Ralph E. Bernhardt, 1112 Blandford Blvd., Redwood City 94062

Meetings: 1st Mon. Nov. through May in Claremont Jr. High School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Melvin Gum; Secretary: Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale

Meetings: 1st Thursday November through April in Tuesday Afternoon Club House, 400 N. Central Ave., Glendale

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Mrs. Charles F. O'Malley; Secretary: Mrs. Rex W. Peterson, 27 Walnut Ave., Atherton 94025

Meetings: 4th Tuesday September through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg., 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City, Calif. 94061

*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Frank Burris; Secretary: Walter Harmsen, 3016 N. Mountain Ave., Claremont 91711

Meetings: 2nd Thursday November through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg., 399 N. Garey Ave., Pomona

*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Harry Humphrey; Secretary: Mrs. Mabel Higgins, 2152 Clematis St., San Diego 92105

Meetings: 2nd Friday (except February which is 1st Friday) November through May in Floral Assn. Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: John M. Augis; Secretary: Mrs. Helen Augis, 2254 Fairvalley Court, San Jose 95215

Meetings: 2nd Thursday Sept. through April.

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Mrs. Alton B. Parker; Secretary: Mrs. Marylin Batt, 10047 Old Redwood Hwy., Windsor 95492

Meetings: 4th Thurs. Nov. through April, except Nov. and Dec. in Multipurpose room, Steel Lane School, Santa Rosa

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

See inside front cover of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW

*TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Sergio Bracci; Secretary: Mrs. Elsie Bracci, 5567 N. Burton, San Gabriel 91776

Meetings: Nov. 14 (Fri.), Dec. 17 (Fri.), Jan. through Apr. is 4th Thurs. in Lecture Hall of Los Angeles County Arboretum

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