

THE *Camellia*
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Ann Day'

Vol. 36

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No. 5

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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.

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THE COVER FLOWER

The cover flower 'Ann Day' is courtesy of American Camellia Society. 'Ann Day' is a ten-year-old Hybrid ('Crimson Robe' X 'Tiffany') that first bloomed in 1968; originated by W. E. Sellers, Mobile, Ala., and propagated by Wilkes Nursery, Moultrie, Ga. Plant growth is upright, rapid in rate with dark green leaves measuring three inches in length and one inch in width. Flowers open well — varying shades of pink in bloom — large petaloids — tight cluster stamens. Blooms mid-season to late.

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This is our fifth issue of 1974-75 and it is honoring our past Editor, Mr. Harold Dryden.

The Southern California Camellia Society's February meeting was dedicated to Harold for his untiring efforts these past fourteen years as Editor of the CAMELLIA REVIEW.

The dedication and refreshment portion of the meeting was beautifully done and much credit is due the women who planned the social time. The long table covered with a white linen cloth held a tea service at either end, and a cake decorated with camellias. It all came together with three beautiful camellia arrangements. I would like to thank those that helped make the occasion so meaningful.

Perhaps we will have additional pictures in our next issue of the CAMELLIA REVIEW.

I think I'll ask past Editor Harold Dryden to write an article for the CAMELLIA REVIEW, on how he managed to get the camellia 'Elsie Dryden,' that his wife Elsie was wearing, so large.

Well, enough said for now, best of luck to Harold and thanks for fourteen years of excellent copy and enjoyable reading.

We thought we could help those of you that do not have access to past CAMELLIA REVIEWs by quoting some of Harold's excellent thoughts and philosophy, so we have taken one "Thoughts from the Editor" from each of the fourteen years of Harold's publications and are presenting them in this issue for your reading enjoyment.

Meyer Piet

THE CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA CONCLAVE

Florence I. Antoniono

The Modesto Camellia Society was honored and privileged to hold the first annual California Camellia Conclave in the Fable Room of the Hotel on January 25, 1975. The Conclave was combined with Modesto's annual kickoff dinner.

The purpose of the Conclave was to bring the southern and northern societies together to form closer friendships, to learn from one another and to further interest in camellias. This purpose seemed to have been realized. Some members of all the societies were present.

The program was well planned, calling upon camellia growers to speak on subjects relating to their particular interest and knowledge in camellia culture. At a rapid pace throughout the day, four different categories were covered — Hybridizing, Culture, Judging and Membership.

John Augis, Chairman of the Northern California Council, gave a warm welcome to all present. He introduced Ken Hallstone, President of the Northern California Research Committee, to speak on "Hybridizing."

Mr. Hallstone said he would give the fundamentals and techniques of hybridizing. It is fun and creative and no expensive equipment is necessary. Patience is the number one factor needed as it takes five or six years to find out about the genetics of camellias, and much of what we learn is due to chance. The objective is to have fragrance and yellow or blue camellias. No literature has been written on this since 1968, and the first surge of enthusiasm has faded away. Mr. Hallstone mentioned Venezuela's *Styermarii* of the *Gardonia* family as a species now used in trying to propagate a yellow camellia. No one seems

to be working on blue camellias.

Having camellias bloom early in October or November without the use of gib is also one of Mr. Hallstone's objectives.

Camellias that are good seed setters are necessary for hybridizing. "Lady Vansittart," "Reg Ragland," "Dear Jennie" and "Bertha Harms" were mentioned as having this qualification.

One should gather together all the things needed to put into the flower. If your objective is to make a cross for fragrance, gather up all the fragrant pollen. Have quantity hoping each one will reinforce the other. Mr. Hallstone made an initial cross by crossing *lutchuensis* to "Reg Ragland." He called it No. 69, and used three seeds. From there he crossed the seed back on the parent — "Technic" No. 69-2. Then he crossed the seed back onto both parents. He continued this back crossing and building up quantities.

Selfing is crossing plant on itself. Excepting the *sasanqua*, camellias generally cannot be self crossed. One needs very warm areas for these crossings. If both parents are double flowered, one has a better chance of getting a flower that is double.

Hybridizing is based on chance. The more seeds you have of that one crossing, the better the chance of obtaining your objective.

Pollen loses its viability when wet, and it turns brown within two days if wet. If kept dry it can be kept for as long as seventy-five days. Mr. Hallstone recommended learning from the bees and working in warm and dry weather.

The technic for hybridization was shown on slides that were very complete and instructive.

Mr. Hallstone chooses an immature flower that has not opened, but shows color to pollinize. He carefully cuts half way down the bud on each side, exposing the yellow stamen. The stigma sticks up through the anthers and is covered with a sticky liquid which holds the pollen. This occurs at a time when the flower is just right for pollenization.

Remove the yellow stamen, demasculating the flower. Leave the stigma exposed ready to apply pollen. Apply pollen with a small camel's hair brush.

Tag it, seed parent first x male parent and record it in your book. Bag it with brown paper bag, which protects it from stray pollen and insulates. Bags should be left on for ten days. Pollen can be saved for future use by storing in capsules, then put into small bottles. Cotton should be put in bottom of bottles, then calcium chlorate and capsule. Store in refrigerator. When you get ready to use it, put it under a lamp to warm it up for ten or fifteen minutes and it is ready to use. If you are lucky you will see a little seed forming in a few weeks. The proper way to tag them is seed parent x cross x pollen parent.

Mr. Hallstone then introduced Mr. Meyer Piet, Editor of the CAMELLIA REVIEW, who spoke on "Hybridizing and Grafting."

Mr. Piet first gave a run down on the 120 plants that were grafted and are growing — of the 1973 hybridizing season.

Mr. Piet collaborates with Mr. Mel Gum in his experimenting with grafting and hybridizing, and since their work is done at two different places and under different conditions, they get interesting results which add to their success.

They have a total of 800 to 1000 (200-300 both or one parent known)

seedlings growing. This season they are working with different pollen and parent plants. In each case they selected the pollen because it probably would give them something different if seed will set. They don't get discouraged even though last year they tried over 500 zaps on various sasanquas and only got two seeds, none of which has produced a seedling as yet. They don't expect more than ten per cent take and would be happy with two to five per cent.

Mr. Piet said they are trying crosses that are not necessarily of the same species or are normally difficult to set seed, since most of the mother plants are complex forms, such as: peony or semi-double. These include mother plants such as: "Flowergirl," "Fragrant Frill," "Kohinor," "Cornelian," "Crimson Robe," "Mou-chang," "Firechief," etc.

Mr. Piet told about wanting to set seed on "Mark Allen" and finally after several years has three plants large enough to work with. The flower of "Mark Allen" is unique and he feels it would be interesting to see if its chrysanthemum-like, multi-petals would breed into its offspring. Other colors such as darker red or pinks and whites of the same "Mark Allen" form would be very interesting flowers.

In the absence of Julius Nuccio, Dave Feathers talked on "Seedlings." Mr. Feathers was introduced as being very knowledgeable — the Number One Man.

Mr. Feathers said seedlings must be exhibited by originator or on his behalf, with or without foliage, segregated according to size, irrespective of parentage. Gibbed seedlings permitted only in a segregated special class and must be so indicated on entry card. Mutants or sports are not seedlings, hence must not be entered in seedling class. Seedlings notable

primarily for fragrance should be placed in a sub-division of the seedling class for easy comparison.

ACS regulations specify that seedlings, to be worthy of a top award, either must be distinctive (unique) or, if similar to an existing variety, must constitute a distinct improvement. Only the most experienced judges should be assigned to the seedling table, three or more in number, preferably of both sexes.

Because the object and purpose of growing seedlings is to make available to the general public new and improved varieties, there should be no discrimination as between amateur and professional, who have the same objective. When a seedling has been exhibited for five years or has won three Provisional Highly Commended certificates, it shall no longer be eligible for awards. No identification, whether by name or number, shall be permitted on the entry card. However, the mere fact a seedling may have been named shall not affect its eligibility, the criterion being whether or not it is generally available and thus may have competition possible in the named varietal classes.

The prime considerations in judging seedlings differ materially from those relating to the judging of varieties, hence the ACS judging scale is inapplicable. Scoring should be done strictly according to the stated objectives — *Distinctiveness* (uniqueness) or *Improvement*.

A recess was called and a delicious luncheon was served, after which Mr. Augis again called the meeting to order, and Mr. Mel Gum, who is President of the Pacific Camellia Society, was introduced to speak on "Culture." Mr. Gum came well prepared with numerous containers, mixes and seedlings. S. C. mix was used in container culture, which first started in World War II. In 1960, the use of redwood

bark saved the lives of camellias. Peat moss or sand also was used. Mr. Gum uses redwood bark and Devil's Gate Dam soil.

Mr. Gum's demonstration followed:

He picks the seed and puts it in damp, but not too wet peat moss. Checks it every ten days, and keeps it at room temperature — 70 degrees. Then he pinches off the tap root and plants it in flats. He barely covers the seed, and in ten days it comes out with two or three leaves. Then it is put into two and one-half inch or four inch pots in regular soil mix. Care is taken not to let seedlings get root bound. They are put into gallon cans with two parts fir bark to one part regular soil and a small amount of orchid bark. He advises not to be afraid to break up roots when transplanting for camellias are not delicate. He holds the plant by the lower stem, and puts the plant in the pot so the crown stands one inch above the top of the pot. A plant should never be tamped, but the soil settled by gently shaking the pot until soil is around the roots. Fertilize in six or eight weeks with fish or cotton seed meal to start. Within 18 months to two years the plants are ready to graft and should be three feet tall. Silicone sand is good for propagation of seedlings. It is now ready to go into two-gallon containers. Mr. Gum says he does this during the blooming season. He does not recommend white containers as there is a tendency for fungus growth.

For ground culture and when one is planting a plant bought from the nursery, Mr. Gum recommends almost bare rooting the plant. Fir bark and soil mix are used. Sasanquas are superior stock. They like water, but will stand a little dryness, too. Mr. Gum feels sasanquas have not been recognized for their full potential.

Mrs. Barbara Butler, whose subject

was "Camellia Seedling Culture," presented slides and made comments on her method of the development of seedlings.

The interesting slides showed seed germination and different sizes of root development after the tap root had been cut. The slides of camellia seedlings showed red stem, green stem and the fuzziness of young seedlings having reticulata parentage. A slide of an odd seedling of "Professor Sargent" x "William Hertrich" No. 68 showed a twinning with a development of two shoots and had two root systems from a seedling cotledon. Those young seedlings had red stems and round serrated chartreuse leaves. Mention was made of the size of seed resulting from different crosses. Small round seed from the hairy rough reticulata seed pod when using "Betty Sheffield Supreme" as the pollen and as the seed parent.

Seedlings from Dr. Cutter's D68(1)-D67(1) series were shown. These were crosses of Buddha x Buddha x Buddha Fraternal. These seedlings showed deep serrated leaves.

Mrs. Butler closed her program with slides of her 1974 crosses. Slides of outdoor planting boxes showed last spring's seedling blooms, and those camellias that bloomed this December.

Virginia Rankin, a former Modesto Camellia Society President, and many times sweepstake winner, gave a talk and demonstration on "Showmanship." She said camellia showing is a very fascinating hobby, and that her title should have been "Showmanship — How to bring Home the Booty" or "From the Bush to the Court of Honor."

She listed the procedure as follows:

1. Get organized. Check towels, aluminum foil, cotton, Kleenex and entry cards.
2. A week before show, use Hi-Bloom or Winter Life.

3. Prepare boxes. Mrs. Rankin's boxes were made especially to fit the refrigerator by her husband. The boxes were water proofed with fifty per cent shellac and fifty per cent alcohol. The bottom of the box is covered with foil. Carefully smooth foil and cover with a damp terry towel, then the plastic.

4. Vigoro B1-NAA is then sprayed in boxes and they are put in refrigerator.

5. Mrs. Rankin then reconnoiters to see which flowers will be ready to bloom.

6. Water in afternoon, then pick in cool of evening, at least two hours after watering.

Mrs. Rankin commented that each flower has its moment of perfection. If perfection is reached on Wednesday, Mrs. Rankin picks and refrigerates it. It pays to know one's flowers' habits.

7. After picking she checks for spots, cleans leaves and brushes pollen away with a camel's hair brush.

8. Use same solution of Vigoro B1-NAA to spray back of flower. (The solution for the spray is Acid NAA-Vigoro B1, four to six tablespoonsful to a gallon of water.) Wet stem with cotton or use small pan or orchid picks.

9. Arrange flowers so stems, leaves or flowers don't touch or damage other flowers, or touch top of box.

10. Refrigerate at 36 or 38 degrees.

11. Fill out entry cards, noting number of flowers of same variety in corner of card.

Pack boxes in car so they won't slide, and Mrs. Rankin believes that driving on the left side of the road gives the camellias an easier ride as there are less bumps on the left side.

Mrs. Rankin's closing remark was to present the best side of the camellia for showing so that it says "Look at Me. I'm Beautiful."

The next subject on the agenda

was "Judging," and Mr. Fred Rambath acted as commentator. Mr. Rambath said there are five subjects, basically; (1) moral responsibility, (2) different areas, (3) gibbs, (4) knowing all varieties, and (5) responsibilities.

Mrs. Marilyn Batt was asked her opinion on the moral responsibility of judges. Her reply was judges should give attention to all blooms, be consistent in judging and cooperate with other judges. One should express his own opinion, but don't dominate.

Mr. Mel Gum's answer to the same question: judge flower as he sees it now. Stress the captain of the team. Keep the team together.

Bill Johnson — work with other members of team and consult each other. People are concerned with having their flowers judged, and there should be second and third place awards.

Virgina Rankin — judges should go back and check so that what has been awarded be taken to the Court of Honor. People should be able to inquire about the judging of their own flowers.

Mr. Johnson — first, rotate first choice among three judges. Second, give attention to matter of size.

Mr. Basel Neptune — no judge should dominate.

Mr. Ken Hallstone — it is a privilege and honor to be asked to judge. One must assume that everyone is honest. The judges make an honest effort to judge the flowers correctly. He doesn't agree that exhibitors should have a chance to discuss merits of their flowers with judges. Good sportsmanship is important. The show chairman has a tremendous responsibility. The show chairman must be a knowledgeable person in selecting judges and should not take people who take responsibility too lightly.

Mr. Rambath commented all judges have the responsibility of teaching novices.

Mr. Mel Gum — get competent judges. The order of responsibility lies with these three officers in this order: (1) chairman of the show, (2) chairman of placement of flowers of show, and (3) chairman of judges. Judges should be known and put into camellia groups that are known to them.

REBUTTAL.

Mrs. Batt — judges should know individuals well enough to tactfully keep them in line.

Mr. Hallstone — the only recourse is not to ask inefficient judges to judge the next time.

COMMENTS ON GIBBING

Mr. Neptune — he is in favor of gibbing if it is admitted. He thinks other methods of growing large and perfect camellias such as under glass, lath or fertilizing is in the same category as gibbing, and if one is allowed, all should be allowed and declared.

Mr. Gum is in favor of gibbing, and does gib from September 1 through October 15.

Mr. Hallstone — he is using gib to try to set seeds on plants that have never set seeds before.

Mr. Johnson agrees with Mr. Gum. He believes in getting pleasure out of early blooms.

Mrs. Batt — she has researched in different articles about gibberellins and has learned it is natural plant hormone.

Mr. Rambath — we should do everything to promote camellias and friendship. We should have open shows and be honest.

Mr. Hallstone — judges should be familiar with the growth habits, form, color, etc., in the areas where they judge. A local judge should be on each team.

Mr. Gum — judges should be familiar with all varieties.

Mrs. Batt — petal blight and bruised petals look the same, but feel entirely different to the touch.

Mr. Neptune — commented that even foliage is different in northern and southern California.

Mr. Gum — doesn't think new varieties should be judged against old varieties.

Mr. Alton Parker's topic was "Membership." He gave a short but peppy talk. He finds fault with camellia growers for being too preoccupied with growing prize winning camellias to take time to invite their neighbors and friends to meetings and shows. Camellia people have too much ego according to Mr. Parker. He suggested that we help others to become interested.

The meeting was adjourned until 6:30.

After a delicious dinner was enjoyed, Mr. Bill Stewart, President of the Northern California Camellia Council, presented the people at the head table, among whom was Ron Kellogg, President of the Modesto Camellia Society.

Mr. Alton Parker, President of the Sonoma County Camellia Society, was introduced and he called on a number of visitors to rise and be

presented. They were Doctor and Mrs. Mowrey, Meyer Piet, Judy and Mary Simmons, Glen Marke, Mel Gum, Basel Neptune and Ted Alfter.

The flowers of the little show were judged by Mel Gum, Jack Manderich and John Augis. The winners were Frank Purcell, Lorraine Heitman, Marilyn Batt and Mary Jo Pinheiro.

Mr. Mel Gum was thanked for the plants that were raffled, and brought in \$54.00. There now is a fund of \$100.00 over present expenses to help finance the next Conclave, which will be held in Fresno.

The new officers who were recognized were: Mr. John Augis, Chairman of the Northern California Council; Mr. Jack Manderich, A.C.S. Director at Large of California; Mr. Terrel Weaver, President of the A.C.S.; Mr. Mel Gum, Vice President of the A.C.S.; and Mr. Peter Grosso, Director at Large of the A.C.S.

Mr. John Augis was complimented for the success of the Conclave, and he gave credit to Ron Kellogg and Mel Gum for their work in the preparations.

We will be looking forward to seeing *you* at next year's Conclave in Fresno.

1974 CROP — CAMELLIA SEEDS

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P.O. Box 717

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SCCS PAYS HOMAGE TO HAROLD DRYDEN

HELEN FOSS

The Southern California Camellia Society meeting on February 11, 1975, was "Honor Harold Dryden Night," for all his many contributions to the camellia world.

Mrs. Leone Summerson, Program Chairman, turned the program over to Mr. Bill Woodroof who spoke briefly first and then introduced the various speakers.

BILL WOODROOF:

"There are several people that would like to say a few words, but first I would like to read a letter addressed to Harold from John Augis of San Jose. 'Dear Harold, It is with deep regret that I am unable to be with you tonight, February 11, to join with your many friends to pay tribute to a *legend personality in the camellia world*. A man is many things to all people, Harold Dryden is a man, tall of stature, and also in the minds and hearts of all who know him. A man's size is not always typical, it also encompasses esteems and friendships a man gains in his lifetime. Here a thank you sounds inadequate to a *big man* for all of your contributions, generosity, and dedications to camellias. As editor of the Review, it is the most outstanding publication on camellias and only a *Big Man* could maintain such an unbiased opinion and continue to stimulate an interest in camellias for everyone. As the old show business punch goes, *it's a hard act to follow*. And I am glad that I am not that one.

'Best regards to you and Elsie, and a very special appreciative thank you for everything and for being friends. Cordially, John L. Augis.'

"Mr. Augis is a director of the American Camellia Society and a very good friend of Harold and Elsie's.

"Now I am going to ask two or

three people that have known Harold for a long time to say a few words and then I want to take the last crack. Bill Goertz first."

BILL GOERTZ:

"To point up one of Harold's characteristics I want to tell you about a happening. One night we took Harold and Elsie to watch the Dodgers ball game and this particular game, the Dodgers were fighting for the lead and they were one run ahead, the opposition had three men on base, the all-around slugger came up, and he almost hit a home run. The Dodger left fielder jumped up, grabbed the ball, fell down and almost killed himself, everybody in the stands jumped up and cheered and hollered, except Harold, I looked over and said to Harold, 'Harold, wasn't that quite a play?' He said, 'Yes that was a nice play but those fellows are professionals and they get paid for doing that.' That's typical of Harold to never get excited.



HAROLD AND ELSIE DRYDEN

"I first knew Harold when we were both in the San Marino Community Council and I was very much impressed with the way he handled the job, and when I followed him in that job I had many problems and he was the first one I went to to get information, and find out how to handle some of the intricate details that came up. whenever I needed help I could go to Harold. He was always willing to give advice and counsel. Harold has been referred to as a real gentleman and I would like to refer to Elsie as a real gentlewoman. She has been very active in civic affairs, she has been on the Board of Trustees of the San Marino Library, active in the church, and has done many flower arrangements for groups and meetings. We usually sit in the same pew in church, that is when Harold gets there and is not busy painting. Harold says he paints because he loves to paint. He doesn't just paint his own house he paints other people's houses. I may be a few years younger but when I see a paint brush I get tired. So I think that Harold got the wrong job with the telephone company. When they hired him to be in charge of the directory, they should have put him in charge of painting phone booths, he could have had lots of fun. I would like to say in closing: Organizations are usually known by their members, and if I were invited to join a club or society and they told me that the Drydens belonged I would think that would be a good place to be, because they add dignity to whatever activity they get into. San Marino and everyone in this room should be happy there are such people as the Drydens."

MARK ANTHONY:

"It is a great honor to be here and to be with you folks to honor Harold Dryden. I knew there would be a lot

of nice things said about him so I thought I would forget that part of the talk and the best way I thought of honoring Harold was reviewing some of his writings over the years in his 'Thoughts from the Editor,' in our Review.

"Now you have all read that page for the last 14 years, and you have gotten a whole lot of good ideas from it, and I happen to save old Reviews and I go over them and read some of Harold's good thoughts. We really have quite a philosopher as an editor whether we realize it or not. Here are some of the gems that I found going back over some of the 14 years of Reviews. 'What should we do with seedlings that are not quite good enough? To flood the market with more names and varieties would add nothing new to the camellia picture.' 'Editing camellias in foreign lands, this is the best way to see the country and meet friendly people.' 'Enter only good flowers in our shows, that are fresh, and will last the length of the show.' 'The real reason we attend camellia meetings are the people we meet and the friends we make.' 'One of the pleasures of the camellia hobby is giving scions of the best varieties to our friends.' So folks if you need any scions you know where to get them to make Harold happy.

"I think it would be nice if Harold could continue to give us a few thoughts now and again for that first page so that it will keep us in shape."
GULIUS NUCCIO:

"I made some notes tonight to say some nice things about Harold, he has been stuck with my notes for many years. I made notes for Harold and he would take them all apart and sharpen them up and put them in the Review. But something happened today that cost me \$20.00, so I am not going to say all those nice things. I was going to say how great Harold

has been over all these past years to the growers, how he would go out of his way, past the call of duty, to take care of our plants, how he was so fair to the growers in this area, he would make certain that any grower that had a new variety would get the picture on the cover of the Review. Well the \$20.00, my wife went to the doctor's this afternoon, and he gave her an hour and one-half lecture on how to gib camellias, as per Harold Dryden. And this cost me \$20.00.

"Seriously, on behalf of all the growers and nurserymen in the area I am honored to have this opportunity in front of all these people to say thank you Harold Dryden."

BILL WOODROOF:

"Now it is my turn. I have known Harold for a long time. And maybe the reason Harold and I have been so close is because we are somewhat alike. In some respects, and other respects not at all alike. We are both opinionated. We have very firm convictions. We are a little stubborn at times, but there is one great difference, as Barbara tells me, Harold is diplomatic. I give credit for that to Elsie quite a bit, but not all together, because Barbara has worked on me, and while Barbara and Elsie are a great deal alike, sociable, kind to people no matter what or how bad they feel, when I feel bad I feel bad, and Barbara hasn't been able to change that. So most of the credit goes to Harold, as he is diplomatic. I think people have missed a lot of things about Harold, all the credit that has been given Harold is about the Review. I don't think all of you realize that Harold has been business manager of the Nomenclature for a good number of years and handled all details of it. He has been my special consultant on a lot of problems, particularly in the hybrid and reticulata

field. You should realize *that*. He has done all of that because he loved the work and maybe because he wants to keep me out of trouble.

"I don't feel that Harold is retired yet, I do agree with Mark Anthony, I would like to see some juicy comments from time to time in the Review. I am not saying goodbye, this is not the purpose, we just want to tell Harold what we think of him. He has done, in my opinion, in the Review, and Camellia Nomenclature a very wonderful job. Thank you HAROLD."

MEYER PIET:

"It fell upon me to put my eight-and-a-half size shoes into some bigger shoes, whether or not they fit. In the camellia world, we have some real giants in this area of the country. Some things that make the Southern California Society unique and of a special quality are, the Nomenclature book and the Review. I know that a lot of you people do what I do, subscribe to the Australian Camellia News, the New Zealand publications and the American Camellia Journal. I don't mean to be critical but a lot of the articles that I read are concerned with camellia show dates, fund raising efforts and personal news. To me that is not what a camellia publication should be. So when I took over as interim editor for a year, and this is not my thing, although I have had fun doing it, I got a complete set of Reviews from Harold and believe me there is over two feet of Reviews from the beginning. We go through them and pick out things that we like to repeat, stuff that we thought was good and could stand repeating. Many of you don't realize that there is a great wealth of material in the Reviews and people in foreign countries especially, look forward to receiving the Review. And I feel that the Nomenclature

simply has to come out every two years because people look forward to that whether we really make a great many new introductions or not. To those people that look forward to the Nomenclature book every two years we have a responsibility to see that it does come out regularly. And certainly it is true that the standard must be maintained, and the scope broadened to be of interest to all levels of hobbyists. In my trying to do that, I have gained a little better in depth appreciation of the kind of work that Harold has gone through in the 14 years of editing the Review, and it is a tough job, and he has done an exceptional job, so Harold if you will come up I have a little memento for you.”

Mr. Meyer Piet, President of SCCS and Acting Editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW, then presented Mr. Dryden with a plaque.



Meyer Piet presenting Mr. Harold Dryden with plaque at SCCS meeting.

HAROLD DRYDEN:

“You know one can’t avoid thinking about an occasion like this that is coming up. There were two things that bothered me particularly. First was what I would wear. Well that didn’t bother me very long, because that was answered for me. Some of you may have noticed it; I have on the best clothes that I own. I thought for a time that I could come more casually but that was vetoed. The other thing that bothered me was what would I say, as I assumed that I would be asked to say something. My mind went back a few years when I went to a retirement dinner for a telephone retiree and there were many speeches telling what a great guy this person was and how many things he had done, and then the retiree got up and the first thing he said was, ‘If all these things are true about me then why wasn’t I made vice-president.’ All that I can really say is to give you, Elsie’s and my appreciation for what you have done for us. I enjoyed this life in the society. I have always liked to grow plants and the fellowship that goes with it, and I did enjoy the 14 years that I was editor of the CAMELLIA REVIEW. If I didn’t know that a man can’t do that indefinitely and that he would live indefinitely I would probably still be doing it. However it would have been pretty tough because I couldn’t have painted Wayne’s house. I appreciate seeing many people here tonight that don’t usually come too regularly to our monthly meeting. It is a real honor. I hope to be around the rest of the year and more years to come, God willing. Thank you.”

EXCERPTS — 1960-1974

The February 11, 1975, meeting of the Southern California Camellia Society was honor "Harold Dryden Night." The CAMELLIA REVIEW would also like to pay homage to Harold Dryden for his tremendous contribution to the camellia world by publishing excerpts, one from each year, from his column "Thoughts from the Editor" that he wrote for 14 years. We think all of the excerpts are as apropos today as when they were written.

VOLUME 22—OCTOBER, 1960

"A new Editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW is faced immediately with the question, 'What kind of stories should the magazine carry?' Offhand, one would say 'Write about camellias because that's what the members of the Society are interested in.' That's not the complete answer, however. While 'camellias' are the common denominator, there are two variables that call out against a down the middle approach. . . . Southern California Camellia Society membership suggests one of these variables: the members are scattered all over the world. The other variable is the inherent difference among members of a Society of this size in their knowledge of camellias and camellia culture."

VOLUME 23—October, 1961

"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."

VOLUME 24—OCTOBER, 1962

"In my philosophy of life, looking forward is a prerequisite to a pleasant present. I think that the hobby of growing camellias offers to a high degree to an amateur, and higher than with the other plants I know, the opportunity to look to tomorrow for the rewards of today's labors. That's what keeps one wanting to live, so he can see for himself what today's labors bring forth."

VOLUME 25—OCTOBER, 1963

"We shall of course try to cover the waterfront with regard to having articles that will be of interest to all the different segments of the people in the camellia hobby. We could not possibly have an issue of the magazine in which all the articles would appeal to all the readers. We have too wide a range of interest and understanding among our readers to hope for that. We are continually having new members and readers who will look to us for help in their growing problems. We shall fail in our function of a camellia society if we do not meet these needs, while we also meet the wishes of those who want more 'profound' subjects."

VOLUME 26—JANUARY, 1965

"Use of gibberellin for producing flowers for early shows certainly does not conflict with the views held by some people against its use to obtain

larger blooms. Some people like large flowers, and gibberellin satisfies these desires. Other people like the flowers as they grow naturally, and our climate and the general absence of freezing temperatures permit us to have them this way.

"There is no necessary conflict between this view and the use of gibberellin to produce early blooms, or in fact to bring in late blooming varieties before our warm weather strikes. Certainly, its use to lengthen the blooming season and to have early shows for greater enjoyment of camellias is consistent with a hobby that has for its purpose the pleasure of those who participate in it."

VOLUME 27—NOVEMBER, 1965

"The test of a camellia society is not in its age but rather in what it has accomplished. We believe that in such a test we can chalk up a good score. The people who founded the Society in 1940 believed that an active camellia society should work in all ways for the benefit of its members in the dissemination of information pertaining to camellias and camellia culture, and in furthering interest in and enjoyment of the camellia."

VOLUME 28—MARCH, 1967

"In the final analysis, a hobby publication, and CAMELLIA REVIEW is just that, requires more than just an Editor, or even an Editorial Board to meet the needs and desires of its readers. It becomes increasingly clear as one reads these pages that there is no one best method to follow in growing prize winning camellias. This would cease to be a hobby if everyone had to follow the same path. Somebody is always trying something new and different. And it is to the credit of people in this hobby that all are willing to share their experiences with others. This is why it takes more than an Editor or Editorial Board to meet the desires of the readers of

CAMELLIA REVIEW, because no single group can know what new is going on. It also takes interest and participation by people in the hobby who have something new or interesting and are willing to share it with others."

VOLUME 29—OCTOBER, 1967

"I believe that every person who introduces a new camellia variety, whether he be grower or amateur, has the responsibility to make certain that the new variety is sufficiently different from all existing ones that there can be no possibility of confusion by people who know camellias. His own lack of knowledge of camellias cannot be considered to be sufficient reason for such occurrence, because competent nurserymen are always glad to advise in such matters. The responsibility to nurserymen is even greater, to the extent that when there appears to be similarity, the new one should be tested sufficiently to make certain that there is enough difference that it can be easily determined by the average camellia hobbyist."

VOLUME 30—MARCH, 1969

"If the idea has merit, the matter of details should not be a deterrent to its adoption. Too many times the people who become immersed in details are inclined to say 'that's too much work' to develop an equitable scoring system. The people who look broadly at a subject, however, go forward with full knowledge that changes might be necessary after experience has been gained."

VOLUME 31—JANUARY, 1970

"The start of camellia show time always starts me to thinking about what is 'Best.' The question is easy to answer academically because it means the best of the group, whether among a single variety or among single entries of a number of varieties. The problem, of course, is in the approach a person takes, whether as a judge, as one looking at flowers for

his own enjoyment, or in reviewing what the judges have decided in a camellia show."

VOLUME 32—JANUARY, 1971

"An invitation to judge in a camellia show should be viewed and accepted as a request to do a professional job and not as a mark of social distinction. This places a responsibility on his shoulders to take all necessary steps to acquire the knowledge about camellias and the principles of judging camellias that will qualify him to be a member of the judging team. He should not resent being excluded from the team if he is not willing to accept such responsibility."

VOLUME 33—JANUARY, 1972

"I believe that camellia societies should promote flower arrangements to demonstrate how the flowers that are grown in the garden by the camellia hobbyists can be displayed inside the house in the form of arrangements. This means, of course, that the arranger must be given freedom to pick flowers on stems as she needs them. It means, also, that the 'gardener' must grow in his garden the necessary plants that are required for a well thought out design of flowers. . . . I know that this can be done because I have had the pleasure of seeing arrangements in which the flowers have been principals in themselves with accessories to make them stand out, and not as subsidiary objects to accent a statue or a rock or a piece of wood."

VOLUME 34—MAY, 1973

"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

(Continued on page 20)

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE YUKI TSUBAKI AND THE HIGO TSUBAKI

Satoru Ogisu

President

Inazawa Nurseries

The *Yuki Tsubaki* (Snow Camellia) surfaced as a separate variety in 1947. Until that time it had been considered the same as the *Yabu Tsubaki* (Wild Camellia).

Throughout the deep snow country of Japan the *Yuki-Tsubaki* can be seen. This is its natural habitat. And, as might be expected, it took its form from that environment. Its present form is a witness to the pressure exerted by heavy blankets of snow over countless years. The young camellia puts out very many branches so that the whole achieves a round appearance. The plant easily puts out roots. The leaf's shape is elliptical; neither flowers nor leaves fall off easily. The plant's blooming period can be delayed.

The attention of many camellia enthusiasts throughout the world has been drawn to the *Yuki Tsubaki* because it was thought to have exceptional cold-resistance. Actually, throughout the long cold winters of its frigid habitat, the *Yuki-Tsubaki* is covered with snow. Thus the snow itself protects the plant from the intense cold. Hence, even if the *Yuki-Tsubaki's* cold-resistance were not great, it could survive in the cold, mountain districts.

One aspect of this camellia worthy of note is the stamen's yellow, which is particularly vivid and most attractive.

Throughout the snow-capped mountains the *Yuki Tsubaki* blossoms through a natural cross-breeding in

(Continued on page 24)

CAMELLIA CLIPPINGS

Bill Donnan

Avid readers of CAMELLIA REVIEW may have noticed how your "Columnist" got *batted* around in the article entitled "Gibberellins" in the January, 1975, issue. My come-uppance prompts me to quote: "The best way to save face is to keep the lower half shut."

In all truth I wrote my 1973 article against gibbing at the request of the, then, Editor and it was written to promote discussion. Let's keep talking! Are there any other non-gibbers out there or am I the only one? Oh well, I'm going to stick to my guns and be proud of the fact that I have never kicked a stray dog; nor gibbed a camellia; nor inserted cotton under the petals of a show bloom!

Happiness is a restaurant where the steaks are rare; the decor is well done; and the prices are medium.

Each of us gets our kicks out of a different facet of the Camellia Hobby, whether it be seedlings; grafts; species; hybridizing; shows or whatever. Let me share with you the secret of how I get my greatest kicks. Each Monday morning from November to May I cut five boxes, of about ten blooms each, and take them on my "Camellia Route." I leave a box of blooms at: a drug store; a clinic; a bank; a dental office; and a library. When people see me coming and look at the blooms and exclaim "Oh! Aren't they just gorgeous!" — Why, I'm good for another week! I have had all the kicks I need. Try it — you will like it. But don't say I didn't warn you! You will get "hooked" on the habit of sharing your blooms.

Here is another Haiku — SUN-LIGHT STEALS THROUGH THE LEAFLESS BRANCH TO TOUCH AN EARLY HIGO'S STAMENS. (It has 17 syllables and denotes the time of day and the season of the year.)

Take heart all you high-collar, Hoover Republicans who voted for Landon and who still prefer the formal double camellias over some of the newer "rabbit-ear" types! Guess which bloom was chosen "Best Bloom" by some 8,000 visitors to the Huntington Show? It was Prof. E. G. Waterhouse! Yep, it was gibbed all right — but it is also as formal-double as a camellia can get! There is a story there somewhere.

There is no truth to the rumor that Howard Hughes has his own unlisted phone company.

Speaking of the Huntington Gardens Show — wasn't that an excellent display prepared by Rudy Moore and his crew from the Gardens? I think we all owe Rudy a round of applause for the time and effort invested in that landscaping display.

Then there was the mean boss who didn't have an ulcer but he was a carrier.

Did you know that the Camellia family of plants was named after George T. Karmel, or Camellus, a Jesuit priest, who traveled extensively in Asia in the 17th Century and described the plants in his notebooks?

As scarce as TRUTH is, the supply has always been in excess of the demand!

Mrs. Francis Butler sends a poem—

ODE TO CLERKS

*It's not a tray of silver
A vase of Cut-glass, no!
It's just a little old paper
That says, "you helped a show."*

*You punched and stuck and ran, my
friend
Behind those judges three.
A loyal Indian to the end,
Though worn down to the knee.*

*"A Clerk" proclaimed your ribbon
white.*

*An apron was your banner.
Your escutcheon showed a smile
bright.*

Retiring was your manner.

And so, we thank you one and all.

It was a lot of work.

*But please, say, "Yes," next time we
call.*

"We need someone to Clerk."

In a prior column we wrote about music and its effect on plant growth. Recently it was announced that an experiment at the University of North Carolina shows that seeds can be influenced by sound. It was found that if seeds are subject to continuous 100 decibel noise while wet, they germinate up to 30 per cent faster! Come on, all you hybrid seed fanciers — bang that drum in your greenhouses!

Speaking of seeds, camellia seeds begin to ripen in August here in Southern California. The first seed pods to pop open are usually the japonicas; "Debutant," "Daikagura" and "Donckelarii." Then come the late bloomers; then the reticulata; and finally, the sasanquas. If the sasanqua seeds are harvested too early they won't germinate.

How the language has changed! In my day it was called "going with" but now it is called "living with"!

Did you know that an acre of grass consumes 6½ tons of water daily? An acre of camellias will consume even more than that on a day when there is a dry desiccating wind blowing. Not too many people realize that an excess amount of "salts" in the water used to irrigate camellias can be harmful to the plants. Some of our water supplies, particularly here in Southern California, may contain harmful concentrations of soluble minerals which linger in the root-zone of the plant and stunt its growth.

Examine your camellia plants and if you find that the tips of leaves are burned, chances are, you are irrigating with water relatively high in sodium salts. One of the least "salt tolerant" varieties of camellia is "Grand Slam." If you don't have tipburn on the leaves of your "Grand Slam" camellia, your irrigation water is probably O.K. Another good indicator of "salty" water is the Dorothy Gish azalea plant. It will curl up its toes and die if the irrigation water is too salty. Some camellia hobbyists catch the rain water which falls in the winter months and flood their camellias with it to "flush out" the accumulated salts in the root-zone of the plants. Some hobbyists scatter gypsum around the plants to counteract the sodium salts. If you suspect that you have "salt" problems it might be best to have your water tested.

As I close out another chapter of Camellia Clippings I am reminded of yet another "proverb": "Enthusiasm arises from Pride, Hope, Presumption and a warm Imagination, together with Ignorance."

TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEETING

Rudy Moore

The Temple City Camellia Society would like to invite everyone to our March 27 meeting. We will have a first in the camellia world, believe it or not. Sergio Bracci has rounded up the Nuccios. Joe Nuccio, his son Judge and Tom Nuccio the son of Gulius.

This should prove to be a very good program, so come and bring all your flowers. We give a small cup for most points for the night and a plant for best flower. Our meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. See you there — bring a friend.

Show Results

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY FEBRUARY 8, 1975

Best Large Japonica

'Elegans Splendor,' Mr. & Mrs. Roger Treischel, Glendale.

Runner-up — 'Granada,' Mel Gum, San Gabriel.

Best Medium Japonica

'Margaret Davis,' Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale.

Runner-up — 'Wildfire,' Mr. & Mrs. Ron Braid, Alta Loma.

Best Small Japonica — 'Tom Thumb,' Mr. & Mrs. Harold Rowe, Upland.

Runner-up — 'Maroon and Gold,' Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Harmsen, Claremont.

Best Miniature — 'Kewpie Doll,' Edna Francis, San Diego.

Runner-up — 'Hopkin's Pink,' Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Harmsen, Claremont.

Best Reticulata or Hybrid with Reticulata Parentage

'Fire Chief,' T. E. Hughes, La Crescenta.

Runner-up — 'Valley Knudsen,' Mr. & Mrs. Grady Perigan, Arcadia.

Best Hybrid with other than Reticulata Parentage

'Water Lily,' Paul M. McClelland, Orange.

Runner-up — 'Elsie Jury,' Wilber Foss, San Marino.

Best Multiple Blooms Three Large Japonicas

'Tomorrow Park Hill,' Caryll W. Pitkin, San Marino.

Runner-up — 'Kramer's Supreme,' Mrs. T. T. Danibowicz, Chula Vista.

Best Multiple Blooms Three Medium Japonicas

'Dixie Knight Supreme,' Mr. & Mrs. Lee Gaeta, El Monte.

Runner-up — 'Hishi-Karaito,' Harry & Florence Humphrey, San Diego.

Best Multiple Blooms Five Japonicas

'Nuccio's Gem,' Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Goertz, San Marino.

Runner-up — 'Pink Diddy,' Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Harmsen, Claremont.

Best Three Reticulata or Hybrid with Reticulata Parentage

'Francie L,' Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale.

Runner-up — 'Buddha,' Les Baskerville, San Diego.

Best Five Reticulata or Hybrid with Reticulata Parentage

'Cornelian,' Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria.

Runner-up — 'Buddha,' Mr. & Mrs. S. W. Miller, El Cajon.

Best Three Hybrids with other than Reticulata Parentage

'Freedom Bell,' Mr. & Mrs. Grady Perigan, Arcadia.

Runner-up — 'Anticipation,' Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale.

Best Species (other than Japonica or Reticulata)

'Rosae flora,' Edna Francis, San Diego.

Best Special Culture

'Carter's Sunburst Pink,' Mr. & Mrs. Lee Gaeta, El Monte.

Runner-up — 'William Hertrich,' Caryll W. Pitkin, San Marino.

Best New Seedling — Monique I. Peer, Los Angeles.

Best New Sport — Rudy Moore, West Covina.

Grafted Plants One Year Old — Herbert F. Gabriel.

Grafted Plants Two Years Old — Harry & Florence Humphrey, San Diego.

Best Collector's Tray — Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale.

Runner-up — Fred V. Hamilton, Santa Maria.

TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM
FEBRUARY 15-16, 1975

Best Large Japonica

'Mrs. D. W. Davis,' Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Miller, El Cajon.

Runner-up — 'Elegans Supreme,' Harold Dryden, San Marino.

Best Medium Japonica

'Silver Chalice,' Mr. & Mrs. B. W. Pace, Upland.

Runner-up — 'Wildfire,' Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Braid, Alta Loma.

Best Small Japonica — 'Apricot Dawn,' Edwards Metcalf, San Marino.

Runner-up — 'Alison Leigh Woodroof,' Edwards Metcalf, San Marino.

Best Miniature Japonica

'Rosy Posy,' Mr. & Mrs. Harold Rowe, Upland.

Runner-up — 'Brite Eyes,' Edwards Metcalf, San Marino.

Best Reticulata Hybrid — 'K. O. Hester,' A. Wilkins Garner, Glendale.

Runner-up — 'Mouchang,' Mr. & Mrs. Walter Harmsen, Claremont.

Best Non-Reticulata Hybrid

'Elsie Jury,' Mr. & Mrs. Lee Gaeta, El Monte.

Runner-up — 'Gaytime,' Sam Ward, Tarzana.

Best Treated Japonica

'Clark Hubbs Var.?', Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Summerson, Glendale.

Runner-up — 'Tom Knudsen,' Mr. & Mrs. Harold Rowe, Upland.

Best Treated Hybrid — 'John Taylor,' Mr. & Mrs. Harold Rowe, Upland.

Runner-up — 'Howard Asper,' Mr. & Mrs. Lee Gaeta, El Monte.

Best Species Bloom — 'Star Above Star,' Mrs. Wm. Schmitt, Chula Vista.

Best Three Large Japonicas — 'Angel,' Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Buchanan, Modesto.

Runner-up — 'Grand Prix,' Caryll Pitkin, San Marino.

Best Three Medium Japonicas

'Midnight,' Mr. & Mrs. Marian McClendon, Claremont.

Runner-up — 'Magnoliaeflora,' Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Shropshire, Cucamonga.

Best Three Hybrids — 'Royalty,' Mr. & Mrs. Lee Gaeta, El Monte.

Best Japonica Seedling — 'LR-X-1,' Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Shropshire, Cucamonga.

Best Reticulata Seedling — 'Metcalf Seedling,' Fred Hamilton, Santa Maria.

Best Non-Reticulata Seedling

'Granthamiana 70-1,' Ted Alfter, Bakersfield.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY INC.
McCABE HALL, SAN JOSE
FEBRUARY 15-16, 1975

Special Awards

Richard Roggia Trophy, hybrid, large to very large, 'Anticipation,

Mr. & Mrs. Doug Batt, Windsor.

Caesar Breschini Trophy, seedling, large #10, David L. Feathers, Lafayette.

Violet Oliphant Trophy, best boutonniere, 'Domoto's Petite,'

Mr. & Mrs. John M. Augis, San Jose.

Sweepstakes

John J. Mendoza and Son, Santa Clara.

Runner-up — Mr. & Mrs. Matt Talia, Santa Clara.

- Japonica Large to very Large Three Blossoms*
 'Tiffany,' Mrs. Sal Davi, Pittsburg.
- Japonica Large to Very Large*
 'Elegans Supreme,' Mr. & Mrs. Charles O'Malley, Woodside.
- Japonica Medium* — 'Spring Sonnet,' Dr. & Mrs. Fred Rankin, Modesto.
- Japonica Medium Three Blossoms*
 'Betty Sheffield Supreme,' Jack Lewis, Concord.
- Boutonniere Three Blossoms*
 'My Darling,' John Mendoza and Son, Santa Clara.
- Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid*
 'Howard Asper,' Mr. & Mrs. Ed. A. Hays, Walnut Creek.
- Reticulata or Reticulata Hybrid Three*
 'K. O. Hester,' Gilbert Cocchetto, Santa Clara.
- Hybrid, Medium or Small, Non-Reticulata*
 'Water Lily,' Mr. & Mrs. Charles O'Malley, Woodside.
- Hybrid All Sizes, Non-Reticulata Three*
 'Galaxie,' Mr. Charles Boynton, Lodi.
- Fragrant Varieties One*
 Parks #18, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Hallstone, Lafayette.
- Youth Class Reticulata* — 'Carl Tourje,' Marc Mandarich, Menlo Park.
- Youth Class Japonica* — 'Kramer's Supreme,' Suzanne Rusher, Lodi.
- Novice Any Variety* — 'China Doll,' Tom Millerman, Modesto.
- Japonica Large to Very Large Five Blooms*
 'Easter Morn,' Dr. & Mrs. Fred Heitman, Lafayette.
- Japonica Medium Five Blooms*
 'Margaret Radcliff,' Dr. & Mrs. Fred Rankin, Modesto.
- Members: Single Japonica* — 'Tiffany,' Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Allman, San Jose.
- Members: Single Reticulata or Hybrid*
 'Francie L,' Bob Chadderton, Sunnyvale.
- Members (former trophy winner division): Single Japonica*
 'Tiffany,' Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Bernhardt, Redwood City.
- Members (former trophy winner division): Single Reticulata or Hybrid*
 'William Hertrich,' Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Bernhardt, Redwood City.
- Court of Honor: 75. Seedling: 7.

EXCERPTS (Cont.)

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."

VOLUME 35—MAY, 1974

"These fourteen years have been

significant years in my life and I am sure I shall miss some of the good things that go with the job. I have made friendships that would not otherwise have occurred. I have learned about camellias in a way that is unsurpassed. I envy the person who likes camellias and is young enough to take on the job of Editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW and thus to look forward to years of pleasure such as I have enjoyed."

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF WORK ON CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE

(Notes from a talk by Bill Woodroof at the January Temple City Society meeting, with the Australian and New Zealand Visitors as guests.)

They asked me to talk about nomenclature for ten minutes and how I am going to get 35 years of work into ten minutes is beyond me. Particularly since I am a bit long winded anyway. I would like to welcome all here tonight.

I started nomenclature in the late 1930's for two basic reasons. One; my Scot ancestry and two; my legal background. Why does the Scot ancestry come in? Well I bought one camellia variety under five different names. And several varieties were duplicated. Well I was getting very upset about it so I decided to do something about it. So about 1940 I started to collect every known camellia publication in the world, everything I could gather and started researching. Dr. John Taylor, then president of the Southern California Camellia Society, requested I edit a nomenclature book for the Southern California Camellia Society and that book was finished in 1946 and came out with a publication date of 1947. It listed only varieties current or about to become current on the Pacific coast, and it had 67 pages. The book now has some 200 pages and during that period of time we published every two years. The book now lists every known variety in propagation in the world.

In the early days my main consultants were Vern McCaskill, Ralph Peer, who did most of my research abroad, and in your area, Professor Waterhouse and Mr. Hazelwood, in these later years Gulius Nuccio. As business manager my help came from Caryll Pitkin in the middle years,

and the later years, the last ten or twelve, is Harold Dryden. He is the one that puts the pictures in the book.

Over the years we have had problems and have we had problems! I have been called everything in the book. We have been accused of changing names of camellias and of naming camellias but we follow one principle; we follow the international rules of nomenclature. Sure we change names, when we find the first priority name of a camellia we change it. But there is one thing that most people don't realize . . . this book was started, continued and will always be for the amateur layman camellia grower, in the most understandable form we can print it. Sure we want the college professors to read it and use it but that is not the reason for it; it is to keep you from buying duplicated varieties. And they are still coming out, every day I catch another one.

Now we have had many requests for changes. After the publication of the 1962 edition we decided that we would do our best to put the source of all varieties in the book, with the exception of sasanquas. I started to work with the help of many people too numerous to mention, and I spent two years running down source. On week-ends and evenings I estimate that I spent in excess of 1000 hours in research to put the source of camellias in the nomenclature book. I enjoyed every minute of it but at times I admit it was pretty bad. Now we knew that a lot of it was wrong but the only way we could find out was to put in and then get jumped on for it. There is still mistakes in it and there will always be mistakes in it until we get complete and full cooperation from everyone that uses it.

Now let me caution you, do not write me or write any member of the committee and say that Jane Doe is not Jane Doe but John Smith unless you send me complete historical documentation because I won't touch it. Every name and source in there is based on long research; we may be wrong but we won't change it without proof that we are wrong with documentation.

Now we have had two requests for major improvements in the book. One is to use a color chart. Another one is to rate the camellia. Now let's take the first one. We use the common colors in description. Unless every person that has the nomenclature book has the same identical chart it is valueless. The other is rating. Have you ever gone to the parent of a child and told them that the child was ugly and of no value? Well, do you think there is any difference between the originator of a camellia and the parents of a child? There isn't.

Now nomenclature is for the purpose of controlling the names of camellias. It is not a rating bureau. There is the theory of having a committee to determine whether a camellia is good enough or not to register. Now what is going to happen to nomenclature if some so called experts say that a camellia is not good enough to register? That person is going to put their baby out under the name that they choose and you lose all control of nomenclature. And I won't buy any part of that. Neither will the committee. I am a little bit stubborn and opinionated and a little rough at times when it comes to nomenclature after 35 years in this field. I used to be able to give from memory every synonym one had regardless of how many but I can't do that any more.

Now I have a bone to pick with the Australians while I have so many here. For publication in the nomenclature book they use the word dou-

ble to describe a camellia. I ask what's a double? Rose form, peony, semi-double, what is it? I don't know. So I guess, to get into the nomenclature book a camellia has to be described or they are of no value to us. The description must be understandable. Unless they are or the camellia isn't described properly then the book loses value.

Now I will close with one thing; to tell you what our major problem is today. In the last ten years one thing we insist on: that a camellia must be described in its outside normal growing condition without the use of glass and chemical treatment. Color, form and size. In the registration forms of the American Camellia there is a question — "Has this flower been grown under glass or been chemically treated?" Many times they will answer that "Yes." If it is answered yes then I will reduce the size that they give that flower by one and one-half or two inches which glass or chemical will produce. But many of them don't want to tell you that so they will list the size of that japonica as six or six and one-half or seven inches and I know that they are lying so I reduce that size automatically, otherwise if I put it in, it is wrong. In the last ten years in testing camellias from the south that are listed large, which have to be over four inches, there hasn't been one flower over three and one-half inches. In listing very large which is over five inches they will automatically be four and one-half inches right on the nose every time. So that has been our problem to try to keep nomenclature descriptions proper when grown under glass or treated. Now I have been accused of being against Gib. Well I won't allow Gib on my street. So now I am prejudiced. I have been accused of being too prejudiced. I was told one day that camellias *do* have some Gib. Yes

(Continued on page 24)

MORE ABOUT SEEDLINGS

Rudy Moore

Huntington Botanical Gardens

San Marino, California

Our second article dealt with germinating and growing camellias from seeds. I hope by now you have purchased some seeds and have them germinating. You should start re-potting your plants into individual pots the first cool weather in October. At this time, I like to put my seedlings into my regular camellia mix, which consists of two parts fir bark or forest humus, two parts sandy loam or silt and one part coarse peat moss. Remember, always soak your peat moss and squeeze out all excess water before using. Now, get some three, four and six inch plastic containers. You will need all three sizes because your root systems won't be the same on all your plants and they should go into the proper size pot. Don't over-pot nor under-pot. You should have at least one inch from roots to side of container. So, choose the right pot for each plant. You should get some small walk-on bark or wood shavings to put in the bottom of the pot covering the drain holes so that the soil mix won't wash out. Now, put in about an inch or so of your soil mix. Then, place your plant in the center of the pot with the bottom of the roots touching the soil and the top of your roots which is your crown should be about 3/4 inch below the top of the pot. Hold the plant in this position and put in your soil mix, juggling the pot from side to side to settle the soil around the roots. Fill in to about 1/2 inch above the crown. Then, water with an even flow using sprinkling can. This should settle the soil about even with the crown which is where it should be. Never allow the crown to be below the soil . . . always even or slightly above. Add a teaspoon of vitamin B-1 per gallon of water when

re-potting. Then, use the same feeding program as before starting in March plus a little chelated iron every other time or as needed for good dark green foliage. Your plants should not need re-potting for a year or two. You should check them each year to see if they need re-potting. Do this by holding your hand over the top of the container, turn the plant upside down and with a little tap, sliding the root ball out. Check the roots. If you see mostly roots and not much soil, then it's about time to re-pot the plant. Never let the roots wrap around the container until it is root-bound. To re-pot your plants, use the same mix as before. Your three and four inch pots can go into one gallon size pots and your six inch pot into two gallon size. Prepare the container as before, putting your small walk-on bark in the bottom to cover the drain holes. Then, enough soil mix in the bottom so that when you set your root ball into the container, the crown will be about two inches below the top of the container, leaving you plenty of room to water properly. Make sure you untangle your roots so they can grow into their new soil mix. The best way to do this is to get a pointed object such as a knitting needle. Start at the bottom of the root ball and go in about 1/2 inch or so and pull out, working up and around the root ball until all the roots are loose.

I like to bring my mix up from the bottom in a cone like shape so I can work the bottom of the root ball down over it, allowing the roots to go out in the soil mix better. Now, fill in your soil mix just like before and water them well . . . fill the container a couple of times. They should not

(Continued on page 24)

MORE ABOUT SEEDLINGS (Cont.)

need water for quite a while now depending on the weather. The reason a plant that has recently been potted doesn't need as much water is that there are no roots in the new soil to use up the water.

The only way, then, for your soil to dry out is from the hot, dry weather, however, your root ball can dry out, so keep a check and give it a little water at the first sign. As soon as the roots begin growing in the Spring and signs of new growth are visible, then you can resume watering as usual. Don't water your plants when they are still damp. Wait until they start to dry out before watering. Soak well, filling the container a couple of times. Remember, it is very important not to over-pot your plants. The reason is that in order to keep your root ball damp, you are over watering the soil that doesn't have any roots and by the time the roots get into this soil it is too soggy and may rot the ends of the roots causing the plant to die. The proper step up from one gallon containers and up would be to leave about two inches from the roots to the side of the container. So, go from a one gallon into a two gallon and then to a five gallon. From there the next step is the ground where the plant will be much happier. If you still prefer containers, go from a five gallon to a 15 inch tub.

Now that you have more soil and less roots in your container you should change your feeding program. You can use the same fertilizer as before or you can switch to cottonseed meal which is highly recommended for camellias. The first year after re-potting, you should cut the feedings to 1/3 strength and feed only once or twice several months apart starting in April or a few months after you re-pot. The

best time to re-pot is from October through March because during this time your camellias are mostly dormant. The second year after re-potting you can resume a regular feeding program, full strength and feed three to four times April through September.

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS (Cont.)

they *do* have Gib, so what am I yelling about? You feed a horse! Yes, that may be true you do feed a horse but you don't stick him in the rear when he goes to the post.

CHARACTERISTICS OF (Cont.)

an unbelievable variety of fascinating variations. It is excellent as a potted plant and as a matrix it is responsible for many new varieties. Indeed, the Snow Camellia is known to many gardeners as Japan's premier variety for cross-breeding.

Higo Tsubaki

This camellia emerged some 200 years ago when one of the matrices of the *Yabu Tsubaki*, transferred from the Kyoto area (most likely) to Kumamoto in Kyushu, produced the variation through natural cross-breeding. Later it was improved by the efforts of gardeners. The stamen of the *Higo Tsubaki* splits or bursts from the very center of the heart of the flower and the number of stamens is quite great. The stamen configuration is similar to that of the plum blossom stamen. The *Higo Tsubaki* blossom is a single.

This variety is famous as a bonsai not only in Japan but is also beloved by many in other countries. And the *Higo Tsubaki* is the variation principally responsible for the growth of the camellia as used for a bonsai.

Directory of California Camellia Societies

Societies with asterisk () are Affiliates of Southern California Camellia Society*

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY

President: Lemuel Freeman; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Fred R. Dukes, Jr., 733 Del Mar Drive, Bakersfield 93307

Meetings: 2nd Monday, October through April (except 3rd Monday in November), at Franklin School, Truxton and A St., Bakersfield

*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

President: Charles Mc F. Reed; Secretary, Mrs. George T. Butler, 1831 Windsor Lane, Santa Ana 92705

Meetings: 3rd Thursday, November through April, at Great Western Savings & Loan Bldg., 1418 No. Main St., Santa Ana

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

President: James M. Randall; Secretary, Mrs. Frank P. Mack, 2222 G St., Sacramento 95816

Meetings: 4th Wednesday, October through April in Shepard Garden & Art Center, 3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Arthur Gonos; Secretary, Mrs. Wilbur V. Ray, 5024 E. Laurel Ave., Fresno 93727

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, November through February, in All-purpose Room, Mayfair School, 3305 E. Home, Fresno; Oct. 12 Kickoff Breakfast, 8:30 A.M., Jack Woo residence, 1327 East Ashlan Ave., Fresno; March 19 Annual Barbeque, 6:10 P.M., California State University at Fresno in the Horticultural Bldg.

DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Jack Lewis; Secretary, Mrs. James E. Scott, 4285 Inverness Dr., Pittsburg 94565

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, November through March at Sunitomo Bank, Contra Costa Blvd., Pleasant Hill

JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Donald W. Hurst; Secretary, Mrs. Ethel S. Willits, 502 N. Pleasant Ave., Lodi 95240

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, October through April, 1st Fed. Savings & Loan Community Rm., Lodi

LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: James Tulliano; Secretary, Mrs. Haidee Steward, 130 S. Citrus, Los Angeles 90036

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

MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Ronald Kellogg; Secretary, Mrs. Helen Caputi, 1605 Victoria Dr., Modesto 95351

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

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Edward A. Hays; Secretary, Wm. Lockwood, 3226 Primrose Ln., Walnut Creek 94598

Meetings: 1st Monday, November through May, Claremont JHS, 5750 College Ave., Oakland

PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Melvin L. Gum; Sec., Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 91208

Meetings: 1st Thursday, November through April, Tues. Aft. Clubhouse, 400 N. Central Ave., Glendale

PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Harlow P. Rother; Secretary, Andrew R. Johnson, Jr., 28 Lloydon Dr., Atherton 94025

Meetings: 4th Tuesday, September through April, Hospitality Room, West Coast Federal Savings Bldg., 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City 94061

*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Ronald D. Braid; Secretary, Mrs. Janice Hawes, 12625 Kellogg Ave., Chino 91710

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

*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Benjamin H. Berry; Secretary, Harry Humphrey, 4659 Winona Ave., San Diego 92115

Meetings: 3rd Wed., November-April, Rm. 101, Casa Del Prado Bldg., Balboa Pk., San Diego, 7:30 p.m.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: John M. Augis; Secretary, Mrs. Helen Augis, 2254 Fair Valley Court, San Jose 95125

Meetings: 2nd Thursday, September through April

SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Alton B. Parker; Secretary, Joy Monteleone, 505 Olive St., Santa Rosa 95401

Meetings: 4th Thursday, November through April (except November and December), Multipurpose Room, Steel Lane School, Santa Rosa

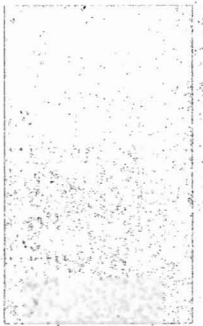
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

See inside front cover of this issue of Camellia Review

*TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President: Franklin R. Moore; Secretary, Mrs. Elsie Bracci, 5567 N. Burton Ave., San Gabriel 91776

Meetings: Friday, Nov. 15; Friday, Dec. 20; Thursday, Jan. 23; Thursday, Feb. 27; Thursday, March 27; and Thursday, April 24 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum Seminar Room in Arcadia



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