The Camellia Bulletin

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Hybrid Camellia — INNOVATION (see page 3)

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with considerable regret that we announce publication of *The Camellia Bulletin* will cease with this, the last issue of the fiscal year 1965, due to both personnel and financial problems that have proved to be insurmountable.

It is always difficult to say "Good-bye," especially when it concerns a relationship of some 18 years' standing. How does one express his feelings in such case? May I say personally that it has been a real privilege and pleasure to have had this contact with you for the past eleven years and a most stimulating and rewarding experience, which will be missed.

The Camellia Bulletin has endeavored to be: an instrument for the dissemination of information and knowledge relating to camellias; seriously concerned with matters of importance; impartial in dealing with subjects of a controversial nature; abreast of significant developments; a source of suggestions calculated to be for the benefit of the camellia hobbyist; and, at the same time, to be entertaining. To what extent success or failure may have attended our efforts only you can judge. In any case, it has been a worthwhile and memorable experience.

In parting, it would be less than fair not to mention the fact that it has been, first and foremost, the members of the Northern California Camellia Society, and, subsequently, the members of the collaborating camellia societies, who have for years, through their dues contributions, underwritten the cost of this publication. It is an expensive proposition to maintain a publication of this sort these days—even without any paid help—and all credit is due them and our subscriber-members for their invaluable support. We should also like to take this final opportunity to express our deep appreciation to our several Associate Editors, who have been so instrumental in helping maintain the standards originally set and in providing new and interesting material. Here again it is a matter of keen regret that we must now terminate this ever harmonious and always gratifying relationship.

Although the song has ended, the melody lingers on in the sense that this unfortunate development will not, in any way, diminish our (and we hope your) abiding interest in and devotion to camellia affairs. It will simply mean the diversion of our energies into other channels having the same general purpose.

Our final word is to express the heartfelt appreciation of all concerned for your very encouraging and often inspiring support of *The Camellia Bulletin* over the years. This we shall never forget. So, Goodbye, Good Luck and, above all, Good Camellias!

DAVID L. FEATHERS, *Editor*

P.S.—It would be a grave oversight not to use this last opportunity also to express our deep appreciation to our printers, Howell-North Press, who have been with us throughout in the fullest sense, most co-operative and considerate and almost wholly responsible for the format of this publication.

COVER FLOWER—"INNOVATION"

(A.C.S. Registration No. 901)

Our cover flower is a third generation hybrid camellia, from a cross of "Williams' Lavender" (a seedling of the hybrid camellia "J. C. Williams") with *C. reticulata* "Crimson Robe" made by D. L. Feathers some ten years ago. It first bloomed in 1957. The flower is large (over 5") and has considerable height, not too evident from the picture, which looks directly into its center. Under some conditions, the blooms will be a tighter peonyform and higher. An outstanding feature is the very long (early to late) blooming season and life of the open flowers on the plant (up to two weeks), which results in a good mass effect. Growth is extremely rapid, somewhat willowy but bushy. Both flower and foliage are well veined, the latter being saluenensis-like. "Innovation" is being propagated by Redwood Empire Camellias (Alton B. Parker), for 1967 release. Photo by the originator.

THE FORTUNES OF TWO OLD TIME CAMELLIAS

E. G. Waterhouse, Gordon, New South Wales

C. japonica "Magnoliiflora"

This camellia originated in Japan where it was published by Iwasaki 1805-1828 as "HAGOROMO" (meaning "Angel's Robe"). It was imported into Italy and listed in the *Bolletino* in 1886 as "Magnoliaeflora." Fratelli Rovelli of Pallanza, Lago Maggiore, propagated it under that name and F. Sander & Son, of St. Albans, introduced it into England from Rovelli in the late 1880's. Thus "Hagoromo" is its valid name. "Magnoliiflora" is a synonym which will no doubt continue to be used in Western countries. The spelling "Magnoliiflora," with two i's, is the correct one. It is arrived at by adding "-iflora" to the stem "Magnoli-". But from 1886 to the present day various invalid spellings have been used, as have various synonyms such as "Cho-no-hagasane" and "Rose of Dawn." But surely this universal favorite deserves to be known either by its original Japanese name "Hagoromo" or by its Western synonym "Magnoliiflora."

It is sometimes stated that there are two strains of this cultivar, the English light pink to white and the southern American blush pink. I do not think that there are two strains and suggest that the variation in color is due to climate. In a warm climate like Portugal the blooms gather color, as seen in the fine painting of "Magnoliiflora" by Paul Jones, reproduced in the first volume of Mrs. Urquhart's *The Camellia.* Mr. Charles Puddle informs me that the same plant from Portugal, when grown in England, produces the usual pale flesh pink blooms. In Australia I have noticed variation in the shade of color in plants grown from the same bush and I attribute the variation to the location in my garden where the plants are grown.

C. japonica "Jubilee"

Mr. Low, nuseryman of Clapton, England, raised some beautiful camellia seedlings in the fourth decade of the Nineteenth Century. One of the finest is his "Jubilee." This attracted considerable attention at the time and received much publicity. *The Floricultural Cabinet,* Vol. xiii, 1845, p. 139 states: "The flower is near six inches in diameter, equal to *C. reticulata.* It is nearly double, having seven tiers of petals. The petals are of fine form and substance, regularly arranged, of a beautiful peach-rose color, altogether rendering it one of the finest in this country and deserving a place in every collection."

Paxton, in his *Magazine of Botany,* Vol. 12, 1846, p. 94, in speaking of Low's "Jubilee" says: "We notice this seedling chiefly on account of the enormous size of the flowers (in this respect they rival those of *C. reticulata,* being full 5 inches in diameter and excel in the form, arrangement and number of the petals, which are tinted with a fine, delicate blush pink)."

Verschaffelt in 1848, published the same camellia in his *Nouvelle Iconographie* and gave its name as "Jubilé." This spelling with the acute accent is merely the French equivalent of the English "Jubilee," published two years before. "Jubilé" is thus a synonym and cannot displace "Jubilee," the prior name. Verschaffelt in his description refers to the size as 4 or 5 inches in diameter and says it is not inferior in form or size to "Chandleri." "It is semi-regular, with very wide exterior petals, white tinged and striated pink. The central ones are smaller, undulated, fasciculated and tinged with yellow."

Rollison's *Plant Catalogue* 1877-78, p. 154, gives the name as "Jubilee" and says "The most delicate pinkish white strewed all over except in the center, with minute, dust-like specks of rose and splashed here and there with the same color."

Michael Guilfoyle came from England to Australia and established his Exotic Nursery at Double Bay, Sydney, in the 1850's. In 1866 he listed "Jubilee." This camellia was later listed in Victoria, South Australia and New Zealand. I have seen many plants of it, but the two oldest are at Giles Nursery, Norton Summit, South Australia. I found the old label "Jubilee" embedded at ground level in

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THE HYBRID — ITS ADOLESCENCE AND ITS MATURITY

J. Carroll Reiners, Sacramento, California

The Camellia Hybrid has reached its adolescent age without a chaperon. And, as in childhood, the youngster has developed an understanding by its trials and errors in this formative stage.

Maturity is around the corner but it will take considerable parental guidance to steer it from its past delinquent ways. The hybrid blooms which we see in our shows bear testimony to lack of uniform programming for goals of achievement. During the past four years the number of blooms entered in the hybrid classes in the Sacramento show has been static and not too encouraging. Total flowers for each year from 1961 through 1965 has never been greater than 78 or less than 72. This might seem discouraging when one considers that this show displays between eight and nine thousand flowers. The hybrid has received enthusiastic publicity but moderate acceptance. Why? Let's review the development of this fascinating picture.

The smoldering genes of camellia hybriditis exploded loud and clear about 1950. All of the temperate areas of the free world became growing grounds for camellia hybrids, the seed progeny from the cross-pollination of two camellia species. The original ground work, which began in 1940 in England, had been quietly appraised for ten years. Beginning in the late 1940's the Kunming Reticulatas, in 1948, and other camellia species were imported to America. The camellia had been long overdue for exploitation. The all too sudden interest in interspecific breeding was slightly analagous to the 1849 gold rush to California. Perhaps it happened too quickly and with too much glowing publicity — too much was expected too quickly. The means for hybridizing were complicated by the unclear camellia genealogy, scrambled in the gardens of oriental antiquity. Many imported species, first thought to be purely aboriginal have indicated possible previous hybridity. This, added to the added inheritance traits of *C. japonica,* left the hybridizers with unpredictable result probabilities.

The pioneering of the camellia hybrid was about completed in 1960 with its child of twelve years, unguided, but eager and willing to learn. It gave us many new camellia growing forms in plant, leaf, flower and fruit. The primary fault in many of the flowers in this uninhibited period were poor substance, little lasting quality, shattering, darkening of stamens, poor color saturation, a limited color range and, frequently, poor bush character. The forms were interesting, but generally the flowers of this period must be classed as novelties, few will become old favorites. This formative twelve-year period of hybrids produced too few exhibition type flowers for those people psychologically conditioned to show flowers. The primary value of some of these early plants was in their suitability for landscape use because of their floriferousness, but this fact was seldom exploited. The pioneer period was one of productivity, with enthusiasm often overriding good judgment.

By 1960 the storehouse of camellia species and allied genera were grouped for genetic compatibility. A treasure-trove of heredity had been unearthed in camelliana. Significant information was accumulating for a new era of camellia development—the building blocks were formed. The need for an architect to create a master plan for future development was needed and supplied by the "Camellia Research Advisory Committee." Possibly the turning point in camellia hybrid research was established in 1960 by the formation of this extremely important Research Committee. The eminent members of this committee fostered only a thorough, organized and planned approach to its primary projects to extend the color range, obtain hardier varieties and fragrance. The surge of interest has swept many growers along in a flood of experiments which seems to show no sign of having crested. Haphazard, or scientific in the most acute sense—either approach or any grade in between has brought great new interests to the top of the wave.

The first objective has always been the search for unusual flower forms. Plant

vigor and cold hardiness continue to be prime objectives. Improved resistance to disease has been noted by many authorities and there has been work on lengthening the blooming season from both ends. It has been found that possibly two blooming periods can be produced. Inquiry into the use of *C. saluenensis* has produced great improvement in self-grooming habit, along with the hardiness aforementioned. And an unpredicted search into improving the growth habits of certain reticulatas began in 1961.

With the entry of true scientific process, experiments with new specific and generic material opened wide the doors to further search for a yellow camellia and it has lately been suggested that a more blue could be another phase. The strong tendency toward fragrance has been tested with encouraging results, helped greatly by the introduction of *C. lutchuensis.* And there is the need for new miniatures which will stay small.

Knowledge produces the search for more knowledge. Consequently, the necessity of technicality, such as chromosome counts, has led to hybridization for the purpose of further hybridization. Inter-specific successes lead us to inter-generic trials for the purpose of changing chromosome counts and other genetic factors in order to produce parents for further crosses. And with F2 and future generations ever showing more promise, we now watch for prolific seed bearers, as well.

We need camellia plants with fewer weaknesses such as poor scaffolding, dull leaves, flowers facing down and sensitivity to balling, sun and cold. With so many objectives, we must keep foremost the plan to produce a better garden plant. As Lammerts has said, it is "all for the purpose of developing the consciousness that the camellia has innumerable functions as a superb garden plant to fill the otherwise barren winter season."

Since 1930 there have been thousands of hybrid progeny grown and thousands discarded but are we sure that all of the discards were not worthwhile? Would some of these throw-outs have made an outstanding garden plant such as a groundcover, a bonsai, etc.? Should there not be a *complete detailed camellia classification* for descriptive groups so that new hybrids and cultivars on trial may be rated uniformly in the class to which they are most typical? To best illustrate this, reference is made to the Rose classifications which include *Floribunda, Polyantha, Sweetheart, Grandiflora, Pillar, Climber, Miniature, Shrub,* etc. All the foregoing are hybrids which are classed separately because their growth and flowering characteristics differ. Each class is more or less descriptive in itself and the name is easily understood by the Rose-buying public.

With the prospect of many hundred of new inter-specific hybrids, we can expect a continued listing of new camellia groups referred to (usually) by hybridizer's name, such as in the case of the *Camellia williamsii* hybrids, *Sylvia May* seedlings or the *Doak* types. These, botanically and taxonomically speaking, may be desirable for future reference in the scientific field, but to the layman they offer only confusion.

A study is urgently needed for camellia classification which is not specifically guided by botanical rules, but by descriptive grouping of hybrids and cultivars by plant habit and bloom characteristics. A general classification might consist of Grandiflora, Fragrantiflora, Floribunda, Miniatureflora, Hardiflora, Groundflora, Hangingflora, Landscapeflora, Azaleaflora, Exhibitionflora, Sunflora, and so on. The above names are intended to be illustrative only.

Among other fine contributions which certainly will help in "Maturing the Hybrid" is a fine American Camellia Society rating system for the camellia. This procedure should be thoroughly exploited, used and adapted to the variables of the hybrids. There has been, very definitely, insufficient screening of many new progeny by a rated schedule of regulatory rules covering all aspects of the camellia plant.

Score cards are suggested for each class, using an evaluation scale patterned after the A.C.S. Rating System. A different schedule would be needed for each class because, in each case, different

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SOME THOUGHTS REGARDING HYBRIDS

Harold L. Paige, Lafayette, California

Importance of Good Seed Parents

Many times a hybridizer is tempted to cut off and use for root stock a seedling whose flowers are just fair in quality. It would have been highly rated twenty years ago, but not today. We have learned through experience to keep all these seedlings that look promising until we find out if they are going to be good seed setters. A good parent plant is often more valuable than a sterile plant that produces prize winning blooms. Good seeders like *Sylvia May, Mrs. Bertha Harms, Dr. Tinsley,* are rather hard to find. When you do find a seedling with exceptional vigor that will cross with many other species, you may well be on your way toward producing a long line of top quality flowers.

The classic example in roses is Dr. Walter Lammerts' seedling *Charlotte Armstrong* which started a long line of All American Roses, including such notable varieties as *Chrysler Imperial* and *Queen Elizabeth.* It is estimated that about 75 per cent of the All American Roses of the last twenty years, produced in this country, have *Charlotte Armstrong* genes in their background.

The writer came close to cutting off some early seedlings with only fair flowers which later proved to be excellent parent plants. Some of their offspring are now showing very desirable qualities both in plant and flower.

When one checks the results of a season's work in cross pollinating species and sees long columns of "no takes," he realizes then the value of a reliable seeder. This is not to say that wide crosses with uncertain material should not be attempted. It is impossible to tell where lightning will strike. Nevertheless it would be wise to put at least half one's effort into working with plants that have already demonstrated their worth. None of these well known seed parents have been overworked and the possibilities for new crosses are endless.

Humor the Hybridizer

Encourage the hybridizer. Yes, humor him. He works hard years on end, often with little to show for it. However, the main reason for encouraging his efforts is that new cultivars are needed. No flower remains pouular long unless interesting new varieties appear each year. Think back and ask yourself if you would be satisfied with the 15 or 20 varieties you started with 15 or 20 years ago. A glance back through the years reminds us that considerable progress has been made, much of which is due to the work of amateurs. True, the bees have contributed a lot to the end results but still it has been necessary for some one to recognize quality in both flower and plant and to keep that quality from disappearing from sight.

One of the secret wishes of the hybridizer is that all shows keep japonica seedlings and hybrids in separate classes and on separate tables. He is not interested in competing with japonica seedlings, feeling that there is no basis of comparison. He does not want a new *Adolphe Audusson* or something similar, much as he may admire it. He wants something entirely different—a new form or color, a new kind of foliage or type of growth, something distinctive and beautiful.

The apathy with respect to hybrids in the past is understandable. Many hybrids have lacked substance and frequently have collapsed on the second day of the show, especially if room temperatures were not properly controlled. Indeed, many so-called "tough" japonicas have succumbed if conditions were bad enough. However, substance is being bred into second and third generation hybrids and this problem should eventually disappear. Incidentally, it should be remembered that the camellia does not have the lasting quality of the chrysanthemum or the orchid. It is a flower which opens and performs best in the cool, damp air of winter, at a time when other flowers are practically non-existent. It can hardly be expected to hold its luster and sheen for a week in a warm, dry room. Even roses will not do that. Since we grow camellias on trees by the hundreds, they should be replaced often and enjoyed as nature intended, in their fresh, winter beauty.

Help the Judges

The time may well come when the seedling table will be the most interesting table in our shows. To hasten that day, the exhibitor of seedlings would suggest that show management be sure to provide ample space for the display of new cultivars. The judges who have been assigned to these tables have been given the most difficult job of judging in the show and should not be hampered by having the blooms jammed together through lack of room. It is suggested that at least one of the judges be a grower of long experience who will not be influenced by size alone nor by the bizarre, just because it is different.

Many of the buildings available to show management and best suited for show purposes are lighted with fluorescent lamps. These are complimentary neither to the complexion of the spectators nor to the color of the flowers. White flowers, of course, are not affected but many pinks and reds are grayed out or take on a purplish cast so that they become most unattractive. This is not too serious a handicap to the judges assigned to the main exhibit tables. They know that *Adolphe Audusson* does not have that tired look in daylight and can judge it accordingly. However, in the case of a table full of new seedlings which have never been seen before, how are the judges going to be able to evaluate flowers whose colors are badly distorted or their luster dimmed by poor lighting?

Opportunities for Show Management

The Sacramento Show Management deserves compliments for the way the Court of Honor was lighted at the 1965 show. Mazda lamps, high up, well concealed and shaded, were used above a circular table and the flowers which had received the highest awards fairly glistened and glowed in their lovely natural colors. The beauty brought out by proper lighting must have caused many a person to jot down names of varieties which they felt they must have in their own gardens.

Seedling growers are hopeful that, as their offerings improve each year, they will merit more attention at the shows. Of course the late comers would like to find enough room left on the tables for their exhibits. Also early comers would like to feel assured that their entries will not be bruised by being pushed around to make room for just one more entry It is not exactly a selfish desire on their part. Rather it is because they believe that new varieties help to keep up public interest. Who can forget how the first introduction of hanging baskets gave added interest to our shows? New varieties have been the life of the rose business. New cultivars can help to spark our own exhibit tables, but they must be featured. Let the public know which are the award winners. *Howard Asper, E. G. Waterhouse, Charlean,* all winners of high awards, are worthy of attention. Publicity chairmen need something to talk about if they are to get adequate newspaper publicity. Showmanship takes time but here is a wonderful opportunity through advance planning to feature a very important part of camellia culture and at the same time to improve our presentation to the public. A little extra attention to our lighting problems at the seedling tables and at the Court of Honor will make our shows much more exciting. It will help to keep our public coming back year after year to see the latest thing—the new look—in camellias.

One type of showmanship has been somewhat neglected in recent years—the proper presentation in the show room of specimen plants in full bloom. At an early show staged by our Society back in the Forties, a specimen plant of *Captain Rawes* was moved by a large van all the way from East Oakland to our show in Berkeley. This was at a time when very few people had seen a *Captain Rawes* flower, let alone a specimen tree. The tree was about 8′ tall, well branched, growing in a 14″ box and covered with 85 gorgeous blooms. It became at once, of course, the center of attraction of the show. There are now in existence specimen hybrid plants whose flowers are not the type to be picked like japonicas and laid flat on a show table. They are floriferous enough to create quite a sensation in a show room as landscape plants. They will catch the eye of many a flower ar-

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On another page Dave Feathers, editor of this publication for the past eleven years, sings his swan-song with a self-effacement matching the outstanding editorial job he has done for Northern California Camellia Society and the camellia world generally during that time. From his first memorable issue—"THE YUNNAN RETICULATAS," October, 1954—to this, the last issue of this publication—August 1965—Dave and his contributing authors set and maintained standards which contributed in no small measure to increased interest, knowledge, and enjoyment of camellia growers all over the world.

Since March 28th, when Dave asked to be relieved of his editorial responsibilities at the end of this Bulletin-year, our Board has pushed the search for a suitable successor; and the blunt fact is that we could not find anyone to replace him. Dave started in '54 with singular qualifications for the job—writing skill, years of experience in camellia culture, wide acquaintance among camellia enthusiasts, a working schedule which allowed him to "steal" time when he needed it, and keen anticipation for the task ahead. NCCS has its share of men who seemed to meet the first few qualifications, but we could not find anyone who measured-up in the equally important areas of "time" and "dedication"—only Dave knows how many hundreds of hours he spent yearly in planning, corresponding, writing, editing, proof-reading, and all the other chores he had to do; or the number of times he had to put "deadlines" ahead of family and friends when plans were in the making. We finally had to acknowledge the inescapable conclusion—we needed a better man in '65 than even Dave Feathers was in '54 and, if he exists, we couldn't find him.

To complicate matters, Bulletin finances have been precarious for some time. Steadily rising costs produced a series of deficits over several recent years; and the effort to correct matters by increasing rates to collaborating societies and subscriber members last year was largely nullified by a decrease in numbers in both categories. Unable to locate a satisfactory replacement for Dave as editor, and facing the probability of increasing financial problems, the Board reluctantly decided to discontinue publication when present subscriptions run out with the current issue.

Our sincere thanks to every member of our collaborating societies and to our subscriber members all over the world for the moral and financial support you have given us over the years. Without it, this decision would have come long ago. Special thanks too to the several assistant editors and all the contributing authors whose generous sharing of their time and talents made the publication possible in the first place. We wish we could have found another solution.

As Dave, himself, wrote when he first took up his editor's blue pencil, "the passing of time inevitably results in change, for it brings with it new circumstances which must be taken into account." Many an emasculated bloom, many a chromosome count, many a drop of gibberellin, many a gallon of printer's ink mark the years between "Lion Head" and "Innovation." To the satisfaction he must derive from having played a significant part in these momentous years, the members of Northern California Camellia Society wish to add a fervent "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Hugh Paterson

OUR FUTURE PLANS

The passing of *The Camellia Bulletin* does not, of course, mean termination of any of the other activities of the Northern California Camellia Society nor its associates in the publication. Nor does it mean that their members will be deprived of the means of keeping in touch with camellia affairs by mail. It has been arranged with the American Camellia Society that all who wish to do so may hereafter receive all ACS publications through their NCCS membership. A letter giving complete details is in course of preparation and will be mailed to all members very shortly.

CAMELLIA HYBRIDIZATION

(Where Do We Go From Here?)

L. E. Jury, New Plymouth, New Zealand

I have been asked to give my "latest views and opinions concerning the hybridization of camellias." Perhaps I can best do this by starting from the beginning of my hybridization work, giving a brief account of my objectives, how far I have proceeded with the program and what I hope to accomplish in the future.

Before starting on the work of crossing camellias, I had some years' experience in hybridizing *auratum* and *speciosum* lilies, from which I gained much valuable knowledge. By raising large numbers of hybrid lilies, I had found that one could secure an occasional "breeder" plant with unique qualities of form and/or substance and color. It required the raising of thousands of seedlings to obtain a few outstanding breeder plants but, when acquired, one is then on a higher plane of breeding and can attain results which would otherwise not be possible or, at least, probable.

So when I started camellia hybridization quite a few years ago (mostly *C.* x *williamsii* at first) I raised several hundreds of them with various objectives in mind, hoping, of course, to secure a few unique breeder plants, for I knew the second cross was requisite to attaining my objectives. The reading of "Practical Plant Breeding" by W. J. C. Lawrence, is invaluable in helping one formulate objectives and in carrying them to a successful conclusion, in this regard.

I shall relate a few instances of how it pays to raise a goodly number of plants with respect to each objective. *C. saluenensis* was crossed with "Spencer's Pink," the object being to obtain a soft pink hybrid, then follow on with a second cross to double forms of delicate pink japonicas, including picotee forms. From a batch of plants raised, all except one were rather medium in quality (all singles, of course) but one plant was amazingly superior; quite outstanding in extra large size, having exceptionally heavy substance and a nice, soft pink color. This has been named "Spencer's Delight." I regard it as a super breeder plant in that it should yield very large, delicate pinks of excellent substance and real show bench standard.

Another objective was to obtain dwarfer growing hybrids more suited to the small garden yet with high quality blooms. *C.* "Hassaku" and "Waiwhetu Beauty," both dwarf japonica varieties, have been crossed with *C. saluenensis.* One of the most unique of this lot I call "Happy," which has bushy growth and attractive glossy foliage. This is the only *williamsii* hybrid I have raised that has blooms which show any white color, the center being white, shading to rosy pink tips, obviously indicating the possibility of obtaining picotee hybrids by crossing with picotee japonica. Thus "Happy" has an unusual combination of good qualities—hence the name, after one of the Seven Dwarfs.

A further objective was to obtain brilliant red hybrids (at the time I started hybridizing there were only shades of pink *williamsii* hybrids). This would have been easy of accomplishment had there been a red form of *C. saluenensis,* As there was no such thing, I made a cross, the object of which was to obtain a plant which would perform the same purpose as a red *saluenensis.* So I crossed *C. saluenensis* with *C. fuyajo* (also known as "purpurea"). About 28 plants were raised from this series but only one had the desired deep red color. It has been named "Joyful Bells." This hybrid is indeed a superior plant to either parent in that it is much more prolific in bloom. Crossed to red japonicas should result in brilliant red hybrids and cross to white japonicas should yield shades of deep pink—all with prolific blooming habit.

One hybrid from the cross "Joyful Bells" x "Red Ensign" bloomed a brilliant red last season. This plant is about to bloom again, which event is awaited with great interest. Another instance of the advantage of raising a sizeable number of plants is the cross of "Hassaku" x "Barbara Hillier." The resulting plants were most interesting, only two having

somewhat upright growth like "Barbara Hillier." The rest had various kinds of dwarf, bushy habits, some being extra dwarf, with the growth measuring greater in width than height. The color of the blooms varied from white to red and the size from very small to large. One plant has been selected as a breeder because of its exceptionally bushy growth, and the large single deep pink blooms of excellent substance and having beautiful golden anthers.

Speaking of golden anthers reminds me of another cross, "Hassaku" x *C. fuyajo.* From this lot one plant stands out superior, with blooms as large as "Hassaku" but with better substance, the brilliant red color showing to full advantage the prominent golden anthers. This plant and the one mentioned just above will be used in another objective, which is the securing of double and semi-double blooming types having intermixed golden anthers.

From the foregoing it is clear that I have just arrived at the most interesting stage of camellia hybridization—that of having the second generation come into bloom. This is now commencing and, with over a thousand unflowered seedlings, I have much to look forward to.

It is over twenty years ago that I started collecting camellia plants with the idea of hybridizing. Some of the more unusual hybrids raised, all with definite hybrid characteristics, have come from my crosses of:

Reticulata x "Tiny Princess"
Saluenensis x Granthamiana
"Waiwhetu Beauty" x Granthamiana (beautiful, large, deep green bullate foliage)
"Plantation Pink" (sasanqua) x Reticulata
Reticulata x "Betty Sheffield Supreme"
Saluenensis x Reticulata "Purple" Gown" (this bloomed last season, of high merit)

Yellow camellias, are they a possibility? I would say there is definite reason to hope for a yellow "family" of camellias starting to show up in five or six years and perhaps an all yellow in ten or twelve years. By a yellow "family," I mean we will have hybrids with yellow center and outer petals of white, cream or pink. (It would seem we already have a start in the form of "Gwenneth Morey," from Australia—Ed.) They should come forth from *C. granthamiana,* as that species seems to have a yellow gene or genes, judging from the golden yellow filaments in the stamens and cream color of petals upon opening. The only granthamiana hybrid I have heard of blooming is the one raised by Neville McMinn of Melbourne, Australia. It has pink petals, but the stamen filaments are a gold-yellow color, similar to those of *C. granthamiana.* It is the color in the filaments of this hybrid's flower which gives me reason to think a pink with yellow or yellowish petaloid center a very definite possibility. Perhaps this may be possible only when granthamiana is used as the *seed* parent. (It is known that the color in stamen filaments often can be transferred into the petaloids.) The other way around, that is, using *C. granthamiana* as the pollen parent, would not have the same tendency to develop central petals because of the "Single" factor in granthamiana.

C. japonica apparently also has a latent yellow gene as is evidenced by the yellow centered sport found in Formosa and other instances of some yellow coloration. One has just turned up in New Zealand with a cream-yellow center. Although the yellow gene content in the above two species is of a recessive nature, we can expect at least some percentage having a degree of yellow from crossing the two and, by careful selection of parents, we can work up to an all yellow.

Fragrance is another desirable objective. I am working with *C. tsaii* and *C. lutchuensis,* both relatively strongly scented species.

Where do we go from here? Taking a look at the growing number of camellia hybridists in the world today, one does not have to be a super-optimist to imagine numerous lovely and beautiful hybrids being raised. One point stands out as important: breeders should name only the most distinctive and meritorious so as to raise ever higher the standard of named camellias.

A STORY OF THREE GIRLS

J. Howard Asper, Escondido, California

During the fall of 1959, I decided to attempt some entirely new departures in my camellia hybridizing. Prior to that time I had been using *C. saluenensis* as a seed parent and found my seedling flowers quite uniform in color and definitely lacking in substance. So, with nothing to back my idea except a spirit of adventure, I began pollinating *C. sasanqua* flowers with *C. reticulata* pollen. This pollen had been gathered the previous spring and stored in a household refrigerator during the summer.

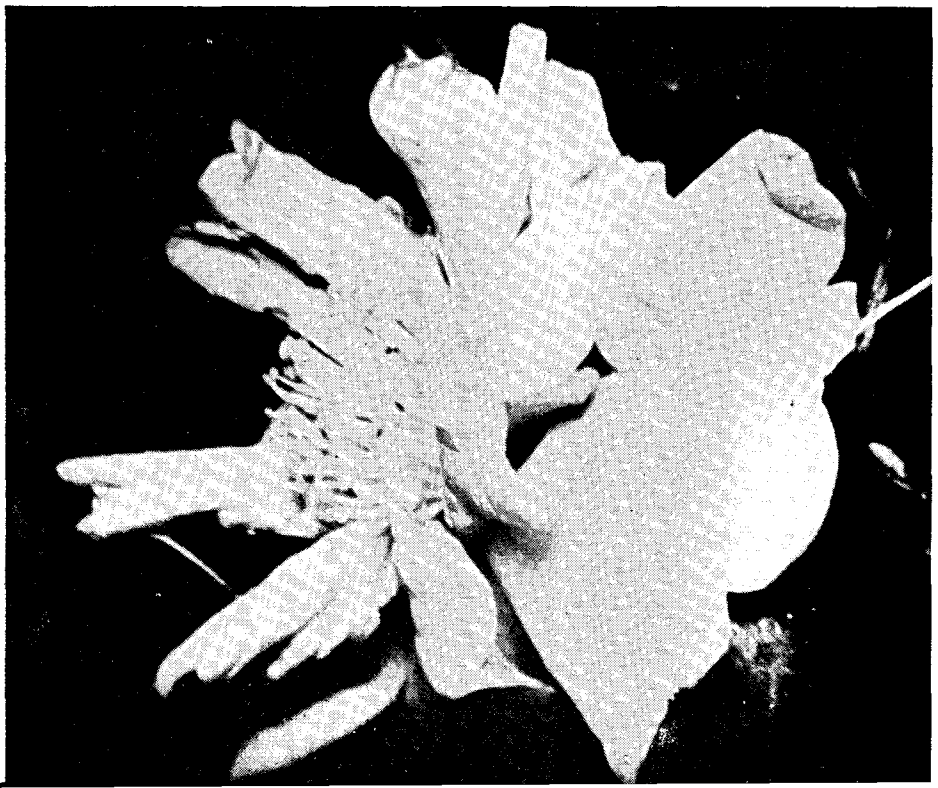
I pollinated flowers on many varieties of *C. sasanqua;* but since I had a fairly large number of "Narumigata," I pollinated around 300 flowers of that variety. I had no way of determining if the pollen was viable, but went ahead and used it anyway.

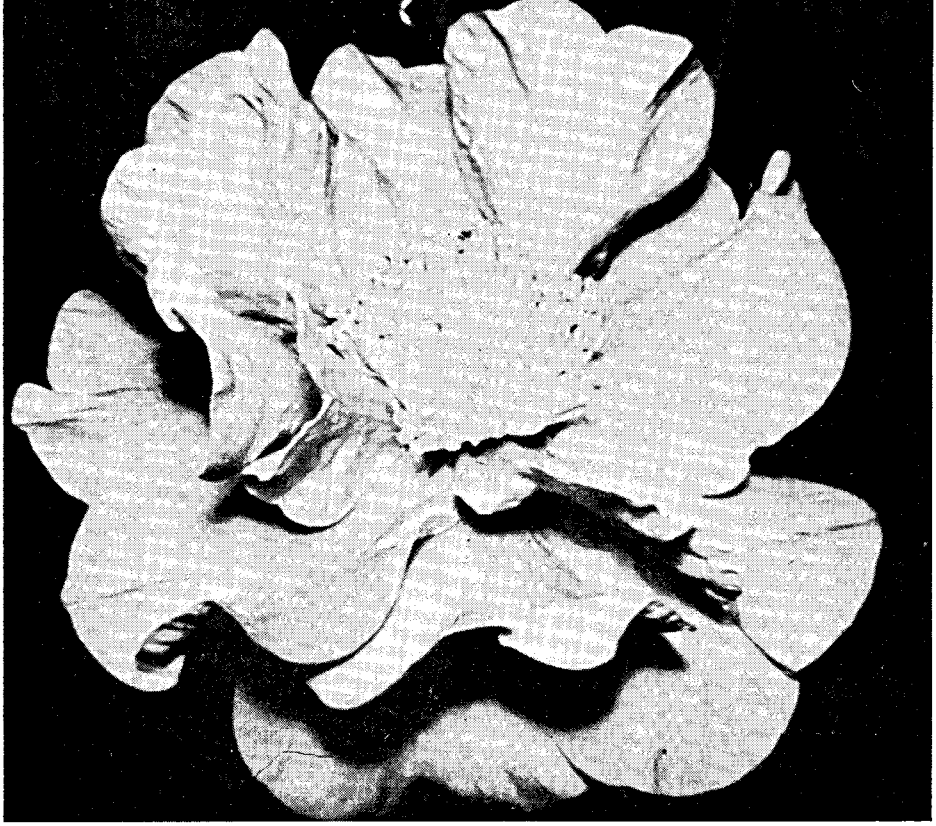
When it was time to harvest seed in the fall of 1960, I found no seed from pollinated flowers except on "Narumigata." Here, out of my 300 crosses, I found ten seed pods, most of which contained one seed. Naturally, the question arose as to whether the seed I gathered might be apomictic in origin. In November, the seed were planted in a seed flat containing a mixture of equal parts of sand and peat, and were kept in a greenhouse with night temperature near 60 degrees fahrenheit. With germination occurring rather rapidly, practically all came up yielding 12 seedlings.

By February of 1961, the seedlings had reached a height of two to three inches and I decided to graft them onto pencil-size gallon can understock. The decision to make this rather drastic move was prompted by my desire to speed up the blooming time. Also, my experience with hybrid seedlings had proven that less loss will occur by grafting than by growing them on their own roots.

The grafting was done during February and the tiny scions were carefully inserted and cambium layers matched.

SHOW GIRL *(Photo courtesy Mrs. M. J. Witman)*





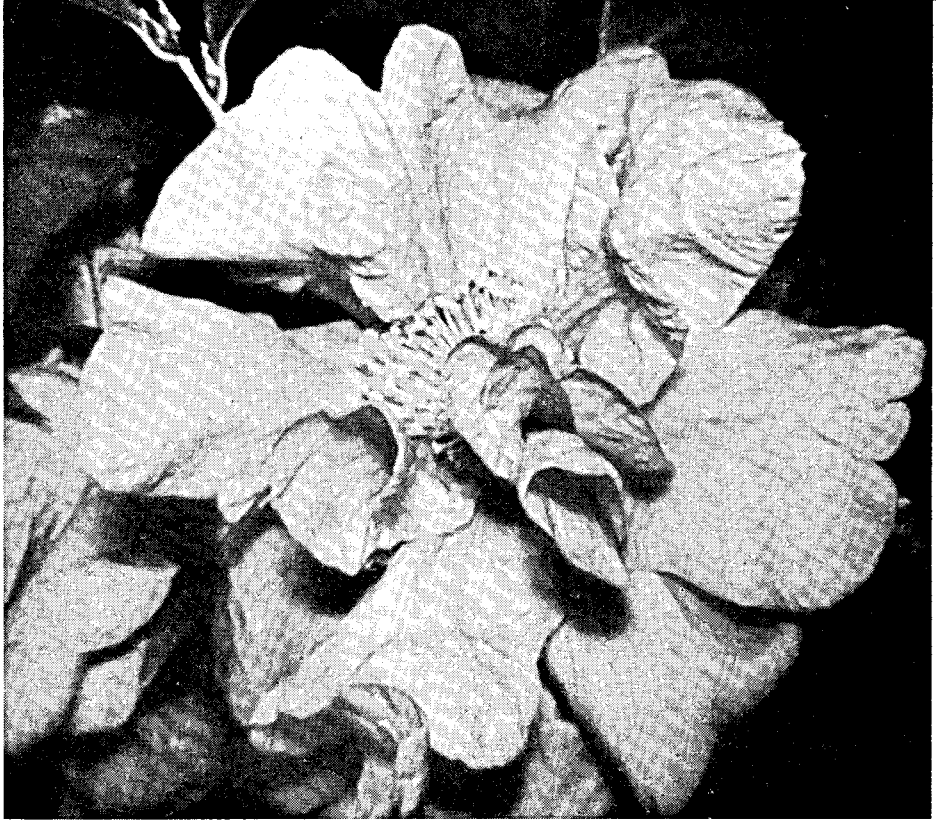
DREAM GIRL *(Photo courtesy Mrs. M. J. Witman)*

The grafts were covered with the conventional jars and kept in a greenhouse. The healing and subsequent growth action was very rapid so that in six weeks the growing plants could be placed in a lath house. Of course, the leaves were studied carefully to see if their characteristics gave any indication of hybridity. Plant growth and development was also very rapid, so, during the summer of 1962, they had attained a height of 2 to 3 feet and a fair amount of flower buds had set. By that time very different foliage characteristics were evident so that hybridity was almost certain.

Out of the ten seedlings which bloomed, several had leaf and flower characteristics closely resembling the seed parent, *C. sasanqua* "Narumigata." Two bore small single white flowers somewhat resembling a very inferior Sasanqua flower. However, three bore flowers of outstanding size and beauty.

The first one to bloom did so on October 17, 1962. Its parentage is "Narumigata" x "Lion's Head" and the flower is five to six inches in diameter, loosely built and a light pink in color. It blooms profusely on a willowy plant which grows rapidly. The leaf is medium in size and shows the influence of both parents. Fortunately, the plant sets seed rather readily and I feel certain will prove most valuable in further development. The name *"SHOW GIRL"* was chosen because of the magnificent "show" the blooming plant presents in Autumn.

The second to bloom gave us the first glimpse of its rare beauty on November 7, 1962. This one came from "Narumigata" x "Buddha" and the flower in form and size closely resembles *C. reticulata* "Buddha." However, the color is a warm iridescent pink. It would be hard to say too much about the beauty and loveliness of this flower and, blooming as it does in November and December, makes it all the more desirable. The plant is rigid and open in growth habit and while it is not exactly profuse in blooming, each flower is a joy to behold. The leaf is long and narrow, plainly showing the "Buddha" influence. While the plants have borne a few seed pods, I would not say that it sets seed readily.



FLOWER GIRL *(Photo courtesy Mrs. M. J. Witman)*

Immediately upon seeing the flower, Mrs. Asper named it *"DREAM GIRL."* (See cut.) The name seems to fit the flower so very well, that we decided to so christen it. In fact it was this name which gave us the idea for naming the girl series. Several girl names which we felt would have been appropriate had already been used for camellias and several girl names which were suggested seemed hardly appropriate.

The third of the series to bloom displayed her beauty on December 19, 1962. This one, again, came from "Narumigata x "Lion's Head" and it is truly an outstanding flower. The color is a bright fuchsia pink and the 5-to-6 inch flowers are borne at each leaf node. Since the flowers open almost simultaneously, the arching branches give the appearance of large, beautiful garlands. The leaves, again, show influence of both parents while the plant is sturdy and upright in growth habit. It also sets seed quite well. We named it *"FLOWER GIRL"* since it presents so many flowers all at once.

It is now quite evident that these hybrids offer much of value to the camellia fancier. Early flowers of outstanding beauty, borne freely on hardy plants, will demand a position of prominence in many gardens. Furthermore, a whole new field is now open to hybridizers, who will, I am sure, follow with many variations. But it is hard to imagine any plants with flowers more lovely than those of our "girls."

WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA IN 1966!

For the second time in its history, the American Camellia Society will hold its Annual Meeting and convention in Sacramento—the official dates in 1966 being March 3rd to 5th, inclusive. Prior thereto, many ACS visiting members and delegates will look over what we have to offer in Southern California and, after the meeting, many will leave for Hawaii on the interesting tour that has been arranged. In between, we hope to be able to show those interested in camellias primarily some of our San Francisco Bay area sights and gardens. Final details will appear in the ACS Journal.

FOUR DECADES OF CAMELLIAS

Roy Thompson, Glendale, California

We are living in an era in which change is a rule of life, and in the last four decades of camellia affairs many changes have taken place, some of them surprising. To appreciate them we must take a backward look. Some of the changes have taken place in camellias themselves, and some in our attitude toward them. From the point of view of the average home-owner and camellia hobbyist, here are some of the things which have happened.

Varieties

Perhaps the most amazing change in this period is the enormous increase in the number of camellia varieties. Four decades ago the would-be collector had access to a half dozen varieties in general nurseries and maybe a hundred in nurseries like Coolidge's in Pasadena. It was not a rare thing for some of these beginners to set as their goal the collection of every variety known. But today such a goal would be madness, for the list of varieties is so long that nobody can even count the number. Each season produces more varieties, probably, than most people had heard of forty years ago. This situation, naturally, has changed the camellia collector's outlook; he realizes that he must make a choice, perhaps have a plan for building his collection. In one respect, his situation is easier: today nobody feels that he must get every new variety just because everybody else has it. Hence he is free to buy just what he likes and let it go at that.

Societies

In the first three decades of the period there was a remarkable proliferation of camellia societies throughout the camellia belt, and the cynical among us wondered how long they would last. Looking back from today's viewpoint it is clear that the camellia society has achieved a relative permanence, that it has been not only successful, but necessary. Interest in camellias has remained firm, and even increased, so that societies have come to serve as necessary centers for information and activities. Organizations from international to local have, over the period, come to function in an assured and seasoned manner. Surprisingly, camellia societies have been organized in such unlikely places as New York City and Tokyo, as well as in Australia and New Zealand where, of course, their presence would be expected.

Publications

The ability of the societies to keep their members informed of every new development and technique has been due, in large measure, to the publications which they have maintained. At first there was a sort of wave of new publications about camellias, just as, in the decades immediately following World War I, there was a wave of poetry magazines. These have settled down to a smaller number, led by *The Camellia Journal,* published by the American Camellia Society.

Evaluation

In these four decades a subtle change has taken place in the evaluation of camellias by the camellia public. At the beginning of the period there was no doubt about the most important characteristic or value of a camellia: to be in the first rank it must be large. Sometimes size was treated as the only requirement for high status. This attitude has now changed. Size is, of course, still a major factor, but it has lost its former primacy. Other values have come to be included with size, such as pattern, color, individuality, texture, so that the flower is judged by its total aesthetic effect on the observer. Not every pattern suits every size and color; some combinations are more pleasing than others. The fully opened "Mathotiana" is generally agreed to be unattractive. The single form of camellia has achieved a much higher place than it once held. Most surprising of all, however, has been the rise of a new classification, the miniature, which now occupies a place in most camellia shows. Incidentally, our present evaluation of camellias is far more equitable and reasonable than that of a hundred years ago when the only type that really rated as first class was the "perfection" or formal double.

Species

We have also had, in this period, a surprisingly rich enlargement in camellia species and hybrids, most notable of which are the English Hybrids and the Reticulatas. Soon after World War I, English plant breeders began experimenting with inter-breeding, and presently we were hearing about a new group, which came to be known in America as English Hybrids. Two early varieties were "J. C. Williams" and "Donation." The ready acceptance of these Hybrids indicates in itself a change in camellia tastes, for they are delicate in texture, and of moderate size, but have distinct character. "Donation" has come to be one of the favorite "staples" in modern camellia gardens. When Reticulatas (in some ways the antithesis of English Hybrids) were introduced about the middle of the period, the size and brilliance of their flowers mesmerized many camellia people into predicting that they would soon displace Japonicas in popular esteem. This change did not take place, however, because the "retics" turned out to be rather rangy and unattractive plants during the ten or eleven months of the year when they were not in bloom. Today the Japonicas are unmistakably at the top of the camellia group in popular esteem.

Gibbing

One of the more recent developments (still very new) was the introduction of gibberellic acid as a growth stimulant. At first it was used only by a group of experimenters, but its use has gradually filtered down into the ranks and become a fairly common practice. It has turned out to be useful in the South where it brings on blooms early enough in the season to avoid frost damage and thus has real value. Show committees throughout the camellia areas have necessarily revised their rules for the entry of gibbed flowers so as to prevent competition between the gibbed and natural flowers. To many camellia enthusiasts, however, gibbing does not appeal; to them it looks like an unnecessary interference with an already prodigal nature.

Judging

The most recent development—and a most promising one—is Harold Dryden's "Guide-posts for Judges," recently circulated by the Southern California Camellia Society. It is the result of meetings and discussions of many experienced judges from all parts of Southern California, setting forth in considerable detail the purposes and techniques of judging. It seeks to establish certain standards of judging so that, in each show and in every year, judging may achieve a greater uniformity.

FORTUNES OF TWO OLD-TIME CAMELLIAS (Continued from Page 4)

the trunk of one of these trees. A study of the literature soon revealed that the name was correct. To see these two trees in flower is a thrilling experience. There is no other camellia quite like it. Now I have come to the conclusion that this camellia "Jubilee," or its sport "Mrs. Skottowe," exists in California masquerading under the name "Queen Victoria's Blush" in some places and "Mrs. Moore's Speckled" in others. I have not seen the California camellia but have seen blooms from plants raised from scions sent to Mr. Walter Hazlewood, and they are identical with what we have here as "Jubilee" when the blooms are large and informal and with "Mrs. Skottowe" when the blooms are of medium size and completely imbricated and formal.

Mr. Charles L. Keeton in his article "Things Camelliawise" in *The Camellia Journal* (A.C.S.) March, 1965, speaks of the thrill he experienced when at Slidell he saw for the first time blooms of "Queen Victoria's Blush" ("Mrs. Moore's Speckled") and asked for information. How it came by the name "Queen Victoria's Blush," which had already been applied earlier by Mr. Robert S. Rubel to "Souvenir de Bahuaud Litou" has not been discovered. The two camellias are quite distinct. It is hardly conceivable that the duplication of the name "Queen Victoria's Blush" is a co-incidence. I incline to the theory that one of Rubel's plants reached California and there became confused with "Mrs. Moore's Speckled," with consequent transference of the name to the latter. Can anyone come up with a more convincing explanation?

GAZING INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL

David L. Feathers, Lafayette, California

Those of us who, over the past several years, have been engaged in the effort to maintain and stimulate—even enlarge—interest in the camellia through line breeding (directed at improvement) and interspecific hybridization (directed at innovation) still work hard at the task with but a modicum of success to report to date. However, the important thing is that we *have* made some progress and it is our endeavor in this final issue to bring up to date our report on this rather formidable undertaking. Thus we are pleased to be able to present herein the views and opinions of some of the outstanding camellia hybridists of the day, which I am sure you will have found most interesting.

As far as the writer is concerned, because there is left no chance for rebuttal, this has seemed to him an ideal opportunity in which to "stick his neck out" and so he shall attempt to make some predictions as to what we have in store for the immediate future. You are urged to be charitable and thus make due allowance for enthusiasm where it may seem to have impinged upon good judgment. Seriously, though, we have tried to base our conclusions upon recent discoveries and reasonable projections of present knowledge.

There are three basic objectives—three doors to unlock: yellow and/or blue color, fragrance and real cold hardiness. At the moment, we would hazard the guess that genuine fragrance will be the first of these objectives to be attained, perhaps closely followed by yellow color. Both of these breakthroughs may actually be imminent, for we now have the raw material. Attainment of real cold hardiness may prove to be quite difficult. This seems so because, in this effort, we may be confronted with the very difficult problem of having to create a plant that will remain green and attractive although exposed to the severest elements, yet flower normally thereafter. It is generally the case in nature that plants which are subjected to severe cold go dormant, dropping their foliage as a matter of self protection. Thus the development of a truly cold hardy camellia may entail, first, the creation of a deciduous plant. This step would, even if accomplished, negate to a great extent the desirability of such a camellia because of the loss of one of its main attractions. How would you like a camellia plant with flowers but no leaves? If the cold hardiness is gained at the expense of deferring the flowering period until the weather warms up sufficiently to bring out the leaves, then we have still lost one of the camellia's main attractions—its ability to bloom when almost nothing else is in flower. While the development of cold hardiness may show some further progress, it would really seem that this may come about in a relative degree, only.

On the other hand, we have had several indications of a yellow camellia (as yet, largely in the petaloids) and even a chance of orange, while there has been notable improvement in our chances for success with fragrance through the introduction of the definitely fragrant species *C. lutchuensis* and the discovery that the (hybrid?) camellia "Apple Blossom" bears viable pollen and transmits its scent to the progeny when crossed with *C. saluenensis*. It would thus seem that a generation or two of hybrid inbreeding of the fragrance factor may well result in a truly fragrant camellia. Work is already well underway in this regard. The problem involved in the use of the new species *lutchuensis* is its puny flower and plant appearance, both of which require considerable upgrading in order to be recognizable as a "camellia." To attain this objective and, at the same time, hold the fragrance factor, may involve several generations and a great many crosses. As "Apple Blossom" appears to be seed sterile and as its hybrid (which sets seed well) has as yet refused to accept *lutchuensis* pollen, there may be some difficulty in upgrading the flower, even though the fragrance is retained or accentuated.

SOME THOUGHTS REGARDING HYBRIDS (Continued from Page 8)

ranger who will anticipate picking sprays of these delicate blooms for her home. As a matter of fact, competition for plants of this type might be improved by borrowing an idea from Rhododendron shows. A long stem of blooms and foliage placed in a tall container gives the spectator as well as the judges a much better idea of the plant and flower as a whole than does a bloom alone laid flat upon a show table.

Exhibiting blooming plants presents difficulties other than transportation. Potential prize winners cannot be counted upon to be up to their peak of bloom by a given show date. Their blooming season may be too early for any show schedule—although this is usually something to be desired. There is still the possibility, if specimen plants are not too large, of bringing blooming plants to society meetings to go on display. In this way members, as well as guests, could be introduced to a new class of camellias—a class with early and mid-season bloom on rather low, bushy plants, which would be a fine supplement to the higher growing japonicas. They will certainly appeal to that part of the flower loving public which is partial to azaleas, rhododendrons and other spring blooming trees.

Have Fun

Those who have elected to become serious hybridizers are going to find it a marvelous hobby. The writer began something like 12 years ago to assemble species with which to work. Being engaged in a somewhat competitive business, he found time to keep track of the seed parent only. With this limited outlook it was still very exciting to get up early in the morning and look around the lath house for new blooms which had opened for the first time, during the night. Remember, the hybridizer is the one who sees them first. However, with a record of both parents, the pleasure and excitement are more than doubled. There is an exhilarating feeling of participation. I won't say that you can always do a better job than the bees, but you can be much more selective in your approach, and it is more fun if you can see that your pet theories are working out.

THE HYBRID—ITS ADOLESCENCE AND MATURITY (Cont. from P. 6)

characteristics typical to the classification would prevail. For instance, flowers that hang face down would be a desirable trait for a Hangingflora, but a definite demerit in other classifications. Decumbency would be desirable for the Groundiflora and Hangingflora but not others. Exhibition flowers would not be of premium concern for Floribunda, Miniatureflora, Azaleaflora, and Groundflora but profusion of flowers would be of prime concern. Plant scale must be considered in relation to flower size, such as small leaves with Miniatureflora and large leaves with Grandiflora, etc. Grandiflora might encompass the new race of giants, removing them from competition with the Pink Perfection and Magnoliaeflora types.

Most hybridizers are rightfully working toward definite goals of achievement. A unity of judgment (the score card) is needed relative to placing the various plant and flower forms into their proper classification for practical garden use. As an illustration, not all fragrant flowering hybrid plants are going to be upright with large leaves and large flowers, some may be decumbent or some may be miniature flowering. The camellia needs more diverse classification than it now enjoys. A camellia scoring system will encourage diversification and proper classification.

SUMMARY—The Camellia Hybrid is on the threshold of maturity. Monumental accomplishments have been made in research, hybridizing and growing in the last fifteen years, particularly amazing when we consider that the camellia generation requires three to seven years from seed to flower. Most of the building tools for guidance have been formulated. Additional plant categories are suggested. Our hybrid child is developing in many hands in many lands. Our optimism is reflected in the fine results reported from those who devote their time to this amazing program.

CAMELLIAS IN CANADA? YES, BUT READ ON —

The following interesting letter was received in response to our inquiry of a subscriber-member living in Toronto, Mr. R. M. Prendergast, early this year:

"Camellias in Toronto? Not in the open ground, as far as I know. Mine are in containers on the ground, banked with loam and pine needles and shaded by the north side of the house, from May to October. Then I put them in the cellar near a small window. The temperature is around 60 to 65 and the humidity 30 to 40. The lighting is inadequate, but I may be able to add artificial light.

"In 1957 my daughter brought back two coffee berries from Venezuela, ripe and fresh from the tree. I planted them in containers and when they grew I looked around for something else—tea. I couldn't find seeds but I got two tea plants from a nursery in Georgia. The first two shipments, by railway express, were eight and ten days in transit and in the Plant Inspection Division and the plants died. The third tea plant was brought in by air from Pinehurst, North Carolina, and although it shed most of its leaves and buds, it hung onto some at the base of the main stem and finally recovered.

"These plants were all tagged "Thea Sinensis" and it was only by accident (looking through a reference book on how to grow tea) that I learned that they were camellias.

"I sent for large-flowered relatives and acquired BETTY SHEFFIELD from Norfolk, JEAN MAY and SHISHI GASHIRA from Pinehurst, GUILIO NUCCIO VARIEGATED from Florence, DRAMA GIRL from Mobile, and FLIRTATION from Altadena, eight to eighteen inches tall, in one-gallon cans. They were all transplanted into U. C. soil mix "C" in nine-inch clay pots and are growing slowly.

"They are watered only on weekends, since I leave Toronto every Sunday afternoon and do not return until Friday night. I think they would do better in non-porous containers and I will try twelve-inch fiberglass planters.

"These air-express shipments of japonica, sasanqua, hiemalis, and hybrid plants did not all survive. Some arrived with their tops fractured. I treated the broken tops as cuttings and rooted them successfully, although the parent plants died. Others died too, for no apparent reason, within three weeks of their arrival, but I had already taken cuttings from them. In this way I obtained BERENICE BODDY, DR. TINSLEY, GLEN 40, GUILIO NUCCIO, MRS. D. W. DAVIS, REG RAGLAND, TOMORROW, TOMORROW'S DAWN, and CARL TOURJE. I have more varieties growing as cuttings from the plants that did not survive the trip from the nursery than I have surviving plants.

"This is an awkward, round-about way of getting plants, but it works—after a fashion Perhaps it would be simpler to send for scions and try to root them."

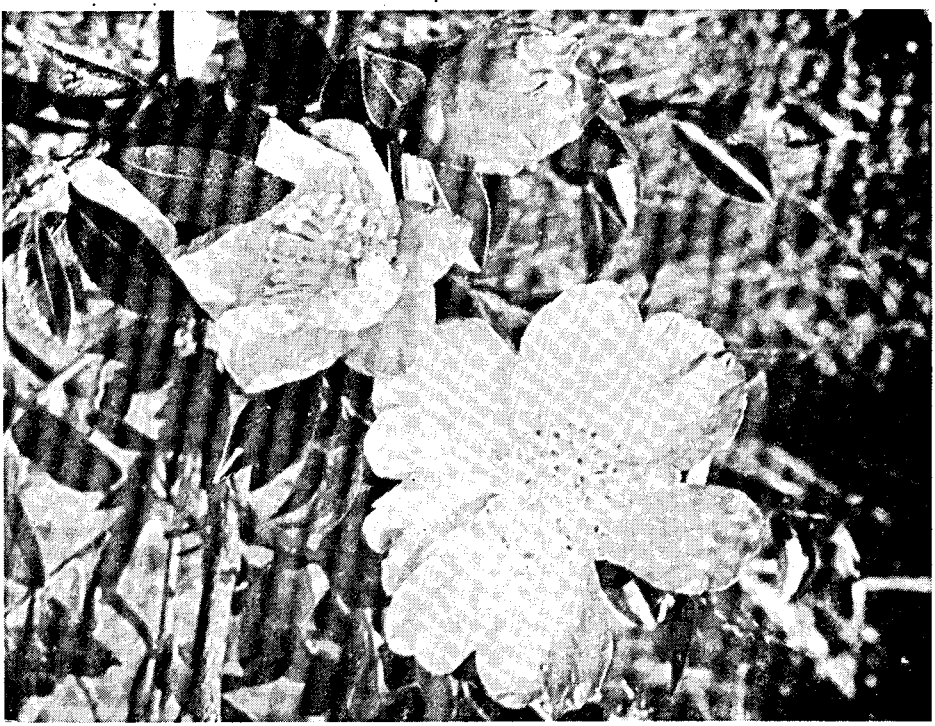
DO'S DUE YOUR CAMELLIAS

Too frequently gardeners are discouraged from including camellias in their garden plans by all the frightening "dont's" they hear and read. Perhaps a reverse approach stressing a few important "do's" would be better, such as:

Do plant it high with the uppermost roots just under the surface of the ground. *Do* see that the roots are kept moist and well-drained. *Do* prune your plant to shape it. *Do* select the planting location for the variety and type of plant you have, or select the variety and type of plant for the location or use your garden requires.

The first "do" is important because the camellia plant feeds near the surface of the soil. A plant set too deeply into the ground starves, has poor foliage, does not grow, and soon dies from these causes and lack of aeration. The second "do" is vital to the health and good performance of the plant. It will not survive in constantly soggy, too-wet soil, so must be well drained. On the other hand if the roots are allowed to dry out it will adversely affect the growth buds or bloom buds when they try to develop weeks later. Sometimes all bloom buds will be lost in the fall and winter if a plant was dried out during the summer.

—Nora Lawson



Camellia sasanqua 'Rainbow'

Camellia hiemalis 'Showa-no-sakae'

(Photos by T. Durrant — courtesy New Zealand Camellia Society)