Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.

A Non-Profit Organization

Volume 3, Number 3

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

February, 1950



JESSIE KATZ (Sport of Troubadour). U.S. Patent Pending Stunning watermelon pink semi-double of 14-20 creped and wavy petals of delicate texture. Diameter 4½ to 5 inches. Tall, open grower. Long, narrow, dark-green leaves. Introduction of Magnolia Gardens and Nurseries.

Courtesy Magnolia Gardens and Nurseries, R.F.D. 2, John's Island, S.C.

NORTHEN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC. ROSTER OF OFFICERS

TREASURER:

PRESIDENT:

Walker M. Wells, M.D. (HU 3-0951) 133 Hagar St., Piedmont

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Gordon W. Richmond, M.D. (RI 1742-D) 475 Mount St., Richmond

SECRETARY:

John Paul Edwards (GL 1-1854) 1347 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

PROGRAM:

Mrs. W. L. Stoeckle (Concord 7228) 2313 Almond Ave., Box 818, Concord

AWARDS:

D. L. Feathers (Orinda 2171) 1 Camellia Lane, Lafayette 1

RECEPTION:

P. J. Ferrarese 49 Reservoir Rd., San Rafael

ARRANGEMENTS:

Mrs. H. G. Sanders (KE 3-2211) 4138 Eastlake Ave., Oakland 2

BLOOM DISPLAY: Bruce Harless (LA 5-8218) 1301 Stannage Ave., Berkeley

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Harold A. Wescott (TR 2-5382) 575 Juana Ave., San Leandro

Barlow Hollingshead (Orinda 2054) 12 La Cintilla Ave., Orinda 2 DIRECTORS: D. L. Feathers (Orinda 2171) 1 Camellia Lane, Lafayette 1 Harold L. Paige (OL 2-5040) 5651 Oak Grove Ave., Oakland 9 Mrs. W. L. Stoeckle (Concord 7228) 2313 Almond Ave., Box 818, Concord BULLETIN EDITOR: Mrs. Barlow Hollingshead (Orinda 2054) 12 La Cintilla Ave., Orinda 2 LAKESIDE PARK CAMELLIA PLANTING: O. E. Hopfer (AN 1-5737) 1872 Brentwood Road, Oakland HORTÍCULTURAL RESEARCH: Gordon W. Richmond, M.D. (RI 1742-D) 475 Mount St., Richmond NOMENCLATURE & CLASSIFICATION: Barlow Hollingshead (Orinda 2054) 12 La Cintilla Ave., Orinda 2 MEMBERSHIP: Barlow Hollingshead (Orinda 2054) 12 La Cintilla Ave., Orinda 2 ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Dr. Walker M. Wells (HU 3-0951) John Paul Edwards (GL 1-1854) Herbert V. Mitchell (HU 3-8327) Harold L. Paige (OL 2-5040)

The Northern California Camellia Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization of camellia fanciers interested in the culture, propagation, and development of camellias. Meetings are held on the first Monday in each month from October to May inclusive, at 8 p.m., at the Chabot School Auditorium, Oakland. Membership is open to all those with a serious interest in the subject. Annual Dues \$5.00. Membership application blanks may be obtained from John Paul Edwards, Secretary, 1347 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland.

Published by the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.

Copyright, 1949

COVER ILLUSTRATION

Jessie Katz. Magnolia Gardens and nurseries had growing in their camellia nursery (about twelve miles from Charleston, South Carolina), several cutting-grown plants of the Camellia Japonica variety Troubadour. The original Troubadour is an old Camellia Japonica growing in Magnolia Gardens, imported in the 1840's.

On one of these little plants, in

1944, there appeared flowers entirely different from the others on the plant. The branch was marked, for observation the following season to see whether the same phenomenon appeared. The following year it bloomed as before, so it was assumed the mutant was fixed. Scions from this branch have been grafted and have bloomed with the same true flower of the mutant.

SOIL MIXTURES

By Harold L. Paige, Past President, Oakland

I am giving you a visual demonstration of a little experiment in soil mixtures which I have been conducting in my own garden during the past growing season. I call this an 'experiment'' because I do not want you to consider it as serious research. There is much of that going on at some of our colleges — the work at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena, for example. However, this kind of experimenting may have some value in helping you to decide what soil mixture works best in your own climate and under your own growing conditions.

As you may know, most of my plants are still in tubs. However, I think that those of you whose plants are in the ground may also be able to make some deductions of value.

I started with 10 small but fairly uniform plants of the variety, Mrs. John Laing. These were in 4-inch pots and were transplanted to their present 2-gallon containers last winter. The mixture in the 4-inch pots appeared to be mainly peat moss and sand. All the small root balls were packed solid with vigorous looking white roots. They were quite potbound, with long roots growing from the bottoms of the pots into the peat into which they had been plunged.

These 10 plants were divided into 5 groups of 2 plants each. I realized that this was a very small number for a valid experiment, but it was all my small garden could accommodate. Consequently, it was not surprising to me to see these little plants take off in pairs, each pair with slightly different color of foliage, and each pair with its own distinct growth habits.

Only one pair showed a difference in personality: one plant going a little more to growth while the other produced more buds. I have brought only one of each pair tonight, in order to simplify my transportation problem. The soil mixture of pot marked "A" consists of 75% peat and 12.5% each sand and charcoal. This mixture was used because of its relatively high humus content and because it is not supposed to be high in food value. Three other mixtures were obtained from three amateur members of our Society who are in the habit of laying down super-blooms on our exhibit tables. The fifth mixture came from an article on container culture by Claude Chidamian in the 1947 Year Book of the American Camellia Society.

As we analyze each soil mixture and the resulting plant, please remember that these were grown in Oakland on top of a fence between two houses, where they got full sun from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 or 3:00 p.m. If this same experiment were conducted in Contra Costa County, 10 miles away, where the winter is 10 degrees cooler and the summer 10 degrees warmer, other results might be obtained.

The fertilizing program—the same for all 10 containers—consisted of:

Atlas Emulsion in May Cottonseed meal in June Likwid Gro in July

All plants had a light mulch of peat moss and manure, with a small amount of cottonseed meal mixed in.

As already stated, **Plant A** was grown in 75% peat and 12.5% each sand and charcoal. It has made considerable growth and has a few buds. I have been told by growers, and I have read, that a sick camellia can be restored by partially bare-rooting it and planting it in pure peat. I prefer a mixture of peat and sand for the reason that if a plant rooted in pure peat ever dries out, it is next to impossible to get it wet again unless the whole container is "dunked" in water or the end of a hose allowed to dribble at the base of the plant for several hours. The growth of Plant A tends

to confirm the value of peat for growing tops, as well as new roots, on camellias.

Plant B has a mixture of 50% peat moss and 50% sandy loam taken from under pine trees in the mountains. This plant shows the most growth of all; but all buds have been sacrificed for growth. Since my big problem in Oakland is to limit growth, this is not a good mixture for me to use unless, perhaps, for certain slow growers such as Glen 40, Ville de Nantes, and the Daikaguras.

Plant C has a somewhat complicated mixture of:

15% top soil

- 15% coarse leaf mold
- 15% cow manure
- 46% peat moss
- 9% charcoal

The two plants in this mixture are the only two which parted company during the growing season to any extent. The other pairs acted very much like identical twins.

Plant Mixtures D and **E** came from members who really give their plants "the works."

Mixture D contains:

- 18% adobe soil
- 18% sandy loam
- 18% sand and fine gravel
- 18% oak leaf mold
- 18% peat moss
- 10% manure

But take note: No fertilizer has been added. This plant has shown fairly good growth and a medium set of buds.

Mixture E contains the following:

- 19% adobe soil
- 19% sandy loam
- 19% sand
- 19% oak leaf mold
- 19% peat moss
 - 5% manure

But note that this member adds *R.A.C. and *gypsum to his mixture. He certainly believes in providing a good dinner — everything from soup to nuts, including a very rich dessert. Then, to make sure that his plants are not too hot at midday and perfectly comfortable at night, he adds 2-inches of pine needles as a mulch.

Looking over all these specimens it seems to me that **Plant Mixture E** fits best the requirements of my climate and alkaline City water, with its pH of 9.4, although **Mixture B** might do better for small plants and slow growers. Plant E has refused to do any wild growing, in spite of its heavy meal, and has set a large number of buds—just what I want all my larger plants to do.

A word of warning to our newer members: Don't take any part of this analysis as final. I have used only one variety in one kind of climate. It happens to be a fast grower. Another variety in this climate or the same variety in the climate of Contra Costa County might show quite different results. I hope some other members of our Society will try this experiment using other varieties, and report their findings to our Research Committee. You will find full particulars on the heavy meal just described for Plant E on *page 20 of the April '49 Bulletin of this Society.

I would like to conclude by leaving with you a few questions. Perhaps some of our commercial growers or our amateur experts may know the answers:

Ist: Is there any relation between growth and the percentage of peat moss used?

2nd: Why doesn't the plant that has had the most fertilizer added to its mixture show the most growth, instead of exactly the opposite?

3rd: Does the addition of calcium and sulphur in the form of gypsum have any part in reducing growth and inducing heavy bud set?

^{* &}quot;Growing Camellias in Containers," B. W. S. Hollingshead, April 1949 N.C.C.S. Bulletin. Vol. 2, No. 4, Page 20.



Photo by Herbert V. Mitchell

The cost of making such a test as the one I have just described, is very little. Small uniform plants grown for understock can be obtained for about \$1.00 each. If your test plants are not neglected (in which case the experiment would be lost), you will have some very vigorous roots on which to graft better varieties. I agree with what Mr. Hopfer has just said about cuttings, but I have also found that grafts do add speed to your propagating efforts. For instance, last year I ran a test on fertilizers on this same fence. I cut off 8 of these plants last January, during the big freeze. Because of the continuous cold, it was almost two months before the cleft grafts calloused over. Since that time I have had extremely fast and vigorous growth of new wood. One plant - a Frizzle White - has a total of 8 feet of new stems and 100 leaves. The longest single branch on any one of these grafts is one 4 feet long on a Pride of Descanso. If you do not care to do any grafting, you can always dispose of your test plants for at least what you paid for them.

We cannot, of course, hope to get all the answers by means of these simple tests, but they do give us more confidence that we are doing the best we can under the conditions with which we are faced. If I have tempted some of you to try an experiment of this kind, I am sure you will find it worth while. Also, if you do, be sure to report your results to our Society.

The above talk was given at the December 5, 1949 meeting of the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.

TWO RARE CAMELLIA SPECIES

By Ralph S. Peer, Los Angeles

About the year 1913, an English botanist, Mr. George Forrest, discovered in the interior of Yunnan, the southernmost province of China, camellia saluenensis, and brought back to England seeds of various varieties which he noted. These plants had white, red and pink blossoms, but the seeds taken by Mr. Forrest to London failed to germinate, excepting only some of the pink variety. Fortunately, the plants grown from these seeds have multiplied rapidly, and there are now available in England a great many specimens of c. saluenensis.

This species hybridizes somewhat readily. In England, the hybrid varieties, J. C. Williams, Mary Christian, and Cornish Snow are now well established. In California, we have the hybrid variety, Apple Blossom.

This species has single pink blossoms of the same general form as the hybrid Apple Blossom. The color of the blooms on the plants raised from seed in England varies from light pink to rose pink, but the color of each flower is uniform. The largest blossoms are three and one-half inches in diameter.

The importance of this species lies in the fact that it is much hardier than either c. japonica or sasangua. For a great many years, specimens of saluenensis have been raised in the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisely, England. During September, 1948, the temperature dropped to 16 degrees Fahrenheit, which completely ruined all of the japonicas, causing most of the buds to drop. Neither saluenensis, nor any of its hybrids planted at Wisely, were affected by this low temperature, and later all of these plants flowered normally. It is probable that within a few years enough hybrid varieties of saluenensis will have been created so that many different kinds of camellias will be available for parts of the country now considered too cold.

C. saluenensis, Apple Blossom, has a delightful aroma which is not found in the original species. The origin of this variety is a mystery difficult to solve. There is no doubt that the original specimen was brought from Japan by the Toichi Domoto Nursery, Hayward, California; and one can only guess how the saluenensis half of the hybrid spanned the immense distance between Yunnan and Japan.

Another species, c. taliensis, is growing in England and is said to have considerable charm. These plants have also been grown from seeds brought back by Mr. George Forrest about 1913.

The blossoms, which are white and about two inches in diameter, have many yellowish-brown-tipped stamens which project about threefourths of an inch from the center. Buds are formed in the axils of the leaves along the entire length of the current year's growth and usually occur in twos and threes.

The leaves of this species are outstanding, being around five inches in length, and olive-green in color.

Not too much is known about this plant, as the large specimen, developed at Exbury in England, died when it was moved in 1946. This tenfoot tree had gone through a bombing during World War II and had withstood a temperature of 12 degrees Fahrenheit without damage. The only available specimens are cuttings and grafts, which are not yet very large. So far as is known, there has been no importation of seeds or plants of taliensis since 1913.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph S. Peer. members of N.C.C.S., are world travelers of distinction and have brought back many rare camellia plants from foreign countries.

CAMELLIA FLOWER CLASSIFICATION

By Barlow W. S. Hollingshead, Treasurer

For more than a century, ever since the camellia was introduced into Western Europe and the Western Hemisphere, including the United States, camellia growers have been trying to classify camellia flowers.

Without going into a complete history of camellia-flower classification, it may be of interest to point out that Abbe Berlese in the second section of his **Monographie**, in 1849, outlined a form classification based upon the resemblance of the camellia bloom to other flowers: anemone form, peony form, rose form. This system was revived some years ago and has been much used by nurseries in their catalogues and by societies in staging camellia shows.

Dr. H. Harold Hume, who had watched the use of the Berlese classification, felt that such terms were past their usefulness because they were meaningless to those not familiar with such flower forms; for example, the anemone. Just as meaningless as the use of the term "camellia" to describe begonias, dahlias or zinnias. What camellia? An Alba Plena or a Donckelari? He was of the opinion that the only sound classification was based on a botanical classification following the change in flower parts.

A preliminary classification was published in the Bulletin of the Garden Club of America, June, 1942, pp. 28-32, followed by another in the National Horticultural Magazine, January, 1944, pp. 1-2. A more complete discussion, including a classified varietal list, appears in "Camellias in America," 1946, by H. Harold Hume. The subject is also covered in "Camellia Growing," by R. J. Wilmot, Bull. 130, November, 1946, University of Florida, Agricultural Extension Service, Gainesville, Florida.

Early in 1949, the Board of Directors of the Northern California Camellia

Society, Inc., adopted Hume's camellia-flower classification for use in its annual camellia shows. A varietal list, so classified (according to the forms usually found along the West Coast), was set up by my wife and me, for use in last year's camellia show in Berkeley. This list is now in process of revision, for use in this year's show.

Hume's Classification

Camellia-japonica flowers become more and more complicated as the stamens and other flower parts are transformed into petals.

Briefly, there are three general groupings:

SIMPLE

The first general group is known as Simple, has one or more rows of petals and a prominent cylinder of stamens, which may be broken into fascicles (bundles).

Single. 5 to 7 petals, sometimes 9. Stamens all central, united in a cylinder or in fascicles.

Examples: Amabilis, John Illges.

Semi-Double. More than 9 petals, usually 14 to 20. Stamens all central, united in a cylinder or fascicles.

Examples: Lady Clare, Donckelari.

INCOMPLETE DOUBLE

The second general group, incomplete double, has many petals with single stamens or bundles of stamens or both intermixed, forming an irregular mass.

Incomplete Double with Large Petals. Numerous large petals, intermixed with stamens.

Examples: Herme, Mathotiana when it shows stamens.

Incomplete Double with Small Inner Petals. Numerous small petals within the guard petals, intermixed with stamens.

(continued on page 10)



Class 1. JOHN ILLGES. Brilliant red single, with prominent cyinder of stamens.



Class 2. DR. H. G. MEALING. Large semidouble with dark-red, prominently-veined petals, and cylinder of golden stamens.



Class 5. MADAM HAHN. Large, glowing pink, incomplete double with large-and-small inner petals intermixed with bundles of stamens.



Class 6. C. M. WILSON (Grace Burkard). Shell-pink sport of Chandleri Elegans. Complete double irregular. No stamens visible.

ļ

١

-



Class 3. MADAM DE MAINTENON. Incomplete double. Large light-pink petals, intermixed with stamens.



Class 4. GIGANTEA. Huge incomplete double with small inner petals intermixed with stamens within the guard petals. Rich red marbled white. Variform.



ł

Class 7. GLEN 40. Deep red, incompleteimbricated double with unopened center. When bloom finally opens to show stamens, flower form reverts to Class 3.

> Courtesy SUNSET Magazine. Photographs by Herbert V. Mitchell.



Class 8. ALBA PLENA. Pure white, regularimbricated complete-double. No stamens.

FLOWER CLASSIFICATION -

(continued from page 7)

Examples: Gigantea when it shows small petals and stamens intermixed, between the guard petals. Chandleri Elegans when it shows stamens intermixed with the central petals, as it blooms in the Deep South.

Incomplete Double with Large and Small Inner Petals. Numerous large and small petals within the guard petals, intermixed with stamens.

Examples: Nobilissima, Emperor of Russia.

COMPLETE DOUBLE

The third general group, complete double, has few or no stamens; stamens, if present, are hidden by petals.

Double, Irregular. Petals irregularly arranged in a convex mass, usually small, spatulate, strap-like and folded, with an outer row of normal petals.

Examples: Debutante, Chandleri.

Double, Incomplete Imbricated. Petals imbricated except for a relatively large unopened center. No stamens visible.

Examples: K. Sawada, Mtahotiana before it is fully open, if it retains its budlike center. Double, Regular Imbricated, or Tiered. No stamens. Petals regularly imbricated (overlapping like shingles on a roof), or tiered (laid one on top of the other to form a star-shaped flower).

Examples: Alba Plena, Pink Perfection, Candidissima.

Variability of Flower Form

The camellia is a capricious plant and is noted for its variability of flower form. On the same plant oftentimes, the blooms will fall under several classes. This is especially true of Dr. Shepherd (Te Deum), which may bloom as an incomplete double or a double incomplete imbricated.

Due to this extreme variability, we cannot be sure that the classes given in the list "Camellia Flower Classification," which is used for show purposes, will always correspond with the form your camellia bloom takes. When in doubt, ask your Classification Chairman, for specimen blooms exhibited in the show should be classified according to the forms they actually take.

The above talk was given at the regular meeting of the N.C.C.S. on February 6, 1950, illustrated with camellia blooms and kodachrome slides from the collection of Herbert V. Mitchell.

BOARD RESOLUTION

The Board of Directors of the Northern California Camellia Society, on January 21, 1950, unanimously passed the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Northern California Camellia Society has suffered a great loss in the untimely death of our Treasurer, Dr. G. Myron Grismore, on January 11, 1950, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grismore served our Society in many ways and, in his fellowship with us, was a constant inspiration to all of us,

BE IT RESOLVED, that in commemoration of his devotion to our Society, we hereby express our great appreciation for the years of service he so willingly has given us and extend our sincere grief to his wife and family;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, so that his devotion to his garden and especially to his camellias should be remembered and perpetuated, the Northern California Camellia Society establish a Trophy to be known as the Dr. G. Myron Grismore Memorial Perpetual Award for the best twelve camellia japonica flowers of one variety, exhibited by an amateur grower in the Annual Camellia Show of the Society.

HISTORIC CAMELLIA PLANTS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

By Jerry Olrich, State Gardener, Sacramento

Most of you, I know, want to hear of the place where I work, the State Capitol Park in Sacramento.

In the early 1850's, pioneers started a planting program east of the Capitol grounds, which they hoped would be second to none. In those grounds were some of the finest specimens of trees, shrubs and plants, imported from almost every country in the world. In the original planting, about 1860, there were 18 camellias. No records were kept; but the grandfather of one of the men who works for me, laid out four blocks. Later on, the State started buying more land, until at present the grounds comprise about 40 acres.

Ten of these camellias were planted in full sun. When I came to work for the State about seven years ago, there were only seven of these remaining.

On the southwest side of the Capitol Building, there was a large Alba Plena and a Belgian Red, which now bear thousands of flowers.

On the northwest side there was a Christmas Red, a single, and a Pink Perfection. But these trees could not stand the north wind, so we moved them. The Pink Perfection had no feeder roots, only a large tap root, 3 inches through, going down for water. We had to cut the tap root in taking it out of the ground, but we seared it with a blow torch to seal it. However, we were unable to stop the bleeding, so we lost it.

We also have the parent plants of Peoniaflora and Uncle Sam.

We have a large Alba Fimbriata which was moved from a cemetery. I doubt that the plant was ever watered during the summer; but today it is growing in the Capitol Grounds and we took 1200 scions last winter.

Some time ago in moving a huge camellia tree from H Street, where old homes were being torn down to make room for a service station, we decided to do the job early one morning. We reached the main intersection of K Street, just as thousands of people were going to work. A gust of wind blew the tree off in the middle of two main streetcar tracks. A traffic officer came running and shouted, "I'll give you just two minutes to get that tree out of here!"

Strawberry Blonde was introduced by a nurseryman in Southern California, who obtained his mother Peoniaflora plant from Capitol Park. That original plant grows Strawberry Blonde, Pink Lady, Red Peoniaflora, Peoniaflora Alba, and almost every sport. One year nearly every blossom was pink.

We have another plant of Peoniaflora about 80 years old on the west side of the Capitol building that gets no morning sun; only the hot sun in the middle of the day and the afternoon.

The Uncle Sam sports Mrs. Confer, as well as the various sports which are sold under different names.

In Sacramento there are many old varieties that have been renamed; for instance, September Morn, which has been growing there for the last 80 years; but was introduced to the trade in the last five years as a new variety.

We had a Purity 32 feet tall. During my first year as State Gardener, we took 6 feet off the top; the next year, 7 feet. The blooms were so high, they could not be reached.

We also have a new grove of camellia trees donated by the Native Daughters and Native Sons: 167 trees—110 varieties. This grove was started about ten years ago.

In Capitol Park we now have over 650 varieties of c. japonica and 8 species. When I took over seven years ago, there were only 16 varieties. The many additional varieties are a credit



* A VIEW OF THE EDINGER HOME FROM THE NORTH

to the nurserymen of California and the Southern States. Out of those 650, I would say there are but 350 distinct varieties; the others are duplications with different names.

About ten years ago, the parent plants of Uncle Sam and Princess Bachinachi were moved from a yard at a private residence. There were two broken gas lines near Princess Bachinachi, but it managed somehow to survive.

Recently the State decided to build an addition to the State Capitol, so we were requested to move 16 camellias. This was the fourth time in my short tenure at the grounds. But these plants are all still alive and doing fine. Among them is an Elizabeth Arden and a Purity. We took a lot of cuttings in August and moved them in April. In front of a building at 12th and L Streets, there was a Cheerful which was given to the State. We hired some laborers from the union to move it. They boxed the plant, but failed to provide any covering for the bottom. In the process of moving, the soil was lost out and the roots were bared. However, it was transplanted in Capitol Park and is doing well. There was a similar accident in transplanting a Eureka Variegated; but it never lost a leaf.

A woman down on P Street offered us a big Pink Perfection. On Saturday when we moved it, the temperature was 110 degrees; and on Sunday when it was planted, the temperature again was 110 degrees. But it lived and thrived. Some nurserymen have taken thousands of cuttings from that particular plant.



* THE WRITER LOOKING AT THE TRUNK OF THE LARGE WAKANOURA

In Northern California, camellias have been grown since 1852. The old Smith Gardens in Sacramento had beautiful plants. They used to charge admission and one of the big attractions was camellias. But a flood came along and destroyed the gardens.

There are some celebrated old trees down the river from Sacramento at Hood. These may be the largest in the United States. There is a Wakanoura 27 feet tall with a 38-foot spread; a purity 31 feet tall with a 22foot spread; a Pink Perfection 28 feet tall with a 22-foot spread. Those three old trees, which were planted by the late Mr. William Johnston, the father of Mrs. Frank Edinger, we are trying to preserve. The Camellia Society of Sacramento is trying to make it a park.

In the City of Sacramento last year, the Camellia Society of Sacramento put on a big drive; sold 14,000 camellia plants in one week. The first day of the sale, one of the big department stores was sold out before opening its doors; their clerks had purchased all the plants.

There is a large Grandiflora Rosea (Lady Clare) on the west side of a house at 30th and K Streets; the plant is about 12 feet high and has the most exquisite flowers I have ever seen. There is no protection; no shade of any kind.

When we plant a camellia in a sunny location, we put a shade over

^{*} Photographs by Herbert V. Mitchell, Oakland. Cuts courtesy Southern California Camellia Society, Inc.

it on the southwest side for the first two years to protect it from sunlight from about 11 o'clock on. Camellias can stand a sunny location once they become established. And camellias planted in the sun will bear more flowers, with more substance to them.

At the Governor's Mansion there is a large Rubra Plena with a trunk about 12 inches through. The Governor's wife doesn't like it because she can't reach the flowers.

Camelila trees can be shaped to fit any particular position. Don't be afraid to prune them; by cutting them back, you force more growth.

In my back yard I have about 110 varieties. My favorite is Daikagura, Pink Daikagura (High Hat), the new white Daikagura (hope nobody names it).

I don't do much fertilizing outside of barnyard fertilizer for I think there is danger of over-fertilizing. At Capitol Park, we give the plants a good shot of barnyard fertilizer. Only the gallon cans or those in the lathhouse are given chemical fertilizer.

I have been appointed to the Horticultural Research Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society, and some experiments will be carried out on the State Capitol grounds. They are doing a good job, and I think, within two or three years, they will achieve some astonishing results.

Question: You say that many old camellia trees have thrived in Sacramento although they were not watered or fertilized. But doesn't Sacramento have river-bottom soil that is rich in minerals? And isn't that soil fairly moist when you dig down a little?

Answer: Our soil in State Park is on the alkaline side; and the nearest water is at a depth of 10 feet. At the Edinger place there is a slight bit of oil in the water, causing the foliage to take on a peculiar shade of green.

David L. Feathers: I planted a Sasanqua at the Edinger place on the Sacramento River near Hood. I took out about 6 inches of dirt and found the soil was moist. I never bothered to water the plant because water was very near the surface. But around the Bay area, I don't think camellias would live one season without being watered. Here, one reason for using acid fertilizer is to correct for the alkalinity of the city water supply.

Dr. Philip J. Lipsett: All plant life requires sunshine, food and water to survive.

The above talk was given at the November 7, 1949 meeting of the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.

DEATH OF DR. G. MYRON GRISMORE

The N.C.C.S. has lost one of its warmest friends and most ardent workers through the sudden death of Dr. G. Myron Grismore, Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors, on January 11, 1950.

Since the Society was first organized Dr. Grismore has been very active in connection with the annual camellia shows. Last year, he was Chairman of Staging. This year, he was again scheduled for that job and was eagerly making plans for the 1950 show when he was stricken. His friendly helpfulness and efficient handling of Society affairs is sorely missed.

A native of Utah, Dr. Grismore lived most of his life in Oakland. He was a graduate of the University of California Dental College, a member of the Alameda County Dental Society, and practiced in Oakland for 25 years. His principal hobby was his extensive collection of rare camellias.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary Frances Grismore; two sons, Myron Grismore, Jr. and Rodman Grismore; and two sisters, Mrs. Herbert Manners and Mrs. Bernice Ritter.

REVIEW TABLE

At the January 9, 1950 regular meeting of the Society, a review table containing the twenty-one most beautiful blooms displayed by members, both amateur and commercial, was prepared prior to the intermission. The following outstanding flowers were selected by the committee in charge:

ALBA PLENA—L. P. Glaudon, San Anselmo.

BERENICE BODDY --- Clarence R. Foster, Montclair, Oakland.

CHANDLERI (Nucio Strain)—Toichi Domoto Nursery, Hayward.

C. M. WILSON — Toichi Domoto Nursery, Hayward.

DAIKAGURA VGT. — Dr. Fred E. Heitman, Oakland.

DEBUTANTE—Toichi Domoto Nursery.

FIMBRIATA—Harold L. Paige, Oakland.

FLAME—Dr. H. V. Allington, Oakland.

FLAME VGT. — Toichi Domoto Nursery.

FRANCINE — Toichi Domoto Nursery.

GLEN 40—Donald K. Staples, Oakland.

HAKU TSURU — Toichi Domoto Nursery.

HIGH HAT—Toichi Domoto Nursery.

LA REINE VGT. — Toichi Domoto Nursery.

MRS. NELLIE EASTMAN — Toichi Domoto Nursery.

PINK BALL—Toichi Domoto Nursery.

QUEEN BESSIE — Harold L. Paige, Oakland.

SENATOR DUNCAN FLETCHER— Toichi Domoto Nursery.

SHIN AKEBONO—Barlow Hollingshead, Orinda.

SWEET SIXTEEN—Toichi Domoto Nursery.

TOKI-NO-HAGASANE—Toichi Domoto Nursery.

PRIZE WINNERS AND DONORS

Door Prizes and Exhibitors' Prizes are being continued during 1950 through the generosity of commercial and amateur members of the Society. The names of donors, varieties, and prize winners are as follows:

January 9, 1950

Choice of RETICULATA or DEBU-TANTE in 5 gal. container, donated by McDONNELL NURSERY, 5146 Telegraph Ave., Oakland; won by Dr. Gordon W. Richmond, Richmond.

YOSEMITE, red incomplete-double seedling, well-branched and budded, donated by H. A. BOGH NURSERY, 3800 39th Ave., Oakland; won by Clarence R. Foster, Oakland.

ADOLPHE AUDUSSON graft, used in demonstration of whip grafting, donated by Past President O. E. Hopfer, Oakland; won by Past Director Louis P. Glaudon, San Anselmo.

February 6, 1950

GOV. EARL WARREN, 3 gal. size, donated by JOHN EDWARDS NURS-ERY, East Palo Alto; won by Dr. Robert K. Cutter, Berkeley.

PRIDE OF DESCANSO, 2-year graft, donated by SARATOGA CAMELLIA NURSERY, Saratoga-Sunnyvale Highway (between Cupertino and Saratoga); won by Mrs. J. H. Biddle, Oakland.

VIGORO AZALEA-CAMELLIA FERTILIZER, 5 lb. sack, donated by SWIFT & CO., won by John D. Vasquez, Oakland.

CORRECTION

In the December 1949 issue of the Bulletin, one variety, FINLANDIA VGT., was inadvertently omitted from David L. Feathers' choice of ten varieties.

Mr. Feathers would include FIN-VGT. for its beauty of form, flower size, fine markings, and robust growth. This variety is one of the best of the semi-doubles. A midseason bloomer.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Plan now to attend

THE FIFTH ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW

of the

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.

in the auditorium of the

BERKELEY VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING Civic Center, 1931 Center Street (between Milvia and Grove), Berkeley

Sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars-Berkeley Post 703

Saturday, Feb. 25 — 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Competitive Exhibits Invited

Write WILL CROCKET, Chairman of Entries 40 Arbor Drive, Piedmont

Admission 50c (tax incl.)

CAMELLIA SHOWS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA and PA-CIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETIES are jointly sponsoring a Camellia Show to be given on Saturday and Sunday, February 18 and 19, 1950, at the Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center, Brookside Park, Pasadena.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY will hold their Eighth Annual Camellia Show on Sunday, March 5, 1950, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the San Jose Ford Sales Co., 375 So. Market Street, San Jose. Admission free.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRA-MENTO will hold their Twenty-Sixth Annual Camellia Show on Saturday and Sunday, March 11 and 12, 1950, in the Memorial Auditorium, 16th and J Streets, Sacramento. Admission free.

THREE ADDITIONAL TROPHIES

Three additional Perpetual Trophies have been made available for the Fifth Annual Camellia Show of the Northern California Camellia Society, as follows:

David L. Feathers Perpetual Award for the best bloom of a camellia japonica seedling, developed by exhibitor.

Dr. G. Myron Grismore Memorial Perpetual Award for the twelve best blooms of one variety exhibited in Class 20.

Barlow W. S. Hollingshead Perpetual Award for the three best camellia japonica blooms of one variety exhibited in Classes 9 through 16.

PRIZE OFFER

A well-branched C. M. WILSON camellia plant, in 5 gal. container is offered by East Bay Nursery, 2332 San Pablo, Berkeley, to the person

selling the greatest number of tickets for the Fifth Annual Camellia Show of the N.C.C.S. during the advance sale.