Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.

A Non-Profit Organization

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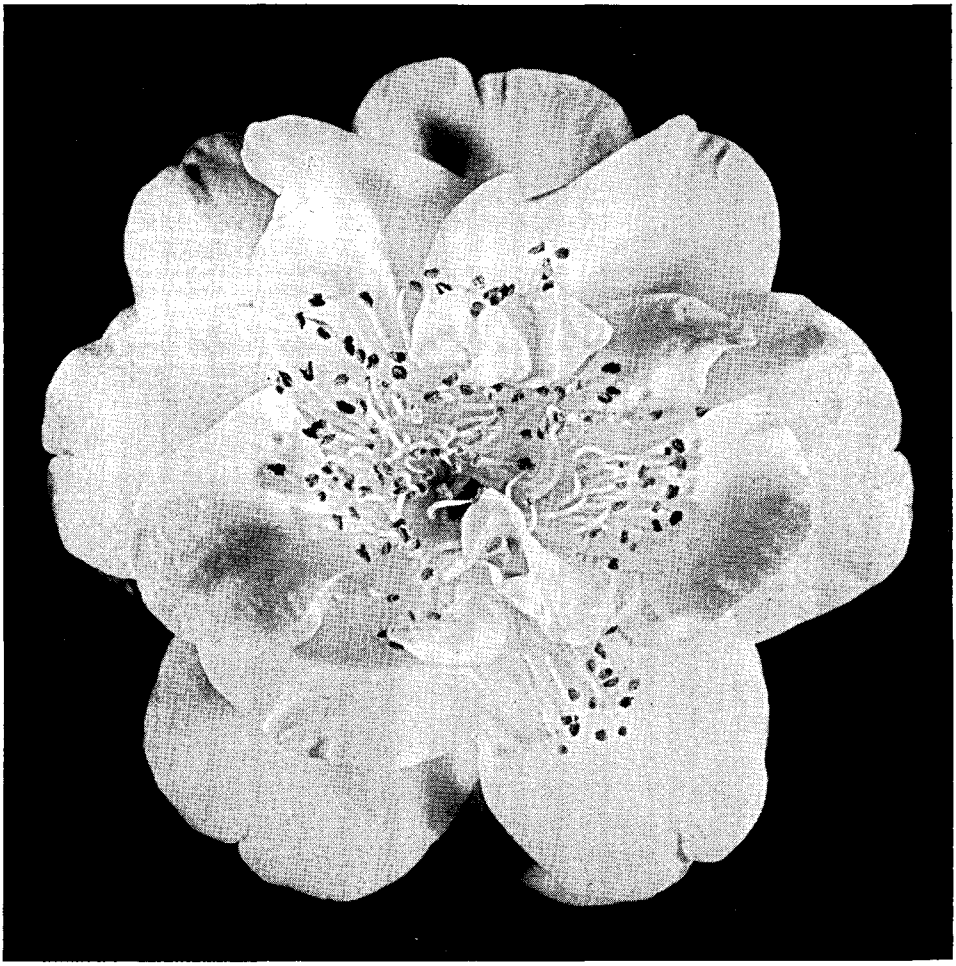

White Empress

Photograph Courtesy Herbert V. Mitchell, Walnut Creek.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.

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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 second 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 Bruce Harless, Secretary, 1301 Stannage Ave., Berkeley.

Published by the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.

COVER FLOWER

WHITE EMPRESS — Exquisite, pure white, very large incomplete-double with rounded, wavy petals, sometimes upright and folding to form "rabbit ears"; mass of yellow stamens with golden anthers lending yellowish glow at center. Fine substance. Good keeping qualities for corsages and flower arrangements. Vigorous, compact, upright growth. Early to mid-season bloomer.

One of the most outstanding of K. Sawada's celebrated introductions of white C. japonica seedlings.

Consistent blue-ribbon winner. Awarded Best Professional Flower at 1949 Camellia Show at Glendale, California. Best Flower of 1950 Camellia Show at Tyler, Texas. Also numerous other awards on Pacific Coast and in Deep South.

The specimen flower of White Empress shown on cover was grown by Barlow Hollingshead, Orinda, and photographed by Herbert V. Mitchell, Walnut Creek.

CONTAINER CULTURE OF CAMELLIAS

By Fred E. Heitman, D.D.S., Vice President

To explain my method of container culture of camellias, I shall tell you how it evolved.

Some twenty years ago my father had ten or twelve camellia plants in his garden in Berkeley. There was Kumasaka, Herme, Christmas Cheer, Somegawa, and others; all purchased from Toichi Domoto's father. The Somegawa was quite different from the camellia sold under this name now. It was a red-and-white variegated flower about the size of Pink Perfection, full - double regular-imbricated, never showing stamens. Those that I have seen in nurseries in recent years show stamens—are incomplete imbricated.

My father retired in 1938, moved to his ranch in the Sacramento Valley, and transplanted his camellias. In digging up the plants, trenches were dug around them and huge root-balls were taken; much larger than necessary. The Kumasaka was 5 or 6 feet tall and the root-ball was quite heavy. A hole was dug at the ranch and the plant dropped in. Its weight caused it gradually to sink into the hole, and the plant took on the appearance of dying; there was less growth year after year and the blooms were not good. Two years ago, they dug down and lifted the camellia some 15 inches. I wish you could see how luxuriant the plant is now.

After my father left Berkeley, I moved to Mill Valley in Marin County, where I had half-an-acre with oaks and bay trees and the leaf-mold was deep. It was a gardener's paradise. Around the house there was some open land that received morning sun and afternoon shade. I planted rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias, but didn't know anything about their culture. To my surprise, they all bloomed well. It was merely a matter of luck that the environment was right for these acid-loving plants.

One day I went to a nursery and bought some camellias in 5 - gallon containers. The nurseryman cut the cans, tied string around the top to keep them together, and cautioned me not to disturb the roots. But on the way home the string came off the Purity and the roots fell apart. I planted the camellias in the ground and when new growth came, the Purity turned out to be in far better condition than any of the others.

When I sold the house in Mill Valley and moved to Oakland, I bought oak barrels, cut them in half, and used them to transport the camellias. Since I expected to be in Oakland only temporarily, I didn't plant them in the ground.

About this time my wife bought G. G. Gerbing's book, "Camellias," containing scores of colored plates. Then we attended the Berkeley Camellia Show of the Northern California Camellia Society at the Twentieth Century Club. I made a long list of camellias to add to my collection— and I have never stopped since.

We lived in Oakland while building the house in Contra Costa County. By the end of the year, the tin cans began to rust out and the wooden containers to deteriorate. I heard of some of the wood preservatives. Toichi Domoto had tubs painted with Coppernate which had lasted quite well. The redwood tubs held up very well, too. I wanted to keep some plants in containers. Redwood and Coppernate was my answer. I saw some redwood tubs, painted green on the outside, but the bottoms and insides not painted. I bought some and painted the bottoms and insides with Coppernate. I find that it preserves wood and roots stay away from it.

The above talk was given at the December 10, 1951 meeting of the N.C.C.S.

Herbert V. Mitchell gave a talk on how he made his redwood containers and the pattern was shown in the N.C.C.S. Bulletin, Vol. 4, No. 3, February, 1951, pages 5-6. We added some of these tubs, too.

We live on a knoll between Orinda and Lafayette, and during the heavy winds of early December, we found we would have to do something about anchoring down those tubs. I am planning now to build the bottoms out to brace the containers.

I planned on keeping 100 to 150 camellias in containers so that I could move them into the hothouse to protect the blooms. I think anyone with a lot of camellias should have a good many in containers. so that they can be moved about. But at Orinda, I find those in containers dry out in a day or so. I still have to water twice a week.

For mix, I prepare about a cubic yard at a time, as follows:

1 Wheelbarrow of oak-leaf mold
1 wheelbarrow of adobe soil, which by the way is rich in food value
1 wheelbarrow of old cow-manure
1½ wheelbarrows *black sand
2 wheelbarrows peat
1 gallon can of gypsum

I am using less drainage in containers than in Oakland, for two reasons: (1) I think Contra Costa County must be famous for meadow mice. They go into my hothouse and get into the drainage holes at the bottom of the can. They even take bits of newspapers in there to build their nests. I am putting more holes in the containers, but am making them a lot smaller, to prevent mice from entering; (2) I find the soil in containers dries out faster in Orinda than in Oakland.

In buying camellias, I made a lot of mistakes. In Gerbing's book, I was impressed with Herme No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4. I bought them all. But when they bloomed, they all turned out to be plain Herme. Now I buy blooming plants at the nursery, so that I can be sure of the quality of the variety and see the amount of variegation.

When my father moved to the ranch, he was directed to Mr. Peterson, Lindo Nursery, Chico, who grew camellias in the ground and each season bare-rooted thousands of them. They do all right if handled properly.

Buying camellias at different nurseries I found they used a variety of soils; some use a good, friable mix, others use terrible soil.

I reflected on all these things. It seemed to me that if the plant was bare-rooted, put into a good, loose soil, and given all the nutrients it needs, it should thrive. Besides, bare-rooting would prevent flower blight. On the ranch you test all animals before putting them with other animals to prevent spread of disease. Moreover, if the camellia were bare-rooted and transplanted, it would not be planted too deep. The plant can be bare-rooted and put into the same size of container.

In the 10- and 12-inch container, I no longer use gravel for drainage; I watch the water and maintain good, loose soil. In the 15- and 16-inch containers, I use 1½ inches of gravel in the bottom and good, loose soil.

I used to use a hose to bare-root, working in a mud-puddle. Now I use a 50-gallon barrel; dunk the plant-ball in water and take all the dirt off, without doing any harm to the plant.

I try putting the camellia into as small a container as possible. First I put the gravel in, put in some dirt and pack it down. The top roots I leave exposed, for then I know the camellia is not planted too deep and probably never will be too deep. You can always see roots at the top when

(Continued on page 6)

*See "Black Magic," by Gordon W. Richmond, M.D., N.C.C.S. Bulletin, Vol. 4, No. 2, December, 1950, p. 6.

CAMELLIA FLOWER CLASSIFICATION — 1952

By Evelyn Frances Hollingshead, Ph.D.
Chairman of Registration and Judges Clerks

A new "Camellia Flower Classification" list is being prepared for the Seventh Annual Camellia Show of the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc., to be held in the Veterans Memorial Building, Civic Center (1931 Center Street), Berkeley, on March 15-16, 1952.

This list will give the name of the *Camellia variety arranged alphabetically, the name of the preferred synonym, the class number, 1 to 8 (or 9 to 16), and the color.

The ideal way to classify specimen camellia blooms for judging purposes at camellia shows is to segregate them by varieties, so that a bloom of a given variety competes only with blooms of the same variety. Two years ago, seven-or-more blooms of a given variety formed a class for judging. Last year, five-or-more blooms of one variety formed such a class. This year, 1952, **three-or-more blooms of one variety will constitute a varietal class** for judging purposes.

Scores of rare and unsual varieties are exhibited. Many are likely to fall into a large miscellaneous group, since there may not be enough flowers of any one variety to form a varietal class. It would be an impossible task for the judges to make awards unless this group were arranged in some logical, orderly manner to form a number of classes. For that reason, classes 1 to 8 (or 9 to 16) have been set up, segregating flowers by **form,** and under each class number, they are subclassified by **color.**

On the morning of the camellia show, there is little time between registration and judging. Therefore, the techniques of registration and classifying specimen blooms must be so planned that the least effort is required on the part of show personnel to segregate specimen flowers into class groups before judging begins. Individual exhibitors can do much to facilitate classification by following the alphabetical list of varieties in "Camellia Flower Classification — 1952" and recording on their entry form and entry cards the **class number** and **color** together with the **name of the variety** and the **preferred synonym** shown on the list.

Display tables will be marked class 1 to 8 (or 9 to 16), and each class number will be subclassified by color. By placing specimen blooms according to class number and color, they are automatically arranged by form and color.

At the close of registration, show personnel will segregate three or more blooms of a given variety to form varietal classes for judging purposes. Certain varieties like Lady Clare or Donckelari, which are always entered by three or more exhibitors, can be segregated during the process of registration either by exhibitor or by show personnel, merely by placing Lady Clare with other Lady Clares in Class 2, Pink; Donckelari with other Donckelaris in Class 2, Variegated, and so on.

Often a variety is sold under different names by different nurserymen, and sometimes even by one nurseryman. If a given variety is entered under a multiplicity of names

*The term "Camellia variety" as here used does not conform to the approved botanical use of the term "variety." They are not "botanical varieties" but "horticultural clones." For the most part, specimen blooms of Camellia japonica shown in Classes 1 to 16 come from plants which have been propagated entirely by asexual means (by vegetative means); therefore, they are clones and not varieties. But common usage of "variety" for "clone" among Camellia exhibitors makes the former the more understandable term. The International Botanical Congress has recognized but few "botanical varieties" in the species of Camellia.

the difficulty of segregating blooms of one variety would be greatly increased. For this reason, exhibitors are requested to examine the alphabetical list and show the name of the preferred synonym as well as the name under which he purchased the Camellia. To illustrate: Gigantea has been sold under many different names, according to the amount of white variegation, such as Emperor Wilhelm, Mary Bell Glennan, Magnolia King. If you are displaying Emperor Wilhelm, write on your entry form and entry card: "Gigantea—Emperor Wilhelm."

A given variety, regardless of form, will be placed in but **one class,** that designated on the flower classification list. This will facilitate the segregation of varieties into varietal classes.

When show personnel have segregated the varietal classes for judging purposes, the miscellaneous specimen flowers are automatically classified by **form** and **color,** since they were placed in classes 1 to 8 (or 9 to 16), and subclassified by color, at the beginning of registration; that is, if exhibitors have made use of their alphabetical list or have had the Registration Clerks classify their entries.

CONTAINER CULTURE —

(Continued from page 4)

I get through. Then I cover with pine-needle mulch. At the end of year I remove some mulch, but try not to disturb the roots.

For food, I use liquid fertilizer and apply it in the normal course of watering, using a syphon with a ratio 16:1. I believe in feeding small doses more often rather than heavy doses three or four times a year. Whatever fertilizer I use, I apply about half the amount recommended by the manufacturer. (The syphon ratio is 16:1. The solution of liquid fertilizer in the 15 gallon barrel is 240:1. Manufacturer's directions calls for 120:1, so it's just half.)

When November comes, I think nitrogen should be cut down, so I use the same food only cut it in half again, add potassium (1 lb. potassium sulphate to 1 gallon of water added to the solution of liquid fertilizer in 15 gallon barrel), which is supposed to improve color and texture. That way, the nitrogen content is lowered.

Some camellias are supposed to be definitely better than others for pot culture. Ask your nurseryman.

Next time, try bare-rooting and use a good loose soil for drainage.

POST GRAFTING SURGERY

By Gordon W. Richmond, M.D., Past President

Several years ago I took a look at my grafts and found that many of them had rot. I used a big dental burr, electrically operated, to cut out dead wood. The callous forming tries to cover dead wood, but cannot. If there is even a small piece of dead wood sticking up, the graft will never heal over with callous. If callous is rolling, I shave the wedge down; the wood is brown in there. I keep trimming down until I get white wood. Then I apply tree seal, and almost immediately the callous starts to roll across.

The above illustrated talk was given at the December 10, 1951 meeting.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Wilson Footer, M.D., Oakland, Chairman

QUESTION: Will treatment with fertilizer speed up the opening of Camellia buds?

ANSWER (Vernon R. James): The application of fertilizer does not speed up the opening of the buds.

QUESTION: Will moving Debutante into open sun produce bud formation?

ANSWER (Wm. B. Smyth): Debutante has to be quite old before it has buds at all. As a general principle, more sun would help to set more buds.

QUESTION: If buds on plant are continually rotting and dropping, does that mean that plant is not receiving enough sunlight?

ANSWER (Wm. B. Smyth): During a continued long wet-spell such as we have been having lately, it would tend to cause buds to rot and drop. When buds are pretty well swelled and showing color and water gets inside, damage would be done, especially if frost comes along and freezes them. Where the buds are tight, they won't be injured. Very poor drainage would make the buds drop on some varieties.

QUESTION: It was stated at one of the meetings that each Camellia flower requires 80 drops of water per day during the blooming season. How many ounces does this make?

ANSWER (Dr. Wilson Footer): I experimented and found that 100 flowers taking 80 drops each would require 13 ounces. The plant would have to take up 13 ounces of water to provide 100 blooms with 80 drops each.

SUGGESTION (O. E. Hopfer): I use about 6 inches of gravel in the bottom of container and it doesn't fall over, although I live on a knoll above Oakland where there is considerable wind.

SUGGESTION (Dave Feathers): Did you ever try Orinda sandstone?

QUESTION: How much mulch do you use?

ANSWER: From 2½ to 3 inches of pine needles.

SUGGESTION (Dr. Gordon Richmond): If you have hard nursery soil in container, water doesn't penetrate the root-ball. Bare-rooting and transplanting to loose soil corrects this.

QUESTION: Why is gypsum used in soil mix?

ANSWER (Barlow Hollingshead): When gypsum is used, a chemical reaction takes place. Water, heavily charged with sodium, leaves a deposit of sodium on top of soil, tending to prevent water penetration. Gypsum frees sodium and then the soil takes water.

The University of California did some research on that. After several irrigations with water charged with sodium, the soil wouldn't take water. By putting gypsum into irrigation water, the sodium crusting broke up and the result was deeper penetration. If you send a half-gallon jug of your tap water to Davis Farm, they'll tell you how much gypsum you need to put in water for irrigation. Gypsum not only frees sodium but adds calcium and organic sulfur which are beneficial to camellias. Gypsum is slightly on the acid side, with pH 6.5, slightly below neutral.

CULTIVATED SPECIES OF CAMELLIAS and DISCUSSION OF PLANT NAMES

By Walker M. Wells, M.D., Past President

The cultivated species of camellias that are being grown in the western world are going to put new blood into camellias. At present some thirteen species are under cultivation.

The camellia named Betty McCaskill is a true species in itself—camellia maliflora — and should not be a named variety, according to botanical rules.

Several months ago I cut out a little squib from FLOWER GROWER, as follows:

"Could someone please tell me where I can obtain seed of a plant my grandmother called 'Kiss Me Over the Garden Gate'? It was tall, 5 to 9 feet, and had pendant cerise-red flowers. It was of the amaranthus form, but is not 'Love Lies Bleeding.'"

This is typical of what happens every day with people who love plants. This lady was looking for a special flower. Had she found out the real name of the plant, she wouldn't have needed to insert such a request.

That brings up the question of plant names and also the question of species, which I was supposed to talk about. In the study of botanic taxonomy plants were classified according to natural relationships and this simplified botany. To talk in an understandable language, we have to talk in understandable terms. Plant names, through the last hundred years, have been simplified. But camellia names on the contrary have become so mixed up that I think it will take another Linnaeus to straighten us out.

Next year, 1953, marks the 200th anniversary of the publication of a great book, "Species Plantarum," by the great Swedish botanist Linnaeus. This important book, published in 1753, introduced what botanists call the **binomial system** of naming plants — the first successful attempt to arrange flowering plants in an orderly system of classification. That marks the beginning of Systematic Botany.

Briefly, Linnaeus listed most of the important cultivated plants of his time, arranged them in a logical system of classification, and finally gave each plant a simple name consisting of two parts, a generic name and a specific name, and that is why the term **binomial** is used. To illustrate: Camellia japonica. That is an application of the binomial system of nomenclature.

To understand the importance of all this, we must look beyond Linnaeus into the early history of botany and of man's interest in plants. Actually, the first plant names were legends, a plant being **identified by a story rather than a name.**

The Greeks and other early races frequently associated the natural with the supernatural and by doing so created beautiful myths to explain the beauty and mystery of their gardens. Iris, for example, was the maid-servant of Hera, Queen of Olympus; she descended to earth on her many-colored scarf, which, flung across the sky, was visible as the rainbow. We are not certain whether the flower was named for the Goddess or the story originated from the flower; but the important thing is that some 2500 years ago this name became a part of horticultural language.

Many of these Greek plant names with legendary associations have persisted to the present and, with slight changes, are immediately familiar: Krokos, Narkissos, Smilax, Hemerokalles.

The Romans carried on the Greek traditions and most of the plant names were latinized, but still they retained

The above talk was given at the January 14, 1952 meeting of the N.C.C.S.

their associations with fanciful tales and persons. Occasionally, Latin names replaced Greek names: Laurus replaced Daphne; Rosa was substituted for Rhodon; Lillium took the place of Hemerokalles. During the prosperous days of the Roman Empire, botanical knowledge was summarized rather than extended. Much time and labor were spent in the discussion of the medicinal properties of plants.

Time passed and man's dependence on plants increased. The medieval monks and the great herbalists, being Latin scholars, wrote their treatises in Latin. Lacking illustrations, they had no way of identifying plants except by conjecture. Confusion increased. As new plants came under their observation they found it necessary to make up new names. But both Latin and Greek names were preserved throughout medieval times.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, Latin was the language of educated people. Between the small group of scholars which were largely concentrated in the great monasteries and churches and the ordinary people there was a great gulf of ignorance which had to be bridged. When these scholars made efforts to make their knowledge available to the common people, they translated the Latin into the simple language of the common people. One can readily see how many new names were applied to plants and how confusion arose. Many of these names came from Latin roots, such as campanula for a bell-shaped flower. Plants, therefore, had one or more Latin names applied to them; these were individual descriptive names. Where attempts at grouping were made, these were composed of unrelated plants.

As herbalists studied plants and increased their knowledge, they discovered many new kinds of plants which were unknown to the monks; a considerable number of these had obvious relationships to each other. The monks usually retained the old Latin name, if there was one, and then added qualifying words to distinguish the kinds. Just as we might say, white oak, black oak, red oak, cork oak, they said Solanum scandens, Solanum tuberous esculentum. As the species multiplied, descriptive words related to individual plants grew more and more complex. There were such lengthy descriptions as "Solanum pomiferum fructu rotundo striato molli." These men were not attempting to invent a scientific terminology; they were simply trying to write precise descriptive phrases in the language that was most natural to them.

By the 18th century there was a tremendous number of known plants, all carefully described by long Latin appellations. The student of botany had a real task before him even to master a small number of these plant names. One simple lily was called "Lilium foliis verticillatis, floribus reflexis corollis companulatis." Up to this time a long list of adjectives had been used to describe and characterize a plant.

Linnaeus then came upon the scene. He was an orderly-minded man and he thought systematically. He had before him a list of over 6,000 species of plants. A friend of his, a great botanist, had gone to South Africa and had brought back plants. Linnaeus decided to create a method of nomenclature he could work with. It was necessary to drop the burden of all those long Latin descriptions which trailed behind a plant's name like an overgrown tail. He invented what he called the "trivial name." Along the margins of his list of plants he wrote a single adjective. This word was used only once and never repeated. It always identified a single plant and no other. All the previous attempts at describing the plant were dropped or at least subordinated to the plant's name. Why worry about

a description; that can be someplace else.

For the first time in history plants found themselves with a particular name which consisted simply of two terms, the **binomial system.** It was as though the plant had been given a surname and a Christian name. To illustrate: Camellia japonica, Camellia reticulata. These names have become standard throughout the scientific world. Botanists found themselves able to cope with any number of plants, and today the system is as useful as when it was first invented.

As plant explorers began to accumulate thousands of plants from all continents and these plants were studied, certain relataionships became apparent between large groups. Thereupon, the plant kingdom was divided into certain large related divisions; but within these divisions the plants always retained their simple original binomial names. The terms Order, Family, Genus, Species, and Variety were used to group plants in their widely related categories.

Names are given to plants so that when they are spoken or written about there will be no confusion as to the particular plant referred to. Behind every scientific plant name there is a considerable amount of summarized knowledge about the plant. This knowledge consists of a careful description of the plant, including its general growth habits, its foliage, the shape and arrangements of its leaves, its flower, and its fruit.

To make this specific knowledge useful, it must be readily available. The first step in making this knowledge available is the accurate naming and identification of the plant. Every plant must bear one name and this name must be universally accepted. This fact is the keystone of systematic botany. The only way in which you will ever have any real appreciation and understanding of plants is to be sufficiently interested in them to discover their correct botanical names. The familiar or vernacular names often have a pretty description or a sweet sound, but they are of no assistance in identifying a plant. For instance, "Kiss Me Over the Garden Gate."

Although the naming of a plant would seem to be a rather simple procedure, unless certain specific rules are followed precisely and universally, errors and confusion may quickly arise. Botanists have taken keen interest in preserving the simple system originated by Linnaeus. The rules governing the naming of plants were agreed upon at the Botanical Congress of Vienna in 1905. At the International Horticultural Conference in London in 1930, in Paris in 1932, and in Rome in 1935, the nomenclature of garden plants was fully discussed and agreement reached.

Today, no plant can have an acceptable scientific name unless this name agrees with the rules set forth by these large *botanical conferences.

For a long time there was confusion between Camellia and Thea, the tea plant. Several botanists described them. It was found they should belong to one genera of plants; by others that they should be separated. "Species Plantorum" was published in two volumes: Vol. I in April 1753, and Vol. II in August 1753. Thea was published in the first volume; Camellia in the second volume. It was shown that Vol. I was published prior to Vol. II; therefore, the genera should be Thea instead of Camellia. At the first International Conference, however, it was decided that the two should appear under the same generic name: Camellia sinensis instead of Thea sinensis.

From our best botanical information we know that the genus Camellia has

*(A Committee for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants was appointed by the 7th International Botanical Congress, Stockholm 1950. The International Horticultural Conference is scheduled to meet in London in 1952.—Ed.)

from 65 to 70 species. These species have been collected and described fairly accurately. Most of them are of considerable botanical rather than horticultural interest. Only a small proportion of them, probably not more than thirteen, have been introduced to cultivation, either here or in Europe.

All of the above species are confined to Eastern Asia, but the majority are concentrated in the warmer parts of China, Japan, and Indochina. Many of these species are closely related to each other, and can only be separated individually by a careful scientific description of the plant. Most of these species are of little general interest, and from a horticultural viewpoint are interesting only because they might possess certain genetic characteristics which could be used in hybridizing with our cultivated species.

Camellia japonica was introduced into England by Lord Petre in 1739. The tea plant, Camellia sinensis, was introduced in 1760.

In the early part of the 19th century, several more species were introduced: Camellia reticulata, C. oleifera, C. maliflora, and C. euryoides; possibly C. rosiflora.

Camellia sasanqua was introduced into France about 1869 and reached England about ten years later. C. hongkongensis was sent to the Royal Botanic Garden in 1874.

Two other species have been introduced since the beginning of the present century: C. cuspidata and C. saluenensis.

Camellia Sasanqua

Charles Maries, collector for the Veitch Nurseries, sent the first C. sasanqua plants from Japan. A double white and a single rose flowered variety were shown at a meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society meeting on December 13, 1892.

The wild form of C. sasanqua grows only in Japan. Another species, C. oleifera, which is closely related and has continuously been confused with C. sasanqua, is found only in China where it is widely cultivated for the seeds from which an oil is extracted.

The wild form is quite distinct from cultivated forms, which are comprised of about 125 distinct named varieties in Japan.

Camellia Reticulata

In certain respects C. reticulata is the finest of the genus.

Semi-double cultivated garden forms were introduced in 1820 and 1824. Capt. Rawes brought a garden form of this plant to his friend, T. C. Palmer, in 1824, which flowered in his garden in 1826. For more than a century this semi-double form was thought to be the species form.

In 1924, George Forrest, collecting camellia seeds in Western Yunnan province, sent some to his friend, J. C. Williams of Cornwall. Plants from these seeds flowered in 1932 and proved to be the wild form of reticulata.

The Chinese name is Nan-Shan-Cha, meaning Camellia of the South Mountain.

Yunnanese are very fond of Camellia reticulata. It is planted extensively in gardens and parks, and there is a potted plant in every courtyard. Trees more than 300 years old are growing in temple courtyards near Kungming, and they are in bloom at the time of the Chinese New Year. Its culture is a favorite amusement of the nobility and the rich. Its exquisite flowers are regarded as a sign of fortune and wealth. Several plants were often included in marriage dowries.

Eighteen cultivated varieties of C. reticulata have been imported into California and have been identified, but the Chinese were supposed to have distinguished 72 varieties.

Camellia Cuspidata

C. cuspidata is a very common plant of the thickets and woodlands

in the province of Hupeh, China. It was first collected in 1877 near Ichang by Augustine Henry. In 1900, it was recollected by E. H. Wilson, and introduced into cultivation by seeds sent home by Wilson.

Plants raised by Veitch flowered in 1912. This species is easily recognized by its slender arching branches and narrow long leaves. A profusion of small white flowers cluster along the stem. It is one of the most hardy of all camellias.

Camellia Maliflora

C. maliflora is a beautiful double-flowered species, originally introduced from China in 1818 by Capt. Rawes, probably obtained from a Chinese garden. At first it was thought to be a variety of Sasanqua. Until 1935, it was grown under the name of C. rosiflora flore pleno.

C. maliflora makes a shapely bush some 8 feet high, with small, neat, leathery leaves, dark-green above and bright-geren below; small, dainty blush-pink double flowers. The petals are not shed, but entire flower falls off when spent.

The wild form is unknown, unless it has developed from the single-flowered rosiflora.

Camellia Hongkongensis

C. hongkongensis was first described in 1859. It grows in scattered locations on Hongkong Island, especially on Mt. Victoria. It has been cultivated in England since 1874.

The flowers are 5 to 6 centimeters in diameter, distinctly cup-shaped, with deep red petals, and can be readily recognized by its blackish-green leaves. It flowers in January.

Camellia Sinensis

C. sinensis was cultivated in China for many centuries. The Chinese were drinking tea long before the Christian era. This is the tea plant of the Orient and was described by Linnaeus as Thea sinensis.

C. sinensis was introduced into cultivation in the western world in 1768. But it has been widely cultivated in China for many centuries. Thea bohea (black tea) was different from Thea viridis (green tea). But any tea plant will yield both depending on the process used in drying.

There is no record of its occurrence in a wild state. It is not of much decorative value as compared to other species: numerous small white flowers and glossy dark-green leaves. It is used occasionally as a hedge plant.

Camellia Taliensis

C. taliensis is another of Forrest's introductions. It was first collected by Augustine Henry in Southern Yunnan province in 1897. In 1913 it was collected by Forrest and seed was sent with a herbarium specimen. This specimen was one of the tea plant. The single seed to germinate grew into a tall, rather slender tree, 10 feet high.

Although the original plant died in 1940, grafts sent to Kew survive. The plant has 2-inch white flowers with numerous yellowish-brown tipped stamens which protrude about ¾-inch beyond the petals. Flower buds form in axils of leaves along the whole length of the current year's growth and are perfectly round and white. It has ornamental foliage, soft looking, olive-green and 5 inches long.

Camellia Saluenensis

C. saluenensis was discovered by George Forrest in Yunnan province, China, on the Scweli-Salween River Divide, and introduced in 1917. Forrest noted three colors: white, pink, and crimson. He collected seed of each, but only the pink germinated.

C. saluenensis has been confused with C. pitardii.

This species grows at an altitude of 9,000 feet and is exceptionally hardy. In England they are particularly interested in C. saluenensis,

crossing it with other species in an effort to grow hardy camellias that will stand up under their weather conditions. It sets seed readily and crosses easily with other species. There is much variation in seedlings, especially in flower color and size.

The saluenensis-japonica group are designated botanically as Camellia x williamsii or C. x williamsii. J.C. Williams, Mary Christian, St. Ewe, and November Pink are among the hybrids of this group.

C. saluenensis crossed with Adolph Audusson gave Elizabeth Rothschild, and with Donckelari gave Salutation.

C. saluenensis has also been successfully crossed with other species: Inamorata (Saluenensis x wild form of reticulata); Salutation (Saluenensis x reticulata).

The term **hybrid** should be used only when one speaks of the result of a cross between species.

C. reticulata has been crossed with practically everything it can be crossed with in the last few years. A lot of new blood is coming into the Camellia family, and the resulting hybrids will be of great interest to watch.

Since botanists have never been able to agree on the usage of the term "variety," and but few botanical varieties have been recognized in the Camellia species, we had better be careful about using the term loosely. The specimen C. japonica blooms displayed tonight are actually clones and not varieties at all. The term **clone** refers to asexual reproduction of plant; that is, propagated by vegetative means. For instance, C. japonica clone Donckelari, or C. japonica cl. Donckelari, or C. japonica 'Donckelari.'

SACRAMENTO CAMELLIA SHOW

The Camellia Society of Sacramento announces their 28th Annual Camellia Show, commemorating the One Hundredth Anniversary of the importation of Camellias to Sacramento by James L.L.F. Warren, February 7, 1952.

The Camellia Show will take place at Memorial Auditorium, 16th and J Streets, Sacramento, on the following dates and times:

Saturday, March 8, 1952
3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 9, 1952
10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The 1952 show schedule will place emphasis on varieties, each variety having three or more entries will be judged as a separate class. This provision will apply to the three-blossom group as well.

Specimen flowers will be placed according to form, using similarity to other flower forms. Each form classification will be subclassified by color: white, pink, rose, red, and variegated.

Where but one or two entries of a given variety are made, these will be judged in miscellaneous classes according to form and color.

Flower arrangement classes have been set up for (1) Juniors up to 17 years of age, (2) Novice, (3) Standard, and (4) Invitational.

Schedules are available and will be furnished by Mrs. William W. Doidge, Corresponding Secretary, 1762 - 5th Avenue, Sacramento 18.

PRIZE WINNERS AND DONORS

Fred E. Heitman, D.D.S., Chairman

Nurserymen have been most generous in providing Door Prizes and Exhibitors' Prizes during the 1951-52 Camellia season. The names of varieties, donors, and prize winners are as follows:

OCTOBER 15, 1951

PEONIAFLORA, 3 gal. size, donated by JOHN E. EDWARDS WHOLESALE CAMELLIA NURSERY, East Palo Alto, California, won by Mrs. Hobart Rogers, Oakland.

ELEGANS - CHANDLER (Chandleri-Elegans) PREDOMINANTLY WHITE, 3 gal. size, won by Mr. C. A. Roberts, Alameda.

NOVEMBER 15, 1951

MRS. BERTHA A. HARMS, donated by SARATOGA CAMELLIA NURSERY, Highway #9, Sunnyvale between Cupertino and Saratoga, California, won by Mr. Jack Osegueda, Oakland.

HUGH EVANS (HEBE), donated by ORCHARD NURSERY & SUPPLY, Tunnel Road, midway between Orinda and Lafayette, won by Mr. C. F. Jenson, Richmond.

DECEMBER 10, 1951

MARCHIONESS OF EXETER, donated by JAMES RARE PLANT NURSERY, Hiway 17 and Union Street at Campbell, between San Jose and Los Gatos, won by Mr. Haig Ashukian, Lafayette.

BESSIE McARTHUR, donated by JAMES RARE PLANT NURSERY, Hiway 17, at Union Street, Campbell, won by Mr. Jack Osegueda, Oakland.

JANUARY 14, 1952

LINDSAY NEILL, donated by DOMOTO NURSERIES, 26591 Western Road, Hayward, won by Wallace H. Brown, Berkeley.

SHIRO DAIKAGURA, donated by DOMOTO NURSERIES, 26591 Western Road, Hayward, won by Lovell Preston, Oakland.

FEBRUARY 11, 1952

ARRABELLA, donated by SMYTH CAMELLIA NURSERY, Thomas Court, Lagunitas Road, Ross, Marin County, California, won by Mr. James R. Spratley, Jr., Alameda.

MOLLY MOORE DAVIS, donated by SMYTH CAMELLIA NURSERY, Ross, Marin County, California, won by Mr. Alfred R. Scarsi, San Mateo.

SAN JOSE CAMELLIA SHOW

The Tenth Annual Camellia Show of the Camellia Society of Santa Clara County, Inc. will be held at the San Jose Civic Auditorium, San Carlos Street, San Jose, on Sunday, March 2, 1952, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This is the major non-competitive camellia show to be held in California in 1952. The only element of competition is a camellia review table where the best flowers of some 150 varieties are displayed according to color. It is a significant honor for an amateur or a commercial grower to have his bloom selected for the review table. This makes possible a quick survey of camellia varieties, as to form, color and texture.

The commercial display consisting of specimen camellia plants in full bloom and arrays of rare, unusual and standard specimen flowers is always outstanding.

SEVENTH ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW COMMITTEE
of the
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.

SHOW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

BARLOW HOLLINGSHEAD.....Orinda 2054
JOHN PAUL EDWARDS.....GLencourt 1-1854
DAVID L. FEATHERS.....Orinda 2171
FRED E. HEITMAN, D.D.S.....Orinda 2177
HAROLD L. PAIGE.....Lafayette 3408
GORDON W. RICHMOND, M.D.....BEacon 2-1576

Registration and Judges Clerks....MRS. BARLOW HOLLINGSHEAD, Orinda 2054
Assistant Chairman: MRS. J. D. MERRITT.....LAndscape 4-2639

Judges.....DAVID L. FEATHERS, Orinda 2171

Flower Arrangements.....MRS. CARL B. BOWEN, GLencourt 1-0979

Program and Ribbons.....O. E. HOPFER, ANdover 1-7811

Trophies.....WALLACE H. BROWN, OLympic 2-5404

Classification.....BARLOW HOLLINGSHEAD, Orinda 2054

Commercial Display.....FRED E. HEITMAN, D.D.S., Orinda 2177

Staging.....WALTER N. POWELL, OLympic 3-1586
Properties.....WILSON FOOTER, M.D., TWinoaks 3-2569
Tables for Exhibits.....DONALD K. STAPLES, KEllog 4-4037
Display Illumination.....GORDON W. RICHMOND, M.D., BEacon 2-1576

Reception and Information.....JOHN PAUL EDWARDS, GLencourt 1-1854

Hostesses.....MRS. JOHN J. KAMPSCHROER, ANdover 1-3687

Book Sales.....MRS. LENORE BROZE

Publicity
Garden Clubs.....MRS. BARLOW HOLLINGSHEAD, Orinda 2054
Nurseries.....JOHN L. McDONNELL, OLympic 2-1785
Press.....JACK OSEGUEDA, PIedmont 5-9555W
Radio (Garden Commentators).....JOHN PAUL EDWARDS, GLencourt 1-1854
Radio (Women Commentators).....MRS. O. E. HOPFER, ANdover 1-7811
MRS. H. G. SANDERS, KEllog 3-2211
MRS. WALKER M. WELLS, HUmboldt 3-0951

Advance Ticket Sales.....BRUCE HARLESS, LAndscape 5-8218

Door Ticket Sales and Admission.....F. A. GRIMMELMAN, KEllog 3-2782
H. G. SANDERS, KEllog 3-2211

Transportation.....GORDON COURTRIGHT, BErkeley 7-6490

ANNOUNCEMENT

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The Seventh Annual CAMELLIA SHOW

of the

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.

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Civic Center, 1931 Center Street, Berkeley
(between Milvia and Grove)

Sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars—Berkeley Post 703
and by American Camellia Society

SATURDAY, MARCH 15 — 2:30 P.M. TO 10 P.M.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16 — 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

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