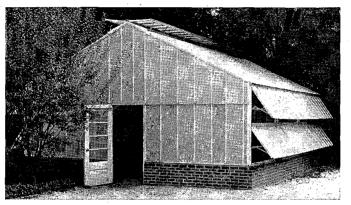
## THE LANGUAGE OF CAMELLIAS'' IN COOPERATION WITH THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY PRESENTS 1961 CAMELLIA SHOW

MEN'S

CAMELLIA CLUB OF CHARLOTTE

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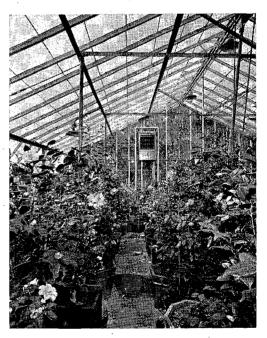
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Mrs. Frank Dowd, Sr. of Charlotte, N. C., has a National clear glass camellia house.

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# Welcome to the Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte 1961 CAMELLIA SHOW

### "The Language of Camellias"





### Welcome:-

We are mighty glad to have you and hope you thoroughly enjoy the beautiful blooms. Thank you for attending.

> Dr. Olin W. Owen, President Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte

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Class A Sweepstakes	. Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Weston
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### HORTICULTURE

#### Division I

#### S. A. BEATTY, Chairman

Camellia Blooms in Classes A, B and C will be judged in accordance with American Camellia Society Rules by variety and arranged alphabetically according to accepted nomenclature. These classes are open to amateurs only. Class E (seedlings) is open to amateurs and professionals alike. Susanquas, Japonicas and other species, except Reticulatas, will be judged together.

CLASS A (White Cards)-Blooms grown in the open by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons for each variety, silver trophy for best flower in class and runner-up in class.

CLASS B (*Green Cards*)-Blooms grown under glass by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons for each variety, silver trophy for best flower in class and runner-up in class.

CLASS C (Yellow Cards)-Reticulatas-Blooms grown in open or under glass by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons. Silver trophy will be awarded for best flower in class and runner-up in class, provided there are 25 or more blooms entered in this class.

CLASS D (Blue Cards)-(Mark miniature)-Blooms grown in open or under glass by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons. Silver trophy (miniature) will be awarded for best flower, provided there are 25 or more blooms entered in this class.

CLASS E-Blooms From Seedlings. Awards: American Camellia Society awards are available at the discretion of the judges. If plants from seedlings have been sold commercially, they are not eligible.

CLASS F-Collections. Blooms grown by amateurs exhibited on moss covered tray or plate furnished by exhibitors. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons, silver trophy for the best collection in each group.

GROUP I A. Collection consisting of 5 different varieties

B. Collection consisting of 5 of the same variety

GROUP II A. Collection consisting of 10 different varieties

B. Collection consisting of 10 of the same variety

CLASS G-Commercial Exhibits-by reservation. Reservations in this class are required for the sake of best space utilization. Trophy for best flower in class and ribbon for runner-up.

CLASS H-Collectors non-competitive entries. Collections from advanced amateurs are solicited, however they are urged to enter their blooms competitively in Classes A and B. It is the desire of the Club to have as many blooms in competition as possible, regardless of the status of the grower. Non-competitive exhibitors are requested to name each variety shown for information of the public.

-7

### ARRANGEMENTS

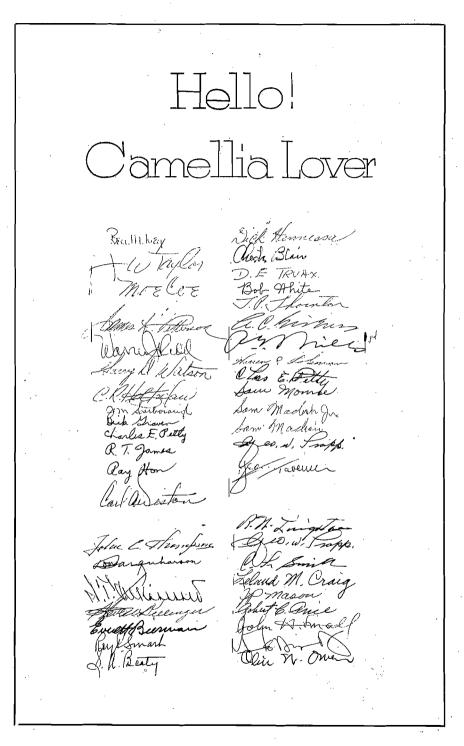
### Division II

### MRS. STANLEY E. MOORE, JR., Chairman MRS. JAMES A. SHIPP, Co-chairman

Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons for each class. American Camellia Society Arrangement Certificate for best arrangement in show and a silver trophy for the best arrangement in each class except invitational.

- Class 1-In a Love Poem or Song A composition in hues of red, white, and blue dramatizing one or more camellias. Other flowers, a minimum of foliage, and accessories allowed.
- Class 2-In Friendly Gestures a lei or garland of camellias dramatized with other foliage using a boat shaped container.
- Class 3-In a Tribute to Art One or more camellias featured with a piece of sculpture or a replica. Other foliage and driftwood allowed.
- Class 4-In Gracious Hospitality-One or more camellias featured in an arrangement suitable for an informal luncheon, dessert course, using a dessert plate and crystal stemware as accessories.
- Class 5-From the Garden Path One or more camellias arranged in a simple manner with any plant material from the home garden.
- Class 6-In Quiet Reflections One or more camellias to suggest natural growth in a shallow container in which expanse of water adds interest. Other plant material and accessories from nature, such as rocks, allowed.

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## The Dorton Suggests How to Select a Plant

In selecting a particular plant try to get a plant that is normal. Is there too much or too little new growth? Either too much or too little new growth may be bad. Is it well shaped and strong looking? While pruning can be of great help in shaping a plant it is far better to buy a plant that is already well shaped.

Is the foliage nice and green and of normal size for that variety? Is the plant free of scale and canker? This is important for you do not want to bring scale into your garden or have the problem of trying to get rid of scale on a new plant. Scale or lack of scale and canker is also a good indication of the manner in which a nursery is operated. In general a scale-free nursery will have better plants than one with scale.

If it is a graft, is the graft well healed and properly callused? Does it have a nice smooth trunk, free of limbs too near the ground? If you can answer yes to the above questions the chances are you will be getting a good plant.

One temptation to be avoided is the buying of a sickly plant which is full of buds as opposed to a healthy plant with few or no buds. As a general rule a small plant covered with buds is a sick plant. The excessive number of buds is nature's way of trying to perpetuate the plant if it should die. On



the other hand a plant with a lot of new healthy growth and few if any buds indicates a healthy plant since nature feels it is safe to put the energy of the plant into new growth instead of seed.

<u>Forego the pleasure of a few inferior blooms the first year and buy the</u> healthy plant with few or no buds. You will be glad you did in the years to come.

#### B&B Or Can

It is safe to buy either B&B or plants in cans. Each has its advantages. Plants in cans may be bought at any time of the year and then planted at a later time. Plants in cans will also have all of their own roots. There is a definite trend towards container grown plants and more and more nurserymen are selling plants in cans.

On the other hand if you want a large plant it will almost always have to be B&B. The most important thing to be considered in B&B plants is whether they have been rootpruned or not. Even very large plants can be moved with safety if they have been rootpruned while you may lose even a small plant if it has not been properly rootpruned. This is something to be on guard about especially in buying field grown plants. Do not hesitate to ask the nurseryman whether his plants have been rootpruned and how often and when.

This problem of rootpruning is just another reason why you should select your nurseryman with care and be sure that he is a reputable and established nurseryman who will stand back of what he sells and who will be there if you need him.

The most important consideration in buying B&B or can plants is the source and the treatment of plants in the nursery. Of equal importance is (Turn to page 12)

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#### Mold On Your Grafts?

Have you had trouble with mold on your grafts before getting the jars off? I did before I began using GREENOL which is a mold inhibitor supplied by Ortho. You mix with water as directed on the container and here is the way I use it. After the graft is all completed I start by spraying the soil, the root stock and scion; then the inside of the jar. By doing this I have had no mold problem except on a very few grafts where I got an excess amount of exudation from the root stock; and this almost always happens when you have to use a root stock that is too wet. the treatment and handling you give the plant in getting it home and in the ground. In connection with this, *never* pick a plant up by the trunk. Always pick it up by the can or the ball of earth to avoid tearing the roots.

#### Own Root or Graft

Whether you buy an own root or grafted plant will depend on two factors.

- 1. Is the variety a weak grower? If so you will want it grafted on vigorous understock.
- 2. If it is a new variety and you are in a hurry to get it you will probably find it only in a graft.

Except for the two reasons listed above there is really no reason to buy a grafted plant since own root plants of equal size are just as good and in some cases better than a grafted plant and the own root plant is usually a good bit cheaper.

In buying grafted plants beware of grafts which are on very large understock. It is much better to buy grafts on thumb size understock than on understock that is two or three inches across. The reason for this is due to the fact that the very large understock seldom will callus as quickly, as well, or as completely as the smaller understock. You will be more apt to have trouble at the union at some future date. The argument that you will get more growth from the larger understock is not necessarily true once the understock is dug for it will probably leave most of its roots in the ground and lose this advantage.



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### Questions Frequently Asked.

## with Authoritative Answers

- Q. I have just started growing camellias and wonder what insects affect camellias?
- A. Camellias are about as free from insect damage as any plant we know of. Aphis, scale and strawberry root weevil are about the only insects which can cause serious damage to camellias.

### Q. I am building a greenhouse and wonder if I can use kerosene heat or if this type of heat would hurt the camellias in any way?

A. Many people who grow camellias in greenhouses use kerosene heat and have found it to be entirely satisfactory. However there is some possibility of harm in a tight greenhouse, especially if the oxygen for combustion is drawn from within the house. To be on the safe side it is best to have the heater vented to the outside and draw its air for combustion from outside the greenhouse and thus eliminate any possibilities of danger to your camellias or to yourself.

### Q. What varieties would you recommend for a location where they are exposed to the sun?

A. There are so many factors that would enter into this that it would be difficult to give you a specific answer. What might prove satisfactory under one set of conditions might not be satisfactory under another set of conditions. We would say as a rule of thumb that, in general, any single or semi-double with the right habit of growth would be satisfactory. One reason for this is that the flowers open up more rapidly and there is less danger of the sun burning the flowers.

### Q. My plants do not set many buds, and yet they seem to be healthy as they look good and put on a lot of new growth. What causes this?

- A. To answer this would be like a doctor in South Carolina trying to diagnose a patient in Virginia without ever seeing him. However there are two or three things that might cause a healthy plant not to set many buds. These are:
  - 1. The variety. Some varieties never set many buds.
  - 2. The age. Some plants have to get some size on them before they set many buds.
  - 3. The location. Too much shade can cause a poor bud set.
  - 4. Fertilizer. Lack of buds is often an indication of too much nitrogen, especially where there is much new growth, as you indicated in your case, or there may be insufficient potash and phosphorus.

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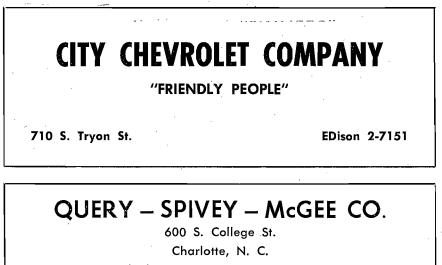
### Camellias Never Had It So Good

This is show time for camellias. All across the country, from California to the Carolinas, wherever winters are warm enough for these cool-weather flowers, camellia blooms are being lined up for the judges. The people who grow them are as competitive as horse owners or breeders of registered dogs. They garden to win. And winning is not easy. It takes good horticulture, knowledge and luck—the kind of luck that changes the weather and makes flowers open on the date of the show. Knowledge means more than learning what the "pH" for camellias should be or when to disbud or what to do for dieback.

For a serious contestant it means trying to find out what varieties judges will like this year, what's new or fashionable enough to win.

Competitive camellia growers study every show with an eye on the future, looking beyond pink petals to blue ribbons. Sometimes an old favorite enjoys a new surge of popularity, the way the whole family of camellias has done periodically since being brought to this country. Sometimes the hit of the show is a brand-new introduction exhibited for the first time.

Each year there are dozens of such introductions. Some of them never get farther than a back-yard showing. Others, registered with the American Camellia Society and put on the market commercially, are destined to become



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"old favorites" in the future. Almost every camellia fan, whether hobby gardener or commercial nurseryman, dreams of producing a camellia worthy of introduction—a new seedling or a sport of an old variety with a different form or coloring, an unusual size, a detectable fragrance, a touch of yellow, even imaginary, that would set it apart from all known types.

One 1959 introduction sure to attract attention is the <u>Virginia Rich</u>, named for the late Mrs. Richard H. Rich, an enthusiastic gardener and a prominent figure in Atlanta's civic and social life. The petals of this unusual seedling, developed by Carl Wheeler of Macon, Ga., shade from creamy, almost yellow, in the center through pale pink and deeper pink to orchid. The bloom is medium size and full double.

Dave Strother of Massee Lane near Marshallville, one of Georgia's outstanding camellia growers, named the Elizabeth LeBey in honor of the mother of Dave LeBey Jr. The Fletcher Pearson Crown is a seedling named for one camellia enthusiast by the A. A. Geigers.

Mr. and Mrs. Geiger, who take their camellias seriously, weren't content to water and fertilize all spring, summer and fall only to see their camellia buds blackened by midwinter freeze and frost. But they didn't move to Florida. They permanently installed spring in the yard. Even if the thermometer drops to 14 and snow covers the roof and icicles hang from the eaves, the Geigers can open their back door and walk into a blooming flower garden.

Two years ago the Geigers put a corrugated plastic roof over what used to be a chrysanthemum garden and built a house there for the camellias, 20 feet wide and 40 feet long. Inside, the weather is always perfect. The air



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conditioning, the heat and the fan have automatic controls, and even the rain switches on and off by itself. Camellias never had it so good.

Mr. Geiger is a traveling man and that's why he had to work out this automation for camellia growing. He covers Georgia, Florida, Alabama and the Carolinas in his work. His wife goes with him and they're often gone a week or 10 days at a time. Even on extended trips now, they don't have to worry about the plants at home.

"The greenhouse is air conditioned," he said, "with an adiabatic system. All the air comes in through a water spray which cools it and keeps the humidity between 60 and 70 per cent. In winter the temperature is controlled by thermostats and gas heaters. In extremely hot weather, in addition to the water-cooling system, we have 10 spray nozzles suspended from the ceiling, each of which puts out a gallon of water an hour as mist. The water comes on when the temperature gets up to 90 and holds it between 90 and 92. Another control keeps the air fresh. We have a timer on the fan which runs it for 20 minutes every three hours night and day to bring fresh air from outside."

Mr. Geiger has some radical ideas about fertilizing his potted, greenhouse camellias. Most camellia growers feed their plants once after blooming and again when the new growth has hardened, just two square meals a year.

"A person doesn't want to go that long without eating," he said, "and a camellia doesn't either. I feed them once a month all year round, using a tablespoon of commercial camellia fertilizer for the large plants and half a spoonful for the small-ones. The buds aren't made in a month and a camellia plant has about as much work to do at one time of the year as another."

The Geigers have around 150 plants in the greenhouse, some of them 10-year-olds they used to keep on an enclosed porch. Others are brand-new, like Guest of Honor and Reg Ragland, of which he thinks they had the first blooms in Atlanta.

"I don't buy new ones until the prices come down," he says. "The first camellia I ever bought, which still grows and blooms in the yard, was a Fanny Bolis I brought home from Augusta in 1944. I paid \$4 for it and thought that a terrible price to pay for a plant. A lot of new camellias cost \$100 or more when they are introduced, but I wait a few years until they come down to \$7.50 to \$10."

In addition to the greenhouse camellias, the Geigers have about 100 plants in the yard, a bed of seedlings which they hope will give them some worthwhile new varieties, and several patients in the camellia "hospital." Sick plants from the greenhouse are taken out of their containers and planted in a recovery bed beside a tiny stream at the bottom of the hill. Down there most of them seem to get well.

"We don't have enough shade in our yard," said Mr. Geiger, "and so we plant castor beans to keep sun off the camellias in summer.

Congratulations

Jo

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Club of Charlotte

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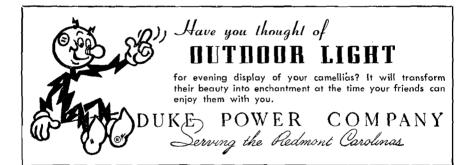
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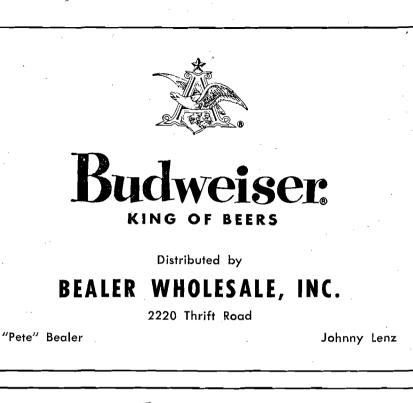
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