

R.H.S. PUBLICATIONS YEAR BOOKS, 1955

LILY

Mrs. J. Norman Henry completes her account of Lilies in her garden in Pennsylvania, describing the North American species, many of which she collected in the wild. This, coupled with an interesting and informative account of Dr. A. M. Vollmer's quest for native Lilies in California and Miss E. Field's competent paper on North American Lilies and their culture at a Lily Group Discussion, focuses attention on a group of Lilies which is steadily gaining in popularity. The Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry writes about Lilies at Mount Stewart. Of unusual interest is Dr. Norma E. Pfeiffer's illustrated account of her new hybrids of *L. auratum* × *L. japonicum* and *L. rubellum*. Mr. F. Kingdon Ward tells of his discovery of the new epiphytic Lily during his recent expedition to Upper Burma. Col. F. C. Stern comments on some of his new hybrids and Mr. F. J. Rose gives practical advice on when and where to plant Lilies in the average garden. Mr. T. H. Findlay describes the Lily collection at Windsor and the method used there of propagating from scales, while Mr. A. Calvert describes recent experiments in the propagation of *L. regale*. Mrs. E. B. Trundle outlines the numerous activities of the Lily Committee of the Garden Club of Virginia.

DAFFODIL AND TULIP

For hybridizers of Daffodils there are Mr. Guy L. Wilson's informative account of recent developments in the breeding of white Daffodils, Mr. Campbell Duncan's account of pink Daffodils in Tasmania and Mr. J. M. de Navarro's list of pedigrees of good varieties. Col. F. C. Stern writes about Daffodils at Highdown, and Mr. Guy Wilson about highlights of the 1954 season. Mr. George R. Barr has written a practical and highly informative article on the cultivation of Tulips and Mr. J. F. Ch. Dix describes some of the important new Tulip hybrids in Holland. Overseas contributions include an account of Daffodil mania in Virginia by Harry I. Tuggle, rambling reminiscences of the 1954 season on the West Coast of the U.S.A. by Grant E. Mitsch, an emigrant's impressions of Tulips and Narcissi in New Zealand by G. A. R. Phillips, and Mr. J. A. O'More's reports of Daffodil shows in the North Island of New Zealand. The book contains appreciations and obituaries of three great figures in the Daffodil world, Mr. E. A. Bowles, Major C. B. Habershon and Mr. Alexander M. Wilson.

FRUIT

The Reverend C. L. Dunkerley has written an extremely interesting account of some early English fruit books. As little has appeared previously on this fascinating subject, this article, well illustrated in monochrome and colour, makes an important contribution. Dr. L. C. Luckwill's paper on fruit drop in apples and Mr. A. P. Preston's on the thinning of apples make an interesting pair. Mr. Howard H. Crane describes his fine fruit garden at Pinner and Mr. R. E. Thoday describes fruit-growing in a Cambridge garden. The fluctuations and changes of the orchard fauna during the present century, by Dr. A. M. Massee, the maintenance of healthy fruit clones, by Mr. R. V. Harris, orchard soil management, by Dr. D. W. P. Greenham, and the identification of fruit varieties, by A. Gavin Brown, are all subjects of more than usual interest. There are two interesting contributions from abroad, one on fruit-growing in New South Wales by Mr. W. E. Haines and the other on important stone fruit varieties in New Zealand, by Mr. A. Farmar. There are also Fruit Group discussions, accounts of trips to Fernhurst and Long Ashton, and a report of the Fruit Show.

Price 10s. each. Postage 9d.

U.S.A. \$1.65

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THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
VINCENT SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1

THE RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA



YEAR BOOK . 1955

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

TO THE growers of both these genera the illustrated article on Leonardslee will be of particular interest for the large collection includes fine plants of the older Camellias and Rhododendrons, together with many of the newer introductions. The article on Colonsay describes the growing of Rhododendrons, especially those in the large leaved series, on a wind-swept island on the west coast of Scotland. Mr. H. G. Hillier's account of new Camellia Hybrids, is a summary of the important developments in the last twenty years in Britain. Mr. G. H. Pinckney comments on hardy hybrid deciduous Azaleas and Mr. L. F. Frisbie of the Tacoma Rhododendron Society writes about *R. occidentale* in its native habitat on the west coast of the U.S. Capt. Neil McEacharn's account of Camellias at the Villa Taranto in Northern Italy is of interest to Camellia enthusiasts as is Mr. J. Souster's description of the method of propagating *Camellia reticulata* at Kew.

COVER ILLUSTRATION

R. silvaticum 'Silvia'

Photograph

J. E. Downward

R.H.S. RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA YEAR BOOK 1955

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TO THIS ONLINE EDITION

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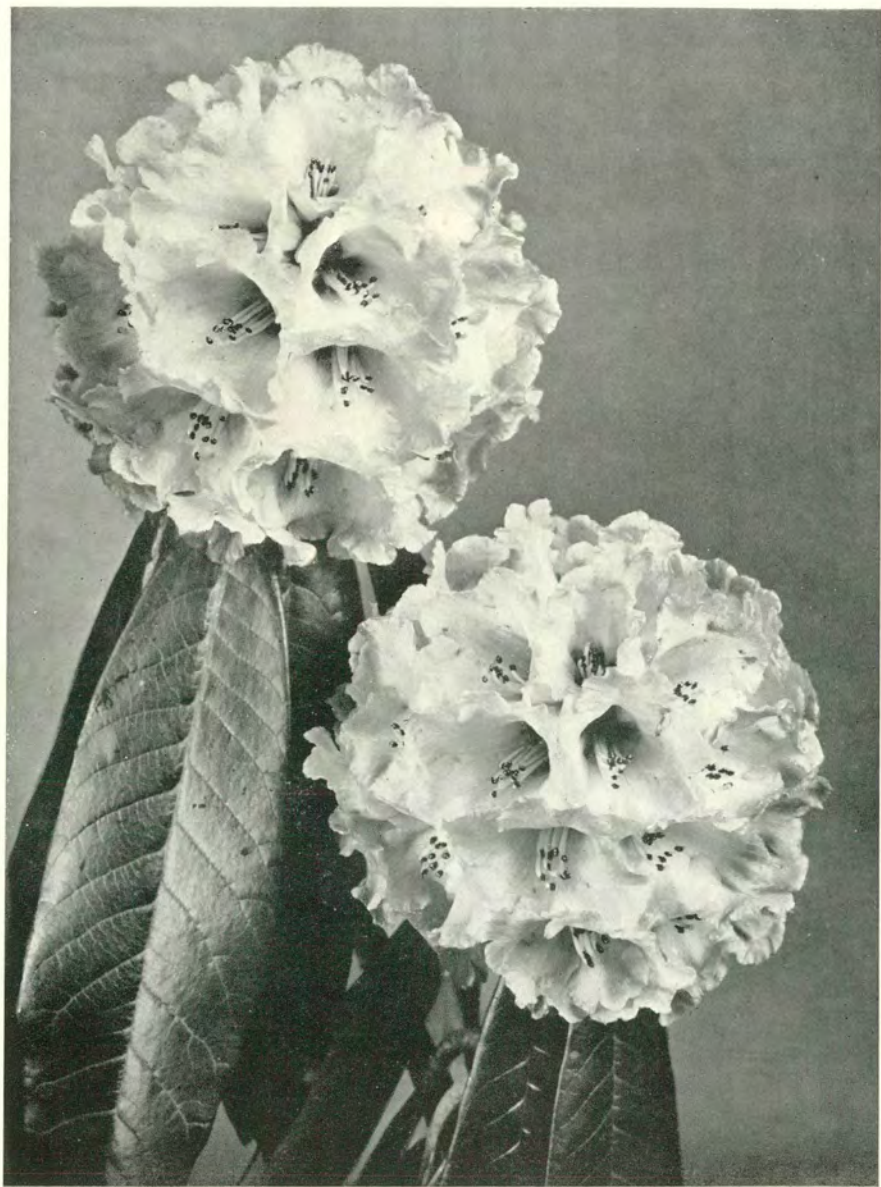


Photo. J. E. Downward]

R. silvaticum 'Silvia' A.M., 13th April, 1954. Exhibited by R. Olaf Hambro, Esq. (see p. 89)

THE
RHODODENDRON
AND CAMELLIA
YEAR BOOK
1955



NUMBER NINE

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
VINCENT SQUARE, S.W.1
LONDON

PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 1954

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Printed in Great Britain
by W. & J. Mackay & Co., Ltd., Chatham

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FOREWORD

THIS year we describe two famous but very different gardens both made by keen Rhododendron growers and containing many fine plants. The description of Leonardslee with its fine collection of old established plants of Rhododendrons and Camellias in a beautiful natural woodland setting is an interesting contrast of conditions to that of Lord STRATHCONA's garden on the Island of Colonsay, wind-swept, wild and rugged with beautiful scenery. It is interesting to note that the former was used for filming parts of *Black Narcissus*, the growth of Rhododendrons resembling natural conditions in the Himalayas, the scene of the story.

Still further contrast is provided by Captain MCEACHARN's article on Camellias at the Villa Taranto, his famous garden on Lake Maggiore which was recently made over to the Italian Government as a national Botanic Garden.

Mr. H. G. HILLIER discusses the parentage and describes the more important interspecific hybrid Camellias developed in the British Isles in the last twenty-five years. This article will be most useful to Camellia enthusiasts. Mr. G. H. PINCKNEY has covered the field of hardy hybrid deciduous Azaleas, discussing their evolution and range.

There are descriptive accounts of Rhododendron and Camellia shows in various parts of the world and an unusually comprehensive group of photographs to illustrate the articles and the award plants.

Last year's book in which Camellias were added to Rhododendrons was completely sold out. This year we are printing a slightly larger edition. I hope that it may meet with equal or even greater success.

DIGBY

CAMELLIAS AND RHODODENDRONS AT LEONARDSLEE

by

Patrick M. Syngé

LEONARDSLEE gardens have surely one of the most beautiful situations in the home counties around London. Both sides of a large wooded valley have been planted while at the foot of the valley there is a small stream, broadening out at intervals into a series of 'hammer' ponds-like small lakes where dams hold up the water. Leonardslee, the residence of Sir GILES LODER, stands on the highest ground overlooking the valley and commands views across to the South Downs.

The gardens were planted by Sir EDMUND LODER, the grandfather of the present owner, although part of the site was known previously as the American gardens and some of the Conifers, particularly the Sequoias, are now very large and must date from an earlier period, probably from between 1820 and 1850.

Leonardslee is four miles south of Horsham in Sussex on the Brighton road and the gardens have been made out of a part of the old St. Leonard's Forest so that they have a background of old oak, birch and other hardwood trees as well as the conifers. This has formed the setting for a natural woodland garden in unusually favourable and beautiful circumstances. The soil is a light loam of considerable depth in most parts, while owing to the slope of the ground the drainage must be almost perfect. The valley is sheltered from the strongest winds from the north and east and the rainfall, although not as high as that of the Western Counties, seems adequate to grow very well indeed a very large collection of Rhododendrons and Camellias, including many often considered tender.

Sir EDMUND LODER was particularly interested in these two genera and this article will be largely confined to an account of them, although the garden is nearly as rich in many other trees and shrubs such as Magnolias, Cornus, Prunus as well as in many unusual conifers. Many of the specimens have attained a great size and the tree of *Magnolia Campbellii*, estimated at 60 ft. high, is as large as any that we have seen in England. However, it is hoped that an account of

some of these may form the subject of a subsequent article in the Society's Journal.

On the level of the house and from one corner of it starts the famous Camellia or Palm Walk as it was described by Millais in his well-known book on Rhododendrons. Here the fan-leaved Palms (*Trachycarpus Fortunei*) have grown to a height of 30 ft. and seed themselves freely. The walk is also overhung by a very large *Paulownia tomentosa* (*P. imperialis*), perhaps 40 ft. in height, and in April well set with buds. Magnolias and *Ilex latifolia* provide some shade later in the summer but in the spring when the Camellias flower many of them have practically full exposure and seem to flower the more freely for it.

At the corner is an old tree of *Camellia japonica* 'Adolphe Audusson' perhaps 15 ft. in height and 36 ft. in circumference and literally covered with flower. As a garden spectacle it is magnificent, the brilliant crimson-red flowers forming a solid mass of colour. Each year it flowers equally well and has a five-week season of flowering.

The older of the Camellias in this walk were planted about 1900, having been bought from the Caledonia Nurseries in Guernsey and show well the rewards which can be obtained from old plants of *Camellia japonica*.

Even taller and equally thickly covered with flower was a very large plant of 'Apollo' A.M. 1953, the large single deep pink cultivar formerly known as 'Jupiter', which latter name properly belongs to a bright scarlet semi-double, blotched with white. In autumn the seeds are like small rosy apples and cover the bush. Also noteworthy in this walk were large plants of 'Althaeffora', a very floriferous large semi-double cultivar with bright crimson-scarlet flowers. This form received an Award of Merit in 1950 when shown from Leonardslee. Younger plants of *Camellia japonica* 'Alba plena', 'Elegans', 'Lady Clare' and Camellia 'Cornish Snow' are also to be found in this walk, the 'Alba plena' being 10 ft. in height. Behind another plant of 'Alba plena' is a large white unnamed double, 18 ft. or more in height and as much across, but the flowers are smaller (Fig. 5).

Among the Rhododendrons in this walk is a good plant of the uncommon *R. linearifolium* with its narrow strap-shaped leaves and similarly shaped flowers which always arouse interest since it is so unlike the general popular idea of a Rhododendron. Here also is a good plant of *R. Griersonianum*, growing much more compact than is commonly seen and providing some late colour. A bush of the old pale lilac hybrid *R. multiflorum* (*R. ciliatum* \times *R. virgatum*) is another unusual plant to be found here. Underneath the Snowdrops have spread freely while



Photo, J. E. Downward

FIG. 1.—Azaleas on the lawn at Leonardslee



Photos. N. K. Gould]

FIG. 2.—*C. japonica* 'Dombreyi' (see p. 10)



CAMELLIAS AT LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 3.—*C. japonica* 'Adolphe Audusson'



Photo, J. E. Downward]

CAMELLIAS AT LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 4.—*Camellia japonica* 'Lady McCulloch' (see p. 9)



Photo, J. E. Downward]

CAMELLIAS AT LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 5.— *Camellia japonica* 'Elegans' (see p. 8)

above are large trees of *Magnolia Soulangiana*, *Koelreuteria paniculata* and *Eucryphia glutinosa* now 20 ft. in height, also providing useful colour late in the season.

In the Camellia walk we also find very large plants of *Camellia japonica* 'Chandler's Red', a large flowered double cultivar with unusually big glossy leaves. It is shown well against a background of bamboos. Here also is a 20-ft. plant of another unnamed double white Camellia with slight pink flecks, a 12-ft. plant of 'Stella Polaris' with small double pink flowers, each petal having a white stripe down its centre, thus giving the flower a star-like appearance. A very large plant of the semi-double white flowered 'Lady MacCulloch' has pink flecking in the majority of its flowers but shows clearly the Camellia habit of sporting, the bush bearing also branches with salmon pink and with deep pink flowers; these two-coloured sports also appear individually on other normal branches. This is one of the earliest Camellias to flower in the garden and also lasts longer than the majority when cut. A visit to this Camellia walk must indeed be a notable experience for all Camellia lovers and I know of no finer grouping of Camellias in English or Scottish gardens, even in Cornwall (Fig. 4).

As we return to the house from the end of the Camellia walk by the lawn we pass several large bushes of some of the finest Rhododendrons which have been raised at Leonardslee. These include 'Ruthelma' 'H. Whitner', a very good pink with a large loose truss of big flowers raised from R. 'Loderi' \times R. 'Cornish Cross' and named appropriately after the head gardener who for so long looked after the Leonardslee gardens. Here also is 'Evening' 'Mist' with flowers of a pale mauve fading almost to white. Having R. *Hodgsoni* as one parent it is a notable foliage plant as well as being good in flower. The other parent was R. 'Mansellii' 'Muriel' which was also raised at Leonardslee. A sister seedling but slightly darker in flower is 'Evening' 'Haze'.

R. 'Sunkist' was raised from 'Loderi' 'Pink Diamond' crossed with R. *Griffithianum* and as might be expected has large loose trusses of pale blush pink flowers. R. 'Cretonne' also has large compact trusses of white flowers slightly tinged with pink, while each petal has a deeper pink edge giving the flowers an appearance of chintz or a flowered cretonne. The parents were 'Barclayi' and 'Loderi'. Another good deep pink Rhododendron in this part of the garden, though not raised at Leonardslee, is 'White Glory' form 'Pink Glory' (R. *irroratum* \times 'Loderi'). The paler 'Seagull' and its forms 'Seamew' and 'Seamist' were raised at Leonardslee from 'Loderi' \times *sutchuenense* and normally flowered freely about February-March and much earlier than either of its parents. They were almost white in colour but with a faint tinge

of mauve in the trusses. Without considering the 'Loderi' forms the number of fine Rhododendrons raised at Leonardslee is very large and visitors to the Rhododendron Show will also have noticed 'Ruthelma' ('Loderi' 'Pink Diamond' \times 'Cornish Cross') bearing enormous trusses of very fine deep pink, almost crimson flowers; two forms of this cross have already been named 'Coralia' and 'H. Whitner'. The cross 'Glory of Leonardslee' \times *Thomsonii* has a fine truss of deep red flowers with some of the substance of *Thomsonii* combined with the larger size of 'Glory of Leonardslee', itself one of the older hybrids of the garden but still one very well worth growing. We should also mention 'Gay Lady' ('Cornubia' \times *Griffithianum*) with a fine truss of salmon-pink flowers veined with a deeper colour and 'Surprise' (*Falconeri* \times *Thomsonii*) a dusky red flower with a very deep coloured base and as might be expected fine foliage.

Also by this area of lawn are to be found plants of the uncommon *R. auritum* with creamy yellow flowers, tipped pink in the bud, *R. Fargesii*, usually flowering in February and a very large bush of 'Lady Rosebery', sheltered by the bamboo.

An old Tulip tree, golden in Autumn, dominates the lawn, and the path then leads round and back to the house and its Camellias. On the west wall at an exposed corner is a large plant 25 ft. in height of *Camellia japonica* 'Dombreyi' solid with flowers from top to base and nearly as much across as it is high. It is a semi-double, not unlike 'Adolphe Audusson' in shape and size of flower but rather pinker and lighter in colour. At intervals it is cut back and tied in on the exposed corner (Figs. 2, 3).

On the south of the house in a sheltered corner is a very large plant of *Camellia* 'Lady Clare' at least 18 ft. in height. This rather loose growing cultivar is not cut back but the branches are tied in at intervals to give a solid mass of flower. Beside it is a large plant of 'Donckelarii', only slightly flecked with white. This has reached to the eaves of the house and has to be cut back at intervals. There is also a very large plant of 'Variegata' and the stone steps along the side of the house have had twice to be moved back 6 ft. to allow space for it. This plant was photographed for the *Gardeners' Chronicle* in 1910. It is now 60 ft. in circumference. Against these walls are also a fine specimen of the Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) with its large rugulose leaves and enormous Wisterias, both double and single.

Few greenhouse Rhododendrons are grown although a small house is given up to young plants of all the Camellias in the garden, but we did see indoors the superb and original plant of *R. 'Whitewings'* raised by a neighbour, the late Mr. SCRASE-DICKENS of Coolhurst,

from *R. bullatum* \times *R. ciliicalyx*. The plant is now about 5 ft. in height and nearly as much in diameter and was covered with the beautiful large white scented flowers (Fig. 8).

If we walk eastwards from the house towards the part of the woodland known as the American garden we pass an old garage wall facing south on which *Camellia reticulata semi-plena* has grown to the top of the wall, perhaps 18 ft. in height, and has to be cut back at intervals. It was full of flower in April and showed that it is not indeed too tender a plant to be grown well in Sussex. Here also are fine plants of the dark red *Camellia japonica* 'Mathotiana' with its white and rose pink forms beside it. In front is *Camellia* 'Lady Audrey Buller', also often known as 'Nagasaki' and bearing large semi-double pale blush-pink flowers. It makes a plant of rather spreading growth.

Also against this same wall is a 5-ft. plant of the tender *R. Edgeworthii*, seemingly in perfect health and in April covered with flower bud. It grows in full sun and without any overhead cover. In a bed below the same wall is a collection of young seedlings of *Camellia saluenensis* as well as a young plant of the single wild form of *Camellia reticulata* and a group of seedlings of *R. tephropeplum*, several having been selected for the relative darkness in colour of their flowers. Even more sheltered but getting much less sun is the wall of the stable and here the complete double flowered *Camellia reticulata flore pleno* grows. This is quite distinct from the *semi-plena* variety and although not quite so large in flower and in this position not so free flowering it is still a beautiful plant as well as being a very rare one. It is probably slightly more tender than the semi-double variety but here it has reached the top of the wall. Against these walls are also both red and pink forms of *Camellia Sasanqua* which flower profusely from November to February. Near here is the tender *R. spinuliferum* with its curious tubular flowers of pale brick red with the anthers protruding beyond the corolla.

As we walk along the woodland paths, beautifully kept and brushed clear of leaves which are all used to mulch the trees and shrubs, we see Camellias on every side, to be numbered seemingly by the hundred, many of great size and far too many for individual mention. Unusually beautiful is the flower of the white 'Snow Goose' which received an Award of Merit in 1953. It is a sport from 'Alba simplex', but the flowers are larger with a pink fleck and open flat and the petals have more substance. A very large bush of 'Tricolor', pale pink with deeper pink streaks, shows a strong propensity for sporting, producing also branches with deep pink self-coloured flowers and others with very pale pink flowers. A 20-ft. tree of the creamy-white 'Nobilissima' generally

begins flowering in January and continues till April. A fine tree of 'Imbricata rubra' tends to hide its full double deep crimson flowers beneath and behind its large leaves, but from beneath it shows a mass of flower and so large are many of these Camellias that one needs to look up at them. 'Sacco vera' is another very pretty pink cultivar and it has also produced a white sport. The plant of 'Chandler's Red' went to a Crystal Palace Flower Show in a tub. Now 25ft. high and as much in diameter, it is much too large for a tub but it still flowers freely. It is a full double with petals of a deep glowing red and good shining dark foliage and should not be confused with the pink 'Elegans' also raised by Chandler of Vauxhall. 'Bella Romana' is a double white not often seen. It is freely flecked with pink. A group of large bushes of 'Lady Clare' 8 ft. in height and as much through make a notable spectacle while 'Prince Albert' ('Albertii'), a white, peony-shaped flower with pink flecks and 'General Lamorcière' of similar shape and colouring but with fewer pink flecks, are planted close together, maybe for purposes of comparison. A group of the small white flowered *Camellia cuspidata* is attractive for woodland decoration when the plants have grown as big as here.

Now to turn from Camellias to Rhododendrons. One of the most effective things about Leonardslee is the large groups in which many of these have been planted. Few, who have seen it in full flower, will forget the magnificent bank of *R. Thomsonii*. MILLAIS in his book recorded that there were forty plants about 13 ft. in height. By now the numbers have been thinned perhaps to half, but the plants have closed up and reached a height of 20 ft. (Fig. 9). It is a very good large flowered form and is covered with flowers almost down to the ground where the bank abuts on the path. Towering over them is a large tree of a white form of *R. arboreum* while as background huge *Sequoia sempervirens* make the perfect contrast to the blue-green leaves and blood red flowers of the Rhododendrons. *R. lutescens* is also planted in a large group composed of the large leaved as well as the ordinary form and near it is a good bush of *R. strigillosum* and another of the pale lilac coloured *R. concinnum* crowded with flower. The former flowers freely, but tits in their search for nectar often damage the base of each flower.

At the edge of a more open glade planted thinly with flowering Cherries and thickly with Daffodils are large and very free flowering plants of the rich pink 'Queen Wilhelmina', an early flowering Rhododendron with large trusses of slightly frilled flowers which makes a most brilliant mass of colour as it contrasts with trees of the yellow *R. campylocarpum* and 'Earl of Morley' 'Leonardslee Prim-

rose' of similar yellow colouring but with a slightly larger truss of flower. Too tender for cold gardens, here 'Queen Wilhelmina' is a most effective tree. In the same border are large plants of the blue *R. Augustinii* as well as a collection of forms of *R. cinnabarinum* Roylei. One of these, now a plant 12 ft. high and 12 ft. across, has notably larger leaves than the others and an unusually large flower for this variety of *cinnabarinum*. Lower in the curve of the border a large group of the evergreen Azalea *R. 'Hinodegiri'* contrasts its brilliant, almost fierce magenta red colouring with a group of soft green *Acer japonicum* and *Pieris Forrestii* while behind is a 10-ft. specimen of the coral barked Maple 'Senkaki', most lovely in its young growth as well as in its pink autumn colouring. In another part of the woods is a planting of *R. cinnabarinum blandfordiae*florum with its more yellow flowers, flushed with red on the outside at the base of the corolla. Elsewhere *R. cinnabarinum aestivale* continues the season of flower for another few weeks. Near this is a tree of *R. Hookeri* with glowing deep scarlet trusses of flower, generally regarded as too tender for most gardens, but here it grows and flowers well. A compact plant of the dwarf *R. Keiskii* 4 ft. high and as much across and covered with yellow flowers is another unusual sight. *R. sutchuenense* has here grown to a large tree 15 ft. in height and 20 ft. through and flowers often at the same time as *R. barbatum*, planted next to it.

Throughout the garden and especially on the far side of the valley are large plants of *R. 'Shilsonii'* and these were raised in this garden from the well-known cross of *R. Thomsonii* and *R. barbatum*. Groups of these trees 20 ft. in height and glowing with the brilliant deep scarlet of the flowers make a magnificent spectacle. Contrasted with this early flowering hybrid is *R. 'Leonardslee Giles'* raised from *R. Griffithianum* and *R. 'Standishii'*, a notable late flowering Rhododendron fittingly named after the present owner of Leonardslee. It is now 15 ft. in height. Very large trees of 'Glory of Leonardslee' and *R. 'Elsae'* are worthy of note as is also 'Maiden's Blush', a very lovely hybrid with loose trusses of pale pink flowers, tinged more pink on the bud and creamy white inside. Another good hybrid raised at Leonardslee is 'Spring Beauty' which has a very tall and well formed truss of large deep pink flowers which do not fade in the sun. A tall plant of *R. grande* shows the possibility of growing the larger leaved tender species in Sussex, while nearer the house *R. Hodgsonii* and *R. Falconeri* have reached a height of 18 ft. while *R. calophyllum* has formed a large and shapely plant. Another unusual cross raised at Leonardslee is the large yellow flowered 'Phryne' (*R. 'Loderi'* × *R. campylocarpum*). This cross was, however, also made by Lord ABERCONWAY who

registered it in 1933. A brilliant bank of late colouring is provided by a grouping of 'Tally-Ho' and at Leonardslee these have been found very hardy.

The dwarf Rhododendrons have not been neglected either and there are plantings of various members of the Lapponicum Series while in the rock garden by the house there are enormous plants of several of the evergreen Azaleas such as 'Hinomayo' and 'Hinodegiri', the former proving particularly successful and flowering very freely. Recently several plantings of evergreen azaleas have been made: some to form splashes of colour on the lawns, and others along the path edges. The pure white *R. mucronulatum* (*ledifolium*) is already a feature of the garden, clothing the edges of many paths in white and elsewhere forming huge banks of snow-white flower. Also old-established plants of the magenta *R. amoenum* make a fine background in the rock garden to their smaller evergreen sisters. Here also is a group of that pretty dwarf pink-flowered *Rhododendron spiciferum*.

We have left to the last perhaps the two main glories of Leonardslee, namely the 'Loderi' Rhododendrons and the masses of brilliantly coloured Azaleas which make such an effective colour display in May. *R. 'Loderi'* in its various forms was perhaps the supreme achievement in Rhododendron hybridization of Sir EDMUND LODER. In 1901 he used the finest forms he could obtain of *R. Fortunei* and *R. Griffithianum* and no one else making a similar cross has ever obtained such a fine result. In fact the same cross made by him at Leonardslee in a subsequent year did not equal the progeny of that first cross. We can only speculate on the genetic arrangement and combinations which produced this result. It is however a reminder how important it is to use only the best forms both of species and hybrids for further hybridization.

A particularly sweet-scented and large flowered form of *R. Fortunei* was used for the seed parent while the pollen was obtained from an unusually fine plant of *R. Griffithianum* growing in a cool greenhouse at South Lodge, a neighbouring garden. Throughout the woods one finds many of the original plants now thirty or more feet in height, but flowering freely. It is, however, difficult in this situation to compare the forms one with another and so Sir GILES LODER has rooted layers of all the forms and has brought them together in a new 'Coronation' garden on the far side of the valley. In a few years' time this should be a most interesting and spectacular part of the garden since there he has also planted a series of the best of the deciduous Azaleas including some from Exbury and Knaphill forms and a Magnolia walk composed of the finest species such as *M. Campbellii*, *M. mollicomata*, *M. molli-*

comata 'Lanarth', *M. Sargentiana* var. *robusta*, *M. Wilsonii* and several others.

Sir GILES LODER has written about the history of the 'Loderi' cross and the differences between the forms in the RHODODENDRON YEAR BOOK for 1950 and there is little that we can add here to this article and readers are recommended to refer back directly to the 1950 YEAR BOOK. Probably 'King George' and 'Pink Diamond' are still to be regarded among the best forms, but all are so fine that selection is a matter of taste, while many of the named forms are so close to one another that selective comparisons are very difficult. We are informed that in general the forms with yellow patterning on the leaves did not flower nearly so freely as those with pure green leaves. There is also a slight variation in time of flowering, 'Patience' being slightly later than the other forms. It has been found at Leonardslee that the forms of R. 'Loderi' if cut back vigorously will sprout freely and several of the bigger plants have been treated in this way. Crosses have also been made between the forms of R. 'Loderi' and several of these, notably 'Princess Marina' and 'Georgette', are so fine that they must be considered as slight improvements on the original plants. R. 'Loderi' 'Princess Marina' won the cup for the best hybrid in the Rhododendron Show in 1948 as well as an Award of Merit. Its parents are the two forms, 'King George' and 'Sir Edmund'.

The deciduous azaleas form a large feature of the garden; planted in their thousands, and carpeting the ground on the far side of the garden beneath the tall larch trees. The glade called 'Mossy' is devoted entirely to the yellow Pontic azalea, with its sweet scent, and good autumn colouring. Lower down the flame azaleas provide a contrast, whilst along many of the paths are large plants of the *R. occidentale* hybrids 'Graciosa' and 'Pinkest'. Along one path in particular, the late-flowering 'Gloria Mundi' have formed a tunnel with their masses of orange flowers.

No picture in words can really describe the natural beauty of these gardens and the many delightful glimpses down the valley through the trees. Sir EDMUND LODER was an undoubted artist in the placing of his plants and obviously took much trouble to find the right situations and background while from his seedlings he had sufficient resources to make large and effective plantings of his favourite species and hybrids. In their maturity after half a century of growth his gardens have become a spectacle of most unusual beauty. Nor is it possible even in an article of this length to do justice to the tremendous richness and variety of the individual plants, covering what is really a great area even for one of the larger gardens of England.

The gardens are open to the public on certain days in the spring, when they are at their best. The dates are usually advertised in the Journal of the Society.

The writer is indebted to both Sir GILES and Lady LODER for much help in the writing of this article. He also acknowledges with thanks the help of his colleague Mr. N. K. GOULD.



Photo. J. E. Downward]

RHODODENDRONS AT LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 6.—*R.* 'Loder's White' with massed Azaleas and *magnolia Soulangiana* to the right



Photo, N. K. Gould]

LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 7.—Part of the woodland garden



Photo. N. K. Gould]

RHODODENDRONS AT LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 8.—R. 'Whitewings' (*see* p. 10)



Photo. J. E. Downard]

FIG. 9.—The group of *Rhododendron Thomsonii* (see p. 12)
RHODODENDRONS AT LEONARDSLEE

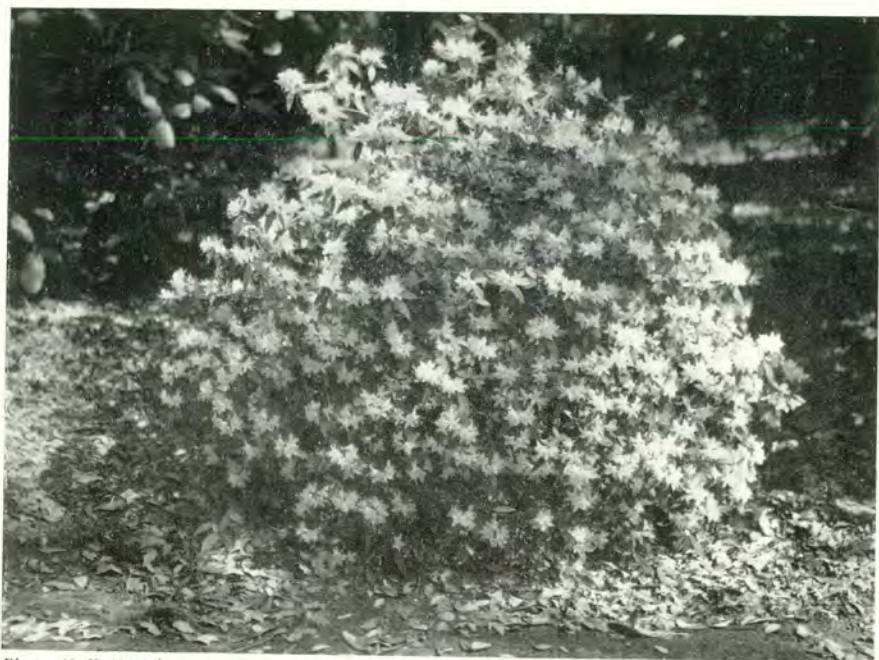


Photo. N. K. Gouda]

FIG. 10.—*R. Keiskii*

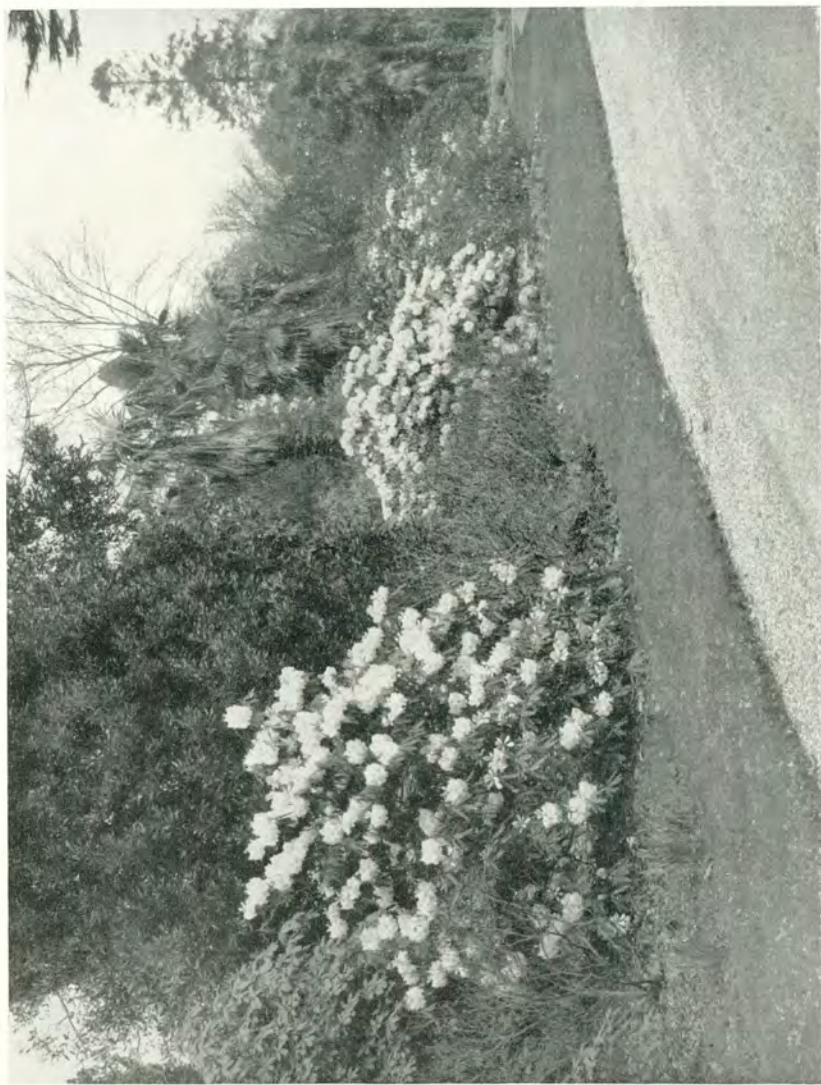


Photo. J. E. Downward

RHODODENDRONS AT LEONARDSLEE

FIG. 11.—(Left) R. 'White Glory', (right) R. 'Seagull' 'Scamew' (see p. 9)

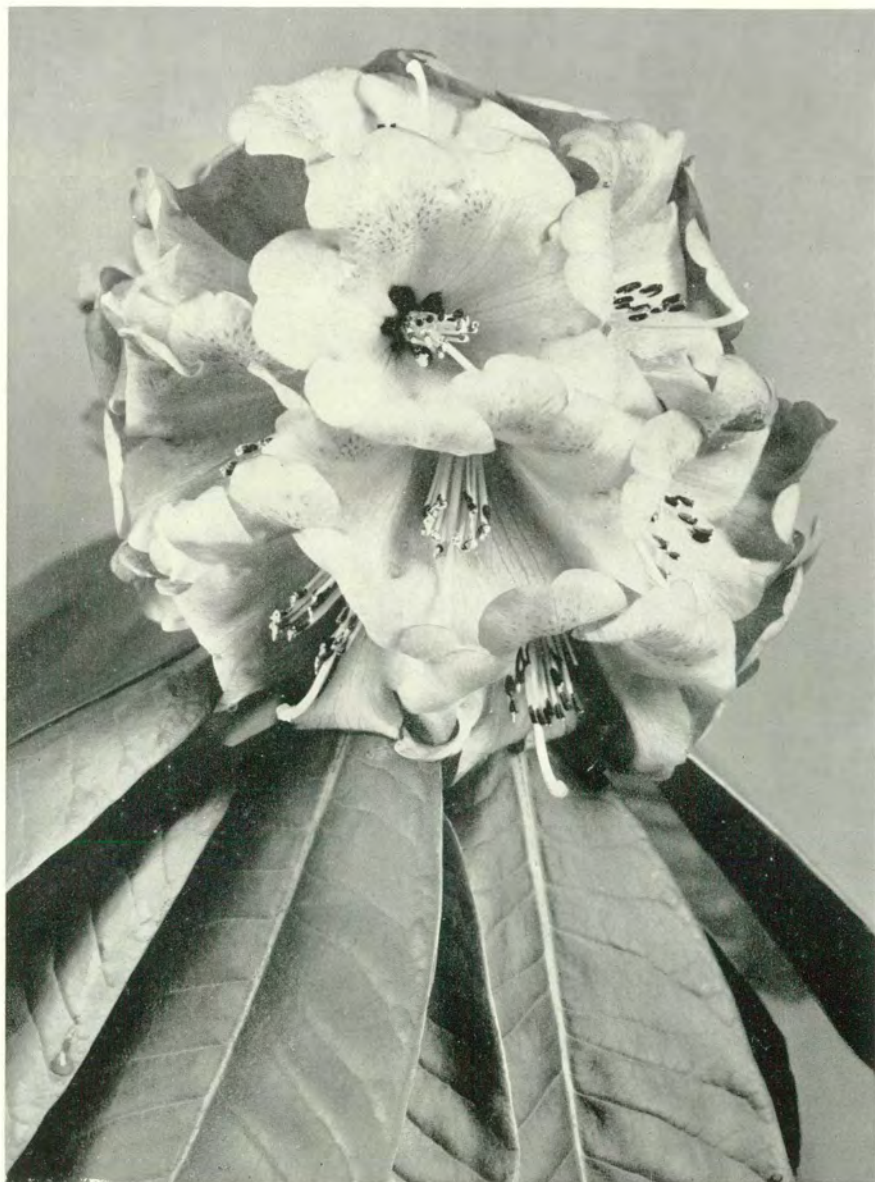


Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 12.—*Rhododendron* (Surprise G.) 'Faltho' A.M., 13th April, 1954. A hybrid of *R. Falconeri* \times *R. Thomsonii*, exhibited by Sir Giles Loder, Bt. (see p. 86)

SOME HYBRID CAMELLIAS

by

H. G. Hillier

CAMELLIA \times *Williamsii* originated at Caerhays Castle, Cornwall, where the late Mr. J. C. WILLIAMS used as the seed parents several selected forms of *C. saluenensis* to hybridize with *C. japonica*.

We are told by Mr. CHARLES WILLIAMS, M.P., that his father wished to combine the foliage and habit of *C. japonica* with the longer flowering period of *C. saluenensis* and the resultant plant has certainly achieved this valuable combination of qualities. In addition we have a plant which has combined the elegance of *C. saluenensis* with the hardiness of *C. japonica*.

It is no exaggeration to say that *C. \times Williamsii* in its best forms is not only in the front rank of Camellias but is one of the best of all evergreen shrubs for the milder temperate regions and has even been known to grow in less favourable areas. According to form and location this hybrid Camellia will flower from November to May and if one crop of flowers is spoiled by frost another will come. In size and habit of growth the plant is intermediate between the two parents.

There are now double as well as single flowered forms of *C. \times Williamsii* and a considerable variation in shades of pink as well as a pure white variety. No doubt many more hybrids will yet be made between various forms of these two species with the object of extending the colour range and form of flower.

To those of us who are interested in the distribution of shrubs it is evident that during the past few years *C. \times Williamsii* 'J. C. Williams' has rapidly grown in popularity and for the past two years it has been one of the best sellers among Camellias. I anticipate the cultivar 'Donation' will soon rival this position and a new cultivar which I have named 'Barbara Hillier' may surpass both. The growing popularity of *C. \times Williamsii* in its various forms is not a passing phase. An evergreen with such excellent qualities has come to stay. *C. \times Williamsii* requires conditions such as are congenial to other Camellias, namely a good rich acid or neutral soil, moist yet well drained; half shade is preferable, but full sun is tolerable provided the soil is not too dry. Many plants placed against a wall die within the first two years due to lack of moisture. As with other Camellias, spring frost on the

opening buds and flowers is the chief enemy and this is the primary matter to have in mind when choosing the position for planting. Camellias will benefit from liberal feeding, and there is nothing better than a good mulch of well decayed old farmyard manure mixed in equal quantity with well matured oak or beech leaf-mould.

Provided proper attention is given to the necessary cultural requirements, Camellias may be grown indefinitely in large pots or tubs. In gardens situated on shallow chalky soils, pot culture is the best method of growing Camellias, and provided the plants are regularly fed and properly cared for, they may be successfully watered with hard waters, especially if this is allowed to stand in a tank and become mellowed by introducing a sack of old cow manure. If grown in an unheated conservatory, care must be taken to plunge or otherwise protect the roots in the event of severe frost. A pot-grown plant especially if standing in a cold glasshouse on a stone floor will be more quickly killed by hard frost than if growing in the open ground.

C. × Williamsii 'J. C. Williams' **F.C.C.** 1942. The first cultivar of this hybrid to be described is intermediate in habit of growth and leaf between its parents. The flowers are 3 in. to 4 in. in diameter; petals usually 7 of good substance, dog-rose pink (R.H.S. colour chart Rose-Madder 23/3), oblong-ovate to obovate; stamens formed into a cylinder, united in their lower half; stigma equal to the longest stamens, often protruding beyond them. Leaves mat, not polished.

C. × Williamsii 'St. Ewe' **A.M.** 1947. Flowers Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625/1), about 3 in. across, with usually about 9 ovate to obovate emarginate petals; stamens crowded into a central cylindrical column about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. across and about 1 in. long; stigma protruding about $\frac{1}{8}$ in. beyond anthers; sepals orbicular ovate, imbricated, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long. Leaves ovate, cuneate, 2–2½ in. long, glossy on both surfaces, reticulate above, finely serrated, rigid and of hard texture favouring *C. saluenensis*; petiole $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long.

C. × Williamsii 'Mary Christian' **A.M.** 1942. Unfolding flowers somewhat trumpet-shaped, Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625), about the colour of *Cistus* 'Silver Pink', 2 in. to 3 in. across; petals—usually 7—elliptic-ovate to broadly ovate, inclined to obovate; sepals imbricated, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, broadly ovate to obovate; stamens crowded into a cylindrical mass about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. across and about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long; stigma usually shorter than stamens. Leaves 2½ in. to 4 in. long, 1½ in. to 2 in. wide; leaves dark dull green above, paler and more polished beneath; petiole $\frac{3}{8}$ in. to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long.

C. × Williamsii 'November Pink' **A.M.** 1951. Mr. CHARLES WILLIAMS kindly sent me notes on this cultivar but unfortunately I

have no flowering plants for comparison. The flowers are a bright cherry pink and at Caerhays it is the earliest *C. × Williamsii* to flower. In 1950 the first flowers opened on 3rd November, and there were still buds to come on 15th May of the following Spring. The flowers are of good shape and colour and the leaves favour *C. saluenensis* rather than *C. japonica*.

C. × Williamsii 'Charles Michael'. Of this form I have no flowering specimens, but Mr. CHARLES WILLIAMS, writing in the *R.H.S. Journal* of 1951, described it as the best pale pink, with the largest flowers of all the cultivars raised at Caerhays. He described the petals as longer and not quite so regular in size as some of the other forms and the flowers not so flat until fully opened, but he adds that the quality of the flower and the cleanness of the pink are the best of all.

C. × Williamsii 'Hiraethlyn'. Raised at Bodnant. The flowers are rather larger and usually with 2 extra petals, and perhaps when unfolding inclined to be a little more funnel-shaped than the cultivar 'J. C. Williams', with which in colour it appears identical. On the few flowers examined, the stigma is equal in length to the stamens, whereas in cultivar 'J. C. Williams' the stigma frequently protrudes beyond the stamens. The leaves usually are rather longer and narrower than those of cultivar 'J. C. Williams'.

C. × Williamsii 'Bartley Pink'. Bright cherry pink, decidedly bluish (Rose Madder H.C.C. 23/2), unfolding flowers campanulate, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, petals usually 5, ovate-oblong inclined to obovate, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long by 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide; stamens in a cylindrical mass, united in their basal half, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. across; stigma equal to or slightly shorter than the stamens; sepals orbicular-ovate with a silvery sheen. Leaf ovate to elliptic-ovate, closely and regularly serrated, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, 1 in. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, dark green above but not highly polished, paler and glossy beneath; petiole $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. long. This plant was raised by the late Mr. DALRYMPLE of 'The House in the Wood,' Bartley, Southampton.

C. × Williamsii 'Donation' A.M. 1941, F.C.C. 1952. This magnificent plant was raised at Borde Hill by the late Colonel STEVENSON CLARK, V.M.H., by pollinating *C. saluenensis* with the pollen of *C. japonica* 'Donckelarii'.

If one regards the cultivar 'J. C. Williams' as the type plant of this hybrid, then cultivar 'Donation' in its habit of growth and foliage is very nearly typical. On the average the leaves are perhaps rather narrower. The plant is best described as a semi-double 'J. C. Williams' and as such must be regarded as one of the finest Camellias raised during the present century. The flowers are a clear self pink, a little deeper than those of 'J. C. Williams', soft rose in bud, expanding deep peach

pink (Rose Madder H.C.C. 23/2). In the intermixture of petals, stamens and petaloids, the arrangement recalls *C. japonica* 'Lady Clare', but with fewer stamens, narrower petals and flowers not so large. Flowers vary from 3 in. to 4 in. across.

C. × Williamsii 'Barbara Hillier'. This plant originated as a seedling in a garden near Romsey, and was selected for its distinctive leaves and habit before the plant had flowered. The plant is more lax and open than most plants of this cross, with the leaves more distinctly spaced.

The flowers are a self satiny pink (Rose Madder H.C.C. 23/3 shaded 23/2), 4 in. to 5 in. across—the largest I have seen among the forms of *C. × Williamsii*—in size and quality recalling *Camellia reticulata*. In fact, the finder first suspected that species as being one of the parents. The flowers are a little deeper than the cultivar 'J. C. Williams'. In a cold house in 1953 the first flowers appeared on 20th October. There are usually six broadly ovate to obovate petals, each 2 in. to 3 in. long by $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. to 2 in. wide, cleft at the apex to a depth of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in.; stamens 1 in. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long united for about one-third their length, arranged in a cylindrical mass about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide; the stigma equal in length to the longest stamens; sepals broadly ovate to nearly orbicular-ovate, $\frac{5}{8}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch long, covered with short silky hairs, giving a silvery sheen. Leaves of firm, rigid texture, thus resembling *saluenensis*, which species it also follows in its small close serrations, but in width of leaf the *japonica* parent is noticeable. The leaves are flatter and less re-curved than those of 'J. C. Williams'. The leaves vary in size from $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. long and from $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $1\frac{7}{8}$ in. wide, petiole $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. long.

C. × Williamsii 'Francis Hanger' A.M. 1953. The cross which produced this attractive shrub was made at Wisley by Mr. FRANCIS HANGER early in the Spring of 1946. *C. japonica* 'alba simplex' × *C. saluenensis*. Flowers white, 3 in. across; petals, usually 9, broadly ovate to orbicular-ovate; stamens in a cylindrical mass about 1 in. long, united in their basal half (anthers rich yellow); stigma, three forked, more or less hidden by the longer stamens; sepals orbicular-ovate covered with a silky sheen. Leaves elliptic to broadly ovate, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. to 2 in. wide, coarsely crenate, dark green, glossy on both surfaces, especially above, thick and leathery, inclined to be revolute at the margin; the acuminate apex tapers to a blunt point, cuneate at base; petiole thick, $\frac{3}{8}$ in. to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. In its stout branchlets and heavy leaves this plant leans towards *C. japonica*.

C. × Williamsii 'Coppelia'. Reputed to belong to *C. × Williamsii* but the specimen kindly sent me from Exbury where the plant

was raised has every appearance of being a pure *C. japonica*. The flowers are nearly the colour of a Sweet Brier Rose (Carmine Rose H.C.C. 621/3, deepening to Carmine Rose H.C.C. 621/1 at edges of petals), more or less single with usually 8 petals; the stigma is prominent, being twice the length of the stamens. In formation the flower recalls *C. japonica* 'Yoibijn'.

C. × Williamsii 'Elizabeth Rothschild'. This is one of the several promising hybrids made at Exbury by Mr. HANGER when Head Gardener of that great home of so many first-class plants. I recall this variety as one of the really good *Williamsii* crosses with flowers 3 in. to 4 in. across, but unfortunately I have no flowering specimens by me as I write these notes. The leaf differs from variety 'J. C. Williams' in being glossy.

CAMELLIA × 'BORDE HILL HYBRIDS'

In January 1950 Mr. SEALY wrote me as follows:—

"I have not yet seen any material, wild or cultivated, which could be safely accepted as a hybrid between *C. reticulata* and *C. saluenensis*. The two species grow in the same geographical region in China, but all the wild collections, with one exception, belong definitely to one species or the other. The exception is a small piece with leaves more or less intermediate between the two species, but it could just as well be an aberrant form of either as a hybrid between them.

"We know that *C. saluenensis* crosses readily with *C. japonica*, but I am not satisfied that the reputed hybrids of *saluenensis* and *reticulata* raised in this country are, in fact, hybrids of those two species. There are a number of plants in cultivation grown from Forrest's seeds which do not agree with wild material, and cannot be placed satisfactorily. Yunnan is famous for the cultivation of Camellias, and it is possible that these odd plants may be of garden origin."

In spite of this pronouncement I still believe as the late Colonel STEVENSON CLARK, V.M.H. told me that his *C. 'Salutation'* is a hybrid between *C. reticulata* (garden form) and *C. saluenensis* and for the moment I suggest that the name *C. × 'Borde Hill Hybrids'* would be a convenient group name.

Camellia (Borde Hill Hybrids) 'Salutation' A.M. 1936. Flowers semi-double, about 15 in. across, in size and number of petals about equal to the garden form of *Camellia reticulata*, but of rather thinner texture: in colour a delightful soft, silvery pink (*Camellia* Rose H.C.C. 622/3); petals broadly ovate; stamens fairly conspicuous, usually confined to an expanse of 1½ in., intermixed with a few large petaloids.

Sepals broadly ovate to more or less orbicular, about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. Leaves ovate, lanceolate, acuminate, closely and finely serrated, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 4 in. long, petiole $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. long.

C. (Borde Hill Hybrids) 'Inamorata'. This plant was raised at Exbury by crossing *C. reticulata* wild form as introduced by GEORGE FORREST with *C. saluenensis*. The original plant when I saw it this Spring (1954) had died back to within a few inches of ground level but there was evidence of new growth from the base. This plant was described in the *J.R.H.S.* LXXIII, Part 9 : 283.

Camellia (Borde Hill Hybrids) 'Inspiration'. This attractive shrub was raised at Exbury by crossing the wild form of *C. reticulata* with *C. saluenensis*, and was given the **A.M.** on 16th March, 1954, when shown as a pot-grown plant. Flowers Phlox Pink (*H.C.C.* 625/1) semi-double, 3 in. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. Petals, usually about 18, obovate, shallowly emarginate, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, 1 in. to $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide. Stamens an irregular cluster often mixed with a few petaloids about 1 in. long; stigma inconspicuous, being of equal length with the stamens, forked from middle. Leaf $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, and $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, ovate, of firm but thin texture, glossy on both surfaces, acute or abruptly acuminate; petiole $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. long.

I wonder whether the exhibitor is correct in placing this plant as a *C. reticulata* hybrid and not as a *C. × Williamsii*. Assuming it does belong here, then I suggest the *C. reticulata* parent is the semi-double garden form.

CAMELLIA × 'CAERHAYS HYBRIDS'

As I write these notes I am faced with the fact that there is no adequate name to cover the progeny resulting from the cross between *C. cuspidata* and *C. saluenensis*. Therefore, until a botanist has described this hybrid, I propose the tentative group name 'Caerhays Hybrids'.

C. (Caerhays Hybrids) 'Cornish Snow'. I believe this plant was first raised by the late Mr. J. C. WILLIAMS. The unfolding buds are pink but open white; flowers somewhat campanulate, 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, petals 5, ovate inclined to obovate; central mass of stamens about $\frac{5}{8}$ in. across, rather less than half the length of the petals; stigma protrudes slightly beyond the stamens; sepals ovate acute, usually about $\frac{1}{3}$ in. long; flowers carried usually singly or in pairs in the leaf axils. Leaves lanceolate, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. to $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, acuminate, narrowly wedge-shaped, closely reticulate, dark green above, paler and more glossy beneath.

SOME HYBRID CAMELLIAS

C. (Caerhays Hybrids) 'Charles Michael'. Less pink in bud, flowers and leaves slightly larger.

C. (Caerhays Hybrids) 'Winton'. This delightful form is growing at Chandler's Ford. Flowers about $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. to 2 in. across, carmine in bud, opening almond pink. The other characters the plant shares in common with 'Cornish Snow'.

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY

by

Patrick M. Syngé

THE island of Colonsay is situated off the west coast of Argyllshire in Scotland and is just north-west of Islay and Jura. The cliffs on the western side of the island receive the full force of the Atlantic gales and provide nesting sites for multitudes of sea-birds such as Kittiwake gulls, Guillemots, Razor-bills and even many Fulmar petrels, while high up on the cliff face, the resident Golden Eagle has been known to nest. It is against this background of wild beauty that the gardens at Kiloran have been made by Lord and Lady STRATHCONA. Colonsay is situated well out into the Atlantic with no land between it and the coast of Labrador. In consequence it is much more exposed than the splendid gardens on Loch Fyne where Rhododendrons grow so well or even than the gardens at Inverewe or Brodick Castle on the Isle of Arran, which are well known for their Rhododendrons. From the little harbour on the relatively protected eastern side of the island one drives past loch and highland moors where the yellow Irises flower freely in June. There are few trees of any size and so it is an unexpected pleasure and surprise when one finds in a sheltered valley near the northern end of the island a mature woodland with large beech, planes and even oak trees, great masses of bluebells making a blue mauve carpet as thick as any I have seen and Rhododendrons planted along the edge of the road.

Shelter is the predominant need and an early shelter belt of *Rhododendron ponticum* has been reinforced by more recent plantings of Sitka Spruce, Larch, *Pinus radiata* (*P. insignis*), *Cupressus macrocarpa*, *Griselinia littoralis*, *Olearia macrodonta*, Escallonias and even Crinodendrons (*Tricuspidarias*) and Desfontaineas. Among these the *Griselinia* has proved one of the most successful. The Crinodendrons grow very well and have also made a good hedge and windbreak. Desfontaineas, grown as a hedge, have been less successful, and require protection after planting from wind and rabbits. Fuchsias grow very large and are hardly ever cut to the ground. Another plant which flourishes is the *Agapanthus* and these have become naturalized in a small grassy peninsula by one of the lochs near the centre of the island.

Even in spite of all this and of the naturally sheltered position of the



Photo. R. M. Adam]

FIG. 13.—Kiloran House, Colonsay, with Rhododendrons in foreground



Photo. R. M. Adam]

FIG. 14.—Kiloran House and woodlands showing site of Rhododendron plantings (*see* p. 25)



Photo, P. M. Syngé]

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY

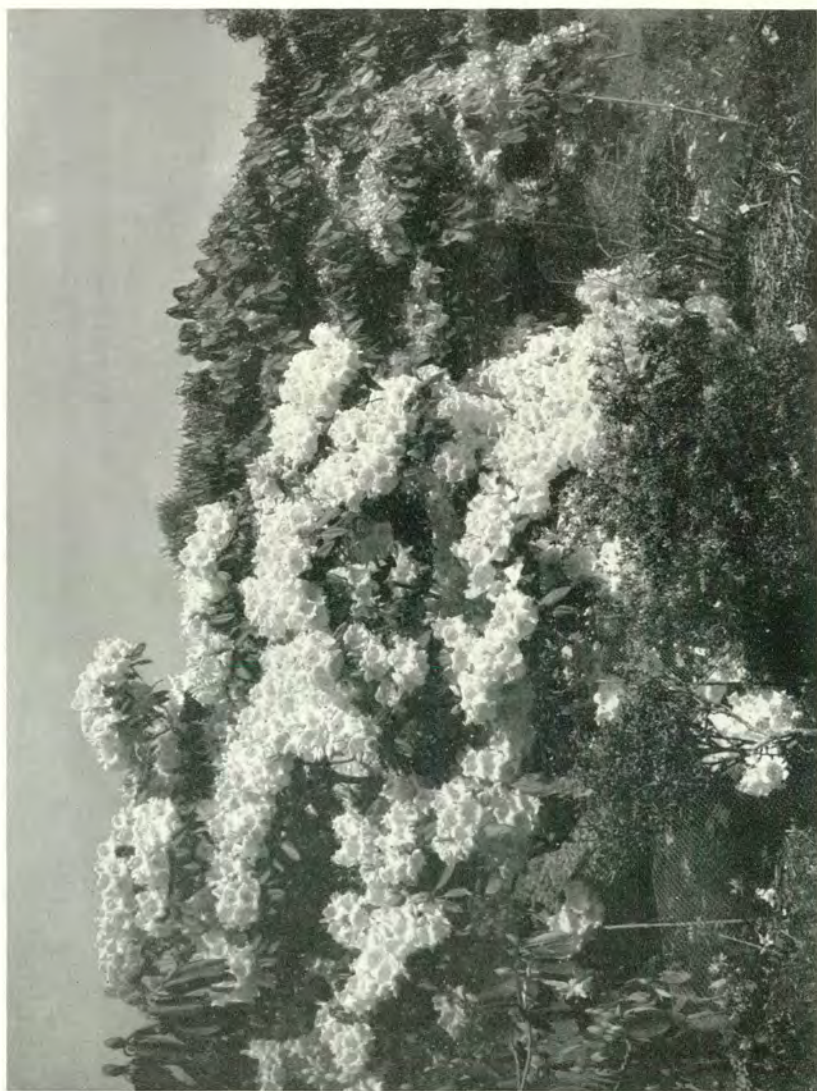
FIG. 15.—Kiloran House and part of the gardens and stream



Photo. R. M. Adam]

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY

FIG. 16.—A hedge of *R. desquamatum*



Photo, R. M. Adam]

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY
FIG. 17.—*Rhododendron* 'Loderi' 'Venus'

gardens, gales from the west and north west carrying salt spray have been known to defoliate large Rhododendrons almost completely. However, they are wonderfully resilient and the buds are seldom damaged so that next season the foliage will grow again. When first planted in exposed situations, it is necessary to secure many of the larger plants with slanting stakes or even guy ropes or wires to hold them firm against the wind.

For the west of Scotland the rainfall is not very high, averaging only about 47 in. in the year, but this is ample for a good growth of Rhododendrons, especially when combined with the natural atmospheric moisture of a relatively small island of which no part is more than two or three miles from the sea. Under the influence of the beneficent Gulf Stream the winter temperature is mild and the more tender Rhododendrons can be grown as long as they are given shelter. The water table throughout the valley is high, the soil peaty and in most places a hole that is dug and left quickly fills up with water. Rabbits are plentiful on the island and as elsewhere are a menace to young plants and growth. They seem especially addicted when hungry in cold weather to the young growth of *R. Grieronianum* and its hybrids (Figs. 13, 14).

The house, long, low and white, is placed at the top of a steep grass bank and at the foot of these are the oldest Rhododendrons in the garden, two large round bushes of *R. ponticum*, planted in 1902 by KING EDWARD VII and QUEEN ALEXANDRA when they visited the late Major-Gen. Sir JOHN MCNEILL, then owner of Colonsay. The main plantings, however, of Rhododendrons, shrubs and shelter belts were not begun till 1930 when the present Lord STRATHCONA, having inherited the property in 1926, returned from a Government job in India.

Valuable encouragement and contributions came then from Lord STRATHCONA's father-in-law, the late G. W. E. LODER (later 1st Lord WAKEHURST) and from his great friend, the late F. R. S. BALFOUR OF DAWYCK. In particular most of the big-leafed Rhododendrons came from these sources, as well as many other shrubs. Prior to 1930, the Dell (between the Pond and the House) and the woods near by were jungles, but they were gradually cleared, developed and planted (mostly with Rhododendrons only, owing to the depredations of rabbits).

Though there are many species the main interest is in Rhododendron hybrids and on brilliant effects and masses of strong colour. It is interesting to be able to compare the best hybrids from Exbury, Tower Court, Embley Park, Leonardslee, Bodnant, and other famous Rhododendron gardens. By intention a complete contrast has been

created to the surrounding blues, mauves and purples of the island landscape. Here is a great bank of 10-ft. bushes of *R. 'Tally Ho'*, a brilliant mass of orange-scarlet in late June, while earlier particularly noticeable were two large 4-ft. bushes of 'May Day' covered with their bright red flowers, well displayed against a rock. A bush of *R. venator* 4 ft. in height and 5 ft. through was flowering equally well, a great splash of strong scarlet-red. Particularly lovely in late June are the large bushes of those first-class hybrids 'Azor', 'Fabia' and 'Vanessa'. There is considerable variation in colour among the forms of 'Fabia' and very noticeable was an unusually brilliant one from Tower Court.

A small stream, which after a big storm is often converted into a raging torrent, runs through the garden and with the big outcropping rocks provides a natural setting of great beauty to the little valley where are the main Rhododendron plantings, while masses of luxuriant ferns, Bluebells, Primulas and Primroses and other wild flowers provide a pleasing contrast to the Rhododendron foliage and prevent the effect from becoming over heavy. Here under the shelter of the big rock is a tall 8-ft. high plant of the tender *R. Dalhousiae* with scented white flowers while *R. Scottianum*, an uncommon species of the Ciliicalyx sub-series, has grown well close by in a similar situation and reached 10 ft. in height. At the end of the Rhododendron plantings as they merge into the lawns a large Cordyline gives a decorative and slightly more formal note.

Beside the stream and partially sheltered by the rocks is a large tree of *R. Falconeri* 16 ft. in height and with a span of 10 ft., while close by *R. calophyllum* has made a large bush, widespreading and distinctive with its long narrow leaves overhanging the stream. Around it is a large group of *R. Griersonianum*, flowering well towards the end of June and backed by big plants of the old hybrid 'Purple Splendour', a combination which usually flowers together in the south of England, but at Colonsay seldom coincides since the 'Purple Splendour' tends to be over before the *Griersonianum* flowers. Here also is 'Cetewayo', one of the darkest purple of the old Waterer hybrids.

A large tree of *R. eximium* in the same part of the garden has reached 15 ft. in height and as much across and flowered well in 1954, while a form of *R. diaprepes* with enormous flowers, slightly flushed pink on the outside and very heavily scented was also in flower at the end of June. Even later and larger in flower is a flourishing plant from Tower Court of *R. diaprepes* 'Gargantua', still in fat bud at that time. Flowering much earlier is a large collection of the various forms of *R. 'Loderi'* and these have made very big plants. Among them is an

unusually good pink form which came as an unnamed seedling. A good plant of *R. Griffithianum* from Westonbirt also grows near here. The young growth of *Drimys aromatica* and its red coloured twigs make a pretty contrast to the heavier foliage of the Rhododendrons. Among other unusual species to be noted are *R. exquisitum*, a delightful shrub with glaucous foliage and pale lilac flowers, though perhaps hardly justifying the expectations of its name, and *R. hyperythrum* 8 ft. across and 4½ ft. high, perhaps the whitest of all Rhododendrons and here flourishing much more freely than it does in the drier conditions of Surrey where its leaves continually curl. Some of the older hybrids such as 'Countess of Derby' with its deep pink flowers make fine splashes of colour while the dark red 'Grenadier' ('Moser's Maroon' \times *Elliotii*) has here proved one of the best among the late flowering hybrids. The truss of flowers is a very large one and well shaped, while the slight spotting seems to accentuate the deep glowing colour. As a contrast there are some large 'Polar Bear' from Tower Court, perhaps the finest late flowering white hybrid yet raised. The pale creamy yellow 'Rima' (*croceum* \times *decorum*), also raised at Tower Court, has at Colonsay made a beautiful plant.

From Exbury have come 'Abbot' (*R. Thomsonii* \times *R. Delavayi*), flowering well towards the end of February and a very deep red in colour, while a little later 'Alix' (*R. Hookeri* \times *R. barbatum*) flowers with the same glowing red colour. *R. eriogynum* also does well here, and to be noted as well are 'Idealist' with pale creamy-yellow flowers in June and 'Souldis', a very good late hybrid with pale pink flowers raised from *R. Souliei* and *R. discolor*. The blue mauve 'Eleanore' does well and rivals for colour all but the very best forms of *R. Augustinii*. 'Dawn's Delight' is a fine early flowering old hybrid which provides good colour as does also *R. barbatum* \times *R. Griffithianum*, a good plant, 12 ft. high with pink flowers.

The rocks form a natural setting for plantings of the *malvatica* and Kurume hybrid Rhododendrons and in some cases they have grown so as to mould their shape complementary to that of the rocks and the wind has tended to keep them compact and low growing. One group of the pinkish-purple *malvatica* hybrid 'Mikado' several yards across and growing together as one plant against and over a rock at the edge of a large pond made an unusually attractive picture while a great mass of the white *R. mucronatum* flowering in early June was a fine sight. The flowering of Rhododendrons at Colonsay tends to be slightly later than the flowering of similar species in the south or west of England. Dwarf members of the Lapponicum series have also been planted freely and appear to be particularly suited to the situation.

Along the edge of the pond curving beds have been filled with the Exbury type of Azaleas, which make a brilliant splash of colour and among them are groups of early flowering species and hybrids such as *R. moupinense*, 'Bric-a-brac', 'Cilpinense' and *R. 'praecox'* and the varying forms of 'Tessa' raised at Tower Court from 'praecox' \times *moupinense* and surely one of the very best of the early flowering hybrids. In the comparatively mild winter climate of the west of Scotland these are seldom damaged by frost.

Hamamelis mollis is covered with its twisted yellow blooms at the same season, while in April some big plants of the deep red *R. Delavayi* flower. Tall trees of Eucalyptus, which have grown 40 ft. high in twenty years, provide a background while bushes of Fuchsia hang over the pond. Several Nothofagus have also been planted here. A group of three big trees of *Embothrium lanceolatum* which came from Wakehurst and are now 24 ft. in height carries on the brilliant colour when the Azaleas have dropped their flowers. They bloom very freely and are particularly lovely in the evening light against the large leaves of *Magnolia obovata* (*M. hypoleuca*) with its heavily scented flowers. Several young plants of *M. Dawsoniana* with its young foliage tinged a beautiful reddish brown are very promising, and young plants of *M. mollicomata* are also growing well. In the woodland *M. \times Veitchii* has flowered freely but a tree of *M. Campbellii* planted about eighteen years ago and now about 20 ft. in height has not yet flowered.

In 1938 Lord STRATHCONA opened up an adjacent little valley which was well sheltered and there he grows a number of the large leaved Rhododendrons which look well against the dark trees and big granite boulders of the sides of the valley. There is a series of the forms of *R. sino-grande*, varying considerably in leaf size and shape as well as in tightness of form of flower truss. The largest plants have reached a height of 16 ft. and 17 ft. in spread. It is difficult, however, in this situation to grow them so as to make tall trees and rather they tend to spread laterally and make large bushes while the strong winds destroy the top; however, this is perhaps no great disadvantage since then more of the large leaves and flowers are borne at eye level instead of being far above it. In 1954 the flowering of these *R. sinogrande* as well as of the other large leaved species was particularly fine (Fig. 18).

As well as *R. sinogrande* there are large plants of *R. Macabeaenum*, including a healthy young layer from a very fine deep yellow form (Fig. 19) which came from Mrs. MAGOR's garden at Lamellen in Cornwall and in an adjacent part has grown very well. Particularly lovely is the silver of the young growth. Plants from the second collection of this species (K.W. 1175) have not yet flowered though

they have reached a good size. In leaf the two forms seem quite distinct.

At the entrance to the valley are two large and very healthy trees of *R. Falconeri*, in June all rust-coloured in the sun from their young foliage, while *R. arizelum*, *R. basilicum*, *R. eximium* and *R. coriaceum* have also made large trees in this valley. *R. rex* and several forms of *R. fictolacteum* including ones raised from seed collected by Dr. ROCK have grown well. Among the largest and finest trees in the valley, however, are several of *R. 'Elsae'*, one of the best of the older large leaved hybrids and these are now 17 ft. in height and as much across. Young plants of *R. magnificum* and *R. giganteum* promise well and the leaves of a young plant of the Forrest form of *R. giganteum* measured 22 in. in length by 10 in. in width.

At the head of the valley as a *pièce de résistance* for the future has recently been planted a very healthy young plant of the F.C.C. form of *R. 'Fortune'* from Exbury and this should make a magnificent spectacle when it reaches flowering size. A carpeting of ferns and Primulas and Bluebells makes a useful foil to the blue-green of the big leaves. On the moss-covered boulders a number of seedlings from *R. sinogrande* and *R. 'Elsae'* and others have appeared. Among the ferns a number of smaller leaved species and hybrids with brilliant red flowers such as *R. neriiflorum* and *Thomsonii* hybrids have been planted to provide contrast of colour at flowering time.

In a second wood known as the Sawmill wood a number of hybrids have been planted and particularly noticeable here were the fine large pink flowers of 'Coronation Day'. *R. 'Susan'* with compact trusses of lavender mauve flowers has here made a big plant and is beautiful in flower, combining well with Mr. GEORGE JOHNSTONE's fine hybrid 'St. Probus' which has pink flowers. The very dark-flowered 'Queen of Hearts', one of the hybrids raised at Exbury from 'Moser's Maroon', may also be seen here.

A hedge of *R. 'Jacksoni'*, a very old hybrid, flowers very freely in mid April along one side of the drive while lower down is a large group of *R. desquamatum* which came from Tower Court and which has also grown as a hedge. The two groups flower in quick succession. On the other side of the drive a large tree of *R. arboreum* 'Sir Charles Lemon' is particularly noticeable for the strong rust colouring of its young growth and the under surface of its leaves.

Among those usually accounted tender a large plant of an unusually fine form of *R. crassum* has reached 7 ft. high and 6 ft. through and was flowering freely in June. This plant had been sent and grown under the name of 'Countess of Haddington' but was recently kindly identified

by Mr. Davidian of the Edinburgh Botanic Garden as a form of *R. crassum*, admittedly a very variable plant. The flowers are trumpet shaped and each flower measures 5 in. in length and 4 in. across the mouth. They are white inside and flushed pink on the outside and very fragrant. There were five or six flowers to a truss and it was as lovely as any flower in this richly endowed garden. Near it were large plants of *R. megacalyx* up to 12 ft. in height and *R. manipurens* nearly as large but these were not flowering this year. *R. 'Sesterianum'* had flowered earlier.

Since the war years the plantings have been continued and have now become very extensive. All plants have to be transhipped and brought ashore by ferry boat, no easy matter in rough weather, when spray can do serious and even fatal damage to plants, and it is recorded that on one such occasion the weekly consignment of cargo was referred to locally as 'nothing verra much but a d—d forest for his Lordship'.

The author is much indebted to Lord and Lady STRATHCONA for their help in the writing of this article and for their hospitality in the beautiful island of Colonsay.

HARDY HYBRID DECIDUOUS AZALEAS

THEIR EVOLUTION AND RANGE

by

G. H. Pinckney

THE improvement over the last thirty years in the hybrid Azalea has been most marked, especially in the Ghent varieties. Hybridists over the past hundred years have used almost a dozen species to evolve the plants that are now so popular in our gardens to-day.

RHODODENDRON JAPONICUM AND ITS HYBRIDS

Great confusion originally arose over the species known formerly as 'Azalea mollis' and 'A. sinensis'. Unfortunately, the name 'mollis' was applied both to the Japanese and the Chinese plant indiscriminately. Subsequently, botanists have sorted out the confusion and have now called 'A. mollis' (as known to nurserymen) *R. japonicum*, and 'A. sinensis' *R. molle*.

I consider that it is very difficult to say where *R. molle* begins and *R. japonicum* ends, and it may be advisable to place them all under one heading of 'molle-japonicum', as is so often done.

R. japonicum is in itself a fine plant with flowers 2 in. to 3 in. across, usually orange to orange-red, very hardy and of good upright growth. It is typical of the *mollis* race of Azalea and equally as good as many of the older-named *mollis* hybrids. Colours of these hybrids now range from almost white ('Snowdrift') through cream to yellow ('Mrs. L. J. Endtz') and again from pale pink ('Comte de Gomer') through rose to deep red shades ('J. C. Van Thol'). The flowers are broadly funnel-shaped and borne in trusses of 6/12 flowers. When growing under good conditions, the plants will attain 6 ft. and are particularly attractive, as they flower early in May before the foliage appears.

MOLLE-JAPONICUM HYBRIDS ('Azalea mollis' × 'sinensis')

The heading in brackets is familiar in many a nurseryman's catalogue for *R. japonicum* ('Azalea mollis') when crossed with *R. molle* ('Azalea sinensis') produced a set of hybrids mostly in shades of yellow

and reds, superior in form and size to their predecessors. The flowers were rather more open and rounded, and the plants in general were somewhat looser in habit and growth. Well-known varieties are 'Anthony Koster' (yellow), 'Emilie Liebig' (salmon), 'Brilliant Red' (red), 'Hugo Koster' (orange), 'Mrs. Oliver Slocock' (orange-yellow, spotted).

The Dutch were largely responsible for this breeding and for the improvement in the size of flower and colour range, and developed a large trade in plants for forcing, besides general garden cultivation.

Flowering before the Ghents in May they give one of the earliest and brightest displays of colour to be seen in the Azalea garden.

RHODODENDRON OCCIDENTALE HYBRIDS

R. occidentale is the parent of a very lovely race of hybrids comprising some half dozen varieties, but since these have been raised little seems to have been done in increasing their range. Whether this is due to the fact that as a race they do not set seed with their own pollen, or to other causes, I cannot say. Varieties such as 'Bridesmaid' (pure white with a yellow eye), 'Delicatissima' (creamy white flushed pink) and 'Superba' (cream suffused apricot) are some of these, and all are beautiful plants of robust growth.

The yellow blotch typical of *R. occidentale* persists in the hybrids, and the funnel-shaped flowers 2-3 in. across, 6 to 12 in a truss and often in tight clusters, develop with the foliage, giving the plant a light pleasing effect. They are strong, compact growers, attaining up to 8 ft. in height.

GHENT AZALEAS

Commonly known as the honeysuckle azalea, the flowers—as opposed to those of *R. japonicum*—are deeply funnel-shaped, usually small, 1-2 in. across, and quite often sweetly scented. The beginnings of this Group were at first centred in Belgium and have been evolved by the use of such species as *Rhododendron luteum*, *R. calendulaceum*, *R. nudiflorum*, *R. canescens* and *R. cumberlandense*.

From *R. nudiflorum* and *R. canescens* we get the blends of pink and white. From *R. calendulaceum* we get orange and orange-reds. *R. luteum* gives us the yellows and creams and it is probable that the deeper coloured forms of *R. cumberlandense* and *R. calendulaceum* are responsible for the deeper reds.

The influence of *Rhododendron nudiflorum* and *R. canescens* is seen in such old varieties as 'Cottage Maid', 'Daviesii', 'Felix Deschamps' etc., while *R. calendulaceum* is prominent in the well-known 'Coccinea



Photo, R. M. Adam]

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY

FIG. 18.—*R. sino-grande* on 27th April, 1954 (see p. 28)



Photo. R. M. Adam]

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY

FIG. 19.—*Rhododendron Macabeaeanum* (see p. 28)



Photo. R. M. Adam]

FIG. 20.—*Rhododendron sinogrande* (see p. 28)

RHODODENDRONS AT COLONSAY



Photo. R. M. Adam]

FIG. 21.—(Left) *R. Macabeumum*, (right) *R. fulvum*

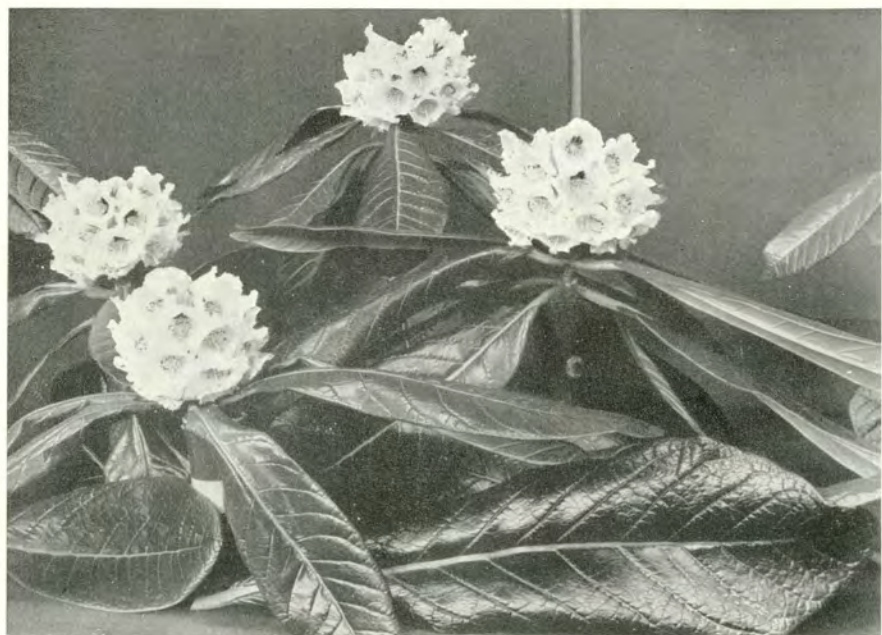


FIG. 22.—The longest leaf in the *R. sinogrande* exhibit



Photos. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 23.—An interesting form of *R. sinogrande* with a markedly bullate leaf

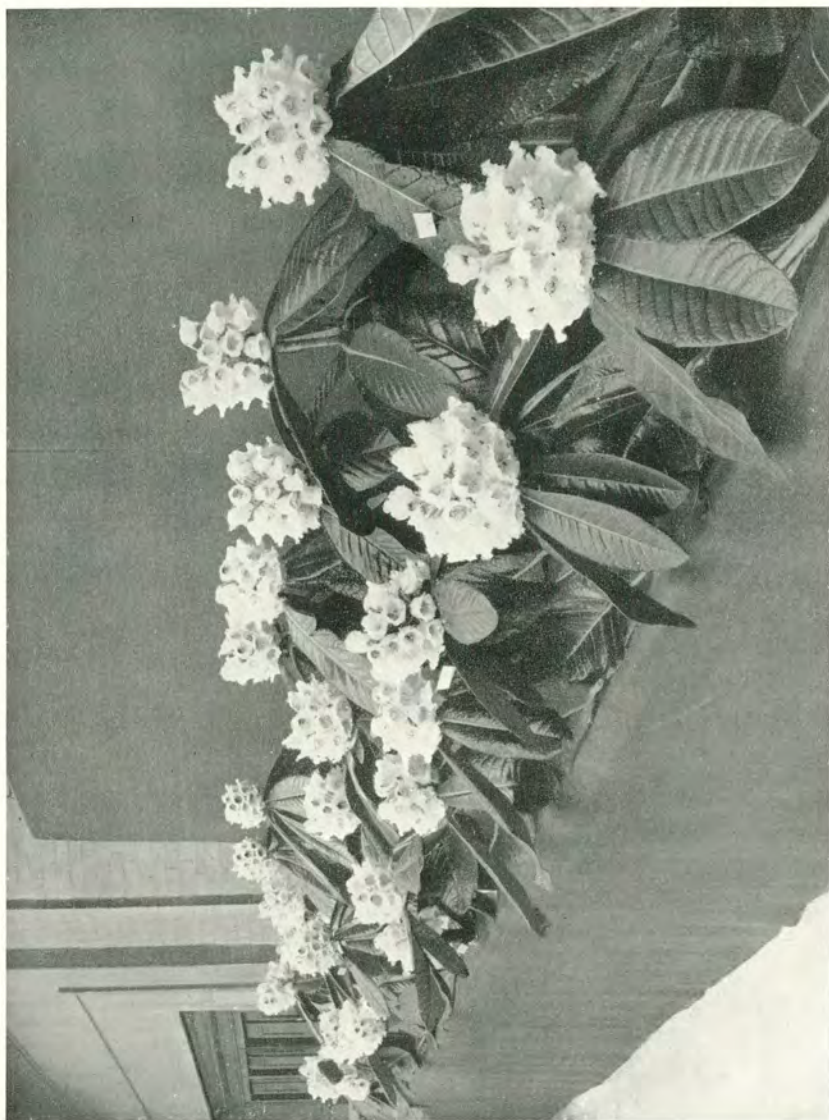


Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 24.—A Silver-gilt Lindley Medal was awarded to R. Olaf Hambro, Esq., for this exhibit of forms of *R. sinogrande* from Logan, Stranraer



Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 25.—*Rhododendron Macabe anum*. Exhibited by the Earl of Stair at the Rhododendron Show on 4th May, 1954 (see p. 53)

speciosa', 'Gloria Mundi', 'Decus Hortorum', 'Emma', 'Oscar 1st', 'Ignea nova', etc. *R. luteum* shows its influence in such varieties as 'Chromatella', 'Vesta', 'plumosa', etc.

The deeper reds such as 'Prince Henri de Pays Bas', 'Pallas', 'Geant de Batailles', 'Josephine Klinjer' and 'Sang de Gentbrugge' were probably derived from the deeper coloured *R. calendulaceum* and forms of *R. cumberlandense*, which species was often confused with *R. calendulaceum*.

Other breeders in this country have been hybridizing and working on this group and some of the results of their efforts are seen in such varieties as 'Nancy Waterer', 'Unique', 'Buttercup' and 'Orangeman' in the yellows, 'Bouquet de Flore', 'Thisbe' and 'Proteus' in the pinks, 'Prince Henri de Pays Bas', 'Vulcan' and 'Satan' in the reds and 'Orpheus', 'William III' and 'Tangerine' in the reddish orange shades.

These older Ghents, though not so late in flower as their successors, are perhaps more prolific and, if anything, more reliable in giving a fine show of bloom each year.

DOUBLE GHENT AZALEAS

This race raised in Belgium over a hundred years ago, mainly from *R. luteum* and *R. nudiflorum*, gives us some extremely attractive small double-flowered varieties. These plants, once so popular with our forefathers, have tended to drop out of cultivation during the past thirty years. Now that their merits of long lasting flowers, absence of seed heads and freedom of flower are once more being recognized, public demand for this section of Azaleas is on the increase. As a pointer, at a recent group meeting of the Rhododendron and Camellia Committee of the R.H.S., a First Class Certificate was awarded to the very old variety of 'Narcissiflora', a very free flowering double yellow, which has been in our gardens over fifty years. Other varieties which might be thought worthy of the same distinction are 'Norma' (bright rosy red), 'Phidias' (rose and cream) and also 'Homebush' (deep carmine).

THE KNAP HILL STRAIN

In about 1850, the late ANTHONY WATERER of Knap Hill, Woking took an interest in hybridizing Azaleas. He began using some of the best of the Ghent Azaleas available at that time with selected forms of *R. calendulaceum* and *R. molle*. Selected seedlings from these matings were again hybridized with *R. occidentale* and some of the *molle* × *japonicum* hybrids. He thus laid the foundation of the Knap Hill strain of Azaleas. Further crosses showed still greater improvement,

resulting in a race of plants giving increased size of flower and an extended range of colour. Many of these plants have their young foliage tinted bronze. This bronze tint in young foliage can also be seen in seedlings of 'Azalea pontica' and Azalea 'aurea grandiflora' ('Altaclarens'), thus showing the influence of these plants in this strain. The autumn colouring of the foliage before leaf fall is also very fine in the majority of these hybrids.

The exact parentage of these hybrids was a jealously guarded secret, and consequently few of these plants were distributed in ANTHONY WATERER's lifetime. However, the work of raising and improving these Azaleas was still carried on in succeeding generations, and there is now a fine race of plants of this strain. A selection from the Knap Hill varieties could include, in the paler shades:

¹ (M)	'Buzzard'	Straw Yellow
(E)	'Lapwing'	Creamy Yellow
(M)	'Persil'	White

In the brighter orange and orange-red shades:

(M)	'Golden Eagle'	Intense orange
(M)	'Gwyneth'	Rich Orange
(E)	'Redshank'	Orange Red

and in the yellow shades:

(M)	'Harvest Moon'	Pale sulphur, self
(M)	'Knap Hill Yellow'	Canary Yellow
(E)	'Marion' × 'Merriman'	Yellow with conspicuous Orange blotch

¹ E = Early, M = Mid-season, ML = Mid-season-late, L = Late.

THE EXBURY STRAIN

Around 1922, the late LIONEL DE ROTHSCHILD bought a selection of these hybrids from the Knap Hill Nursery and at once began hybridizing on a fairly large scale. It was by intercrossing the best of those obtained from Knap Hill and also using the best of the *occidentale* hybrids and *R. japonicum* and *molle* × *japonicum* hybrids in his crossings, that again produced such a marked improvement.

The flowers are now doubled in size and vary from 2½ in. to 4 in. across. In many varieties the flat open petals are recurved and in some instances frilled along the edges. Loose trusses, often borne in clusters of remarkable size, have a richness and brilliance of colour, as well as a wide range not elsewhere to be seen. A notable feature of some of the varieties in this strain is the tendency of 'doubling', that is, for some

of the stamens to become petal-like. This tendency is being exploited and we can look forward to some large double-flowered forms appearing that will eclipse the older double types of Ghent Azaleas.

The flowering period covers from late May to the third week in June and, typical of the Ghents, foliage and flower usually open together. Many take on beautiful autumn tints and the red and deep orange varieties especially, develop attractive bronze foliage even in the spring.

Without doubt, they are the finest deciduous azaleas in the world.

A lovely plantation of fully-grown seedling bushes—representative of almost the whole colour range—can be seen to great advantage in a beautiful setting in the gardens of Windsor Great Park.

It is worth noting that the deeper the shade of red, the smaller the flower. Such intense reds, as in 'Satan', are not found in any other race and this variety has the added distinction of flowering one of the latest of them all.

Named varieties, propagated vegetatively, have already been exhibited at our shows and many selected for trial at the R.H.S. Gardens at Wisley. These can be obtained from several Nurserymen, who have also been hybridizing on similar lines.

A selection of some of the most outstanding varieties are as follows:

In paler shades:

(L)	'Basilisk'	Cream, Yellow blotch
(L)	'Crinoline'	White, frilled
(E)	'Exbury White'	White
(E)	'Silver Slipper'	White, Pink flush, Yellow blotch

In the yellow shades:

(L)	'George Reynolds'	Deep Yellow
(ML)	'Golden Sunset'	Light Yellow, Orange blotch
(L)	'Sun Chariot'	Buttercup Yellow (one of the deepest Yellows)

In the orange and reddish-orange shades:

(M)	'Coronation Lady'	Salmon, suffused Orange
(EM)	'Eisenhower'	Fire Red, Orange blotch
(EM)	'Glowing Embers'	Saturne Red, Orange blotch
(M)	'Gibraltar'	Nasturtium Red
(E)	'Rocket'	Light Orange, suffused

In the pink shades:

		Salmon Red
(M)	'Cecile'	Salmon Pink, very large flowers
(M)	'Debutante'	Light Carmine Pink
(EM)	'Pink Ruffles'	Carmine Rose, deep Orange eye
(EM)	'Strawberry Ice'	Neyron rose

All the blood that went into making this strain is not known, but there is evidence that *R. calendulaceum*, *R. japonicum*, *R. molle*, *R. nudiflorum*, *R. occidentale* and *R. luteum* were all used and it would be hard to imagine a more complicated set of hybrids.

With all this complex background, it is surely sadly misleading and against all the recognized conceptions of nomenclature to find lists published by both amateur and professional growers, offering *seedlings* under the names and descriptions of their female parents. Individual plants under such name may therefore vary very widely.

Admittedly, the progeny of some few varieties conform more closely to their female parents, but this is the exception rather than the rule. The greater proportion throw a wide range of colour and form among which even *japonicum* types can be found.

Vegetative propagation will, I think, always appeal to the discriminating gardener, more expensive though the plants may be, as he can then be certain of getting the particular variety he fancies.

CONCLUSION

No group of shrubs has greater beauty, nor more intense a colour range, and all those who enjoy a lime-free soil should not miss the opportunity of planting even a few in their gardens.

They are extremely hardy, require little care and are not costly to maintain. Azaleas are long-lived and it is therefore worth while installing a collection to include a nucleus of the most up-to-date varieties which will grow into an ever-increasing source of pleasure as the seasons come around.

CAMELLIAS

AT THE VILLA TARANTO

by

Neil McEacharn

THE climate of Lake Maggiore is perfect for Camellias and there are large specimens in the gardens of many villas. In most years there is no rain during the flowering season and late frosts are unusual, so the blooms do not get damaged. There is a large and varied collection of Camellias in the gardens of Villa Taranto. Many of the plants are about 20 ft. high and nearly as big in circumference. They are fine old bushes of varieties of *C. japonica*, which were transplanted from a nursery I bought and which is now incorporated in the gardens. So far only a few of these Camellias have been identified and these are:

Adolphe Audusson

alba plena

Alfredo Otero

anemonaeflora

anemonaeflora var. Warratah

Aspasia

Contessa Calvini

Dryade

Eugene Messina

fimbriata

incarnata

Kelvingtoniana

La Pace

Paolina Maggi

Many years ago there was a famous nursery at Pallanza called Fratelli Rovelli, but it was closed soon after the first World War. For about a hundred years this nursery imported many rare plants from China and Japan, including a vast collection of Camellias. I understand that the early catalogues listed some hundreds of named varieties but unfortunately these catalogues no longer exist. I have one which was published just before the nursery closed but this does not help one as only a few Camellias are listed. I should think that our old plants, some of which are certainly eighty years old, originally came from this source. There are among the unidentified ones some very interesting and beautiful plants, as for example a semi-pendulous form with large, semi-double carmine flowers.

I have also a great many Camellias bought in 1947 from nurseries near Genoa. These are now about 5 ft. high and flower well. They were named by the nurseries after well-known people such as Stalin,

Mussolini, or towns like Tokyo, but such names, of course, have no standing. They are all old varieties of *C. japonica*.

When I was in Australia during the last war I bought over a hundred varieties of *C. japonica* and many forms of *C. Sasanqua*. Mr. HAZELWOOD, of Epping, N.S.W., kindly kept these for me and had them shipped to Italy as soon as possible after the war. After a long sea voyage these plants arrived in perfect condition and we only lost one. They are growing rapidly and last year they flowered profusely. This year several of them are not flowering but are putting on good growth. I think the outstanding *japonica* varieties among them are:

The Czar. Very large, semi-double crimson.

Mrs. Bell. Pure white.

Great Eastern. Large, showy, semi-double crimson.

Edith Linton. Semi-double silvery pink.

Isabella. Pure white.

Alexander Hunter. Semi-double, crimson, golden stamens.

Mrs. Swan. Semi-double, bright salmon pink.

Prolific. Semi-double, bright rose.

Ruth Kemp. Semi-double, light rose.

Spencer's Pink.

When Professor G. Waterhouse was staying with me some time ago, he identified a big plant here as 'Spencer's Pink' and it appears to be the same as the one I brought from Australia. Many of the Camellias in Australia originally came from Italy. What 'Spencer's Pink' was called in Italy I have not been able to discover.

I have a great many small Camellia plants sent to me by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and other friends. These are all growing well and most of them flower when quite young. 'Byram Seedling' is very fine and worthy of a place in any garden. 'Lady Adilaun', 'Lady Belmore', 'Lady Vansittart' and 'Lady Vere de Vere' are all very beautiful and grow fairly fast. Before leaving *C. japonica* I should like to mention that they all flower profusely and most of the single and semi-double varieties are covered with handsome fruits in autumn, which gives them an extra value. Large quantities of fertile seeds are produced and self-sown seedlings are found throughout the gardens.

In these gardens Camellias grow in full sun, in semi-shade and in full shade. They will, in fact, thrive in any position. The severe cold of our winters has never hurt the large or medium size specimens but during one particularly bad winter some of the very small ones were damaged and lost most of their leaves. Our soil is completely lime-free and the only manuring we give our Camellias is an annual top dressing

of a mixture of rotted leaves and old, well decayed manure. We never prune our plants in any way.

Camellia Sasanqua, which commences to flower here at the end of September and continues until late February, is a great feature. I should think we have over a hundred. Some are plants about 18 ft. high. They vary very much in habit, leaf and flower and it is difficult to believe they really are all forms of *C. Sasanqua*. Most of them are single but we have one form with small, double white flowers. In size the individual blooms vary from 2 in. to 5 in. in diameter; several have fringed edges to their petals and the number of petals per flower greatly varies between one variety and another. The colour of the blooms includes white, pink, white tinged pink, cream and red. Most of these plants came from Japan before the war; a few were bought locally and about a dozen came from Australia. They are all perfectly hardy and the flowers are rarely damaged even by the winter rain and snow. They grow fairly fast and do not mind where they are planted. Their habit is much looser and more open than *C. japonica*. *C. Sasanqua* is a most satisfactory shrub in every respect. Seeds are freely produced and seedlings are often used as stock on which to graft varieties of *C. japonica*. The flowers of *C. Sasanqua* are scented but I do not care for the perfume.

The following *Camellia* species are also growing in these gardens. A big plant of *C. cuspidata* died during the war and we now only have small plants, but these will soon be planted out. This is a native of W. China with white erect flowers. Three plants of *C. hongkongensis* were received from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, some years before the war but they disappeared. A few years ago I obtained some seed from the Botanic Gardens at Hongkong but it did not germinate. A second lot germinated well and we had about thirty young plants which flourished until they were 6 in. high. They then remained stationary and we tried many kinds of soil and various treatment but nothing would induce them to put on fresh growth. I was told that they required soil from the place in Hongkong where they grow naturally and some of this was sent to me by air. The young seedlings were planted in this but still did not improve. A few still exist in pots. They never grow; only just exist. It is evidently a most difficult *Camellia*—I wonder if it is worth so much trouble. More seed arrived this year, so we are having another try. The flowers are most attractive, small but a fine deep red.

I have mentioned some of our varieties of *C. japonica* and I understand I have the true species, or one which is very near to it. It is a single pink. *C. maliflora* grows into fine plants here up to 10 ft. high.

Its small, double, rose coloured flowers are produced in great profusion in April and it really is a delightful plant. Its upright, compact habit is most attractive. *C. oleifera*, which resembles *C. Sasanqua*, has a stiff habit and is said to go up to 25 ft. in a wild state in China. The plants here, which came from Japan in 1938, are now only 5 ft. high.

I have plants of *C. reticulata* about 4 ft. high bought after my return to Italy in 1946. They look healthy and flower well but we suspect it of being less hardy than most of the other Camellias. I also have a small plant of the wild *C. reticulata* but so far have not got the new forms which one reads about. *C. rosaefflora* resembles *C. maliflora* but has single pink flowers. We only have small plants of *C. saluenensis*, our big specimens having died during the war. *C. Sasanqua* I have mentioned before.

C. sinensis (Syn. *Thea sinensis*, *C. thea*, *C. theifera*, *C. bohea*) is a handsome shrub which grows well here. One plant over 10 ft. high and almost as much through blooms very freely and always produces an abundance of small, dull white fragrant flowers, followed by masses of seed. It is perfectly hardy. As everyone knows, this plant is the source of the tea of commerce and has been cultivated in China for hundreds of years. Our plants of *C. taliensis* were not found when I returned here in 1946. What happened to them I do not know. So far I have not replaced them but intend to do so as they were growing so well here. *C. × vernalis* (*C. japonica* × *C. Sasanqua*) came from Japan in 1939. It is still a small plant with flowers which are white tinged with pink.

The Camellias I should advise owners of gardens to obtain are as follows: *C. japonica* 'Magnoliaeflora', 'Elegans', 'The Czar', 'anemonae-flora Warratah', 'alba plena', 'Beauté de Nantes' and *C. × Williamsii*, 'J. C. Williams' and 'Mary Christian'. Of the species, *C. reticulata*, *C. maliflora* and *C. Sasanqua* are great favourites of mine.

Camellias are certainly among the most hardy of our evergreen shrubs here and have proved remarkably good all round plants. They stand the hot summers in full sun; they resist the cold winters and the lashing winds. In 1953 when we had a drought from 28th October until 14th April they never suffered in spite of the fact that we were unable to water them as in winter our reservoir and water system is emptied because of the frost. That winter I lost many plants which are usually considered perfectly hardy, but not one Camellia. Do you wonder that I consider it one of our most reliable genera?



Photo, 'Amateur Gardening']

CAMELLIAS AT THE VILLA TARANTO

FIG. 26.—A fine tree of *Camellia japonica* 'alba grandiflora' at the Villa Taranto is one of many old specimens of Camellias (see p. 37)



Photo, "Amateur Gardening"]

FIG. 27.—Camellias with flowering Cherries and Magnolias make a beautiful spring display at the Villa Taranto



Photos. 'Amateur Gardening'.

FIGS. 28, 29.—Two young plants of *Camellia japonica* showing the very large flowers and the quantity of bloom which is typical of Camellias at the Villa Taranto. *C. japonica* 'Gloire de Nantes' on the right



FIG. 30.—A fine specimen plant of *Rhododendron occidentale* in the park figured below

RHODODENDRON OCCIDENTALE



Photos, Dr. Edward P. Breakey]

FIG. 31.—*Rhododendron occidentale* in Azalea State Park, Brookings, Oregon
(see p. 41)

RHODODENDRON OCCIDENTALE

by

Leonard F. Frisbie and Dr. Edward P. Breakey

RHODODENDRON occidentale is native to the far western United States. Its distribution is limited to south-western Oregon and to numerous sections of California. Coos, Curry, Douglas, Josephine and Jackson counties in Oregon have the greatest concentrations, and a very few are found in Klamath County. There are rather heavy concentrations in Del Norte, Siskiyou and Shasta counties in northern California. Sonoma County and the Mt. Tamalpais area in Marin County are populous areas also.

Records for about 500 plants have been located by the Tacoma *Rhododendron occidentale* Survey. These include plants observed both in the field and herbarium specimens, and a very interesting pattern of distribution has developed. Hugging the Pacific Coast beginning north of Bandon, Coos County, Oregon, and running south through California to the southern boundary of Santa Cruz County, is a heavily populated belt that is perhaps 50 miles wide and approximately 700 miles long. A scattered few centres are found down through central California to San Benito County. A broader inland belt seems to begin below Roseburg, Douglas County, Oregon, and runs south to Fresno County, California. Apparently this belt is less populous than the one that follows the coast, but it does cover some very high territory, and plants are found in the Sierra Nevada Mountains from 6,000 to over 9,000 ft.

From Fresno County there is a long jump with no records of plants until Riverside County where a considerable population occurs in the San Jacinto Mountains. Plants are also found in the Cuyamaca and Palomar Mountains of San Diego County which borders on Mexico. These are island populations that depend on altitude for coolness and springs for almost constant moisture. Surrounding these island centres is some of the most arid of California's semi-desert lands, yet Douglas fir and other normal companion plants are found growing there also. These could well be remnant populations of *R. occidentale* left in favourable situations while the connecting populations succumbed to changes in southern California climate. That is a speculation yet to be verified.

Naturally, when a single species follows such a wide and varied distribution pattern, it presents a complicated problem for the student. There is considerable evidence to indicate that this western azalea naturally prefers a situation where the soil remains moist most of the year. Along the coast belt it is found rimming the edges of swamps and bogs, and along natural drains and gullies that carry away water from springs. In south-western Oregon the species often follows along low river banks. In the far southern sections of California, Riverside and San Diego counties, springs and altitude provide situations that are favourable. In a number of instances spring overflow from lakes provides a continuously moist situation. Plants were also found on steep hillsides in Oregon where winter rains apparently provide the only available moisture, the summers being hot and dry.

The species seems to thrive best in moist situations, where there is an absence of extreme summer heat. The brilliant and varied colours, the lush growth and the large flowers are found where such conditions prevail, and that means the coastal sections where the Pacific Ocean is never far away, and the relative humidity is almost always high.

Rhododendron occidentale is a variable species, young and dynamic, and field studies reveal no evidence of maturity or rigidity. There is some evidence that *R. occidentale* is not overly strong in biotic potential, however, many plants were observed that showed no signs of having set seed the previous year. Some very few plants were seen with fragile styles that were bent and broken and incapable of fertilization. While volunteer seedlings were very prevalent among some colonies, yet this was not consistently true in all undisturbed areas. Many plants do set seeds heavily, yet the pattern of prolific reproduction is by no means constant. While the variation between individuals is considerable, it is not so extreme as to justify a separation into numerous species, although some effort has been made to identify varieties. A thorough field survey may show that even this distinction is not valid. Fortunately, there is no other native *Rhododendron* species in the territory except *R. albiflorum* and *R. macrophyllum*, the evergreen species. The latter species is often found associated with *R. occidentale*, yet the two species naturally prefer different immediate situations so they are not nearly so contiguous as it might seem. Natural hybrids between the two do occur, however, and they are readily identifiable because of their intermediate character. No crosses with *R. albiflorum* are known.

Variation in the flowering season is a marked and valuable characteristic of *R. occidentale*. Some individuals flower in very early spring, others in late summer. One of the 1954 projects of the Survey is to record the flowering period in the coastal areas of Curry County,

Oregon. Observations are being made at two-week intervals, and the first report came on 15th March. The first report of a plant in flower came on 20th April and individual plants in large numbers flowered all through May and June. On 4th July some one hundred plants were observed in flower. Subsequent observations revealed first-class continuous flowering to 15th August. Herbarium sheets of each report are being prepared by Oregon State College at Corvallis and the University of Oregon at Eugene. Thus at the season's end we have an authentic record of the flowering habits of this species during 1954 in a specific locality.

Flower sizes will vary in the species from $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. to 3 in. across. The lobes of the small flowers are narrow and are enfolded lengthwise. In the larger sizes the flowers tend to be wide open and flat. Often there is a slight ruffling of the edges, and a single example of definite crinkling has been found. With slight variation the tube is $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, and stamens are greatly extruded. There is a definite fragrance. The pistil usually slightly exceeds the length of the stamens.

Variation in flower colour is extreme. Invariably there is a blotch of some shade of Indian yellow. One group is practically colourless with the exception of a very pale blotch. This can be considered as the white group, and some individuals are very attractive. Another group has strong Indian yellow as the dominant colour. Rarely a pale yellow corolla is found, but usually the colour comes from a large and prominent blotch of a deep shade, along with yellow buds. A third group has carmen rose as the dominant colour. In this group the blotch may be pale or deep in colour, but from 60 to 75 per cent of the corolla area is pink. A few individuals were found with buds that were a deep and dusky red, cardinal red 822/1. The back of the corolla was cherry red 722, while the pink in the face of the corolla was carmen rose 621. The new foliage and stems of such plants were dark reddish also. These were colourful and striking shrubs.

In considering the colour of *R. occidentale* the buds are important. Unlike many rhododendrons, all of the flowers in the truss are never fully open at the same time. The lower buds in the truss are the first to open, and flowers from these will be faded and gone before the more backward buds in the centre open, so the colour of these unopened buds often adds materially to the beauty of the flowering.

The foliage of *R. occidentale* is usually oblanceolate, although extremes are occasionally found, such as linear, elliptic, obovate or lanceolate. Pubescence in dry situations tends to be sparse and strigose. Where humidity is high it is pilose and plentiful. Margins of the leaves are ciliate. Rarely is the foliage glabrous when mature.

Growth habit tends to a mounded form, with flowers and foliage from the ground up. However, at least one low growing form that does not exceed 3 ft. is known. Upright growth is sometimes found, and rarely is a very lax habit observed. Maximum height observed ran from 12 to 15 ft. A devastating forest fire ravaged the south-western Oregon coast country some fifty years ago, so this may not be a reliable indication of maximum height.

THE PREPARATION OF A VIRGIN WOOD FOR RHODODENDRONS

by

T. H. Findlay

FORTUNATE indeed is he who is able to start from scratch in a wood and to plant a collection of Rhododendrons.

The ideal wood would be one of some acres in extent which contained mixed hardwoods and was preferably protected from the north and east. It must, of course, have a lime-free soil.

Virgin woodland is usually much too shaded for planting Rhododendrons and other woodland plants; therefore the first task would be the removal of unwanted trees.

The thinning of the wood needs careful planning and a great deal of thought is necessary before any trees are felled. It may well repay a hundredfold to walk through your wood several times during the summer before the thinning begins. In this way you come to know how much shade and light there is at different times of the day and thus decide which trees it would be well to remove.

The oak, in my opinion, is the finest tree for retaining in a Rhododendron woodland and the sycamore probably the worst. A few beech and birch, although robbers of the ground, are valuable for the contrast in leaf and twig formation.

Rhododendrons like to be free of north and east winds and prefer above all else a position of dappled shade. They can be planted close to the roots of oaks but will not thrive, however, unless given plenty of room overhead.

It is well to remember when thinning your wood that places should be made for other trees such as Magnolias, Cherries and Sorbus, which will provide added interest and beauty and act as a natural complement to the Rhododendrons. These trees, when grown as standards, can be planted quite close to the Rhododendrons, to provide extra shade.

After thinning and removing all unwanted scrub, the next item to consider should be the making of paths. It is a matter of individual taste whether they should be broad grass glades or narrow tracks, but my ideal path is at least 6 ft. wide—better still 8 ft.—and winds

in gentle curves through the wood. To achieve a natural appearance, shape the path with the natural soil at hand and allow it to moss over.

It is a great asset to have an ample water supply and this is best installed when the paths are being formed. It is convenient if the water mains can be confined to the paths, with connexions at frequent intervals. Any repairs or renewals can then be effected without disturbing the planting.

Rhododendrons will grow freely on any lime-free soil, providing one or two simple rules are followed. Rule One should be the thorough preparation of the ground before planting. Too much emphasis cannot be laid on the initial preparation. If planting your Rhododendrons in beds, the beds should be trenched, incorporating a good quantity of humus in the form of leaf soil or peat as work proceeds, and removing all tree roots and other rubbish. As Rhododendrons are truly surface-rooting plants, extra humus should be mixed with the top 12 in. of your trenched soil. The surface after trenching should be left as rough as possible. The rough tilth serves two purposes; first to collect any rain that falls and secondly to collect fallen leaves, thus forming a natural mulch.

If it is not practicable to trench your beds before planting, a satisfactory compromise may be made by making large pot-holes for each plant. A hole two or three times the size of the ball of the Rhododendron to be planted should be prepared. This will keep the plants growing for two or three years, during which time the trenching of the beds can proceed at leisure.

Rule Two should be shallow planting. Too often have I seen Rhododendrons unhappy and dying merely because they had 4 to 6 in. of soil—usually rammed hard—on top of their root system. When the ground is ready for planting, holes can be made twice the size of the ball in breadth but no deeper than the actual depth of the ball to be planted. The soil that has been removed from the holes should be mixed with a quantity of leaf soil or peat. This gives the plant a good start in its new position, as it is the soil which will surround the ball when it is being planted.

A point worth remembering is to see that the root or ball being planted is sufficiently moist. If it is in the least dry, give it a good soaking, either with a hosepipe or by plunging it in a tank of water. Never plant a dry specimen, as after planting, it is almost impossible to moisten a dry ball by the usual watering methods.

Firm planting is essential, care being taken to see that the roots are not damaged in the process. Add no more than an inch of fresh soil to the top of the ball.

THE PREPARATION OF A VIRGIN WOODLAND FOR RHODODENDRONS

I find that Rhododendrons can safely be moved in any of the months from September to April, but the months of September and October are the best. The plants root freely in early autumn and in doing so grow away very much more freely than when planted later.

I hope these notes may help any enthusiast who is starting on that most enthralling of all hobbies, a woodland garden.

THE PROPAGATION OF CAMELLIA RETICULATA AT KEW

by

J. Souster

THE illustration (Fig. 32) shows part of the tree of *Camellia reticulata* in the centre block of the Temperate House at Kew. This plant, the largest of its sort at Kew, has a span of 17 ft. and a height of 23 ft., and would have been considerably taller but for the need to cut back the upper growth occasionally to keep it clear of the roof. Though one does not gladly use saw and secateurs on such a plant, it is reassuring to note that it shows no resentment to such treatment.

It is unfortunate that the history and hence the exact age of this tree cannot now be traced, but there is good reason to believe that it was planted shortly after the completion of this part of the Temperate House in 1862. How old it was when planted is, of course, unknown, but to estimate its age at about a hundred years is not unreasonable. It may well be considerably older for it seems quite certain that it is derived from the introduction of JOHN DAMPER PARKS for the Horticultural Society in 1824. It was to a plant of this introduction, which agrees extremely well with our plant, that LINDLEY¹ gave the name *Camellia reticulata* in 1827. This is the semi-double form which in horticulture is sometimes known as *var. semiplena*, but the varietal name is both unnecessary and wrong, this form having been taken as the type of the species.

Fig. 32 shows the method adopted for the propagation of this plant. Propagation by cuttings and detached grafts has rarely been successful, but approach grafting using *C. japonica* as a stock has proved most satisfactory. Surplus plants of garden varieties of this species in 5-in. and 6-in. pots have been used, and sliced approach grafting² has been performed a few inches above the pots, the graft being tied with raffia and left unwaxed. The canopy of the tree has provided a suitable light shade and, apart from watering the stocks, little attention has been required. Signs of callusing were visible within a few months from grafting, and cutting of the ties and retying was done when the

¹ *Botanical Register*, tab. 1078 (1827).

² Garner, R. J., *The Graftier's Handbook*, p. 89, Fig. 19 (1947).



Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 32.—The large tree of *Camellia reticulata* in the Temperate House at Kew, showing the platform with pots of *C. japonica*, which are used as stock, conveniently placed for inarching

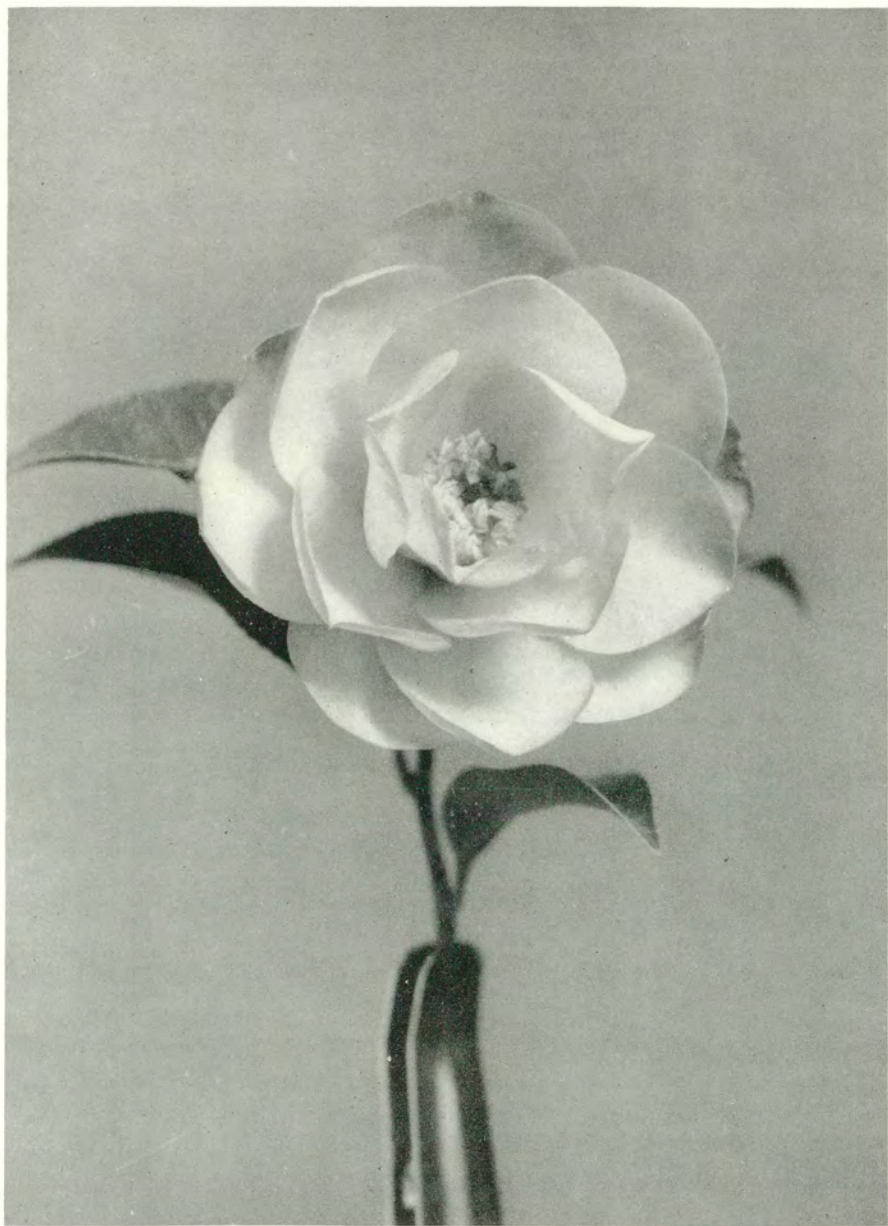


Photo. Bruce Watt]

FIG. 33.—*Camellia saluenensis* × *C. reticulata* flore pleno from a cross recently made in New Zealand by Dr. B. W. Doak (see p. 51)



Photo. J. E. Downward.]

FIG. 34.—*Camellia* (*reticulata* Wild Form \times *saluenensis*) 'Inspiration' A.M.,
16th March, 1954. Exhibited by E. de Rothschild, Esq., Exbury House
(see p. 85)



Photos. J. Horace McFarland Co.]

FIG. 35.—*Camellia Sasanqua*, 'Lavender Queen', one of the many delightful cultivars which are so popular in the United States



FIG. 36.—*Camellia Sasanqua* 'Horode-Gumo' (Dawn Cloud), a large single white, spotted with crimson

swelling of the joints made this necessary. Top growth on the stock plants was reduced and the scions notched below the joint before the young plants were finally separated from the parent tree. Although this operation was deferred until thirteen months after grafting, it could probably have been safely done much sooner. Subsequent growth has been very satisfactory and one plant flowered six months after separation.

Whatever may be thought about the desirability of growing *C. reticulata* on an alien stock, this has at least been a means of bringing the branches of an old tree down to ground level so that layering is possible, and in any case it was clearly invited by the tree itself, which produced two stout horizontal branches on the same level to act as shelf brackets and a vigorous basal shoot carrying an abundance of potential scions at a suitable height for working.

RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA NOTES

Lime Induced Chlorosis in Rhododendrons

AT various times Rhododendron enthusiasts who have to garden in an alkaline soil have tried to overcome the difficulty of growing Rhododendrons and other lime-haters under such conditions by means of raised beds or excavations filled with acid soil. While Rhododendrons have lived, sometimes for years, under such treatment, I have never heard of them as being an outstanding success.

Last year we decided to start a small Rhododendron house. We began to collect plants before the house was quite ready, and Rhododendrons were potted as winter was coming on. The potting soil was the usual John Innes compost, but by ill-luck the loam therein came from an old heap of turf so fibrous that when the heap was made a good sprinkling of lime was given between each layer of turf to aid the process of breaking it down. Usually these turf heaps are used exclusively for tomatoes and annuals. It was more than unfortunate that it was used in error for Rhododendron potting soil. Within four or five weeks chlorosis began to appear. At the start we did not realize the reason, as we had no idea that turf from this particular heap had been used. The chlorosis increased rapidly, and then we found out the cause. The plants were at once taken out of their pots and all soil shaken and washed out of the roots, but in the case of a 2-ft. *R. rhabdotum* and a 3-ft. *R. taronense* it was too late. Others that looked sickly were *R. Veitchianum*, *R. Taggianum* and *R. Cubittii*.

At that time through the kindness of our county Horticultural Adviser we were given a sample of what I believe is a new form of iron which originated in the United States, and is used in particular to supply free iron to plants that suffer from lime-induced chlorosis. It is called iron sequestrene, a yellow powder as fine as flour that dissolves readily in water. One ounce is mixed in a gallon of water and a pint and a half is given direct to the roots of a plant whose roots would fill a 5-in. pot. This we have done at fortnightly intervals since early in the New Year. Further chlorosis stopped at once and in all three cases young foliage of a normal green colour has appeared.

¹ Now manufactured in this country by the Geigy Company Ltd.

As far as I can gather iron sequestrene has not been used to aid Rhododendrons growing in an alkaline soil. It might be worth while to experiment with it further.

E. H. M. Cox

Rhododendron macrophyllum album

IN company with Dr. EDWARD P. BREAKEY while searching for *Rhododendron occidentale* north-east of Sixes, Curry County, Oregon, in May 1954, we came upon a colony of seven plants of the white flowered form of the only western evergreen *Rhododendron* species. The plants had grown up in a heavily wooded area, since logged off, and were quite leggy from reaching up for light, a very common practice of the species when growing in crowded conditions. The shrubs were about 30 ft. high, and an accommodating bulldozer had previously uprooted one, so we were able to get a section of the trunk and counted thirty annular rings. This white form is exceedingly rare.

The flowers are pure white with sap green dots on the upper lobe, Hcc 62/1. There is none of the light brownish area in company with the dots that is present in the pink flowered form. In every other respect this form is comparable with the type growing in the same area. The flowers were no smaller.

The pink flowered or type form of *R. macrophyllum* has no real garden value, but the white flowered form has definite beauty and quality. Since it is known that, with a little care, compact and well-shaped shrubs can be developed with this species, it is expected that *R. macrophyllum album* will make a real addition to our west coast *Rhododendron* plantings.

LEONARD F. FRISBIE.

Puyallup, Washington, U.S.A.

Camellia saluenensis × *C. reticulata* *flore plena*

IN the spring of 1948 I pollinated a few late flowers of rose pink *Camellia saluenensis* with pollen from *C. reticulata flore plena*, but as I didn't expect the cross to be successful I made no attempt to prevent pollination by other pollen. This could only have happened through selfing. Several pods set and about a dozen plants were raised. A year

later the same cross was again made but in this case six flowers were emasculated and protected with paper bags. Perhaps another twenty were pollinated without any precautions. Of the protected flowers two produced viable seed as did quite a number of the unprotected ones but not one pod was produced from the flowers not artificially pollinated. Though it appeared that the cross was actually made I felt rather sceptical until the seedlings grew to a reasonable size, when it was obvious that the foliage was quite distinct from that of either parent.

Of the first lot eight have now flowered. Six of these were single and of no particular merit. Flower shape was that of *C. saluenensis*. Two were quite distinct, being semi-double. Unfortunately I have seen only one but I am told the other is of considerable merit. The flower I have before me is 5 in. in diameter, with fifteen petals. The colour is deep rose pink, distinct from that of either parent (see Fig. 33).

Attempts to make the reciprocal cross were unsuccessful as might be expected from distorted stigmas usually found in *C. reticulata* fl. pl. flowers.

B. W. DOAK, D.Sc.

THE RHODODENDRON SHOW

4th and 5th MAY, 1954

by

N. K. Gould

ONCE again the Rhododendron competitions proved to be extremely popular with both the competitors and visitors to the show, and the number of entries and their quality was above the average. The schedule comprised no fewer than eighty-nine classes, of which fifty-three were for species only, about thirty for hybrids only; the remainder for specimen plants, flower arrangements, specimen cut leaves, and so on.

In Class 1, for one truss of each of eight species, the large-leaved species were well to the fore. THE EARL OF STAIR won the first prize with a collection of *praestans*, *sinogrande*, a good primrose *lacteum*, *Macabeaeanum* in a fine form with a long, deep yellow bell, *Falconeri*, *arizelum*, *Thomsonii* and *eximium*. The second prize went to Mr. R. OLAF HAMBRO for an exhibit dominated by a huge, deeply-blotched *sinogrande* with superb foliage. Around this were grouped *eximium*, *Falconeri*, blood-red *aboreum*, *campanulatum*, a good rose-red *Hodgsonii*, *niveum* and *lacteum*. Lord ABERCONWAY's entry, placed third, comprised *fictolacteum*, K.W.4509, with large blush-white frilled blooms, *Thomsonii*, *arizelum*, *cinnamomeum*, its foliage richly brown-tomentose, *Hodgsonii*, *glischrum*, *argyrophyllum* and *vernicosum* (Fig. 25).

There were nine entries in Class 2, for three species, one truss of each. THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY took the first prize with a deep mauve frilled *Hodgsonii*, a tall, well-coloured truss of *Macabeaeanum* and *sinogrande*. An entry from THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS at Windsor Great Park consisted of a blush, frilled *fictolacteum*, a primrose-yellow *Falconeri*, and *Thomsonii*, and was placed second. Following this came *Wightii*, *Macabeaeanum* and an intense blood-red *strigillosum* from Col. R. CLARKE, M.P. A fourth prize was awarded to Mr. EDMUND DE ROTHSCHILD for *lanatum*, *vernicosum* and *fictolacteum* (Fig. 42).

No fewer than fifteen entries were made in Class 3, for one species, and here the quality was outstanding. Another of Mr. HAMBRO's giant specimens of *sinogrande* took first place, THE EARL OF STAIR's

perfect round truss of *lacteam* was second, and Mr. E. M. KING's *fictolacteam* was third. A fourth prize went to THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY for a deeply-coloured *Macabeanum*. The excellent condition of the foliage in each of these exhibits was noteworthy. The McLaren Challenge Cup was awarded to Mr. HAMBRO.

Class 4 required one spray or branch of any species. THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY's entry of a handsome branch of soft ivory-tinted *Johnstoneanum* was given first place. The second prize went to Lord ABERCONWAY for a floriferous spray of heliotrope *rubiginosum*, and the third to Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD for a deep blue *Augustinii*. Mrs. DOUGLAS GORDON's *Wightii* was highly commended.

In Class 5, for a truss of *arboreum* or its subspecies, Sir HENRY PRICE was awarded first prize for a very neat truss of cherry-scarlet *Delavayi*, THE EARL OF STAIR won the second with a blood-red *arboreum*, and the third went to Sir GILES LODER for a pretty pink *arboreum* called 'Apple Blossom'. Lord ABERCONWAY's *cinnamomeum* was highly commended. Any other species of the Series *Arboreum* was accepted in the next class, where Lord ABERCONWAY's *argyrophyllum*, with widely-flared, rose-pink bells, gained the first place. Excellent specimens of *niveum* from Sir HENRY PRICE and Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD were placed second and third respectively. The Series *Barbatum* was represented in Class 7 by seventeen entries, of which those selected for prizes were Mr. KING's *crinigerum*, in blush-pink, striped with ruby-red, Sir GILES LODER's purplish-rose *habrotrichum*, and Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD's pure white *crinigerum*.

Equally strong support was given to Class 8, for one truss or spray of the Series *Boothii*. Here, a small, rose-tinged ivory *auritum* (K.W. 6278) from Mrs. STEVENSON won the first prize. THE EARL OF STAIR's rose-coloured *charitopes* was second and Mr. KING's excellent form of *tephropeplum* (K.W. 6834), with widely-expanded bells of rosy-mauve, was third. Among the other entries THE EARL OF STAIR's dark bloomy-purple *Genestierianum* was striking. From nine entries in the next class, for one truss of the Series *Campanulatum*, the judges chose for awards Lord ABERCONWAY's *lanatum*, which had funnel-shaped, heavily maroon-spotted bells, Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD's good blue *campanulatum*, and an equally fine specimen of the type species from Mrs. STEVENSON.

One spray of any species of the Series *Cinnabarinum* was invited in Class 10. The dusky-yellow *concatenans* was entered by Lord ABERCONWAY and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS, who won first and third prizes respectively. The second was awarded to Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD, for a glowing truss of *cinnabarinum* var. *Roylei*.

The next three classes were allocated to the Series *Falconeri*. In

Class 11 there were eleven entries of the type species, showing a wide range of variation. The first, from Lord ABERCONWAY, had a tall, compact truss of large, well-coloured flowers. Col. CLARKE's entry had longer flowers flushed externally with pink, and Major HARDY's had very large, widely-spaced bells and rather smaller foliage. There were twelve specimens of *fictolacteum* in the following class. The first prize went to THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS for an example with enormous frilled flowers of pale colour margined with rose. Lord ABERCONWAY's second prize entry (K.W. 4509) had neat funnel-shaped bells, and the Misses GODMAN showed a form with a deeper colouring in a flower of narrow-campanulate form. Of the thirteen entries of other species in Class 13, the prizewinners were *Hodgsonii*, in a tall truss of light heliotrope flowers, from THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY, a pale creamy-white *arizelum* from Sir HENRY PRICE, and a massive truss of *basilicum* from Lord ABERCONWAY. A very pale, dark-blotched *Hodgsonii* from Mr. HAMBRO was highly commended.

Class 14, for a truss of *Griffithianum*, attracted only four entries, and only two prizes were awarded. These went to Mr. HAWORTH BOOTH, for a deep rose-pink form, and to Mrs. LAURA DAVID, for a paler form with blush-pink bells. Among the other species of the Series Fortunei shown in Class 15, were *vernicosum* with a flattish flower of palest pink, from Lord ABERCONWAY, a form of Fortunei with even, rich flower-colour and long dark leaf, from Lord DIGBY, and a neat truss of *vernicosum* from THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

The entries in Class 16, for a truss of any species of the Series Fulvum, were rather disappointing. Prizes were awarded to Mr. HAMBRO, for a white, mauve-tinted flower, and to Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD, for a rather loose truss.

Class 17, for a truss of any species of the Series Grande, was an outstanding feature of the show. For the first prize the judges selected THE EARL OF STAIR's truss of *sinogrande*. The rosette of immense, lustrous leaves supported a huge bunch of solid, cream-coloured flowers in perfect condition. Then came THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY's *Macabeanum*, with a globular truss of long, pendulous sulphur bells. Here too the foliage was immaculate. Mr. Hambro's entry, in the third place, was of a smaller form of *sinogrande* than the first prize exhibit, but its pale flowers were of superb quality.

The Series Irroratum was represented in Class 18 by eight entries, the best of which were the type species, shown by THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY in a form having a white, heavily-spotted flower, *Hardingii*, of somewhat similar appearance, from

Col. CLARKE, and *irroratum* from Lord ABERCONWAY. There was little variation to be seen among the first three entries in the following class, for the Series Lacteum. THE EARL OF STAIR, Mr. HAMBRO and Wing-Cdr. INGALL all showed neat, sulphur-yellow trusses of *lacteum*. Most other competitors chose *Wightii*.

A bold truss of *Nuttallii* with seven huge, Lily-like blooms, sent by Mr. ARMYTAGE MOORE, won the first prize in Class 20, for a species of the Subseries Megacalyx. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS and Lord ABERCONWAY both entered *Lindleyi*, and secured the second and third prizes. The last-named species was not, however, so well represented as it has been in previous years. Likewise, the next class, for any other species of the Series Maddenii, only attracted three entries, and only one prize was awarded. This went to THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS for a pink-flushed specimen of the sweetly-scented *polyandrum*.

In Class 22, for a truss of any species of the Subseries Haematodes, Sir HENRY PRICE won the first place with *catacosmum*, having a fleshy red bell surrounded with a large coloured calyx. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD was next with *Beanianum*, and Lord ABERCONWAY third with *haematodes*. Equally rich colouring prevailed in the following class, for the Subseries Neriiflorum. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD took first prize with a dense truss of *euchaetes*, Mr. HAMBRO was second with a rather widely-spaced truss of *sperabile*, and Mrs. STEVENSON showed a very nice example of *euchaetes*. In the next class, for *aperantum*, Lord ABERCONWAY was the only exhibitor, with two entries. In Class 25, for other species of the Sub-series Sanguineum, Lord DIGBY showed an intense maroon-coloured *haemaleum* with very large flowers, and Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD entered the same species with smaller, but even darker, flowers.

Some unusual and interesting species appeared in Class 26, for the Series Taliense. Mrs. STEVENSON won the first prize with *recurvum* var. *oreonastes* (Rock 59205), which had linear-lanceolate leaves heavily covered with a chocolate-coloured indumentum, supporting a truss of white flowers. A pale sulphur-yellow *Wasonii* from Bodnant won the second place, and in the third place was *Wasonii* var. *rhododactylum*, of a deep, purplish-rose colour, from Lord DIGBY.

Class 27, for *campylocarpum*, was surprisingly empty. Sir GILES LODER and Lord ABERCONWAY won the only two prizes awarded, for sprays of average quality. In the following class, for other species of the same subseries, *caloxanthum* was the choice of Lord ABERCONWAY, whose exhibits were placed first and second, and of Mrs. STEVENSON, whose entry gained third place. In Class 29, for the Subseries Martinianum or Selse, Lord ABERCONWAY won the first prize with a

beautiful rose-pink *rhaibocarpum*, Mrs. STEVENSON filled the second place with *selense* var. *probum* (Forrest 21784), a white flower with red basal blotch, and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS entered *euryisiphon* (Forrest 20246), a blush-pink flower heavily spotted with crimson, for the third place. Lord ABERCONWAY was again first in Class 30, for the Subseries Souliei, with a large-flowered *Williamsianum* of rich and even colouring. Mr. THOBURN gained second prize with a very good twelve-flowered truss of *Wardii*, and Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD was third with *Williamsianum*. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS showed the pretty *Wardii* var. *album* (K.W. 5736).

There were a dozen entries, of nearly equal merit, in the next class, for any species of the Subseries Thomsonii. Three entries of the type species, from Sir GILES LODER, Mr. THOBURN, and Lord ABERCONWAY, won the three prizes.

Somewhat surprisingly, there were only four entries in Class 32, for the beautiful and popular *Schlippenbachii*. The first prize went to Lord ABERCONWAY, for a tall spray of a large and well-coloured form, the second to Col. CLARKE for an equally large but rather paler coloured example. The next class, for any other deciduous Azalea, attracted a dozen entries, including some most pleasing specimens. In the first place was Lord ABERCONWAY's extra good dark form of *Albrechtii*, the beauty of which was augmented by the young bronzy leaves. The same species, in a form with slightly smaller flowers reflexing at the edges, won the third prize for Mr. KING. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD's *quinquefolium* was placed second. Among the other entries were noted *canadense* and *reticulatum*. There was keen competition in Class 34, for sprays of three deciduous Azaleas. Lord ABERCONWAY was again the winner, with handsome, well-balanced vases of *Schlippenbachii*, *Albrechtii* and *reticulatum*. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD gained the second award with equally lovely sprays of the pale mauve *pentaphyllum*, a delicately-tinted *Schlippenbachii*, and *quinquefolium*. Col. CLARKE chose the same three species as Lord ABERCONWAY, but the specimens had not quite the same high quality.

In Class 35, for a spray of the Series Cephalanthum or Anthopogon, Lord ABERCONWAY's exhibit of *cephalanthum*, with large clusters of white flowers set among dark leaves, was given the first place. Sir GILES LODER showed a blush-pink Daphne-like *primulaeflorum*, and Mrs. STEVENSON entered a pure white, rather starry-flowered form of the same species. Lord ABERCONWAY's exhibit of deep plum-purple *campylogynum* was the only one in Class 36.

Two excellent sprays of *bullatum*, a pink one from THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS, and a blush-pink one from Mrs. STEVENSON,

were the only exhibits in Class 37, for any species of the Series Edgeworthii. In Class 38, for a spray of the Series Glaucum, the first two places were taken by Lord ABERCONWAY's entries, one a pale flesh-pink form of *glaucophyllum*, the other a deep rose form of the same species. Messrs. W. C. SLOCOCK's third prize exhibit was closely similar.

In Class 39, for the Series Heliolepis, *desquamatum* was chosen by almost all of the eleven exhibitors. The first prize entry, from Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD, was an excellent branch of a rosy-lavender form of the species mentioned. Mr. HAMBRO and Mr. GERALD WILLIAMS showed forms of a deeper, purplish-rose colour.

In Class 40, for the popular Series Lapponicum there were twenty-one entries. Two very lovely, large-flowered and darkly-coloured examples of *russatum*, from Messrs. SLOCOCK and Mr. THOBURN, won the first and second prizes. Mr. THOBURN's *hippophaeoides*, with a large lavender bloom, was given the third place. Lord Aberconway showed *cuneatum* and *microleucum*, and several competitors entered *scintillans*. There were no entries in the next class, for the Series Lepidotum.

In Class 42, for the Subseries Forrestii, Col. CLARKE exhibited *chamae-Thomsonii*, with wide scarlet bells in a loose truss, and Mrs. STEVENSON showed *Forrestii* var. *tumescens*, of somewhat similar appearance. The following class catered for the Series Saluenense, and here Lord ABERCONWAY filled the first two places with different forms of *calostrotum*, while Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD showed a nice form of *saluenense*. In Class 44, which admitted species of the Series Scabrifolium and Virgatum, Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD won the first prize with *spinuliferum*, Sir GILES LODER the second with *racemosum*, and Sir HENRY PRICE the third with *scabrifolium*.

In Class 45 the relatively unimportant Series Trichocladum was well represented by six entries. Col. CLARKE entered a very pretty spray of *melinanthum* with dark sulphur-yellow flowers and bronze-tinted young leaves. Mr. KING's *trichocladum* (K.W. 6806) was very similar in form and colouring. Mrs. STEVENSON showed *chloranthum* (Forrest 21776) with deep mustard-yellow blooms.

The next class, for *Augustinii*, provided a complete contrast in colour. The eleven entries must have been difficult to adjudicate. The first prize went to Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD for a lovely lavender-blue flower with white stamens, the second to Sir GILES LODER for a slightly paler form. Mrs. STEVENSON's third prize entry was a pink-stamened form, and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were awarded a fourth prize for an unusually dark blue form.

In Class 47, for a spray of any other species of the Subseries Augustinii, *chasmanthum* was represented by two entries, a very delicate pale blue form from Mrs. DOUGLAS GORDON and one of bluish-mauve from Lord ABERCONWAY. In the following class, for the Subseries Oreotrephe, Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD won the first prize with a large-flowered, rather pale-coloured specimen of *oreotrephe*, and the other prizes went to Sir GILES LODER and Mrs. DAVID for the same species. Class 49, for the Subseries Polylepis, was better supported. The lovely spray of *pseudoyanthinum*, entered by THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS, was covered with glowing ruby-red blossom, and well deserved the first prize. Lord DIGBY's *concinnum*, and Mrs. STEVENSON's *polylepis*, in purplish-crimson, were likewise excellent examples.

The Subseries Triflorum was unpopular with exhibitors, and in Class 50 only two awards were made. Lord ABERCONWAY showed a nice spray of *ambiguum*, and from THE CROWN LANDS came *bauhiniiflorum* (K. W. 12588), suggesting a large, late *lutescens*, but there was little else of interest. The Subseries Yunnanense, the species of which lend themselves so well to cutting, was represented by fifteen entries in Class 51. Lord ABERCONWAY's entries of *Davidsonianum*, one of a lovely deep rose colour, the other covered with pale pink flowers, were given the first two places. In the third place there was an attractive white, red-blotched *yunnanense* from the Misses GODMAN, and a very dainty spray of *caeruleum album* from Bodnant followed it. Among the other entries Mrs. GORDON's *zaleucum* and Mrs. DAVID's *lochmium* were noteworthy.

Class 52 called for any species not allowed for in any earlier class, and here Col. CLARKE won the first prize with *Metternichii*, represented by an open truss of light pink, red-stalked flowers. Lord ABERCONWAY won second prize with *adenopodum*, which has broad, waved blush-pink blooms. The third went to Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD for *hyperythrum*, one of the purest white of all Rhododendrons.

In Class 53, reserved for exhibitors who have not previously won a prize, there were only two entries, both from Wing-Cdr. INGALL, who entered two forms of *lacteum*; one a good deep sulphur-yellow, the other a paler, rather large-flowered truss.

In the classes for hybrids, there was, as usual, a dazzling display. Class 54, for a truss of each of eight hybrids, is of unusual interest, as the entries frequently contain very old varieties side by side with much more modern products of hybridization. The first prize was awarded to Lord ABERCONWAY for a set of 'Red Queen', 'Barclayi', 'Cardinal', 'Greeting', 'Matador', 'Loderi', 'King George', 'Cornish Cross' × 'Penjerrick' and a pure white *arboreum* × *Griffithianum*. The second

prize went to Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD, who staged 'Naomi' 'Pink Beauty', 'Carita', 'Janet', 'Mariloo', 'Yvonne', 'Karkov', 'Queen of Hearts' and 'Tetrazzini'. A second entry from Bodnant was given third place, and this comprised 'Camilla', 'Koodoo', 'Cornish Cross', 'Penjerrick', 'Choremia', 'Coreta', 'Gretia' and 'Cornish Cross' × 'Kewense'.

The next class, requiring only three hybrids, one truss of each, in each entry, was supported by fourteen exhibitors. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS headed the list, with an admirably contrasted set of 'Grenadier', a charming lilac *campanulatum* hybrid, and an *orbiculare* hybrid in clear rose-pink. Mr. E. M. KING was second with 'Chaste', 'Cornish Cross' and 'Touchstone'. Mr. HAMBRO showed 'Elsae', the Logan form of 'Damaris', and 'Kewense'. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD's entry of 'Tito', 'Daydream' and 'Eurydice' was highly commended.

Class 56 again asked for three hybrids, but this time in the spray, not in individual trusses. The first prize Exbury entry contained 'Carita', an exquisite flower with a faint flush of pink on a cream ground, 'Eleanore', and 'Aurora', which carried very effective clusters of pale rose-pink flowers. Lord ABERCONWAY's entries filled the second and third places. The varieties chosen were 'Matador', 'Loderi' × 'Luscombei' and 'Cornish Cross' × *Griffithianum*; 'Loderi' 'King George', 'Cornish Cross' and 'Luscombei'.

The Loder Challenge Cup, awarded as first prize in Class 57, for a single truss of a hybrid, was won by Mrs. STEVENSON with 'Shepherd's Delight', a very large truss of widely-expanded 'sugar-pink' flowers. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD's 'Lionel's Triumph' was a close runner-up; and after this came Lord ABERCONWAY's 'Gretia' and Sir GILES LODER's 'Luscombei'.

The Crosfield Challenge Cup, awarded for six hybrids raised by, or in the garden of, the exhibitor, went to Lord ABERCONWAY, for an exhibit of 'Choremia', 'Red Queen', 'Gretia', 'Coreta', 'Camilla', and 'Cornish Cross' × 'Kewense'. The second prize in this class was won by Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD, for 'Queen of Hearts', 'Kiev', 'Mariloo', 'Karkov', 'Janet' and 'Naomi' 'Pink Beauty'. Another Bodnant entry, placed third, was made up of 'Hiraethlyn', *aboreum* × *Griffithianum*, 'Matador', 'Cornish Cross' × 'Penjerrick', 'Cardinal' and 'Laura Aberconway'. Among the other exhibits Sir GILES LODER's contained a great compact truss of 'Faltho', with huge, dusky-red flowers.

It is not proposed to list in full all the entries in the classes 59 to 83, but it may be of interest to record some of the more outstanding

exhibits. In Class 71 Lord ABERCONWAY entered 'Bodnant Yellow', a most elegant flower obtained from a yellow *cinnabarinum* crossed with the orange form of 'Royal Flush'. 'Peace', another distinguished Bodnant hybrid, raised from *caeruleum album* \times *concatenans*, with flared cream-coloured corollas, was also here. Mr. ADAMS-ACTON's 'Manon', raised from *tephropeplum* and *ciliatum*, seemed aptly to unite the good qualities of its parents.

The species of the Series *Edgeworthii* and *Maddenii*, whose tender qualities make them unsuitable for the majority of gardens, always attract a good deal of admiration when shown. This was the case in Class 72, where the first place was occupied by the great Lily-like flowers of Lord ABERCONWAY's 'Tyermanii', a noble hybrid raised from *Nuttallii* \times *formosum*. In the second place there was a pure white *Edgeworthii* hybrid without a name, shown by Major HARDY. Another unusual hybrid, shown by Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD, was 'Chaffinch', the result of back-crossing 'Countess of Haddington' with *ciliatum*.

The only entry in Class 76, for any lepidote hybrid of which one parent belongs to Series *Campylogynum* or one of the other small-flowered lepidote series, was an unnamed plant raised and shown by Lord ABERCONWAY, the parentage being *campylogynum* \times 'Peace'. This combined the characters of the parents to produce a flower of peculiar appearance, suggesting a very large rosy-mauve *campylogynum* with a conspicuous diadem of pale stamens. Another flower of rather unusual and striking form is 'Tetrarch', shown by Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD in Class 78, for a hybrid between a species and a hybrid not provided for in the earlier orthodox classes. 'Tetrarch', raised from *Elliotii* \times 'Dr. Stocker', has narrow-tubular, blood-red bells, pale at the margin and heavily spotted.

In Class 84, as usual, the only exhibitor of a vase of the so-called 'Javanese Rhododendrons' was Lord ABERCONWAY, who mixed four unlabelled varieties. It is a pity that so few amateurs can afford the accommodation required by these most attractive plants.

In Class 85, for a dwarf Rhododendron suitable for the rock garden, shown as a plant in bloom, not exceeding 24 in. in height, THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS won the first prize with a compact specimen of 'Fittra', covered with dainty rosy-mauve posies of bloom. Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD won second prize with the invaluable *Hanceanum* var. *nanum*, represented by a well-flowered specimen (Fig. 52). MESSRS. WATERER's neat bush of *russatum* in a large-flowered form, worthily occupied the third place. In the following class, for a plant of an evergreen Rhododendron, in bloom, Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD took the first place with a specimen of the pink Azalea 'Tamarisk', 4 ft.

tall and nearly 5 ft. through. The two other places of honour were occupied by two CROWN LANDS entries of *tephropeplum*, nearly 4 ft. tall, and 'Hinodegiri'. In the next class, for a plant of a deciduous Rhododendron, the only entry was Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD's lovely 5-ft. bush of *Schlippenbachii* with flowers in perfect condition.

The class for two leaves of each of six Rhododendrons seems to become more popular with exhibitors each year, there being on this occasion no fewer than seven entries. Miss ROBIN BULLARD won the first prize with a nicely arranged set comprising *sinogrande*, *calophyllum*, *Falconeri*, *Macabeaenum*, *insigne* and *sinogrande* × *eximium*.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS won the second with *Falconeri*, 'Polar Bear', *fulvum*, *sinogrande*, *mallotum* and *basilicum*. THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY filled the third place with *Hodgsonii*, *sinogrande*, *Macabeaenum*, *cinnamomeum*, *giganteum* and *sutchuenense*.

The final class, for a vase or bowl of Rhododendrons, attracted twelve competitors. There was nothing strikingly original among the exhibits, most of the exhibitors using mixed material in a wide colour-range and tending to overcrowd their vases. Sir GILES LODER's first prize arrangement was made up of large sprays lightly arranged in a white bowl, the emphasis being on the pale yellow of *croceum* and the soft pink of *Souliei* contrasted with a pale *Augustinii*. Mrs. E. DE ROTHSCHILD won the second prize with a rather more compact arrangement, making use of flowers in lavender and purple, two tones of yellow with a hint of white. Almost all the species used were small-flowered, and the completed arrangement had great charm. The Hon. Mrs. EDWARD DIGBY, whose entry won the third prize, used mainly small-flowered species in pale lilac and mauve, arranged in a white vase and strengthened by the introduction of a few trusses of *euchaites* and 'Cornish Cross'.

THE NEW ZEALAND RHODODENDRON ASSOCIATION

by

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THE New Zealand Rhododendron Association, which is a society registered in New Zealand under the Incorporated Societies Act of 1908, celebrated its tenth birthday on 4th October, 1954. This stage of its life seems an appropriate time to sum up its development over these first ten years.

A preliminary meeting of six enthusiasts was held in Palmerston North on 10th August, 1944, at which a provisional constitution was adopted; and it was decided to seek registration under the present name. On 4th October of that year, an inaugural meeting (the first annual meeting) was held.

The late Mr. E. F. Stead was elected first President and the present writer as Secretary-treasurer. The new President delivered a most stimulating address to some fifty people, and the rules were finally adopted.

The objects of the Association as set out in the rules were:

- (a) To act as a common meeting ground for Rhododendron enthusiasts;
- (b) To encourage the cultivation, the study and improvement of Rhododendrons by such means as the Association shall from time to time see fit.

It was emphasized at this meeting that the only members desired were Rhododendron enthusiasts or potential enthusiasts and that there should be no effort to increase the membership for financial or other reasons. This attitude has been maintained; and in fact there has been a strong feeling at times that membership should be limited to 150 or 200. Larger numbers may make the Association less well-knit, and also create difficulties when members are entertained in private gardens. The membership is at present 200.

One of the foundation members (Dr. CYRIL KING) was responsible for incorporating in the rules the provision that each member receive two Rhododendron plants per annum from the Association. This has

proved to be a most successful scheme, though for the Secretary-treasurer it has involved the propagation of large numbers of plants. Propagation is done in the Botanical department of Massey Agricultural College. As membership became larger it was found necessary to ask members to pay the cost of propagating—a figure fixed at five shillings per plant for seedlings and ten shillings per plant for others.

In 1948 the Association made an arrangement with Massey College under which the College grows the Association's Rhododendron collection in its grounds. These plants serve as specimens in the grounds and also as stock-plants for propagation purposes.

One of the major activities of the Association has always been its annual conference. This is held, as a rule, alternately in the North and South Islands, in the spring, at a time when as many Rhododendrons as possible are in flower. In practice the conference has been held in four centres—Palmerston North (Massey College), Christchurch, New Plymouth, and Dunedin. Apart from the annual meeting, the conference includes two or three days of visits to members' gardens or others of note, which may be within a radius of seventy miles or more from the main centre. The attendance is usually up to one hundred. Transport is generally in members' cars and very generous hospitality is provided by our hosts in some cases. On one occasion the whole party of seventy or so was entertained at a complete hot lunch—the house being a large one. The conference period generally involves members coming some hundreds of miles by road—a golden opportunity to call on fellow members and see their Rhododendrons in bloom. Unfortunately many of our members are farmers who are often very busy at that particular season.

This being the conclusion of our first decade, it is fitting that we should take stock, and see whether or not we are doing what we set out to do.

First of all was the increase and distribution of the 'Ilam' Rhododendron and Azalea hybrids. In 1944 the present writer with three keen Rhododendron growers, first saw the late EDGAR STEAD's plants at Ilam. These were at the same time an inspiration and a cause of grievous envy. Mr. STEAD did not commercialize his plants but all who saw them wanted them. In due course he generously allowed us to graft some, first of the Rhododendrons, and later of the Azaleas. From stock bushes so raised, we have distributed the best Ilam plants fairly widely among our members.

Mr. STEAD himself described his best hybrids in the *Year Book* for 1947, and there is no need to repeat his descriptions. Probably the most striking of all the red Ilam hybrids is that known as 'Scarlet King'

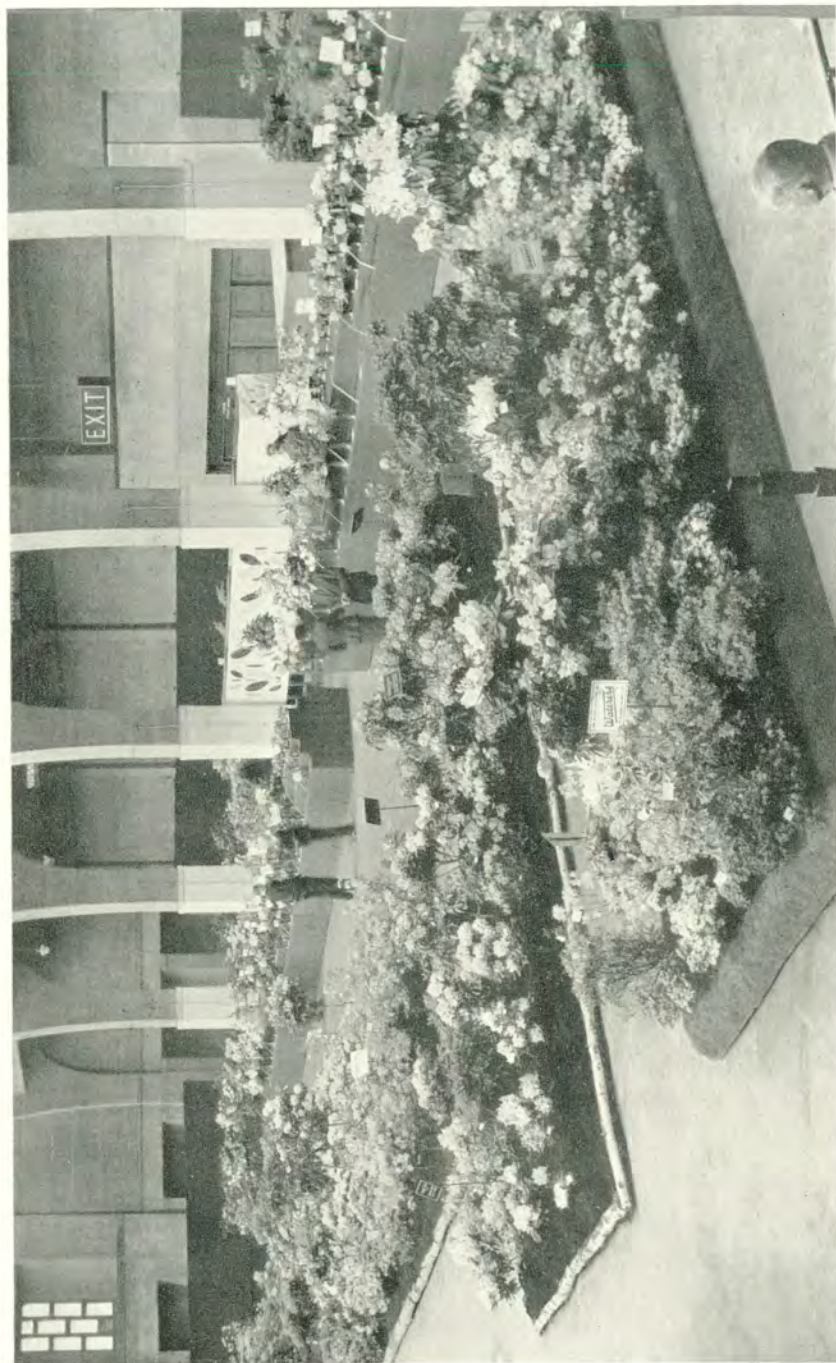
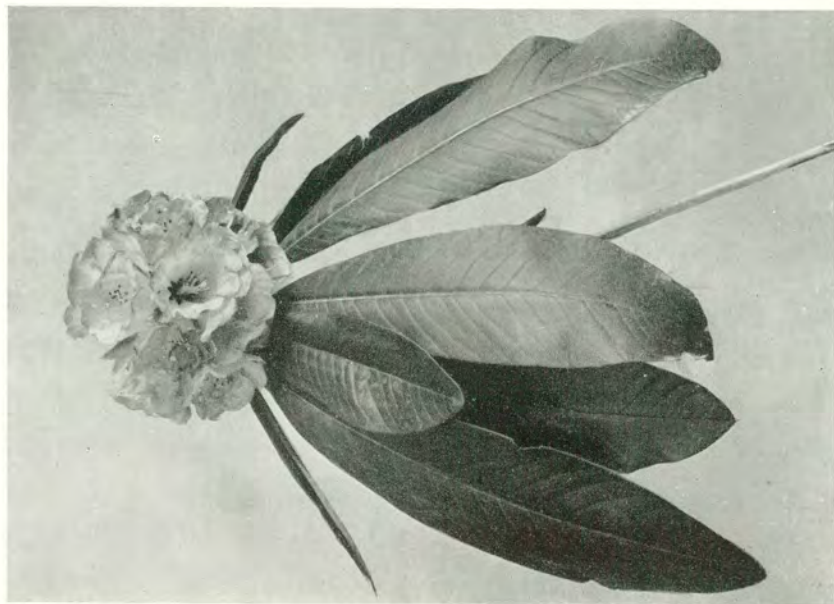


Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 37.—A view of the Rhododendron Show in the New Hall on 4th May, 1954, showing both competitive and non-competitive groups



Photos. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 38.—*R. giganteum* Kingdon Ward form, exhibited by the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry on 2nd February, 1954



FIG. 39.—*Rhododendron praevernum* A.M., 30th March, 1954. Exhibited by Col. The Lord Digby, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Cerne Abbey, Dorchester



Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 40.—*Camellia japonica* 'Mathortiana Rosea' A.M., 16th March, 1954. Exhibited by Messrs. John Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Ltd., The Nurseries, Bagshot, Surrey (see p. 85)

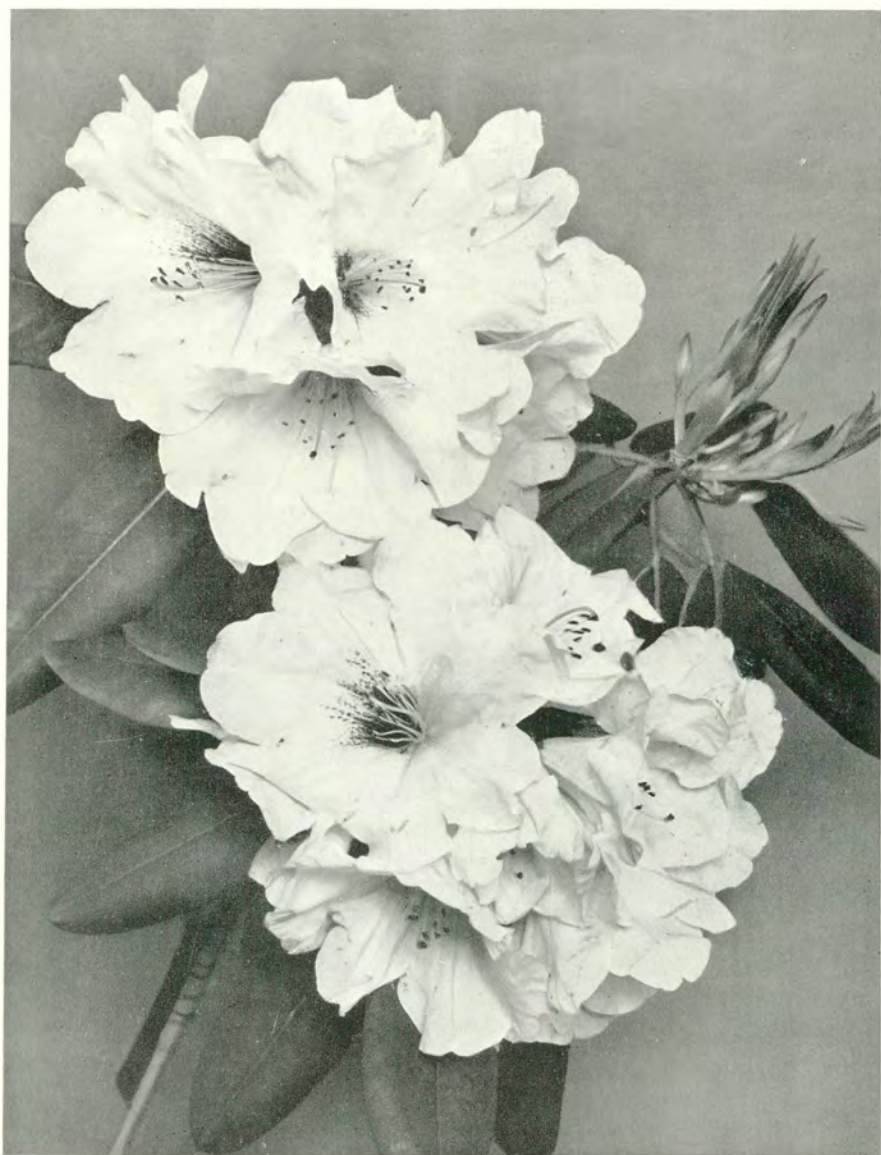
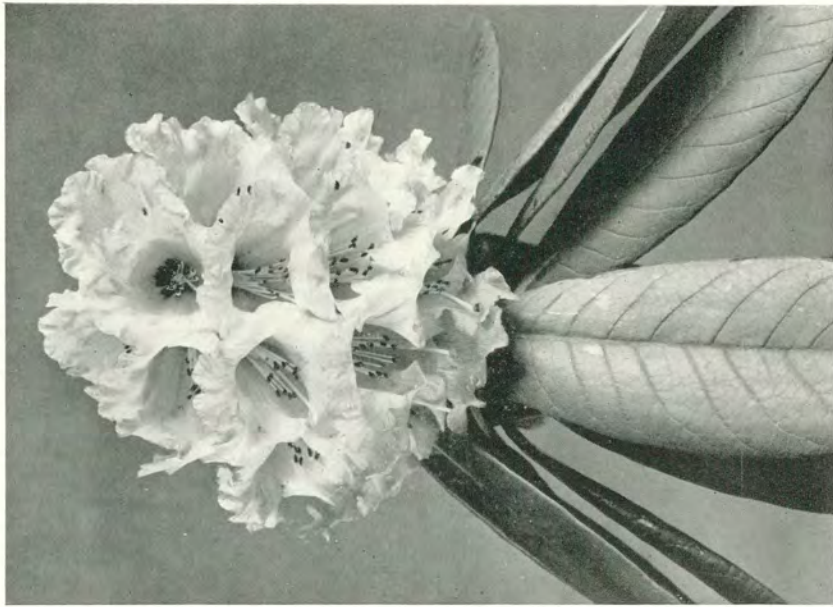


Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 41.—R. (Jalisco G.) 'Goshawk' F.C.C., 12th June, 1954. Exhibited by the Commissioners of Crown Lands, Windsor Great Park (*see* p. 86)



Photos. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 42.—*Rhododendron Hodgsonii*, exhibited by The Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry at the Rhododendron Show (see p. 53)



FIG. 43.—*Rhododendron concatenans* 'Copper' (L. & S. 6560) A.M., 4th May, 1954. Exhibited by Capt. Collingwood Ingram (see p. 86)



Photo. Harry Madison]

FIG. 44.—A plant of *R.* 'C.B. Van Nes' exhibited at Seattle by Mrs. Raymond E. Gardner and judged the best hybrid Rhododendron in Show (*see* p. 73)



Photo. Richards]

FIG. 45.—A section of the 6th Annual Tacoma Rhododendron Show Inc., held at Normana Hall, Tacoma, Washington, 8th–9th May, 1954 (*see* p. 68)

variety 'Orchard'. Its breeding is described by Mr. STEAD at the foot of page 46 in the 1947 *Year Book*. Though we have imported the best Exbury and Bodnant reds in recent years, none of them excels the 'Orchard' variety. Unfortunately it is rather tender in the English climate.

One clone of 'Ilam Alarm' is a particularly good type—very vigorous and free-flowering. It is well suited to planting in rather difficult situations and we intend to try it for street planting. The fine Loderi type 'I.M.S.' or 'Irene Stead' has been widely distributed, as also has been 'Canary'—the latter not always an easy plant to grow well. The (*R. arboreum* × 'Pink Pearl') by *R. dichroanthum* hybrid, now called 'Ilam Apricot', has not been much distributed yet, but is an excellent plant. A similar *dichroanthum* hybrid, the exact breeding of which Mr. STEAD did not describe, is 'Ilam Orange'. The parent bush at Ilam is now a cushion some 5 ft. across and 3 ft. or so high. Its flowers open an orange colour which fades to rich yellow.

One very good hybrid from Ilam was described by Mr. STEAD as a *Hookeri* hybrid × *R. sperabile*. It is a dwarfish grower, reaching apparently no more than some 3 ft. or 4 ft., and in one clone at least trailing its lower branches on the ground. We have two forms of it, of which one has no stamens and the other almost completely abortive stamens. It has waxy red blooms in a small truss, but is of excellent quality and flowers early in the spring, usually at the same time as *R. scintillans*.

The Ilam Azaleas have often been mentioned in publications during recent years. They include some magnificent plants. So far we have not grown the Knaphill or Exbury Hybrids long enough to enable a fair comparison. There is no doubt that an Azalea needs to be well established and in a favourable situation to give of its best.

The demand for Ilam Azaleas of the best clones is very keen amongst members. It is only some six years since Mr. STEAD permitted us to graft a few of them, and the Association's collection now has some good grafted plants, used mainly for breeding purposes. By intercrossing the good plants, we have raised batches of seedlings which show a percentage of high quality plants and a few really outstanding types. These are being distributed to members. A few grafted Azaleas have been distributed, but stooling or layering appears to offer the best means of vegetative increase. Rooting cuttings of these deciduous Azaleas has not been very successful, as the rooted cuttings mainly die the following winter or spring. More lately we have started trials on rooting them in the American 'Baldsiefen' frame as described in the *Bulletin* of the American Rhododendron Society for January, 1953.

After commencing distribution of the Ilam hybrids, the Association did similar work with the best Exbury and Bodnant hybrids. The scions were sent from England by air mail, grafted in the College glasshouse, and the resulting plants used as stock bushes. By this means we have already distributed such hybrids as 'Mariloo', 'Romany Chal', 'Icarus', 'Naomi' in several forms, 'Carita', 'Ibex', 'Idealist', and of the Bodnant plants so far 'Dorinthia', 'Vanessa' and 'Matador'. Other Bodnant hybrids such as 'Elizabeth', 'Dainty', 'Ethel', 'Laura Aberconway', 'Elros', 'Sunrise' and 'Felicity' are at present being increased in readiness for distribution, as are also several forms of 'Lady Chamberlain' and others.

The Rhododendron species have not been neglected. In 1945-6 we obtained seeds of some forty good species from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Edinburgh, and seeds were obtained locally from good forms of *R. Delavayi*, *R. Maddeni* and others. Plants of all these have been distributed. More recently the Association has contributed to Kingdon Ward's Expeditions—first to the 'Earthquake' expedition, later to the 1953-4 North Burma and more recently to the Saramati expedition. The reasons for supporting these expeditions are mainly two; to secure seeds of new species or of new varieties of old ones; and to help bear some small part of plant exploration costs, since we already share at no cost in the results of many earlier expeditions. Many of our members have hopes that some day an experienced collector will go to the alpine regions of such tropical countries as New Guinea. For mild climates in particular, there may be some startling new species in the cooler parts of New Guinea's high mountains; species which may be of interest not only as such, but also as the starting point of new adventures in breeding.

On account of our relatively mild climate, we are interested in some Rhododendrons which are too tender in much of England. The *Megacalyx* subseries in particular is finding more friends, as members see plants in flower. *Dalhousiae*, *Lindleyi*, *Nuttallii*, and *rhabdotum* are so far the best known of this group, but even they are relatively little known. Donations of seed from this subseries would be most welcome.

It should be noted that the main aim is not to build up a collection of Rhododendrons at the Association's headquarters; but rather to distribute many sorts through the country in private and public gardens. In this way they will be seen by the greatest number of people and will be tried under the greatest range of soil and climatic conditions. It is not to be expected that all species and hybrids can be successfully grown in any one garden. A very large proportion of the plants now being distributed will fail in the next twenty years. From the remainder

we should learn which are really worth while under any of our particular sets of conditions. It should be mentioned here that some hundreds of plants have been supplied to different towns and cities, where they will be planted in parks.

Perhaps the main value of the Association has been the stimulus obtained through the first of its objects:—‘To act as a common meeting ground for Rhododendron enthusiasts.’ By bringing members together it has been the means of developing many gardeners into Rhododendron enthusiasts whose keenness is at times thoroughly embarrassing. The annual conferences and many smaller informal gatherings are now a great source of pleasure and inspiration to keen gardeners. Many firm friendships have been founded, and out of such associations the further development of Rhododendrons will be helped. The Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust is one outcome of the Association in which some of our members have joined. The Pukeiti property was purchased by Mr. W. D. COOK and offered to the Association. When the Association was obliged to decline this generous offer, some of the members organized the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust.

To summarize the Association’s achievement in its first ten years: it has very greatly stimulated interest in Rhododendrons, and encouraged their planting: it has made available to members and others, plants of choice hybrids and species which otherwise were unobtainable or very difficult to obtain: and by distributing these plants in private and public gardens throughout the country, has shown the general public that there are now varieties much superior to the old, rather poor ones, which were planted in earlier times. We look forward with keen anticipation to the good things which the next ten years may hold in store for us.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL TACOMA RHODODENDRON SHOW INC.

by

Dr. Edward P. Breakey, (Show Chairman)
and Leonard F. Frisbie, (President)

THE Tacoma Rhododendron Society, Inc., staged its show in Tacoma, at Normana Hall, on 8-9th May, 1954 (Fig. 45).

The fine April weather that we are accustomed to in western Washington did not materialize in 1954. Instead there were dark days and cold winds with a killing freeze on the final day of the month. Rhododendrons by the truck loads were hustled into large commercial greenhouses, however, to give assistance to Dame Nature. As a result plants turned up for the show in the usual plentiful numbers.

A plant show is always impressive when rhododendrons are on display, and this is especially true when a rustic garden atmosphere is provided for a setting. For the Tacoma Show old rails were used for edging, and the cedar stake fences and Douglas fir trees in the background were in perfect harmony with the many types of plants in the exhibit.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. CRABTREE of Puyallup brought many fine plants and they were rewarded with top prizes. A large plant of R. 'Countess of Athlone' captured the Sweepstakes Cup. Numerous other hybrids of compatible colours were grouped with this fine plant along with many azaleas and specimens of the species *R. chasmanthum* and *R. mucronatum amethystinum*. The R.H.S. Silver-Gilt Affiliated Societies Medal was awarded this display as the best in the Commercial Class. A blue ribbon was also given for the best group of five hybrids, and a plant of R. 'Mrs. G. W. LEAKE' placed second for the Crabtrees in the Single Commercial Hybrid Class to give them the highest total monetary value of awards won by a commercial exhibitor, and therefore they will receive the Banksian Medal, awarded by permission of the Council of The Royal Horticultural Society.

Another interesting Commercial Display was entered by WOODLAND PARK FLORAL CO., of Sumner. R. 'Loderi' 'King George' stood out in the centre of the exhibit, but it was well supported by other

hybrids, and the massed azaleas interested all visitors. Second place in the class went to this firm.

ELMER JONAS depended on a very nice plant of *R. mucronatum amethystinum* to set the tone for a display that won third in the Commercial Class. Some good fuchsias along with geraniums and primulas were also used.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. placed first in the Commercial Landscaping Class, using a tiered effect with dwarf evergreens mingled with many fine plants of hybrids featuring the very handsome *R. 'Ibex'*.

Mr. and Mrs. I. S. BROXSON of Tacoma placed second in the Group of Five Commercial Hybrids Class. *R. 'Butterfly'* dominated the centre of the group, and it was flanked by beautiful large plants of 'J. H. Van Nes', 'Langley Park' and 'Earl of Athlone'. A large plant of 'J. H. Van Nes' won first place for the BROXSONS in the Single Commercial Hybrid Class. Plants of *R. racemosum* and *R. hippophaeoides* completed this handsome exhibit which was entered in the Commercial Display Class.

Large numbers of highly interesting plants were entered in the non-commercial classes. Dr. CHAS. S. BERRY had a fine lot of hybrids at the show which were in excellent flower and condition. 'Loder's White' won first as the best hybrid, 'Hon. Jean Marie de Montague' placed second, and a lovely 'Loderi Venus' was third to give Dr. BERRY a clean sweep in this section.

A non-competitive display was set up on the large stage of the hall by the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma. In the centre was a vivid plant of 'Fusilier'. Azaleas and other plants were used by Mr. HOWARD HARMON with real artistry to paint a beautiful and colourful picture with living flowers.

The U.S. GOVERNMENT CANAL LOCKS in Seattle displayed the unusual *R. Baileyi*, *R. racemosum*, *R. sperabile*, *R. tephropeplum* and the seldom seen *R. megocalyx*, along with plants of *R. 'Hi No Mayo'*, *R. 'Hi No Degiri'* and *R. molle*.

Mrs. ROBERT TRESCH arranged many interesting dwarf plants in a patio of natural stone in the centre of the hall. Included were a small plant of *R. 'Mrs. W. C. Slocock'*, *R. fastigiatum*, *R. ferrugineum*, *R. hirsutum*, *R. impeditum* and *R. calostrotum*.

Mr. CHAS. WOODS showed a plant of *R. 'Mars'* and Mrs. DAVE CURRY brought 'Blue Peter'.

LEONARD F. FRISBIE won first in the Non-Commercial Display Class with a group of interesting American native species. For the third successive year a plant of an American native species placed first in the Species Class. FRISBIE won with a large plant of *R. atlanticum album*.

A wealth of pure white flowers and the unusual tall, lax and eccentric growth aroused a lot of interest. A nice plant of the very charming *R. carolinianum album* placed third in the species class. Pure white flowers, well formed small trusses, bright green foliage and a neat plant habit all added up to real quality in this one. Other species included were *R. calendulaceum*, *R. austrinum*, *R. speciosum*, *R. atlanticum* (low growing), *R. nudiflorum*, *R. ambiguum*, *R. neriiflorum*, *R. oreotrephes* and *R. Aberconwayi*.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ARBORETUM of Seattle placed second in the Non-Commercial Display Class with a most interesting group of species including: *R. deliense*, *R. oleifolium*, *R. bullatum*, *R. mucronatum album*, *R. decorum*, *R. yunnanense*, *R. Schlippenbachii*, *R. Vaseyi*, *R. Kaempferi* and *R. japonicum*.

MISS GERTRUDE CUNNINGHAM showed a good group of azaleas all paying court to a magnificent plant of 'Hi No Mayo', centrally placed, which was one of the most beautiful and popular plants in the show. This display placed third in the Non-Commercial Class.

Space does not permit the listing of all the many plants by name, but numerous types of rhododendrons were represented, and the show was a real contribution to rhododendron education. The azalea series was very well presented, both in the evergreen and deciduous classes. Some of the Ilam azaleas from New Zealand were especially fine. *R. austrinum* with long tubular, soft yellow flowers, hanging in a complete circle around the terminal, showed both beauty and quality in its debut in this section.

THE SEATTLE RHODODENDRON SHOW, 1954

Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. 6th-9th May, 1954

by

Harry R. Madison

BRILLIANT trusses of Rhododendron blooms on huge plants mingling with slender alpine firs in the background, lovely smaller dwarf Rhododendrons in the foreground lining the paths, water falling from a rocky ledge, a babbling brook disappearing among low Azaleas and green sphagnum moss and the sweet scent of *R. Fortunei* vying with the more pungent fragrance of balsam fir, all formed a wooded fairyland of living colour. This was the Rhododendron Show of the Seattle Rhododendron Society held at the University of Washington Stadium from 6th to 9th May.

A stroll down the central path through this enchanted scene revealed at closer inspection many interesting exhibits and landscapes. First, on our right, was a display by the University of Washington, its central theme a large bronze sundial with a tile path leading into the garden. Tall flowering trees formed the background with Rhododendron species closer in, a cut leaf maple to one side and evergreen white Azaleas cleverly placed on the other side. Along the garden path were primulas set off with red 'Hexe' Azaleas and larger *R. molle* blending into the background. A purple ribbon denoted an Honourable Mention Award for this display.

The next exhibit was a beautiful non-commercial display by Mr. THOMAS F. MARTIN, which won second place in its class. Farther on was the display by the UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ARBORETUM. In reality it was a bit of the Arboretum transplanted and represented a naturalistic landscape of good proportions. Near by was a commercial exhibit of Rhododendrons by HOPKINS NURSERY which won third prize in its class group.

ENDRE OSTBO'S KING OF SHRUBS NURSERY display was an unusual woodland planting, containing such hybrid Rhododendrons as 'Flame', 'Lady Rosebery', 'Bow Bells' and 'Temple Belle'. The display won second award in its class. An outstanding feature was the seedling

class for 'a flowering plant of any hybrid seedling *Rhododendron* raised by the exhibitor'. There were a number of excellent seedlings in this class and the best seedling in the show, which won the coveted Seattle Rhododendron Society's Annual Achievement Award Cup for Mr. OSTBO was the cross between 'Mrs. Donald Graham' (*Griersonianum*—'Corona' × 'Loderi') and 'Mrs. R. H. Holford'. The $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter flowers were of a salmon-rose with a throat of somewhat darker shade. A red blotch on the upper lobe of the corolla was its distinguishing feature, and accentuated its bright colour. The foliage was of a dark green, with leaves 2 in. wide and 5 in. long.

Another of Mr. OSTBO's seedlings was a deep yellow hybrid with a tinge of orange picotee, which was a cross of 'Mariloo' with a yellow of the same parentage as the cultivar 'King of Shrubs'. Another good yellow seedling was the cross between 'Damaris' and *R. Wardii*. An attractive and unusual *Azaleodendron* had flowers of an apple blossom pink. This seedling resulted from a hybridization of the azalea type species *R. occidentale* with the hybrid 'Aladdin'.

The Display of the PRENTICE NURSERY AND DECORATING COMPANY was the outstanding one of the show. It took first prize in the largest size class, for which CLARENCE PRENTICE received the Perpetual Cup for the Best Landscape Display. Surrounding a pool of water below a waterfall was a group of low growing *Rhododendrons*, such as 'Elizabeth', and a small 'F. C. Puddle' and 'Chanticleer'. Farther back among the rocks above the falls were *Prunus Sargentii* mingled with silvery alpine firs. To the left of the falls a flagstone path with steps led to the Oriental garden over which two huge glazed ceramic Chinese dragon heads stood guard. A split bamboo backdrop with pink *Clematis montana* draped gracefully against the wall formed a background for a group of *Rhododendrons*, such as the F.C.C. form of 'Goblin', 'Idealist', 'Naomi', 'Loder's White', 'Matador', and 'The Honorable Jean Marie de Montague'. Blending into the background was a large *R. Davidsonianum*, and an Exbury biscuit-coloured form of 'Daydream'. The latter won first prize in the class for 'a plant of any hybrid of which *R. Griersonianum* is one parent. Chartreuse yellow 'Mariloo' was another fine plant and it received a second prize. In the foreground the fiery red of *R. haematodes* took the spot-light. The climax of the landscape terminated with a windswept and weatherbeaten old snag.

The conservation committee of the SEATTLE GARDEN CLUB achieved a masterpiece in literally transposing a small bit of Western Washington forest into the show room. There in a naturalistic setting were the native white dogwood *Cornus Nuttallii*, the fragrant western Azalea *R. occidentale*, pink *R. californicum*, evergreen huckleberry, all blended



Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 46.—*R. (Elliottii* \times *rubens)* 'Royal Blood' A.M., 25th May, 1954. Exhibited by the Director, R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley (see p. 88)



Fig. 47.—*Rhododendron* (*lacteum* × 'Naomi' G.) 'Lionel's Triumph' A.M., 4th May, 1954. Exhibited by E. de Rothschild, Esq. (see p. 87)



Photos. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 48.—*Rhododendron* (*barbatum* × *calophytum*) 'Titnes Park' A.M., 30th March, 1954. Exhibited by the Commissioners of Crown Lands, Windsor Great Park, Berks (see p. 89)

with sword ferns, Oregon grapes, salal, and Kinnikinnick. Nestling in the green sphagnum moss were trilliums, wild ginger, dog-tooth violets, wood sorrel, fritillary, baneberry, false Solomon's seal, and bleeding heart.

In an alcove adjoining the main exhibition hall were the cut Rhododendron blooms. The exhibition was small in comparison with the plant displays. The spring was so late and the plants so retarded that only a few private gardens with favourable growing conditions had flowers in time for the show. There were a number of good cut trusses and, the "Best Truss in the Show" was 'Beauty of Littleworth', won by Mr. and Mrs. WM. CALVERT. The rare hybrid between the lepidote and non-lepidote sections of the genus *Rhododendron*, 'Grierdal', a cross between *Griersonianum* and *Dalhousiae*, was first in the class of any hybrid of which *R. Griersonianum* is one parent. The magnificent truss of glowing orange red was exhibited by CLARENCE PRENTICE. Alas, this rare Rhododendron can only be raised here in a cool greenhouse.

An interesting landscape by the LAKE WASHINGTON GARDEN CLUB was followed by a commercial display by VAN'S NORTHGATE NURSERY, which took third prize in its category. Its outstanding feature was a large bed of brilliant red, low growing Azalea 'Hexe'. The MT. RANIER ALPINE GARDEN's plant exhibit contained dwarf Rhododendrons in profusion including the following species: *impeditum*, *trichostomum* var. *ledoides*, *deleense*, *imperator*, *chryseum*, *hippophaeoides* and *fimbriatum*, all artistically blended with dwarf spruces, azaleas, heathers and alpinas.

Near the end of the long path in the centre of the concourse an 8-ft. high plant of *R. 'C.B. Van Nes'* in full bloom drew the attention of all passers by with its brilliant display of red blossoms (Fig. 44). Exhibited by Mrs. RAYMOND E. GARDNER, it won the blue ribbon for the "Best Hybrid in Show". Across the path near by was a very large but graceful *R. Schlippenbachii* in a soft tone of pink that had won a first award in its class for Mrs. HENRY ISSAACSON.

The Decorative Division staged by the Snoqualmie District of the WASHINGTON STATE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS included, in addition to the main section of flower arrangements, dining-table settings, corsages, garden club arrangements, and perhaps the most unique of all, an exhibit of the SENKE SCHOOL OF JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS. All the entries required Rhododendrons and/or Azaleas predominating. There were many fine exhibits in the numerous classes with interesting themes.

Returning towards the main entrance, on the opposite side of the

long path, BASSETT'S GARDEN SUPPLIES had a very good exhibit which entailed considerable rock work, resulting in a natural effect. A little farther on was a magnificent plant of R. 'Loderi' 'King George', exhibited by Mrs. A. ENGAL. When well grown, as this one was, it is a most spectacular Rhododendron, with its blush white 5 to 6 in. wide flowers covering the entire 4-ft. high plant. It received first award in "One Plant of any Form of R. Loderi". In the class calling for a group of Three Specimen Hybrid Plants, the winning award went to W. HUTCHINSON for 'Snow Queen', 'Bow Bells' and 'Electra'. In the class which called for "One Specimen Plant of any Rhododendron Hybrid excluding Loderi", the winning entry was another 'C.B. Van Nes', exhibited by JAMES BRENNEN. The commercial display of Flora Markeeta received a first award for the smaller area class, and ANHALT'S SURE-GRO NURSERIES received a second place award in the large size area class. The non-commercial display of DONALD G. GRAHAM won third in the medium size area class. However, Mr. GRAHAM had the distinction and honour of winning the Perpetual Cup for Best Plant in Show. The best plant in show was his 8 ft. tall, well formed Rhododendron species *Augustinii*, of an unusually good blue colour. It was set between two large plants of the blue 'Electra' with the white Azalea 'Narcissiflora' in the foreground.

LEONARD and FRANCES ROBERSON had a very artistically arranged and attractive display of mostly dwarf and low growing rhododendrons. The focal point of their display was a path leading through the garden to a bench. The colourful landscape of the RICHMOND NURSERIES must have caught the eyes of the judges as it was awarded a first in the medium size class. The CAMPUS NURSERY and MALMO NURSERIES completed the commercial displays.

One last glance before leaving the show disclosed near the main entrance a most unusual seedling raised and exhibited by DONALD K. MCCLURE. The parentage of this seedling was 'Vulcan' (selfed) which resulted in a semi-double trumpet-shaped flower $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 in. across. The bright salmon-pink flowers were held in a lax truss consisting of eight to twelve flowers. The unusual feature, and one which occurs very rarely in Rhododendrons, was the five petaloids in addition to its five regular petals, composing the corolla. The stamens were short and sometimes hidden by the petaloids and they numbered about six.

Major credit for the splendid show staged by the SEATTLE RHODODENDRON SOCIETY and co-sponsored by the UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, should go to Mr. EDWARD B. DUNN, Show Chairman and President of the SEATTLE RHODODENDRON

THE SEATTLE RHODODENDRON SHOW, 1954

SOCIETY, and to DONALD K. MCCLURE, Committee Chairman of Staging. It was a very successful show and well received by the public. In conclusion, a word of praise is due the judges and especially to Major PETER BARBER of Exbury Gardens, Southampton, England. The other judges were CARL P. FAWCETT and J. HERBERT BOWEN, both of Tacoma, Washington, Dr. J. H. CLARKE, Long Beach, Washington, and ROY W. CLARK, Olympia, Washington.

THE CAMELLIA COMPETITION

by

Lanning Roper

THE Camellia Competition which was held in the New Hall on 13th and 14th April again showed an increase in the number of entries over last year. Eighteen exhibitors put up more than 312 entries against fourteen exhibitors with 286 entries in 1953. The quality was generally good although the season had been a trying one with the intense cold of February followed by drought, cold east winds and continual frosts in late March and April. In some localities the warm weather up to Christmas had brought on the plants to such a degree that they were particularly susceptible to frost damage. There was a total of seventy-three classes in three sections. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., scored first with the highest number of places and Sir GILES LODER, Bt., was a close second.

Section One, devoted to single blooms, was further divided into four sub-sections. Sub-section A for single varieties of *Camellia japonica* included the first eight classes. In Class 1 for *C. japonica* 'alba simplex' there were eight entries. First place went to Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., for a perfectly formed flower, 3½ in. in diameter, with nicely spaced stamens. Second and third places went to Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD of Exbury House, Southampton, and to Mr. REGINALD TRY of St. Leonard's Hill, Windsor. Class 2 for a single bloom of 'Devoniensis' had only three entries, Mr. C. ARMYTAGE MOORE of Winterfold House, Cranleigh, Surrey, taking first place with a slightly ruffled form in perfect condition, which stood up well on the second day of the Show. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, Ltd., took second.

Class 3 for a single bloom of 'Jupiter' attracted only one entry, Sir GEORGE JESSEL, Bt., of Ladham House, Goudhurst, Kent, taking second prize with a deep funnel-shaped rich red flower. Class 4 for any single-flowered red variety not specified above was popular. Mr. REGINALD TRY was first of the nine entries with an unnamed flower, 4 in. across, rich red, attractively veined and slightly cup-shaped. Mr. ARMYTAGE MOORE showed 'Sylvia' with brilliantly coloured and deeply notched petals for second place and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS took third with a large flower of 'Bush Hill Beauty' with its alternation

of three narrow petals with three broad ones, all lying flat and making a pleasantly symmetrical pattern.

Of the five entries in Class 5 for any single-flowered white not already specified Sir GILES LODER of Leonardslee, Horsham, took first with a small flat symmetrical bloom of 'White Swan'. Mr. REGINALD TRY was second with an unnamed white and Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were third with 'Surubumi', with very broad reflexed petals, long stamens and a prominent green ovary.

In Class 6 for a self-coloured variety other than red or white THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were first of the four entries with an unnamed pink, heavily veined and deeply cup-shaped. Messrs. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were third with 'Excelsa', a 5-petalled, strong pink with long notched ruffled petals and a high tight boss of white stamens tipped gold.

Sir GILES LODER was placed first with a very round even bloom of 'Snow Goose' in Class 7 for a single-flowered, blotched or striped variety, the pure white being varied by a single blotch and a small spot of pale pink. Mr. TRY was second with an unnamed variety and third with an unnamed 6-petalled bloom with three petals predominantly red, the other three heavily striped, all the petals being pointed and the flower cup-shaped like a tulip. This was a very arresting Camellia and attracted comment.

Class 8 for any three single-flowered varieties was keenly contested by seven exhibitors. Sir GILES LODER for first place staged 'Snow Goose', a magnolia-like form of 'alba simplex' and 'Hatsu-Sakura', with very broad flat petals, pink with darker pink flecks, and a ring of stamens and lacinated petaloids, creamy yellow tinged pink. In second place Mr. TRY showed three unnamed varieties, offering an interesting gradation in size and colour. A deep scarlet about 4 in. in diameter, a 3½-in. cerise pink, and a 3-in. pale pink. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were third with 'Bush Hill Beauty', a 4¼-in. 'Hatsu-Sakura' with fewer petals than that exhibited by Sir GILES LODER and a large unnamed white. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were fourth.

SUB-SECTION B. SEMI-DOUBLE VARIETIES OF CAMELLIA JAPONICA

Class 9 for 'Adolphe Audusson' was a popular class and four awards were made, the first prize going to the Misses E. and E. GODMAN of South Lodge, Horsham, for a 5¼-in. bloom of a very brilliant red, rather lighter than some of the others, with a prominent boss of yellow anthers. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., took second with a deeper coloured form, rather smaller and with the petals intermixed

with stamens. Sir GILES LODER showed a less full flower, $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter and with small inconspicuous anthers. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS exhibited a more petaloid form for fourth place.

In Class 10 for 'Donckelarii' Sir GILES LODER took first and third with a red form of uniform colouring and a slightly smaller one with white and pale red markings on the majority of petals; THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS showed a mottled form for second place and the Misses E. and E. GODMAN were fourth. One of the loveliest Camellias in the show took first prize in Class 11 for 'Gloire de Nantes'. This beautifully formed, richly coloured flower with a high centre, surrounded by broad glistening leaves was exhibited by Mr. C. BARRANGER. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., staged a slightly larger, less crisp form for second place and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were third. Class 12 for 'Lady Clare' is always popular and this year there were eight entries headed by THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS, Mr. C. ARMYTAGE MOORE and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD.

In Class 13 for 'Magnoliaeflora' there was considerable variation in colour and form among the eight entries. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were awarded first for a clear pale pink flower with a high centre, the outer petals rounded, the inner ones pointed. Mr. C. BARRANGER was second with a slightly looser, less symmetrical bloom with an irregular centre and Mrs. H. G. WATKIN of Heathfield, Crown Hill, Plymouth, showed an even paler form.

In Class 14 for any semi-double red not specified above first and third places went to Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., and Mr. C. BARRANGER, who staged 'Apollo' and 'Mercury' respectively. Sir GILES LODER showed 'Mars' for second place, a name appropriate to the other two. In Class 15 for any semi-double white as above he took first with 'alba grandiflora', $4\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter, pure white, ruffled and very full. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were in second place with a $5\frac{1}{4}$ -in. bloom of 'Sode-Gakushi', less full and less symmetrical. Mr. REGINALD TRY showed an unnamed bloom with a mass of petaloids for third place.

Class 16, calling for any semi-double, self-coloured variety other than red or white and not specified above, had five entries, Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were in first place with 'Elegans', THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS second with 'Bush Hill Beauty' and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD third with 'Joy Sander'. Class 17 for any semi-double blotched or striped variety not specified above is always attractive. The first of the six entries was 'Ozonran' staged by Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD. It was a well formed flower, white

with prominent red stripes, four red flecks and brilliant gold free-standing anthers. Mr. BARRANGER took second with 'Dobrei', a fine full red flower with slight white markings on one of the inner petals. Sir GILES LODER's third prize winner was the lovely 'Tricolor', a Camellia of medium size, white tinged pink with broad stripes and splashes of bright pink making the colouration almost equally divided.

Class 18 for any three semi-double varieties was won by Mr. BARRANGER with an exceptional group including 'Mercury', 'Fred Sander' and 'Adolphe Audusson', all in the same colour range. The bloom of the second was one of the finest in the show with its rich colour and fimbriated petals of great substance. Sir GILES LODER took second and Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., third.

SUB-SECTION C. INCOMPLETE DOUBLE VARIETIES OF C. JAPONICA

Mr. BARRANGER also took first prize in Class 19 for 'Elegans' with a large flower with a very full petaloid centre. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were second with a slightly smaller form of a deeper colour and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS showed a very full flower with the centre tinged yellow for third.

In Class 20 calling for 'Nobilissima' Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were the first of the five entries followed by Sir GILES LODER and Mr. R. TRY. There were only two entries in Class 21 for 'Preston Rose', Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., showing an exceptionally fine flower $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter and Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD coming second with a paler, more veined and mottled form. Class 22 for any anemone-centred variety attracted seven entries, Mr. C. BARRANGER winning with a round well-formed 4-in. flower of 'Elegans' and Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., and Sir GILES LODER placing second and third with unnamed exhibits. Sir GILES LODER took first prize in Class 23 for an incomplete double red variety not previously specified with a 4-in. bloom of 'Althaeiflora', Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., taking second with 'Kelvingtonia' and Mr. DE ROTHSCHILD third with 'Childsii'. Messrs J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., took first place with 'Platypetala' in Class 24, there being no other entry. This was a lovely flower, white, symmetrical, and very full with a loose high anemone centre. In Class 25 for any incomplete double self-coloured variety other than red and white Mrs. H. G. WATKIN took first place with an unnamed raspberry pink flower veined with bluish red and flecked white in the centre. Sir GILES LODER placed next with 'Dombreyi' and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD was third with a flower he showed as 'Joy Sander' but there was some doubt as to the validity of this name.

Class 26, the last for incomplete doubles, called for a blotched or striped variety. Mrs. WATKINS was again winner with a pink striped with deeper rose combining full sized petals with smaller ones. This was shown under the name 'Optima', but the authenticity of this name is doubtful. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS, & CRISP, LTD., took second with a bloom of 'General Lamoricière', pale pink striped and stippled with a stronger shade, the centre tinged with yellow. Mr. R. TRY took third with a small imbricated flower with the petals irregularly edged with a wide white margin, the base being rose.

SUB-SECTION D. COMPLETE DOUBLE VARIETIES OF CAMELLIA JAPONICA

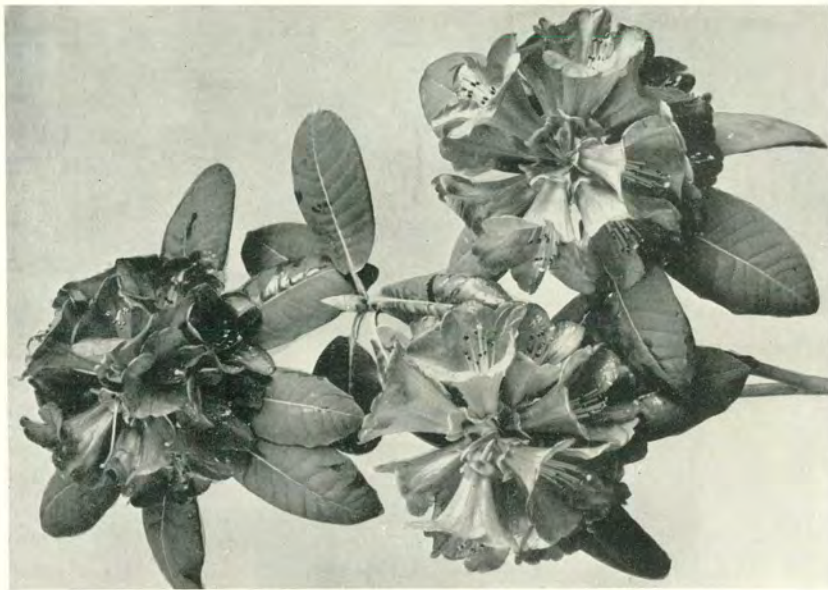
Mr. REGINALD TRY placed first among the three entries in Class 27 for a single bloom of 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', with Sir GILES LODER and Mr. BARRANGER placing second and third. The bloom exhibited by the last was large and very fine but there was some doubt as to the authenticity of the plant as it showed wide variation from the usual form of this flower. In Class 28 for 'Lady Hume's Blush' Sir GILES LODER was the only exhibitor.

Class 29 for 'Mathotiana' was interesting for it produced two flowers showing marked variation. Mr. BARRANGER for first prize showed a 5-in. broad-petalled flower of rich glowing red. The centre was high and the petals were noticeably rounded. In second place Sir GILES LODER staged a 3½-in. flower, well formed, of a very dark red heavily veined. Like Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., third prize bloom it was much more regularly imbricated, flatter and with more pointed petals. The Misses GODMAN showed a 4½-in. bloom with broad rounded petals, more resembling Mr. BARRANGER's form. Here were two very different flowers under the name of 'Mathotiana'.

Class 30 for the rose form of the above had five entries. First place went to Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., for a large very full, imbricated flower with the edges of the petals showing darker veining like stippling. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were second with a flower of equal size, but with broader, more pointed petals. A striking Camellia from the Misses GODMAN filled the other place. This was not unlike a cactus Dahlia with the pale pink petals edged white and the whole flower very high and symmetrical. Here again it was very different from the other forms of 'Mathotiana rosea'. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., Mr. C. BARRANGER and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD were the only exhibitors in Class 31 for 'Mathotiana alba' and placed in that order, as did Sir GILES LODER, Mr. C. BARRANGER and Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., in Class 32 for 'alba plena'.



FIG. 49.—*Rhododendron* (*Meddianum* Forrest 24219 × *strigillosum*) 'Rocket' A.M., 30th March, 1954. Exhibited by Mrs. Roza M. Stevenson, Tower Court, Ascot, Berks. (see p. 88)



Photos, J. E. Downward]

FIG. 50.—*Rhododendron Meddianum* var. *atrokermesinum* A.M., 13th April, 1954. Exhibited by R. Olaf Hambro, Esq., Logan House, Stranraer (see p. 88)



Photo. J. E. Downward]

FIG. 51.—A plant of *R. prostratum* in Class 85 at the Rhododendron Show

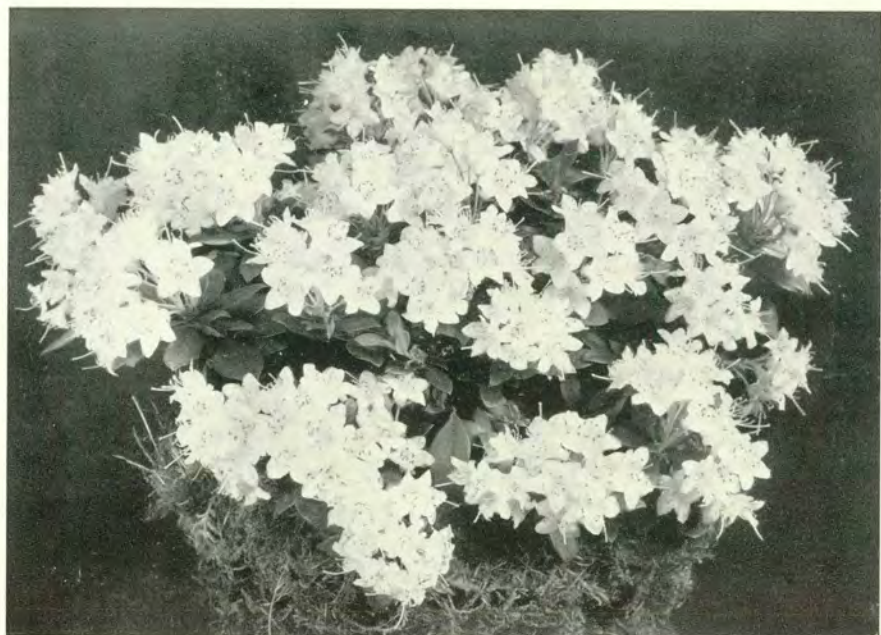


Photo. J. E. Downward

FIG. 52.—*R. Hanceanum* var *nanum* exhibited by E. de Rothschild, Esq. (see p. 61)

Class 33 for any complete double red was popular with seven entries. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., placing first with a 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. bloom of 'Mme. Francillon', Mr. BARRANGER second with 'Imbricata rubra plena' and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS third with an unnamed variety. Class 34 for a complete double white attracted eight entries, many of which were unnamed. This is an indication of the need for identification of the many old plants in English gardens. Mr. R. TRY placed first with an unnamed variety of good form and substance. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS filled second place with a very full, unnamed flower, shaded yellow at the centre. Messrs. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., received third prize for the little known 'Bertha Ravene'. In Class 35 for any self-coloured variety other than red or white Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were first among the eight entries with a fine 'Duc de Bretagne' in perfect condition; THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS second with a pale pink 'Souvenir de Bahuaud Litou' and Sir GILES LODER third with 'Rubescens major', 4 in. in diameter with dark veining and a little light mottling.

Class 36 for any complete double splotted or striped variety was popular with nine entries. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., in first place showed 'Prince Albert', a very full rose-coloured flower, streaked and veined with red. So numerous were the petals that they seemed twisted almost as if they had been bunched together artificially. In second place was Mr. REGINALD TRY's unnamed flower with imbricated pointed petals of deep rosy red with a paler streak in the centre of each.

Class 37 for three complete double varieties had five entries, Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., placing first with 'Mathotiana' and the varieties 'alba' and 'rosea', all over 4 in. across and in perfect condition. The Misses GODMAN showed a very large 5-in. bloom of 'Mathotiana rosea' and 'Imbricata alba'. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS were in third place with 'Mathotiana rosea', 'Lady Marion' and 'Souvenir de Bahuaud Litou'.

SUB-SECTION E. MISCELLANEOUS

Class 38 for any six varieties had six entries and there was surprisingly little duplication of varieties. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were first with 'Madame Francillon', 'Rubescens major', 'Rubens', 'Beauté de Nantes', 'Adolphe Audusson' and 'Mathotiana rosea'. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS in second place staged 'Kelvingtonia', 'Hatsu-Sakura', 'Hassai', 'Adolphe Audusson', 'grandiflora alba' and 'Elegans'. Mr. C. BARRANGER's entries in third place

consisted of 'Mathotiana', 'Dobrei', 'Fred Sander', 'Mercury', 'Elegans' and an unnamed red. Competition was close and the judges' task considerable.

In Class 39 for the wild form of *C. reticulata* there were two entries, Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD alone placing. Most of the flowers were not well formed, probably as a result of frosty weather. In Class 40 for any double or semi-double variety of the same species Mr. C. ARMYTAGE MOORE placed first with a very full 5-in. flower of intense colouring with well distributed petals. Sir GILES LODER took second with a slightly larger but very loose flower of paler colour. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were third.

The five entries in Class 41 for *C. saluenensis* showed considerable variation in both form and colour. Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD was in first place with a large bluish pink bloom with the petals slightly reflexed at the tips. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., were second with a slightly paler, more cup-shaped form and Mr. C. ARMYTAGE MOORE was third with a smaller form of a good clear pink. Class 42 for any pale pink variety of *C. × Williamsii* had five entries. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS taking first with a clear pink, Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD second with a rather paler form and Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., third with 'J. C. Williams'. Class 43 for a dark variety of the same hybrid had three entries who placed as follows: THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS, Col. R. S. CLARKE, M.P., Borde Hill, Haywards Heath, Sussex and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD. In Class 44 for any other hybrid of *C. saluenensis* the first three places went to the same exhibitors. THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS taking first with *C. × 'Salutation' (C. saluenensis × C. reticulata)*, a 4-in. double bloom of wild rose pink. Second place went to Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD for 'Inspiration' of a deeper pink faintly tinged with blue, and third to Col. R. S. CLARKE, M.P., for another form of 'Salutation' with pale pink very crinkled petals.

Class 45 for any hybrid not specified above had three entries, Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., taking first with 'Mme. Francillon' and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD second with 'Maiden's Blush'. Class 46 for any three species, varieties, or hybrids was won by Mr. C. BARRANGER with a trio which included a fine 'Mathotiana' with a solid rosebud centre, 'Fred Sander' of almost the same colouring and a very large fine form of 'Mercury'. Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP's flowers of 'Margaret Rose', 'La Pace' and 'Madame Le Bois' were an interesting contrast in shape and form. Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD in third place showed 'Lady Clare', 'Hatsu-Sakura' and 'Mercury'. Class 47 for six blooms, instead of three as above, had five entries of uniform high

standard which made judging difficult. Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD was placed first, followed by C. ARMYTAGE MOORE and Mr. C. BARRANGER.

SECTION II., ONE SPRAY

Class 51 for a spray of *C. cuspidata* was won by Sir GILES LODER with a well flowered spray and Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD, the only other exhibitor, took second. Although unspectacular, this species is peculiarly arresting, especially with its glossy narrow leaves which are carried at an angle and give a feeling of movement. Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD also took first in Class 52 for a spray of any single-flowered variety of *C. japonica* with the striking red 'Kimberley', its red anthers tipped gold. Sir GILES LODER was second with a fine spray of 'Snow Goose' and Mr. C. ARMYTAGE MOORE was in third place with 'alba simplex'.

In Class 53 for any semi-double variety Mr. C. BARRANGER showed a fine large flowered variety, possibly 'Apollo', for first; second and third places were as in the preceding class for sprays of 'Donckelarii' and 'Lady Clare'. There were seven entries in Class 54 for a spray of any incomplete double variety. Sir GILES LODER took first with 'Althaeiflora', both flowers and leaves being in excellent condition. Mr. C. BARRANGER was in second with 'Elegans' and Sir GILES LODER third with 'Dombreyi'. Of the seven entries in Class 55 for a spray of any double variety of *C. japonica* Mr. C. BARRANGER was first with 'Eximia', a handsome imbricated red; Sir GILES LODER, second with an unnamed variety, pale pink, flecked and striped with reddish pink; THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS third with an unnamed white, splotched with purplish pink. Although there were five entries in Class 56 for one spray of three varieties, only two were placed, Mr. C. BARRANGER in first, and Mr. ARMYTAGE MOORE in third.

Class 57 for a wild form of *C. reticulata* had only two entries, Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD taking second place. This species does not show well and the flowers tend to be imperfect. Class 58 for any double or semi-double variety of *reticulata* was spectacular. Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD was first with well shaped flowers of fine colour. Sir GILES LODER in second staged the largest flowered form and Mr. ARMYTAGE MOORE was a very close third.

Seven entries in Class 59 for a spray of *C. saluenensis* or *C. × Williamsii* showed considerable variation in quality. 'J. C. Williams' was exhibited by THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS for first place and by Sir GEORGE JESSEL, Bt., for third. Col. R. S. CLARKE, M.P., took second with 'Donation'. Class 60 for 'Cornish Snow' attracted no entries. In Class 61 for any other hybrid of *C. saluenensis* THE

COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS and Col. R. S. CLARKE, M.P., showed 'Salutation' for first and second places, the latter exhibit being more crinkled and papery.

Class 62 for one spray of each of any three species and/or varieties and/or hybrids had five entries, Col. R. S. CLARKE, M.P., taking first place with 'Donation', 'Salutation' and 'Nigra', Sir GILES LODER was second with *reticulata*, 'alba simplex' and 'Tricolor', and THE COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS third with 'J. C. Williams', 'Bush Hill Beauty' and 'Adolphe Audusson'. Class 63 for one spray of six as above had four entries. First place went to Sir GILES LODER, second to Mr. C. ARMYTAGE MOORE and third to Mr. E. DE ROTHSCHILD, each of whom showed *C. reticulata* and two selected 'Donckelarii'. Otherwise there was no duplication of varieties.

SECTION III

Class 71 for a Camellia plant in bloom, height not to exceed 36 in. from the soil, had five entries. No first prize was given but Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., took second with a fine 'Mathotiana alba' with seven perfect flowers and excellent foliage. Sir GILES LODER was third with a *Williamsii* hybrid. In Class 72 for three Camellia plants Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., the only exhibitors, were awarded a second place.

The last class called for a vase or bowl of Camellias. Col. R. S. CLARKE took first place with a low flaring glass bowl filled with sprays of the two contrasting pinks, 'Salutation' and 'Donation', and third place with a celadon bowl of 'Nigra', the deep rich colouring effective with the pale green of the container. Sir GILES LODER was second with a green glass container with sprays of 'Tricolor', ranging from white flowers tinged with pink to flowers in which the two colours were almost evenly divided to all pink, the variation making a subtle blend.

NON-COMPETITIVE CLASSES

A Silver-gilt Flora Medal was awarded to Messrs. J. WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD., for an exhibit of Camellia plants, most of which were very fine and well flowered. Messrs. HASKINS BROS., LTD., Bournemouth, received a Silver Flora Medal for a table exhibit of Camellias. This consisted of a great number of small well flowered plants in groups of ten to twelve of each variety. Messrs. SUNNINGDALE NURSERIES, Windlesham, staged a mixed exhibit of large Camellia plants, Rhododendrons and tree Peonies.

AWARDS TO CAMELLIAS AND RHODODENDRONS, 1954

Camellia (reticulata Wild Form × saluenensis) 'Inspiration' A.M. 16th March, 1954. A large, well-flowered specimen was shown. On it the leaves were 3 in. long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, small and glossy. The flowers were $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across and contained about twenty petals. Each of these was slightly frilled around the margin and coloured Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625/1). There was a variable number of stamens with an occasional one petaloid. Exhibited by E. de Rothschild, Esq., Exbury House, nr. Southampton (Fig. 34).

Camellia japonica 'Mathotiana Rosea' A.M. 16th March, 1954. The plant shown was a particularly fine, large-flowered specimen. The flowers were $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, Formal Double and coloured a bright shade of Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1). On this variety the leaves differed in shape; a few were typical of the species but the majority varied in intermediate degrees between orbiculate and oblanceolate. In texture the foliage was coriaceous and coloured a singularly dark, lustrous green. Exhibited by Messrs. John Waterer, Sons & Crisp, Ltd., The Nurseries, Bagshot, Surrey (Fig. 40).

Rhododendron barbatum A.M. 30th March, 1954. For many years this well-known Himalayan species has been in cultivation and in the wild it will make a tree 30–60 ft. in height. The leaves are 5 in. long × $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, elliptic-lanceolate, the apex acute and the margins reflexed; underneath there is a woolly tomentum which gradually disperses as the leaf ages. Characteristically the petiole and branchlets are clad with long bristles. The small, compact truss is composed of about fifteen flowers the colour of which is a bright Turkey Red (H.C.C. 721/2). Exhibited by C. Armytage Moore, Esq., Winterfold House, Cranleigh, Surrey.

Rhododendron (Sheila Moore) 'Cerisette' A.M. 25th May, 1954. This plant arose from the crossing of *R. decorum* and *R. Elliottii*. The heavy globular truss is made up of eleven flowers. Each of these is coloured Fuchsine Pink (H.C.C. 627/1) with a scarlet band around the throat and limited, scarlet spotting. The corolla is 3 in. long × $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, shallow, campanulate and has large, frilled lobes. Exhibited by Col. The Lord Digby, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Minterne, Dorchester, Dorset.

Rhododendron concatenans 'Copper' (L. and S. 6560) A.M. 4th May, 1954. A typical form with a four-flowered, lax truss. The corolla is tubular and coloured inside Chinese Coral (H.C.C. 614/1) suffused with shades of red and orange; outside it is a bright shade of red that deepens towards the base. It was shown under the name *R. cinnabarinum* 'Cuprea'. Exhibited by Capt. Collingwood Ingram, F.L.S., V.M.H., The Grange, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent.

Rhododendron (Gloriana G.) 'Coral Reef' A.M. 12th June, 1954. A singular hybrid of unusual colour which will attract attention in any planting of Rhododendrons. The lax, open truss is twelve-flowered and shows a tendency to be flat-topped. A dense covering of glandular hairs coats the pedicel and similarly the small, irregular calyx. Endowed with *R. Griersonianum* in its breeding ('*Fabia*' × '*Goldsworth Orange*') the corolla has the same large lobes and cylindrical tube as the species. In colour the flowers are a pale blend of salmon pink fringed by rose at the margins and lightly tinged with apricot around the throat while the upper lobe is spotted with apricot. The buds are a light shade of pink and orange. Exhibited from the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey.

Rhododendron (Surprise G.) 'Faltho' (Falconeri × Thomsonii) A.M. 13th April, 1954. A large-flowered hybrid showing the significant characteristics of both parents. The leaves are 8 in. long × 5 in. wide, broadly obovate, rugose; beneath some indumentum. Up to thirty flowers form the large, heavy, conical truss with each flower borne on a mealy pedicel. The campanulate corolla is 2½ in. long × 3¼ in. wide and coloured Rose Madder (H.C.C. 23-23/1) together with some faint spotting on the upper lobes and dark crimson blotches at the base. Exhibited by Sir Giles Loder, Bt., Leonardslee, Horsham, Sussex (Fig. 12).

Rhododendron (Jalisco G.) 'Goshawk' F.C.C. 12th June, 1954. This very beautiful plant is one of the many progeny from the crossing of *R. 'Dido'* and *R. 'Lady Bessborough'* and makes a fine shrub about 10 ft. high or so. The large campanulate corolla is a varying shade of Mimosa Yellow (H.C.C. 60/1) with a dark shade on the upper lobes and some deep crimson spotting. The flat-topped truss is made up of nine flowers each pendulous on long, curved, red-stained pedicels. The calyx is small, irregular, dark red and frilled with glandular hairs. Exhibited by the Commissioners of Crown Lands, Windsor Great Park, Berks (Fig. 41).

Rhododendron (discolor hybrid × 'Richard Gill') 'Helen Webster' A.M. 25th May, 1954. A brightly flowered plant with a large dome-shaped truss made up of eleven flowers. Each of these is flat campanulate, has large prettily frilled lobes and is coloured a shade of Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625/3) which darkens towards the lobes and has some orange-brown spotting. Exhibited by Commissioners of Crown Lands, Windsor Great Park, Berks.

Rhododendron heliolepis (Forrest 26961) A.M. 29th June, 1954. A species with aromatic foliage and scaly shoots and branchlets. The flowers are in small loose trusses and on the form exhibited were white with green and brown spotting. Exhibited by Mrs. Roza Marie Stevenson, Tower Court, Ascot, Berks.

Rhododendron (calophytum × lacteum) 'Jocelyn' A.M. 13th April, 1954. The large, lax, drooping truss is composed of twenty-two flowers borne on long, curved, crimson-stained pedicels 2 in. long. The corolla is $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long × 4 in. wide, broad campanulate and white with a light cream tinge on the upper lobes and a crimson blotch in the throat. The oblanceolate leaves are 8 in. long × $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. across and show indumentum beneath. Exhibited by E. de Rothschild, Esq., Exbury House, nr. Southampton.

Rhododendron ('Fabia' × litiense) 'Lascaux' A.M. 12th June, 1954. An unusual plant with a prominent, petaloid calyx irregular in shape and up to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long. The corolla is deep campanulate with a broad tube and of a fleshy texture. Like the calyx it is coloured Barium Yellow (H.C.C. 503/2) and has a small crimson blotch around the base of the throat. The buds are a blended shade of red and orange. About eight such flowers make up the lax, flat-topped truss. Exhibited from the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey.

Rhododendron (lacteum × 'Naomi') 'Lionel's Triumph' A.M. 4th May, 1954. A magnificent and outstanding hybrid raised by the late Mr. Lionel de Rothschild. The oblanceolate leaves have a pointed apex and an auriculate base, are 8 in. long × $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. across and have a tough petiole 2 in. long. In colour the corolla is Dresden Yellow (H.C.C. 64/3) with a slightly darker shade on the upper lobe and a crimson blotch and a limited amount of crimson spotting in the throat. Each campanulate flower is 3 in. long × 4 in. across and has large, emarginate lobes 1 in. long × $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. About eighteen such flowers on long, red-stained pedicels make up the truss. Exhibited by E. de Rothschild, Esq., Exbury House, nr. Southampton.

Rhododendron Meddianum var. atrokermesinum A.M. 13th April, 1954. This is a variety with darker and larger flowers than the type. The lax, open truss is made up of fourteen flowers each on a stout pedicel. The corolla is $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long \times $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, tubular-campanulate, coloured a pale shade of Turkey Red (H.C.C. 721) and has a little dark spotting on the upper lobes. Exhibited by R. Olaf Hambro, Esq., Logan House, Stranraer (Fig. 50).

Rhododendron praevernum A.M. 30th March, 1954. A Chinese species from the province of Hupeh, found in woods at about 6,000 ft., and one that is akin to *R. sutchuenense*. Its leaves are 9 in. long \times $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. across and narrow oblanceolate. On the upper surface the leaves are dark green; beneath a pale green and a prominent, glabrous mid rib. The inflorescence is made up of fifteen flowers in a lax, flat-topped truss. The corolla is $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long and as much across, campanulate and white in colour with a pinkish-blue blush, and a crimson-chocolate blotch in the throat. Exhibited by Col. The Lord Digby, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Cerne Abbey, Dorchester, Dorset.

Rhododendron (euchaites \times (Griersonianum \times haematodes)) 'Review Order' A.M. 25th May, 1954. A hybrid with a lax truss made up of about five flowers on long pubescent pedicels. The corolla is campanulate and coloured Blood Red (H.C.C. 820/2) besides some faint brown spotting. On the underside of the leaves there is a dense, thick tomentum and a woolly tomentum on the petioles. Exhibited by The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Stair, D.S.O., K.T., Lochinch Castle, Stranraer.

Rhododendron (Meddianum (Forrest 24219) \times strigillosum) 'Rocket' A.M. 30th March, 1954. This is a fine, richly-coloured hybrid with a nine-flowered, lax-topped truss. The large corolla is $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times 3 in. wide, campanulate, a clear shade of Blood Red (H.C.C. 820/2) and it is spotted faintly with brown on the upper lobes. The leaves are 6 in. long \times 2 in. wide, oblanceolate, mucronate; beneath there is an indumentum which is soon glabrous. Exhibited by Mrs. Roza Marie Stevenson, Tower Court, Ascot, Berks (Fig. 49).

Rhododendron (Elliottii \times rubens) 'Royal Blood' A.M. 25th May, 1954. Undoubtedly an exceptional hybrid where between thirty-five and forty flowers are crowded into a large shapely truss. The corolla is deep campanulate with prominent basal nectaries and coloured Cardinal Red (H.C.C. 822/1) together with very dark blood red spotting. The leaves are oblong-elliptic in shape; dull green above and beneath show a vestigial tomentum. Exhibited from the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey.

Rhododendron silvaticum 'Silvia' A.M. 13th April, 1954. The type was first described by Dr. J. Macqueen Cowan in his paper on "Some New Asiatic Rhododendrons discovered by Kingdon Ward", published in *Notes from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh*, Vol. XIX (1933-8), pp. 185-6. The variety of this plant exhibited by Mr. Hambro was a particularly fine one with a firm globular truss composed of forty flowers packed tightly together. Each flower was $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. long \times 2 in. across, tubular-campanulate and had deep, frilled lobes. Their colour was a pale shade of Crimson (H.C.C. 22/1) suffused with white and around the base of the throat was a narrow, dark crimson ring. Exhibited by R. Olaf Hambro, Esq., Logan House, Stranraer (*Frontispiece*).

Rhododendron (barbatum \times calophytum) 'Titnes Park' A.M. 30th March, 1954. This plant has an attractive, large globular truss made up of about eighteen flowers packed tightly together. The corolla is $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long \times $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide, funnel-campanulate and coloured a pale, varying shade of Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625) and has a chocolate blotch in the throat and some chocolate spotting. The lobes are large and frilled. Exhibited by Commissioners of Crown Lands, Windsor Great Park, Berks. (Fig. 48).

AWARDS TO RHODODENDRONS AFTER TRIAL AT WISLEY, 1953-4

The Council of the Royal Horticultural Society has made the following awards to Rhododendrons after trial at Wisley on the recommendation of the Rhododendron and Camellia Committee. The number in brackets after the description of the variety was that under which it was grown in the trial.

'Lord Swaythling'. (Sent by Messrs. van Nes, Holland.) **A.M.** 7th May, 1954. A hardy hybrid evergreen Rhododendron. Plant 9 ft. high, 8 ft. spread; vigorous, free flowering; leaves 6 in. long, $2\frac{1}{16}$ in. wide, dark glossy green. Flower truss 8 in. diameter, 6 in. high, lax, flat-topped, eight to ten flowers per truss. Corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, 3 in. long, open funnel-shaped, outside Rose Madder (H.C.C. 23/1) fading to pale mauvy pink at margins which are veined deeper pink, inside Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/3) with blotch on upper petal of Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1) spotted dark maroon. Flowering from 19th April, 1954. (126)

'Madame Albert Moser.' (Raised and introduced by the late A. Waterer, Esq., sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd., Woking, Surrey.) **A.M.** 14th June, 1954. A hardy hybrid evergreen Rhododendron. Plant 5 ft. high, $4\frac{1}{2}$ -5 ft. spread, vigorous, free flowering; leaves 6 in. long, 2 in. wide, dark, glossy green. Flower truss 7 in. diameter, 7 in. high, conical shaped, up to twenty-one flowers per truss. Corolla 3 in. diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, open funnel-shaped, margins wavy, Mauve (H.C.C. 633/2) fading to white at the base of the corolla, heavily spotted on upper petal Buttercup Yellow (H.C.C. 5/1), buds Mauve (H.C.C. 633). Flowering from 5th June, 1954. (753)

'Mrs. A. M. Williams'. (Sent by Messrs. M. Koster & Sons, Boskoop, Holland.) **F.C.C.** 17th May, 1954. A hardy hybrid evergreen Rhododendron. Plant 6 ft. high, 15 ft. spread, vigorous, very free flowering, low growing, spreading bush; leaves 6 in. long, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, dull glossy green. Flower truss 6 in. diameter, 5 in. high, compact, dome-shaped; corolla 3 in. diameter, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, open funnel shape, margins wavy, near Cardinal Red (H.C.C. 822/2) spotted dark brown. Flowering from 10th May, 1954. (A.M. 1933.) (105)

'Narcissiflora Plena'. (Raised by Louise van Houtte, sent by Messrs. Sunningdale Nurseries, Windlesham, Surrey.) **A.M.** 17th May, 1954. A deciduous azalea. Plant 3 ft. high, $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. spread, vigorous, free flowering, upright and compact bush; leaves 3 in. long, $1\frac{3}{16}$ in. wide, medium green. Flower truss $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, 2 in. high; corolla $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. diameter, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, tubular opening to funnel shape, Lemon Yellow (H.C.C. between 4/2 and 4/3). Flowering from 15th May. (852)

'Susan'. (Raised by J. C. Williams, Esq., introduced and sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd., Goldsworth Nursery, Woking, Surrey.) **F.C.C.** 7th May, 1954. A hardy hybrid Rhododendron. Plant $8\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, 8 ft. spread, vigorous, very free flowering, compact bush; leaves $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide,

AWARDS TO RHODODENDRONS AFTER TRIAL AT WISLEY, 1953-4

dark green. Flower truss 7 in. diameter, 6 in. deep; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, open funnel shaped, outside of corolla Amethyst Violet (H.C.C. between 25/2 and 35/3) margins and midribs Amethyst Violet (H.C.C. between 35/1 and 35/2) inside of corolla Amethyst Violet (H.C.C. 35/3) deepening at margins to Amethyst Violet (H.C.C. 35/2), spotted on upper petal at throat dark purple. Flowering from 30th April, 1954. (724)

NAMES OF RHODODENDRON HYBRIDS REGISTERED DURING 1954

Name	Parentage	Raiser or Exhibitor	Date
AGLEAM	'Arthur Osborn' × 'Isabella'	Harrison	1954
AGLOW	'Arthur Osborn' × <i>discolor</i>	Harrison	1954
ARENA	<i>haematodes</i> × 'Matador'	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
BLOOD RUBY	'Mandalay' × <i>repens</i>	Brandt	1954
CANTICA	'Calfort' Grex	Ingram	1954
CERISSETTE	'Sheila Moore' Grex	Digby	1954
CERNE	'Royal Beauty' Grex	Digby	1954
CORAL ISLAND	<i>Elliotii</i> × 'Fabia'	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
CORAL REEF	'Gloriana' Grex	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
FALTHO	'Surprise' Grex	Sir G. Loder	1954
FRECKLE FACE	'Coronet' Grex	Ingram	1954
FRINGE	'Ascot Brilliant' × <i>campylocarpum</i>	Horlick	1954
GLORY OF ATHLONE	'Earl of Athlone' × 'Glory of Leonardslee'	Horlick	1954
GOSHAWK	'Jalisco' Grex	Crown Lands	1954
HAZE	'Evening' Grex	Sir G. Loder	1954
JUANITA	'Infanta' Grex	Ingram	1954
LADY DUNLEATH	<i>arboreum</i> var. <i>kermesinum</i> × <i>Elliotii</i>	Dunleath	1954
LASCAUX	'Fabia' × <i>litiense</i>	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
LAURA DAVID	<i>campylocarpum</i> × ?	David	1954
LINDBERG	'Jalisco' Grex	Crown Lands	1954
LIONEL'S TRIUMPH	<i>lacteum</i> × ('Aurora' × <i>Fortunei</i>)	Rothschild	1954
MARY ROXBOROUGH	'Sir Frederick Moore' Grex	Rothschild	1954
MIST	'Evening' Grex	Sir G. Loder	1954
OTHELLO	'Carmen' × ('Armistice Day' × <i>Griersonianum</i>)	Brandt	1954
PARKSIDE	'Peregrine' Grex	Crown Lands	1954
PETIA	'Albatross' × 'Sarita Loder'	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
PINK DAWN	'Lady Rosebery' Grex	Digby	1954
PINK PEBBLE	<i>callimorphum</i> × <i>Williamsianum</i>	Harrison	1954
REVIEW ORDER	<i>euchaetes</i> × (<i>Griersonianum</i> × <i>haematodes</i>)	Stair	1954
ROCKET	<i>Meddianum</i> × <i>strigillosum</i>	Digby	1954
ROYAL BLOOD SEATTLE	<i>Elliotii</i> × <i>rubens</i>	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
SPRINGTIME	<i>leucaspis</i> × <i>mucronulatum</i>	Mulligan	1954
SOLVEIG	'Fabia' Grex	R.H.S., Wisley	1954
SONG BIRD	<i>russatum</i> × 'Blue Tit'	Horlick	1954
THALIA	<i>ciliatum</i> × <i>cilicalyx</i>	Brandt	1954
TITNESS PARK	<i>barbatum</i> × <i>calophytum</i>	Crown Lands	1954

NAMES OF RHODODENDRON HYBRIDS REGISTERED DURING 1954

CORRECTIONS TO LIST OF HYBRIDS REGISTERED
DURING 1952

<i>Name</i>	<i>Parentage</i>	<i>Raiser or Exhibitor</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>For:</i> DVORAK	<i>discolor</i> × <i>Williamsianum</i>	Reuthe	1949
<i>Read:</i> OLDENBURG	<i>discolor</i> × <i>Williamsianum</i>	Hobbie	1953
<i>For:</i> PSYCHE	<i>Fortunei</i> 'Mrs. Butler' × <i>William-</i> <i>sianum</i>	Reuthe	1950
<i>Read:</i> PSYCHE	<i>Fortunei</i> 'Mrs. Butler' × <i>William-</i> <i>sianum</i>	Hobbie	1950

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NOTE.—Members of the Council are Members of this Committee.

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