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THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

VINCENT SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1

THE RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA



YEAR BOOK—1962

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

IN this issue the Rhododendron Section is particularly strong. Two celebrated gardens, Lochinch and Sandling Park, are fully described, while Dr. H. R. Fletcher of Edinburgh contributes an article both interesting and provocative on the Rating of Merit of Rhododendron Species. Mr. Francis Hanger writes on Rhododendron Species and Mr. Frederick Street on Hardy Hybrids. There are descriptions of two new Rhododendron Species and an article on Rhododendrons and Camellias in the Temperate House at Kew.

Mr. Charles Puddle and Mr. Francis Hanger continue their helpful Description and History of varieties of *Camellia japonica* with a Further Eighteen Popular ones. The book is thoroughly illustrated and contains several fine coloured plates.

COVER ILLUSTRATION

Rhododendron campylocarpum

from a painting by
Margaret Stones

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Rhododendron campylocarpum, from a painting by Miss Margaret Stones, kindly lent by Col. Sir James Horlick Bt., O.B.E., M.C. (see page 28)

THE RHODODENDRON
AND CAMELLIA
YEAR BOOK

1962

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LONDON

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

1961

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FOREWORD

ONCE again it is my privilege and pleasure to write the foreword to *The Rhododendron and Camellia Year Book*. My pleasure is sadly tempered, however, by the sudden and tragic death of The Hon. Sir David Bowes Lyon, President of The Royal Horticultural Society for the past eight years.

Obituary notices have appeared elsewhere, and it is not my intention to enlarge on them, but not all rhododendron and camellia enthusiasts will be aware that Sir David was himself a very keen grower of these plants.

Those who had the privilege of being shown round the lovely garden at St. Paul's Walden Bury by our late President will remember most vividly the generous landscaping, and the lovely roses of this great garden, amongst many other things, and will then recall a remark from him such as "Well, perhaps we might now go down to the Wood", and then would come that familiar and magical twinkle of the eye, and down to the Wood we would go, to see a very good and interesting collection both of rhododendrons and camellias, grown with most loving care in soil conditions which are not ideal. It was all great fun. He knew the limitations of his soil, but he also knew that you or I, who were interested in such plants, would enjoy more than anything to see his achievements with them. Such was our late President in the world of rhododendrons and camellias.

Before referring to the contents of the 1961 Year Book I must also dwell on another sad loss which we have sustained. Horticulturists generally, and rhododendron enthusiasts in particular, will honour the name of Dr. J. M. Cowan and will recall the great work which he initiated at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, in the classification of rhododendron species and, in later years, his guardianship of the lovely garden at Inverewe.

The Year Book, though rather thin in Camellia "matter", contains a further list of *Camellia japonica* varieties, compiled by Mr. Charles Puddle and Mr. Francis Hanger, giving descriptions and the history of eighteen more varieties. We also have a report on the Camellia Competition held last April, from Mr. Reginald A. R. Try.

Lord Stair has written for us a description of his famous gardens

at Lochinch, and has told us of their back history. This information always makes an article so much more interesting.

Mr. G. A. Hardy has described his father's garden at Sandling Park, near Hythe in Kent. This garden has been formed on one of the several "islands" of greensand overlying chalk, which occur in the southern half of England. Mintern is another, and so also is that amazing pocket of a few acres of acid soil ten feet above the river level at Longstock on the river Test in Hampshire: one of the most famous of all inland "chalk" streams. In this case, however, the soil is Bagshot sand.

Two new rhododendron species have been described by Mr. H. H. Davidian, and we have an interesting article on hybrid rhododendrons by Mr. Frederick Street, together with a selected list of very hardy hybrids.

But the most outstanding paper, and the one which will give rhododendron growers most food for thought, is that by Dr. H. R. Fletcher, read to the Rhododendron Conference recently held at Portland, Oregon, in America (and which is now published in the Year Book) on the rating of merit of rhododendron species.

There is much to be said in favour of Dr. Fletcher's contention that the quality of rhododendron species should be rated not only for flower, but for form as well. There is also very much to be said for his contention that all forms of species which receive commendation in the shape of an award, should equally receive a "handle" in the shape of a clonal or fancy name. I say this with all humility, for I am greatly taken to task by Dr. Fletcher for not having registered and named such clones that have been shown from the gardens at Windsor in the past. However, I have knuckled under and have now had them registered. I hope very much that other growers who have not yet registered plants which have received commendation will follow my tardy example.

To encourage others, the Year Book includes a name list of newly registered rhododendrons, both species and hybrids.

ERIC SAVILL
*Chairman, Rhododendron
and Camellia Committee*

THE GARDENS AT LOCHINCH

By THE EARL of STAIR, K.T., D.S.O., V.M.H.

LOCHINCH and Castle Kennedy gardens are situated on the Listhmus which joins the two halves of Wigtownshire, between Loch Ryan and the Bay of Luce. This area was originally below the 50-foot beach mark and is mainly composed of sand and gravel. The climate is distinctly mild due to the proximity of the Gulf Stream.

The gardens are constructed on a strip of ground of about 70 acres, between the Black and White lochs, each of which covers 130 acres. The two lochs are joined by a canal, which is the outlet to the White loch. The whole of this peninsula, which is a natural ridge, has been carved all round to form terraces, running up to 50 feet in height on the eastern or Black loch side. In the centre of the highest and broadest part of this ridge stands the ruin of Castle Kennedy with its walled garden. Below it in a slightly narrower part of the peninsula, some 300 yards to the north, lies the Round Pond, one acre in extent, which was formed by enclosing part of a bay of the White loch. This pond is now full of waterlilies of various colours and is surrounded by large groups of hybrid rhododendrons, azaleas, hydrangeas, eucalyptus and magnolias. The whole area was originally planted in avenues, radiating either from the Old Castle or the Round Pond.

During the forming of the gardens, the Old Castle was entirely destroyed by fire in the year 1716, the fire being caused by the housemaids airing the linen in front of the fire, in preparation for the return of the Field Marshal the 2nd Earl of Stair from Paris, where he was Ambassador to the court of Louis XIV. Everything was lost except one picture of the Field Marshal by Alan Ramsay.

In spite of this, Lord Stair continued to lay out the grounds and I still have in my possession some of the letters written to him by his gardener, Thomas McCalla, one of which says that he was planting the "Sandy brae" (to the south-east of the White loch) with beeches. Most of these were blown down in the great gale of 1895 but are still lying against the brae, which is now a sea of *Ponticum rhododendron*.

The drive from Castle Kennedy village into the grounds runs

along the foot of this brae, between it and the White loch, and I have recently planted an avenue of *Embothriums* on the loch side of it.

Much of the work of making the terraces was done by the horses of the Scots Greys and Enniskillen Dragoons, who were quartered here for the purposes of chasing Covenanters. Lord Stair, although he was Commander-in-Chief, was very much in sympathy with the Covenanters. After his return from Paris, Lord Stair and the family lived at Culhorn, a house about two miles away, which had been the cavalry barracks.

During the time of the 7th Earl, who was a spendthrift, most of the best trees were cut down and the wind destroyed the rest and the place became a wilderness.

I have some of the catalogues of the timber sales dated 1828, and one of them is for 2,000 fully grown Scots firs and larch. The larch, to have been fully grown at that date, must have been some of the oldest in the country and they would have been very magnificent trees had they survived until now.

During my great-grandfather the 8th Earl's time, an old plan of the grounds was found in a cottage on the estate. From this plan the grounds were restored by my grandfather, the 10th Earl, and Lochinch, the present house, was built with his wife's money in 1864, to the north of the grounds.

Fowler, who was head gardener at the time, and who remained so for 50 years, laid out the flower gardens on either side of the new house and was responsible for the re-planting of the grounds.

Where the avenues had been, new avenues were planted, each of a different species of conifer, which were being imported from North America at that time. Of those which appeared to do well, plantations were made elsewhere. Unfortunately, among these conifers, Sitka Spruce, which will not grow in such loose gravelly soil, was reported by Fowler to be useless, and as a result none were planted until 1914, when I tried a plantation of them in the bottom of a glen, where they did so well that I have since planted many acres of them instead of Norway Spruce.

The principal avenue was planted with *Araucaria imbricata*, now about 70 feet high and 100 years old, which seed themselves freely. Another important avenue of *Abies nobilis*, runs directly between the two castles. An avenue called Dettingen (Lord Stair having commanded the army at that battle) runs from the Old Castle due west to the White loch. It is composed of *illexes* grown, I believe, from acorns sent by Lord Leicester from Holkham in

Norfolk. Within the last few years, I have lined this avenue with alternate *Eucryphia glutinosa* and embotheriums—the latter are all suckers taken by my head gardener, Rye, from the original plants grown from seed brought by Comber from Chile. These seedlings grew to 25 feet in height and were in full flower in five years. Up to the year 1914, all the avenues and terraces were kept mown like a lawn with horse-mowers and scythes.

Much of the individual character of the avenues was destroyed by the gale of 1895, but my grandfather planted up the gaps with hardwoods, mainly Norway maples and beech for autumn colour, and some *Thuya plicata*. Subsequently, some of the avenues were no longer maintained for reasons of economy. Beeches stand up better to wind than anything else on this loose gravelly soil and there are some very fine clumps all along the western side of the Black loch to beyond the present castle.

Among the few survivors of the older plantations there is a group of very fine ilexes, situated between the Round Pond and a high circular terraced mound, known as Mount Marlborough (after General Marlborough, Lord Stair having been one of his Brigadiers).

When Joseph Hooker brought *Rhododendron arboreum* from the Himalayas, many of his seeds were sent here and Fowler raised large numbers of these and made hybrids from them and *R. campanulatum*, which are now a great feature of the place. Unfortunately, none of the large-leaved species from Hooker's collection, such as *falconeri* and *grande*, seem to have survived here but we were fortunate in getting *batemanii*, *nobile* and *campbelliae*, which Hooker mentions in his book, but which do not seem to have survived anywhere else. Ours would therefore seem to be unique and are magnificent plants up to 30 feet high, flowering regularly from early February onwards.

The rhododendrons were planted along the drives, and on the strip of ground enclosing the west side of the Round Pond from the White loch a heavy shelter belt of *Rhododendron ponticum* was planted. Original plants of *R. barbatum*, *fulgens*, *thomsonii* and *nobile* are protected by this belt and are now splendid specimens. *Fulgens* unfortunately died recently after being blown down but we have saved many layers from it.

In 1918, Fowler's quite incompetent successor, after 30 years with a large staff, was unable to do anything but lose anything he was given to plant and was pensioned off, and I was lucky enough to get R. Finlay, who was doing wonders under Mr. McDouall at

Logan. He rapidly produced some order out of the chaos here, although I was furious when after two or three years he was bribed away to Greenwich Park, with the promise of the reversion of Kensington Gardens and Regents Park, or possibly Hyde Park, a £1,000 a year job and quite the greatest plum a private professional gardener could aspire to at that time. However, I was possibly fortunate in this as Mr. Gill of Falmouth mentioned R. W. Rye to me, and in response to a telegram he arrived here for interview the next morning and as a result was head gardener here for 38 years.

When he came he knew nothing of rhododendrons or lilies but now he can have few equals in knowledge of either of these.

Finlay had sown a very large number of boxes of seeds from the various Chinese collections sent here by Edinburgh. Rye, on arrival, was faced with the serious job of lining out the innumerable seedlings from these boxes, with nothing to identify them by, except the Collectors' numbers, of which a considerable number were missing. Many of these could not be identified for many years until they began to flower, either here or in Edinburgh or at Bodnant or Exbury, between which, of course, they were freely exchanged.

I think it was mainly for this purpose that some of us—most of whom have been dead for some time—formed the Rhododendron Society, from which later emerged the larger Rhododendron Association.

Some of the Maddeni species are doing well with us, especially *crassum*, which are now growing and flowering regularly all over the place in July.

The grounds contain many other varieties of specimen trees of interest. These include a fine deciduous Cypress beside the Round Pond, two *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (*Wellingtonia gigantea*) and a *Pinus muricata*, on which cones can be counted back for as much as 50 years on a single branch. I have raised plants from some of the 50-year-old cones by opening them in an oven.

An *Abies grandis*, planted in 1914, is now over 130 feet high and there are also some fine *Cryptomeria japonica* and a very tall *Abies pindrow*.

The garden is by no means confined only to the grounds and is now being continued and added to along the drives and round the shores of the Black loch. An avenue of *Cotoneaster frigidus* has been much admired on the far side of the loch.

Maintenance of the grounds now presents a considerable problem. My present head gardener, Collison, has to try to cope with

THE GARDENS AT LOCHINCH



Photos: Country Life

FIG. 1.—Looking south-east across Black Loch. The island is in fact a crannog or pictish lake dwelling now covered in vegetation. A *Rhododendron 'Broughtonii'* hybrid is in the left foreground

FIG. 2.—Looking west across the Round Pond. White Loch is beyond



Photo: Country Life

FIG. 3.—Looking north-west across the Round Pond and up the main Araucaria Avenue with Lochinch at the far end. Some of Mr. Fowler's rhododendron hybrids are in the left background

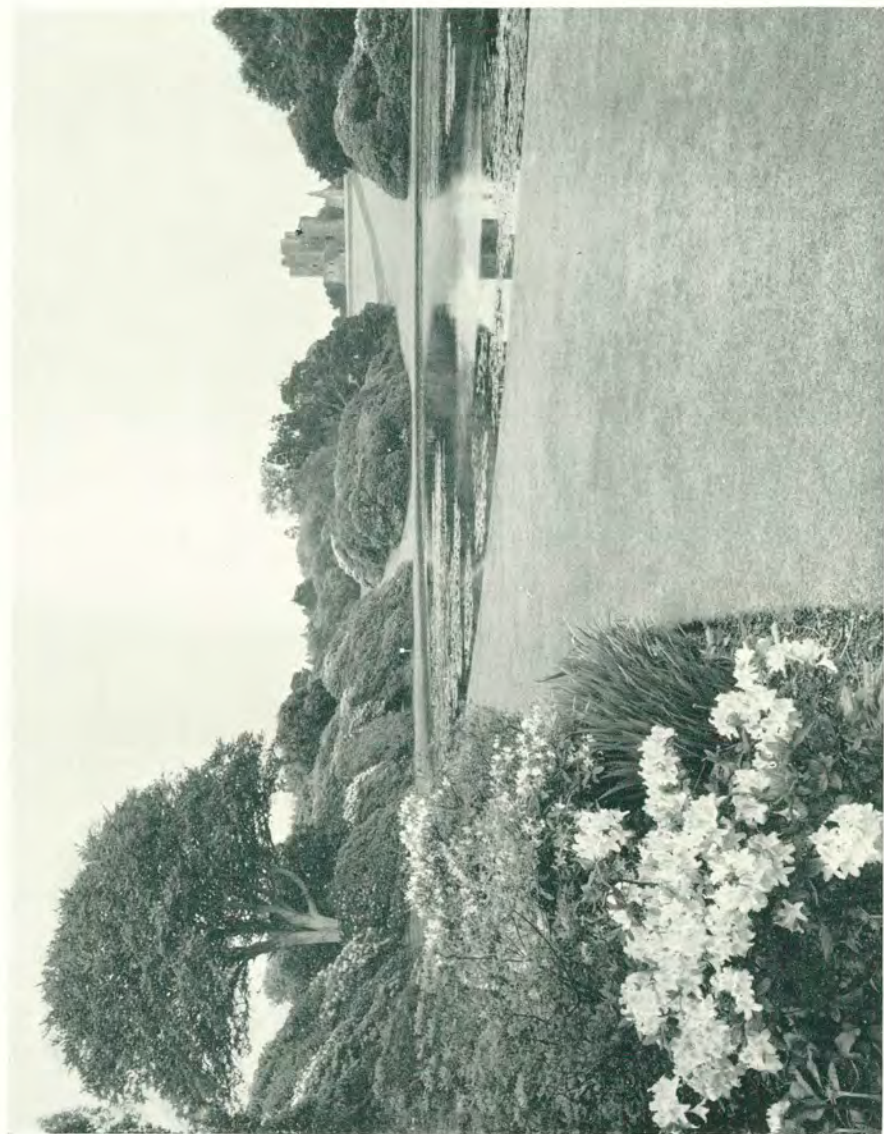


Photo: Country Life

FIG. 4.—Looking south across the Round Pond to the ruins of Castle Kennedy and with *Azalea mollis* in the left foreground



Photos: Country Life

FIG. 5.—A white form of *Rhododendron arboreum* in full flower at Lochinch. Mount Marlborough is in the background

FIG. 6.—*Primula pulverulenta* massed on the side of Little Black Loch, with *Cryptomeria japonica elegans* at the very water's edge. *Rhododendron cinnabarinum roylei* is on the right of the drive

only 5 men and a few machines and to do the work which gave full employment to a staff of 40 and some horses, before the days of Lloyd George.

During the last 50 years we have made a considerable number of hybrids. One of these, which we have named 'R. W. Rye', is a cross of *johnstoneanum* and *chrysodoron*. This is a good yellow, but as it flowers in March and is on the tender side it is apt to have its flowers spoilt by frost. Owing to the mild season this year it has flowered magnificently.

We have also crossed *maddenii* var. *jenkinsii* with *roylei* to produce a successful June flowering plant which resembles Lady Chamberlain and which is reasonably hardy.

Almost our best is named 'Lord Stair' (*lindleyi* \times *taggianum*) which is pure white and very fragrant, flowering in April. As it is rather straggly in habit and a bit tender, the brilliant scarlet of 'Review Order' (*griersonianum* \times (*euchaites* \times *haematodes*)), another of my own hybrids, makes a good foil for it and helps to protect it as the latter is quite hardy. 'Violet, Lady Stair' (*griersonianum* \times Albatross), named after my wife, is a showy pink and quite hardy, flowering in late May.

'Lady Jean', my first effort, crossing *diaprepes* with *eriogynum*, the two latest flowering species here, flowers freely from late July into August and September and is a fairly good pink.

Possibly the best of all is *zeylanicum*, grown from seed collected by myself at Newara Elaia, Ceylon, in 1927, crossed with *griersonianum*. Its flowers are very deep scarlet and it has dark, rather crinkly foliage, and is an exceptionally showy plant flowering July into August and evidently perfectly hardy here.

Over the years, Rye and I have experimented with many other crosses, successful and otherwise, and my present head gardener, Collison, and I are still working on new ones. We have recently concentrated on *R. polyandrum*, which has now set seed, crossed with *maddenii* var. *jenkinsii* and from which we are hopeful of interesting results in the future.

SANDLING PARK

By G. A. HARDY

THE year 1820 forms the beginning of the history of the garden, for in that year the big mass of ponticums were planted. Thus in 1897, when Mr. Laurence Hardy, the owner's father, bought the property, there was a vast mass of it in the wood.

The situation of Sandling is some 250 feet above sea-level, some two miles inland from the ancient Cinque Port of Hythe. Behind are the downs, with the white of their chalk faces contrasting to the green of the countryside. Nature luckily provided a depression in between the downs and the garden, so the water, which is some of the hardest and most alkaline in the country, goes away from us; thus we find ourselves on the greensand with a pH content of some 4.5, which produces a soil admirable for rhododendrons. This area was also part of the old forest of Westenhangar, and so has fine old trees giving a nice depth of natural leaf-soil. Conditions so far seem ideal, but the lake down at the bottom of the wood draws frost, and with the combination of the timber it is not uncommon for the garden to suffer from spring frost, especially in April and May; for that reason the more tender species and hybrids, and any whose growth is made early, are very vulnerable.

Another year of importance was 1925, when in a very severe gale a number of large oaks were blown down. As first aid measures for quick overhead cover, fairly extensive use of birches was necessary; although these, attractive as they are, give very effective top cover, they are great robbers of moisture to the plants under them. It will now be realized that the garden is entirely of a woodland nature, as nearly natural as possible. The walk round is exactly a mile long on paths very much on the curve, so one has to keep advancing to find the beauty round the next bend. Natural drainage causes a series of small streams which never go dry or flood, thus providing many suitable areas for large plantings of primulas and other woodland plants and wild flowers such as *Claytonia*, *Mai-anthemum* and Marsh Helleborine.

Remembering, however, that 1899 was the real beginning of the garden's construction, it is probably the large size of some of the bushes, now 62 years old, that strikes one; for example, one plant

of R. 'Cynthia' is now 30 feet each way, making an imposing sight when in flower. Time, however, has not stood still, and some of these large bushes have been reduced to make room for the more modern hybrids and species now being planted round them.

On entering the garden, on the lawn one's first impression is the trees. These consist of a fine Cedar of Lebanon and a Deodar and a particularly large *Pinus radiata*, some 115 years old. The exact date of these plantings is known—1846—through the kindness of a visitor to the gardens when they were open, who gave us his father's diary, in which was recorded this information. Also on the lawn are the beds containing the Wilson collection of Kurume azaleas (Fig. 7). Going down into the wood one passes the blue corner. This consists of hydrangeas, R. 'Blue Diamond', R. 'Blue Boy', *R. oreotrephes*, *Primula denticulata* and a good bush of *Daphne tangutica*; under the *Cryptomeria japonica* we have now planted lilies, including some of the good new American hybrids from de Graaff; also here are several of the smaller rhododendron species in the Glaucophyllum series and an unusual survivor in our climate, *R. maddenii*; this however has not yet flowered, but has stood the rigours of a hard winter, although normally any plant marked E. in the Rhododendron Handbook is not for East Kent. Here too is one of the nurseries for home-raised plants, which is now being used for some nice hybrids from R. 'Lady Bessborough', 'Hawk' and 'Cream Halcyone'. Here too, are growing some big-leaved rhododendrons including *R. macabeum*, *R. rex*, *R. magnificum*, *R. sino-grande*, *R. mallotum* and *R. hodgsonii*; these have a long way to go to flowering size, but are nevertheless very attractive in their growths, and when their leaves are upturned by wind. Other plants here of note are *Magnolia mollicomata* \times *campbellii*, which was given to us by the very generous and kind Captain Collingwood Ingram, who has also given us many other rare and very interesting plants.

Below this bed is a fine bush of R. 'Auguste van Geert', in the shadow of which are *R. ciliatum*, *R. oleifolium*, *R. russatum* and 'Hummingbird'; and there is also a fine Redwood, from ground level perhaps not showing its true height, but when seen from an aeroplane it is a good 56 feet above the surrounding trees.

From here one enters the wood proper, passing between a vast beech and a sycamore. Immediately here one notices the change of atmosphere and the temperature rises considerably. The first thing to take one's eye is a large bed of *Primula burmanica*, close to a large *Magnolia* 'Rustica Rubra', and opposite to these are

some old hybrids behind which is a very imposing bush of *R. falconeri*, here too is another young *R. sino-grande* and that fine hybrid *R. 'Luscombei'* with a large *Magnolia wilsoni* adjoining them. Nearby is a group containing *R. ambiguum*, *R. yunnanense* and *R. oreotrephes*; all these were part of a Forrest collection. The *R. ambiguum* is of good colour although small-flowered, but probably one of the best plants in the collection is the *R. oreotrephes* which is now a large bush, and when shown in London has received great praise (Fig. 12). Hybrids of interest in the vicinity are the deep-red *R. 'Grosclaude'* and *'Coronation Day'*.

This now brings us to the Glade, a wide grass path, looking down which one obtains a lovely scenic effect of good modern hybrids backed by old bushes. At the top of the Glade is a lovely horse-chestnut, whose white candles also add to the colourful display. But before one embarks on the walk down, there is a further detour round what is known as the Wilderness; here one will find *Cornus kousa* and *Styrax japonica*, along with fine bushes of *R. 'Unique'*, *'Armistice Day'* and the best form of *'Loder's White'*. Other smaller plants of interest here are *Menziesia* and some of the *Meconopsis* genus. *Meconopsis* here are somewhat difficult as they are apt to get too dry in the summer and depart; however, *Meconopsis baileyi* and *grandis* G.S.600 do better than most, and others in the garden include *villosa*, and various Ludlow and Sheriff numbers. Also here are the few camellia bushes of size in the garden; we do not grow many as frost and drip from the oaks overhead spoil most of them, but *'Donckelari'* and *'Lady Clare'* seem to do the best. *Camellia reticulata*, *'Donation'* and *'Alba Simplex'* are now growing in other parts of the garden. Back in the Wilderness, however, are various rhododendron species from the Taliense series, some of which, though of some age, have not yet flowered. Of the more interesting hybrids here, *R. 'Matador'*, *'Lady Chamberlain'*, *'Lady Rosebery'* and *'White Cloud'* are perhaps the most striking; also worthy of mention is *R. yakusimanum*—can anything perhaps be more attractive than this plant when its cherry-pink buds are just opening; growing here near to it are *R. decorum* and *R. lutescens* with its delicate yellow flowers. Lilies-of-the-valley with us grow literally like weeds, and there is a large bed under the beeches here, whose perfume, if nothing else, adds considerably to the atmosphere.

Thus one has made a small loop in one's walk and one re-enters the top of the Glade. Three late flowering plants of note here perhaps are *R. 'Aladdin'*, *'Polar Bear'* and the lovely June-flowering



Photo: J. E. Downward

Fig. 7—Kurume Azaleas on the top lawn at Sandling Park. Some of the fine trees can also be seen (see p. 15)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 8—A fine tree of *Liriodendron tulipifera* at Sandling Park



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 9—Libocedrus and azaleas in a woodland walk at Sandling Park (see p. 17)

sweet-scented *Magnolia thompsoniana*. Opposite these is a vast bush of R. 'Cynthia'; some 62 years old and covered every year in flower, this bush is an imposing sight. Exbury plants now become the main feature on one side, as growing here are some of the best of their Azaleas of all colours, and their good Rhododendron hybrids; of these R. 'Cream Halcyone', 'Pink Halcyone', 'Lady Bessborough', 'Fusilier', 'Golden Horn' and a nice bush of the attractive species *R. roxieanum* excel. Opposite these is a fine bush of 'Loderi King George'. These bushes are backed on one side by ponticums, and on the other by large bushes of R. 'Cynthia', 'Mrs. Stirling', 'Alice' and 'Loder's White'.

Crossing the bridge, it is perhaps the primulas, planted on a grand scale, that impress one, while near by is the tree that attracts more attention than any other, the *Davidia involucrata* or Pocket Handkerchief Tree, with those unusual white flower bracts. Under a large bush of R. 'Loder's White' on the opposite side of the path, the pink *Primula japonica* hybrids make a pleasing contrast, and in the ditch itself, *Primula helodoxa* form an imposing array. From the bottom of the path one can look back at the panoramic effect, which is probably one of the highlights of the garden, primulas and these large banks of the good old hybrids all toning in to make a glorious colourful view.

By the fallen oak here is 'Snow Queen', which of a good form is still an outstanding garden plant, and *Magnolia wilsoni* and *sieboldii*. Opposite these are large bushes of R. 'Loder's White' and 'Loderi Pink Diamond', below which are good bushes of 'Maxwelli' and *R. mucronatum* on the side of the ditch planted with *Primula japonica* in its true form.

This brings one to the lowest point, and along the Bottom Path. *Pinus muricata* is the first landmark, under which R. 'Goldfort' and a fine bush of *R. exquisitum*, now *oreotrephes*, and a nice pink *R. davidsonianum* grow. Walking along the path, one is flanked by another large bank of later-flowering hybrids, behind another fine tree, *Librocedrus decurrens* (Fig. 9); the hybrids here include R. 'Purple Splendour' and 'Hugo de Vries', while below the path are 'Azor' and 'Mrs. Lionel de Rothschild'. Further below the path has now been left to its own devices, as being down by the lake it has to contain all late flowering plants as frost takes a heavy toll. But fine bushes of R. 'Loder's White', 'Lord Roberts', 'Old Port', 'Alice' and 'Pink Pearl' grow well, and here again primulas excel, while tucked away at the back is Farrer's *R. decorum*.

One has now reached the furthest point of our tour and one turns

back and slowly starts to climb the hill. On a twisting path, the first corner is mainly primulas, pink *japonica*, *helodoxa* and *pulverulenta* predominating, with hostas and gunneras and viburnums. Among the viburnums are *V. tomentosum mariesii* and the rare *V. ichangense*.

Moving on over yet another bridge, one passes the large-flowered R. 'Lady Gwendoline Broderick' and a striking Van Nes hybrid. This, with *R. thomsoni*, produced 'Vantom', a good large-trussed deep-red rhododendron raised here. Continuing under the Japanese acers, one sees the two forms of *R. fortunei* flowering at different times, one a bush, the other much more of a tree which is the later flowerer. Here are large bushes of *R. prattii*, *R. sphaeroblastum* and the charming white *R. hypoglaucum*, all these rather shy to flower. Hybrids also include R. 'Blue Peter', 'Piet von Hein' and 'Exminster'. Tucked away are *R. trichocladum* and *R. melinanthum*, and a large *R. yunnanense* and *R. oreotrephes* beside a deep-coloured *R. cinnabarinum* var. *roylei*; also near by is that charming woodland plant, *Osmanthus delavayi*, behind which is a bank of R. 'Mrs. Linsay Smith'. Here one joins the centre path and one is greeted by a huge bush of R. 'White Pearl', 36 years old, a hedge of the evergreen azalea 'Hi-No Degiri', 'Hinemayo' and the attractive 'Willy'; behind these are R. 'May Day', R. 'Brittania' and two fine cream-coloured R. Loderi seedlings. Also here are fine forms of *R. campylocarpum* and *R. fulgens* growing beside a charming *cinnabarinum* hybrid (*R. cinnabarinum* × 'Lady Rosebery') backed by a young *Magnolia salicifolia*. On the slope above are R. 'Zuyder Zee', *R. cinnabarinum*, and the delightful *R. souliei* (Fig. 13), together with the best forms of *R. augustinii* and R. 'Elizabeth'. These are backed by an *Acer purpureum* intermingled with the fine reds of R. 'G. A. Sims' and 'Rosamund Millais'.

Continuing on under a 40-foot *Magnolia acuminata*, one passes a superb bed of *Primula pulverulenta* and Bartley Hybrids, and *R. smirnowii* with its lovely silvery indumentum, 'Mrs. G. W. Leak' and the Palms, and going up under a *Magnolia soulangeana* and a fine *R. vaseyi*, one reaches the top and turns right again by the R. 'Goldsworth Yellow' and 'Goldsworth Pink' on the last leg. In the wet ground here are all types of primulas, trolius and the Marsh Helleborine backed by a fine old catalpa tree, which has now four other different varieties of trees growing in the cracks in its branches; then on round the corner one reaches the Alder Tree: this is a particularly fine specimen, being recorded as one of the largest in the country. This is approximately 95 feet high and

45 feet to the first branch. At 6 feet height the girth is 147 inches. Close to this is a bush of *Rubus* 'Tridel' and a good selection of new hybrids from Exbury, the best of which are undoubtedly *R.* 'Fortune' F.C.C., 'Jalisco', 'Yvonne', 'Fusilier', 'Daydream' and 'Idealist'. Others of interest here are nice bushes of *R.* 'May Day', 'Impi' and 'Mrs. Charles Pearson'.

Now we leave the wood and return to the lawn, passing the last of the rhododendrons, *R.* 'Mrs. Lionel de Rothschild' and a good form of *R. orbiculare*, opposite to which is the large graceful weeping beech underplanted with azaleas.

This concludes our tour, but perhaps mention should be made of a few of the more interesting firs on the rough grass beside the lawn, which include *Pinus cembra*, the Umbrella Pine, the Weymouth Pine, *Athrotaxis selaginoides*, and in the bed on the lawn the *Halesia carolina*, which gained us an Award of Merit. Equally one cannot leave the kitchen garden and the rose gardens out of one's tour: the kitchen garden with its mellow red-brick walls and its beautifully trained fruit trees growing up them, and the two rose gardens, one full of shrub roses and the other with the old-fashioned roses growing along chains, each surrounded by yew hedges, planted in 1900. Near here too, is a plant of *Magnolia campbellii*, which although it took 30 years to flower is a plant well worth waiting for, but it is really too tender for this area although it does flower regularly now.

We now get back to our starting point and have during our walk completed a mile in distance, and have got back to the House, which stands on the same site as the old one which was destroyed by enemy action in 1942. The present one was built in 1950, the old one in 1796.

Editor's Note: It may interest readers to know that the large woodland garden at Sandling Park is almost entirely maintained by Major A. E. Hardy himself with the help of Mrs. Hardy and only one man. His son, Mr. G. A. Hardy, who has written this article, also gives some help from time to time.

RHODODENDRON SPECIES

By FRANCIS HANGER, V.M.H.

I DOUBT very much indeed whether there is another genus of plants more interesting and more varied than the rhododendron. It possesses flowers of practically every hue, with variable leaves, some large and tropical and others almost as fine as heathers. However, before we really begin to talk about these interesting plants I think we must mention at once those brave men who, between 1900 and 1939 and from 1946 onwards faced innumerable dangers while exploring the mountains of the Himalayas, Western and Central China, Burma, etc., in order to widen our knowledge with gifts of the genus *Rhododendron*. Prominent amongst these explorers were: E. H. Wilson, George Forrest, F. Kingdon Ward, Reginald Farrer, J. F. Rock, F. Ludlow, G. Sherriff and G. Taylor.

Then I think that praise is due to that band of enthusiastic gentleman gardeners who helped finance these explorers and spent much money, time and trouble to germinate the seed when it was received, and grow the plants on for all of us to enjoy. Amongst these a few come readily to mind, all unfortunately no longer with us: The late Lord Aberconway, L. de Rothschild, J. C. Williams, P. D. Williams, J. B. Stevenson, Sir John Ramsden and several others.

Nor must we forget the botanists who have taken the trouble to produce some kind of order into the genus by dividing the various rhododendrons into series and subseries, and also dividing the lepidotes from the elepidotes, thus helping the hybridists and saving much confusion. This work was started by Sir Isaac Bailey Balfour, of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, who was followed by Mr. H. F. Tagg, Sir William Wright-Smith and Dr. J. M. Cowan, all of whom are still remembered for their valuable work which is being carried on, I am happy to say, by the staff of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

Lepidotes and Elepidotes. As I have already mentioned, rhododendron species are divided into two sections, namely Lepidote and Elepidote. Lepidote rhododendrons have small, scurfy scales beneath the leaves, whereas the elepidotes have hairs instead of scales. These two groups of rhododendrons are very loath to

hybridize one with the other, and only on rare occasions has it been proved that a hybrid has been produced between these two sections. Another outstanding difference between lepidotes and elepidotes is the fact that with elepidotes true blue flowers are absent, but plenty of reds are present; whereas in the lepidote section one finds many blues, such as *R. augustinii* and also certain members of the Lapponicum Series, but no real reds are present.

Habitat. Perhaps before we go any further we should mention that most hardy rhododendron species come from the northern hemisphere, right across North America, through Europe, central and eastern Asia, the Caucasus to the Himalayas, northern India, Tibet, Burma and western China, and some very interesting species have come from the islands off southern Japan.

I think we will leave out those species which are found near the Equator, the lovely Javanese rhododendrons from the East Indies, and the one which comes from as far south as Northern Australia, *R. lochae*, for these are not hardy in this country, and although my article is entitled "Rhododendron Species" I think it wise to leave out the really tender ones which cannot be grown out of doors anywhere in the British Isles.

Cultural Hints. Now, before we consider some of the best species and talk about their garden value, it might be as well to talk for a short while on their cultural requirements. First of all it should be understood that there are over one thousand species, so we can only hope to deal with a few of the very best.

Rhododendron species vary so much in size of leaf and flower, for example *R. sinogrande* has leaves 30 inches long and 15 inches wide, when grown in very favoured districts, while *R. serpyllifolium* has foliage only the size of a mouse's ear. It is only natural that such varying types of plants should need very different cultivation. For success it must be realized that the large-leaved species were found in the lower altitudes of the mountains, mostly in the valleys. As the species were collected higher up the mountains so the leaves became smaller and smaller, until we get to the very high altitudes—15,000 feet or more—where the collectors obtained species which more or less creep along the surface. There is little doubt that over the ages such variation in height of plant and size of leaves was caused by the continual winds and rains of thousands of years.

It is well to remember that the larger the leaf of the plant the more tender it is, this being no more than common sense, as the large leaves possess so much more moisture in their structure than their small-leaved relations which makes them more prone to frost

damage. Many of the rhododendrons with less large leaves, in particular such types as *R. thomsonii*, have nature's wonderful gift of curling pencil-like or shrivelling up to practically nothing when the weather is severe, and of expanding in a matter of hours as soon as the temperature rises.

From these medium-sized types we travel up the mountains and find the Lapponicum Series. The plants in this series are absolutely hardy, in fact during the end of March at Wisley we had nine degrees of frost on the ground when all the blooms of our rhododendrons were frozen, with the exception of the flowers of the Lapponicum Series which came through unharmed.

All this mounts up to the fact that to be successful with rhododendrons it must be remembered that the larger the leaf of the plant the more moisture, shelter and shade the plant requires, and for the smaller-leaved rhododendrons it is just the reverse, they need no shade, less moisture and more sunlight.

Some rhododendrons are true epiphytes and should be grown in not too close and fine a soil. It must be remembered that when growing in the wild on trees, etc., they obtain all their sustenance from decayed leaves, moss and broken sticks, etc. At Wisley I grow such rhododendrons as *dendricola*, *taggianum*, *lindleyi*, *pendulum* and the Javanese types in a cool house in equal parts of osmunda fibre, coarse sand and sphagnum moss, placing them on a small platform made of 1 inch by 1 inch strips of wood, leaving half an inch between the strips. Teak wood is the best, but failing that seasoned oak is a good substitute. A lot of water is required, but with such wonderful drainage, which more or less resembles the natural drainage, water-logging is impossible.

We have determined that the large-leaved species come from the sheltered valleys of the mountain ranges. Over the ages years and years of tropical rains have washed the humus down the mountains to the valleys below, creating a far greater humus content in the soil in the lower regions, well suited to these plants. This continual rain has made the upper regions of soil, inhabited by the smaller-leaved types, far more shallow, with far less humus, indicating that the smaller the leaf the less humus content is required in the soil.

If we stop and consider these natural processes it will teach us a lot concerning the requirements of the various rhododendron species. The large-leaved types need a far more acid soil to grow successfully than the dwarf types with smaller leaves. To get the best results I would suggest that the larger ones will need soil with

a pH value of 5 or below, whereas the smaller, alpine types will grow successfully in a soil with a pH of nearly 6.

For the benefit of those who are a little unsure of the meaning of pH it might be as well to say that when chemists speak in terms of pH in soils, this really means a measurement of the hydrogen-ion concentration. A pH of 7.0 is the neutral point when acidity and alkalinity are in a balance. Above this reaction you will find that the alkalinity increases as the figures rise, while below a pH of 7.0 the reaction is acid, becoming more acid as the figures decrease.

We have been singing the praises of rhododendron species, but I think it wise at this point to say that to get the best one must separate the wheat from the chaff, for there are many species which are only collectors' plants, and not worthy of space in the small garden, in fact there are many species which I would not plant, even if I owned the largest of gardens.

Rhododendrons begin to flower with *R. mucronulatum* in January, continuing through the spring and summer to *R. kyaw* in August; the greater majority bloom at the end of March and April when they are apt to become cut by spring frosts, and this early-flowering habit is undoubtedly one of their greatest drawbacks. Most are definitely woodland plants, and if given that dappled shade with a slight canopy of oak trees or tall Scots pines overhead, many blooms are saved during slight frosts. However, do not plant too near the butts of Scots pines, none should be planted nearer than 12 feet, and 15 feet would be better. Oaks are a little different as the roots go straight down, but birch are surface rooting and rhododendrons must be kept well away or they will soon suffer from drought in dry weather.

It should be remembered that rhododendron species vary very much within themselves. The leaves are often identical but the flowers can vary considerably, especially in colour, and it is of the utmost importance that the best forms of the particular species are used for hybridizing. You may admire a particularly fine species at the show today, go home and order that species from your local nurseryman, and after waiting years for it to flower you may find that it turns out to be a far inferior form to the one you had hoped to see.

One of the beauties of some rhododendron species is their lovely young growth. Immediately after flowering certain species, especially those in the Grande and Falconeri Series, with their tawny brown and almost silver young growths, *R. eclectum* with its vivid

red bracts falling away from the new leaves, and other most interesting new growths, provide interest and beauty in the woodland almost as great as during the flowering season.

This year has been an exceptional year with a very mild spring, and at the Rhododendron Competition held in the New Hall on March 14, many species were seen at their very best, some of which I had never seen before. I know that the majority of "beginner" amateur growers love the large-flowered "Man-made" hybrids. These are fine plants and most of them flower in late May and June after the frosts, but these cannot compare with the species—"God's work" which has such diversity of form in leaf, colour and flower. Soon, with experience, the majority of rhododendron growers begin to appreciate the plants collected in the wild as the variation in form, especially of the flowers of different species, soon fascinates them, and once the rhododendron "bug" has started to get a hold there is no insecticide on earth that will cure it.

I have already mentioned that there are well over a thousand different species of rhododendron, and the space left at my disposal will only allow me to mention just a few of the species which I consider to be good garden plants.

We will take the Arboreum Series first. This series contains many good rhododendrons, outstanding amongst which is *R. arboreum* itself. This particular rhododendron lives up to its name which means tree-like, and very fine examples of this can be seen in Cornwall and south-west Scotland. It is not truly hardy but where it is possible to grow it, it is magnificent, especially at Lochinch in Wigtownshire where they line the drives by the hundred. Then there is *R. niveum* with mauve flowers, but I like the later-flowering *R. thayerianum*. *R. insigne* also lives up to its name which means remarkable, and when seen in flower remarkable it really is; it should be grown far more than is generally the case. The underside of its leaves is covered with a lovely tawny-grey indumentum. *R. sylvaticum* varies very much indeed, some of the best forms are bright red in colour, some pink, but all have the lovely trusses typical of the Arboreum Series. Several forms of this particular rhododendron have received the Award of Merit, two as recently as this spring under the numbers K.W. 6258 and Rock 03913.

We pass on to a small series, Auriculatum, with only two members. *R. auriculatum*, meaning eared, referring to the lobes at the base of the leaves, is pure white and one of the latest rhododendrons to flower, generally in July. This species is not very successful as a parent plant for hybridization, its only outstanding offspring

being 'Polar Bear' raised at Tower Court. The other member of this series is just the reverse—*R. griersonianum* is a very important rhododendron which has helped to produce many fine hybrids, the best ones coming from Bodnant Gardens in North Wales. The plant is inclined to be a little sprawling in habit, but stands hard pruning very well indeed.

We will now take a few members of the Azalea Series. This large section consists mostly of deciduous plants, although a few may be semi-deciduous, and the Subseries, Obtusum, is evergreen. *R. simsii*, a member of the Subseries Obtusum, is a spreading, evergreen shrub with funnel-shaped flowers, the best forms of which are dark red. *R. vaseyi* comes from North America, and opinions differ, but I prefer the lovely rose-pink forms to the pure whites. Time is short and we must press on, but we cannot leave this series without mentioning *R. luteum*, often called the "Wild Azalea". The flowers of this species have a lovely scent, and in the autumn the foliage colours so beautifully that it could be described as one of the best twelve hardy, autumn-colouring plants in cultivation.

Another large series is Barbatum, all the members of which have hairs or bristles on the leaves. *R. barbatum* itself is a well-known rhododendron from the Himalayas and forms a tree up to 20 or 30 feet in height. The bark is smooth, and, like all smooth barked rhododendrons, will not break freely if pruned hard back. The best forms are of the richest crimson-red you can possibly imagine. It is sometimes confused with *R. smithii*, but it is easily distinguishable by the absence of indumentum on the lower surface of the leaves. *R. strigillosum*, meaning beset with bristles, is brilliant scarlet in colour and is a very fine plant for hybridization.

The Boothii Series contains many epiphytic plants, and generally speaking they are not truly hardy. *R. leucaspis* is a well-known dwarf plant with beautiful pure white flowers and chocolate anthers. However, it does flower a little early and is apt to be cut by spring frosts. *R. sulfureum* has bell-shaped, yellow flowers and again is a little tender. The pick of this series is *R. tephropeplum* with its numerous small, pink flowers from mid-April onwards and it is a fine plant for edging woodland paths.

In the Campanulatum Series we find the only true blue flowers in the elepidote section, *R. wallichii*, the forms of which are well worth growing, as also is *R. campanulatum* 'Knaphill Variety'.

R. cinnabarinum, in the Cinnabarinum Series, has most attractive flowers of cinnabar red and is quite hardy. Its variety *blandfordiaeflorum* with orange-yellow, waxy, bell-shaped blooms is a

plant that should be in every woodland collection. *R. xanthocodon* has yellow, bell-like flowers of the same texture and shape as *R. cinnabarinum*; at one time this species was attached to the Triflorum Series, but quite rightly it has recently been transferred to the Cinnabarinums.

In the Dauricum Series we find *R. dauricum* itself which forms a shrub up to 6 or 8 feet in height. There appear to be two forms of this rhododendron. One is semi-deciduous and the other evergreen. The evergreen variety is called *sempervivum* and is noted as being one of the parents of that very early-flowering hybrid *R. × praecox*. *R. mucronulatum* is the only other member of the Dauricum Series. It is a deciduous rhododendron which flowers from early January until February, providing the weather is free from frost. Planted in the woodland with flowering plants of *Hamamelis mollis* it gives a wonderful winter effect which is hard to beat.

Now we come to the Falconeri Series which consists of large, almost tree-like rhododendrons, and probably the best of the series is *R. falconeri* itself which has large leaves with brown indumentum and requires a warm sheltered garden. For those who cannot grow *R. falconeri* successfully very fine substitutes are *R. fictolacteum* or *R. rex* which makes a large tree, is very free flowering and has quite noble-looking foliage. *R. basilicum* is not such a large grower as *R. falconeri*, but has most majestic leaves. *R. hodgsonii* makes a tree up to 25 to 30 feet and has flowers of magenta purple.

The Fortunei Series is a very large series with six subseries and contains some of the noblest of all rhododendrons. Perhaps the most outstanding is *R. calophytum*, meaning with beautiful leaves, which flowers at the end of March or early April and has huge white trusses with a chocolate blotch in the centre. The pink 'Caerhays' variety is much sought after. A unique rhododendron is *R. orbiculare* which needs plenty of room in which to show its true circular form (Fig. 15). We must not leave out *R. sutchuenense*, forms of which vary considerably, but good varieties are well worth growing in the sheltered woodland. *R. praevernum*, meaning early spring, is another species which blooms very early.

In the Glaucophyllum Series *R. glaucophyllum* itself is a small-growing shrub, but in the Hall we saw something new, *R. glaucophyllum luteiflorum*, which had pure yellow flowers and took first prize in its class at the Rhododendron Show.

We come now to the Grande Series containing the giants of the rhododendron world, with the extra large leaves of *R. sinogrande*

which have silvery indumentum underneath, and pale to good yellow trusses of flowers. This makes a tree up to 25 or 30 feet. At the Rhododendron Competition on March 14 we saw some wonderful forms of *R. giganteum* sent from Brodick on the Isle of Arran. This is a tender plant and can only be grown in very favoured gardens in these islands, but to see it as I saw it at the show made those of us who have to garden in less warm districts very envious. *R. macabeum* is probably the best yellow rhododendron species there is. As with most species this varies very considerably, but the very best forms are well worth a trial in any sheltered garden (Fig. 14). Also at the Rhododendron Competition we saw *R. magnificum* with its wonderfully large trusses of fifteen to thirty flowers per truss. This species again is really tender and the plants exhibited came from Brodick and Mount Stewart in north-east Ireland.

The *Heliopsis* Series is perhaps not so interesting as those we have already mentioned, yet for those who cannot grow *R. augustinii* well *R. desquamatum* will make a good substitute.

Outstanding in the *Irroratum* Series is *R. aberconwayi* which is quite hardy at Wisley where we have a plant up to 8 feet high. The flowers are saucer-shaped and we have many good hybrids from this species. There are many forms of *R. irroratum* itself, and one of the most interesting is the Exbury spotted form 'Polka Dot'.

Unfortunately in the *Lacteam* Series *R. lacteum* itself has proved to be a very poor doer in this country, yet *R. wightii* makes quite a small tree up to 12 feet in height and has lax trusses of bell-shaped flowers which are pale yellow in colour, spotted crimson and sometimes with a crimson blotch at the base. Many fine hybrids have been raised from this species.

I like to term the *Lapponicum* Series as the 'Heathers' of the Himalayas. The true form of *R. lapponicum* comes from Lapland and is very rare, probably the true plant is not to be found in this country. Most of the species in this series have blue or purple flowers, yet *R. chryseum* is a good yellow and *R. flavidum* is pale yellow. There is a very fine white form of *R. flavidum*, and another white species in this series is *R. microleucum*.

We will not dwell long on the *Maddenii* Series as most of its members are best suited for the warm greenhouse. *R. ciliicalyx* is one of the best of the series, and *R. johnstoneanum* and *R. maddenii* can be grown out of doors in warmer gardens. The same can be said of *R. lindleyi* with its lovely, lily-like flowers, much like *R. taggianum*, both of which make very good plants for the cold

greenhouse where it is impossible to grow them out of doors. We cannot leave this series without mentioning probably the noblest of all evergreen rhododendrons, *R. nuttallii*, and like many beautiful plants it is really tender.

R. moupinense in the Moupinense Series comes from Moupin in western China and varies considerably. The plant itself is hardy, but it flowers very early indeed and one can be disappointed by the flowers being cut year after year by frost. The best form I know is the one known as 'Caerhays Pink'.

In the Neriiflorum Series *R. neriiflorum* makes a shrub up to 7 feet high, and in favourable springs it is simply smothered with red, bell-shaped flowers. *R. euchaetes* is very near *R. neriiflorum*, but perhaps less desirable. *R. forrestii* var. *repens* is a very variable plant, some are much more free flowering than others, and it is most advisable if at all possible to obtain the form K.W. 6832. The best plant of this particular rhododendron I have ever seen was at Tower Court, and I believe the plant growing in that garden received a First Class Certificate. *R. mallotum* has a lovely cinnamon brown, woolly indumentum on the underside of the leaves, and it is perhaps one of the best twelve rhododendrons worth growing for foliage alone.

The Series Ponticum contains several very interesting and outstanding hardy rhododendrons, most of which are well worth consideration for the production of new hybrids. *R. yakusimanum*, from the Isle of Yaku, makes a shrub up to 4 feet high and the flowers are a good pink when first opening, fading to pure white. I believe this plant will be responsible for the introduction into our gardens of a race of dwarf, Everyman's Rhododendrons. An even dwarfer member of this series is *R. aureum* with yellow flowers. This is being used extensively at Wisley for hybridization; after 20 years the plant is no more than 18 inches high and 3 feet through. Mention should also be made of *R. metternichii* with its lovely white flowers, the true form of which has a seven-lobed corolla and appears to be very rare.

One of the most important and most interesting of all the series is Thomsonii. *R. campylocarpum* is outstanding with yellow, bell-shaped flowers and has been responsible for producing many of our best new hybrids. *R. thomsonii* follows closely on *R. campylocarpum* as being a very fine member of this series. *R. souliei* is an outstanding species with flat, saucer-shaped flowers, but there are many different forms, three of which have received a First Class Certificate. All the good species in this series cannot be mentioned,

but we cannot miss *R. williamsianum*. Unfortunately, in this country the young growths of this species are apt to break away quite early in the year and usually become cut by spring frosts, with the result that it has become noted as very shy flowering.

I think that the Triflorum Series is one of the most beautiful of all the series in the genus with yellow, blue, white and purple flowers. *R. augustinii*, especially the better forms, stands out as being the best blue rhododendron. *R. lutescens* is a fine woodland plant and can be planted to form a hedge. Its yellow flowers begin to bloom in February and continue well into March. *R. yunnanense* makes quite a large bush up to 8 feet and has pink or nearly white flowers, sometimes spotted red and is worthy of a place in any garden.

Finally we come to the Virgatum Series. *R. virgatum* is not truly hardy and has small racemes of pink to white flowers, but there is a pure white form as well. I will finish with *R. racemosum*, the best form of which is undoubtedly F. 19404. It is a dwarf-growing plant with pink flowers. The variety *oleifolium* is an outstanding plant for the lighter parts of the woodland and grows to a height of 5 or 6 feet.

THE RATING OF MERIT OF RHODODENDRON SPECIES*

By H. R. FLETCHER, Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E. V.M.H.

I PROPOSE to build this article round the statement on page 35 of part I of the *Rhododendron Handbook* of the Royal Horticultural Society: 'Any help in correcting mistakes will be welcomed both in the descriptions and in the markings against the species worth growing, which vary from one to four asterisks according to their merit. Many not marked may be well worth growing when they are better known.'

Until now, both the Royal Horticultural Society and the American Rhododendron Society have used a rating system based on the use of four stars to assess the *horticultural value*—I stress the words *horticultural value*—of rhododendron species: 4 stars for the best, and in America 0 for the poorest to distinguish such plants from those which have not yet been rated. Thus a 4-star plant is eminently worth while growing and a plant rated 0 is not worth growing. By the way, the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* uses the phrase *worth growing*; the American Rhododendron Society uses the much better phrase *horticultural value*. For instance, *R. nuttallii* is a 4-star plant and well worth growing—or of great horticultural value, although only those who have glasshouses and, in Britain at any rate, possibly those in one or two very sheltered parts of the country, are able to grow it. *R. ponticum* on the other hand, rated 0, is therefore not worth growing and is of no horticultural value although anyone who can grow rhododendrons can grow *ponticum* with less than ease. Surely there is something wrong here. I do not suggest that *R. nuttallii* is not a 4-star plant and is not worth growing and has no horticultural value; it is one of the most beautiful of rhododendron species and anyone who has the facility for growing it certainly should. But I do suggest that *R. ponticum*—or what we all call *ponticum* (for it doesn't matter in this instance whether we are dealing with the true species or only with natural hybrids)—is also

*Based on a paper read to The International Rhododendron Conference held in Portland, Oregon, May 1961, and published here by the kind agreement of the President of the American Rhododendron Society.

well worth growing if one has the facility for growing it—and facility here is only a question of space. It also has great horticultural value—and great decorative value too. I know that a single truss can be miserable enough, yet a great bank of it such as one sees in the West of Scotland, or in Windsor Great Park, can be a magnificently colourful spectacle. It will grow in any situation and environment, will resist frost and will form a splendid windbreak. Without shelter-belts of *R. ponticum* we would not be able to grow many highly starred rhododendrons; neither would we be able to grow many Award of Merit plants were they not grafted on to *R. ponticum* stocks. My contention is that in certain situations *R. ponticum*, or better, certain forms of *R. ponticum*, are eminently worth while growing and then such forms should be rated with several stars. I am not for a moment expecting to convince the Royal Horticultural Society and the American Rhododendron Society of my contention; but I do propose to try to illustrate the necessity for regrading many species listed in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*, and, moreover, the desirability of regrading them from a point of view different to that which has obtained in the past in Britain and a little different from the point of view which is now being adopted in America.

I have said that *R. nuttallii* is a 4-star plant but I want to qualify this statement. From the point of view of beauty of flower there can be no question of this 4-star rating. But is beauty of flower *everything* in a plant of great horticultural value? Most certainly not. A birch tree has tremendous horticultural value—but often no floral effect worth talking about. Thus it seems to me obvious that habit too (and with habit I include foliage) must be taken into account when rating rhododendrons for merit. If this be done it is at once clear that *R. nuttallii* may merit 4 stars for flower, but for habit and foliage not more than 2 stars—the foliage is beautiful, but the habit often is awful. It seems to me, therefore, that the merit rating of *R. nuttallii* would best be expressed in the following way, 4/1–2: 4 stars for flower, 1–2 stars for habit—not 1 star for habit, not 2 stars for habit, but 1–2 stars, simply because some forms I have seen have much better habit than others.

Now let us look at some other species.

First I would like to look at some of the rhododendrons of the *Maddenii* series because these are the rhododendrons I personally, I suppose, prefer above all others for, with the exception of *R. formosum*, they are invariably beautifully scented and scent is a

desirable attribute of any flower. Unfortunately good habit, a desirable attribute of any plant, is lacking in so many of these rhododendrons, especially those of the subseries *Megacalyx*, which in large measure are epiphytic, leggy, straggly and sprawling. *R. nuttallii*, of course, is one such. *R. lindleyi* is often much the same; nevertheless it is a glorious plant, 4-starred both in Britain and America. Useless out of doors in Edinburgh, it is splendid, for instance, in Argyll where, in fact, it appears to revel in the wind, in such an environment making a much more compact plant than, and just as floriferous as, those growing in more sheltered sites. *R. taggianum* is equally beautiful; like *R. lindleyi* it has received the A.M. and F.C.C. from the Royal Horticultural Society and yet it is only 3-starred. *R. taggianum*, it seems to me, is only the Burmese counterpart of the Sikkim and Bhutan *R. lindleyi* and I believe that they are geographical forms of one and the same species. I would suggest grading them both 4/1-2. The exotic looking *R. rhabdotum* is 4-starred in Britain, 3-starred in America. I wouldn't quarrel with 3 stars for flower though I think 4 is nearer the mark; but I think I would quarrel with more than 1 star for habit.

R. crassum, on the East Coast of Scotland, usually is perfectly hardy though it grows much more luxuriantly on the West Coast; it is, of course, one of the hardiest of the *Maddenii* rhododendrons. In America it is rated with 2 stars and in Britain with 3. Now *R. crassum* is a most variable plant—variable in habit, in foliage, and in flower shape and colour—white, creamy white, rose or pink and with or without a yellow blotch. Some forms may be worth 3 stars for flower—others certainly not. As the habit and foliage often are very good, I would rate this species 2-3/2-3. Even the finest forms are inferior from a floral point of view, in Britain at any rate, to *R. ciliicalyx*, one of the introductions from Yunnan of the Abbe Delavay which was distributed by the Jardin des Plantes round about 1890. Given greenhouse treatment it justifies every one of the 4 stars for flower of the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*, for every year it covers itself with glorious white, or white stained with rose, sweetly scented flowers. I do not understand why in America it should only merit 2 stars. My rating would be 4/1-2. Although it is much more tender and can hardly be grown out of doors, I believe it deserves a higher rating than *R. johnstoneanum* for which the present rating of 3 stars is probably correct for some forms. It is a very variable plant and the flowers may be pale yellow, or white with a yellow blotch, or occasionally white tinged pink and spotted with red;

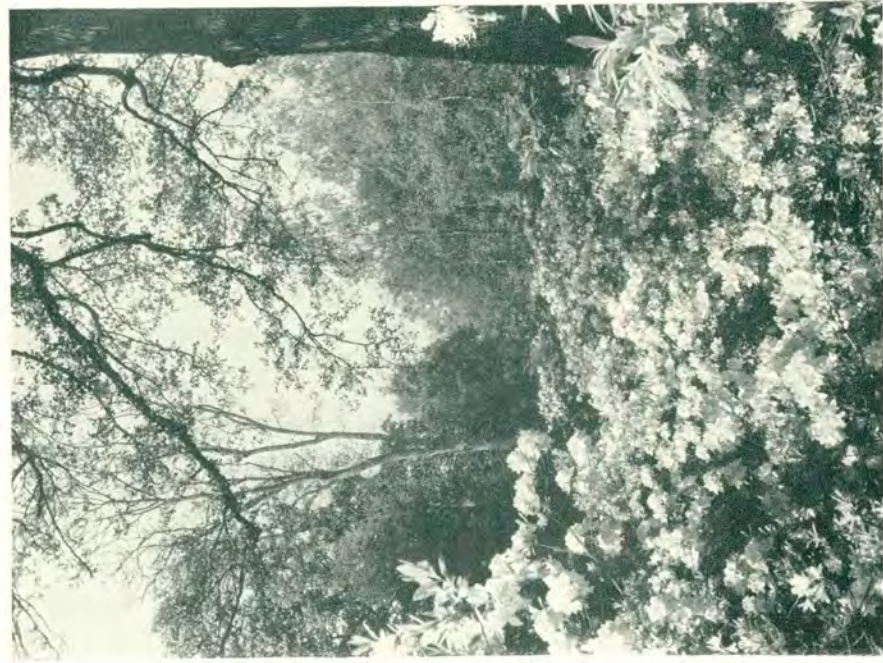


Photo: Country Life

FIG. 10—Sandling Park. A mass of deciduous azaleas filling a glade with bright colour



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 11—A glade at Sandling Park with a bank of very large plants of the pink Rhododendron 'Cynthia' in the background



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 12—An unusually large bush of *R. oreotrephes* at Sandling Park (see p. 16)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 13—A free-flowering form of *R. souliei* at Sandling Park (see p. 18)

there are also double and semi-double flowered forms. The double form has received the A.M. from the Royal Horticultural Society as indeed have two forms grown under the number Kingdon Ward 7732—*please note*—two very distinct forms from one lot of seeds, such is the variability of rhododendron species—one with pale creamy white, yellow blotched flowers, the other with white flowers with a deep pink stripe along the middle of each petal. This latter form was given the name var. *rubeotinctum*, but of course it is not a botanical variety and should have been given a fancy cultivar name. Still, to have distinguished the two forms by *some* sort of name was a step in the right direction. My suggestion here is 3-4/1-2. Likewise there is great variation in plants in cultivation under the name *R. valentinianum*. The true plant was introduced by Forrest round about 1920 (F. 16011 type) and is a dwarf compact shrub with bright butter yellow flowers; it is also a very slow grower and is quite hardy, and very elegant, on an exposed position in the Rock Garden in Edinburgh. This is the plant which was given the A.M. in 1933 in London and which is 3-starred in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*, and this is the plant to which the American Rhododendron Society gives 2 stars. My rating would be 2-3/2. Rock's introduction (R. 22302) of so-called *R. valentinianum* is something quite different; it is much looser in growth, grows taller and more rapidly, has much thinner leaves which for long periods are quite bronzed, probably is even hardier than Forrest's plant, and carries an abundance of creamy yellow flowers. It is in fact not *R. valentinianum* at all and shortly will be described as a new species. It shows little variation in cultivation and I should say it is a 3/1-2 star plant. Two Maddenii rhododendrons—*R. megacalyx* and *R. polyandrum*—I believe are incorrectly 3-starred, even for flower, in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*. They are both beautiful coolhouse plants and both can be grown on the West Coast of Scotland. Both have received the A.M.—in fact two forms of *R. polyandrum* have received the A.M., a white-flowered form and a pink-flowered form—and unfortunately neither form was given a cultivar name. The flowers of *R. megacalyx* with the two lower petals larger than the rest are things of the greatest beauty. As the foliage is good and the habit not so good I would rate both species 4/1-2. There are also two splendid Maddenii rhododendrons which are even more underrated—*R. cubittii* and *R. parryae*. The former is a Burmese species and one of the most beautiful of all rhododendrons with its

reddish brown bark and apple blossom pink flower buds opening to white flowers, often deeply flushed with rose on the outside and with a blotch of yellowish brown markings on the throat. It is 2-starred in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*. Although it has been grown out of doors—at Trengwainton in Cornwall, at Porlock, and at Brodick in the Isle of Arran—yet it is essentially a plant for the coolhouse. As the habit is rather floppy I would like to see it rated 4/1-2. *R. parryae*, from the Lushai Hills of Assam, was described in 1933 and apparently is not yet in general cultivation, which fact no doubt accounts for its present unstarred state in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*. Its smooth thin pinkish-purple bark and white orange-blotched funnel-shaped scented flowers make it a delightful plant for the coolhouse, though no doubt it will be successfully cultivated out of doors in the West of Scotland, in Ireland and in Cornwall. I would say it is a 3-4/1-2 starred plant.

And now a brief comment on one or two species of the *Edgeworthii* series. In Britain both *R. bullatum* and *R. edgeworthii* are rated as 4-star plants—and I believe correctly so from the point of view of flower, for both have received the F.C.C.; in fact two quite distinct forms of *R. bullatum* have received the F.C.C.—and unfortunately distinguishing cultivar names were given to neither plant. I also believe that the hardiness rating given to them in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* is wide of the mark—F. (usually a greenhouse plant) for *R. edgeworthii* and D. (hardy in S. and W. and in sheltered gardens inland) for *R. bullatum*. Every year in the Woodland Garden in Edinburgh the plant we grow as *R. edgeworthii* is a superb sight, plastered with its deeply pink-stained fragrant flowers. Its position in the Garden is by no means the most sheltered and by no means the warmest. But in this position the habit is very different from that which is developed in the more sheltered gardens in Argyll, for instance; it is much more compact and has little suggestion of the epiphytic habit so common in nature. A plant we call *R. bullatum* has likewise proved perfectly hardy in Edinburgh. It is a matter of the greatest possible regret that the introductory history of these Edinburgh plants has been lost, for it may be that they represent particularly hardy forms. And it may be that similar hardy forms are in cultivation elsewhere, for in nature both plants have a fairly wide altitudinal range, Ludlow & Sherriff having collected *R. edgeworthii* from 6,000–10,000 feet in Bhutan and S.E. Tibet, and Rock having collected *R. bullatum* in Yunnan at an altitude of

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FIG. 14—A fine plant of *R. macabeae* at Trewithen in Cornwall (see p. 35)



FIG. 15—An unusually finely-coloured form of *R. orbiculare* (see p. 26)

13,000 feet—an almost certain guarantee of hardiness in Britain. My merit rating of both these species would be 4/2-3.

One other member of this small series I must mention, *R. pendulum*, originally found by Hooker but more recently re-introduced by Ludlow & Sherriff who gathered it in Bhutan and S.E. Tibet where it grows as an epiphyte on rhododendrons and conifers, as well as on cliff faces from 9,000-12,000 feet. It is unstarred in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*. I think it should be rated at least 2/1-2, for it produces an abundance of small rather flat non-fragrant white flowers stained on the inside with yellow and sometimes touched with pink and is quite hardy in the Rock Garden in Edinburgh.

The *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* awards 3 or 4 stars to most members of the Grande series, and indeed from a floral point of view the best forms of these most spectacular plants, growing in the climate of Cornwall, the West Coast of Scotland, or Ireland, are well worthy of this rating. But some members of the Grande series are extremely variable in flower and some forms are not worthy of the highest rating. Consider *R. macabeaum* for a moment. It was introduced from Assam by Kindon Ward round about 1928—and as far as I know there has been one other introduction from the wild. As early as 1937 it received the A.M. from the Royal Horticultural Society and the following year the F.C.C.—and both awards were given to Sir Edward Bolitho's plant at Trengwainton in Cornwall. The truss of Sir Edward's plant is a fine one—somewhat flattened at the top and of a good clear yellow. But some plants I know have a looser flatter truss than Sir Edward's plant, and at Trewithen in Cornwall the trusses of the huge plant are very much tighter, completely round and not flattened—and of a splendid colour (Fig. 14). Personally I regard the Trewithen plant as much the finest form of *R. macabeaum* that I have seen and if Sir Edward Bolitho's plant merits an F.C.C. so does the Trewithen plant—obviously under a distinct cultivar name. At the same time I would regard all the deep yellow forms as worthy of 4 stars for flower alone. On the other hand plants at Benmore and to a lesser extent at Brodick in the Isle of Arran and elsewhere carry trusses of much paler flowers. Some people I know sniff at these pale trusses. To me any truss, dark yellow or pale, of *R. macabeaum* is a very handsome thing and the poorest I believe are worthy of 3 stars. As this species always makes a fine plant and has magnificent foliage I would like to see it rated as a 3-4/4 star plant—almost the same rating,

2-4/4, instead of the present 3 stars of the *Handbook*, that I would give to *R. mollyanum*. This is another of Kingdon Ward's introductions—under the numbers 6261 and 6261A—and for a long time masqueraded under the name of *R. sinogrande*. It seems to be hardly any less hardy than *R. macabeum* and is much more variable. There are many plants on the Island of Arran, all splendid as foliage plants and with flowers of varying degrees of pink, some more tubular than others, some more campanulate, and some more frilled at the margin of the petals. At Benmore there is one plant with rather bigger and heavier trusses than any in Arran and with flowers of a clearer, richer pink which hardly fades with age as do some of the Arran ones. This is the plant which gained the F.C.C. in 1957 under the cultivar name of 'Benmore' and which is well worth 4 stars. On the other hand, a plant in Lord Stair's garden at Lochinch in Wigtownshire is a much inferior thing, with a very loose truss of flowers which are quite tubular and for the most part white, stained with pink. To me such a truss is worth no more than 2 stars. Had this plant not been exhibited at the same show as the Benmore plant, and thus the Rhododendron Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society made to realize that *R. mollyanum* is a very variable plant, I very much doubt if the F.C.C. plant would have been given a distinct cultivar name. More than likely the F.C.C. would have been given to '*R. mollyanum*' and thus to all manner of forms of this species, some good, some not so good—from a floral point of view. From what I see of rhododendrons in cultivation, it seems to me that almost all species vary in greater or lesser degree, especially in flower, and I believe that when any species is given an Award of any kind the Award should be given only to the particular plant exhibited and that the plant in question should be given a cultivar name, i.e. that one applies the same rules to species as to hybrids; after all, it is more than likely that many so-called species are only natural hybrids.

Several members of the Falconeri series are, at present, it seems to me, incorrectly rated for merit both in Britain and in America. We are all agreed that the best forms of *R. falconeri* are 4-star plants, magnificent foliage plants and even more magnificent when in flower. It is perfectly hardy on the East Coast of Scotland though naturally the foliage and the trusses are not so lush and big as on the West Coast. My all-round rating would be 3-4/3-4. *R. fictolactum* is a 3-star plant for flower and I personally would rate it 3/2-3. *R. rex* is a much finer thing than *R. fictolactum* and I would rate it 3-4/3-4. Two forms of *R. rex*, a white one and a

pink one, both grown from seeds of K.W. 4509 and for long known as *R. fictolacteum*, already have received the F.C.C. and the A.M. respectively and a form grown from Rock 03800 has also received the A.M. Unfortunately none of these forms has been given a distinct cultivar name and all are different, for instance from the splendid form which grows in Argyll, a form which is also deserving of an Award—as no doubt are others scattered around Britain. But if further Awards should be made—and the fact that the above Awards have been made should not preclude others from being given—let us hope that cultivar names will be given to the individual plants in question. To return to *R. fictolacteum*; this is also very variable and it was only right and proper that Lord Digby's form with bright cherry red buds and pink flushed flowers, differing markedly from many other forms, should have been given the name 'Cherry Tip' when it received the A.M. on April 14, 1953. And on this same day it was quite wrong and wholly improper that the Windsor Great Park form of *R. coriaceum* which also received the A.M. should not also have been given a cultivar name, for in this species the flower colour of individual plants varies considerably. I would regard any form I have seen as being worthy of 3 stars for flower, although in America it is rated with 2/3. Thus my overall rating would be 2-3/2-3.

In the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* *R. arizelum* is 2-starred and *R. basilicum* 3-starred. Both are extremely variable plants. Lord Digby's A.M. plant of *R. basilicum* with pale whitish cream flowers, crimson blotched on the throat, and with dull pale crimson markings, is quite different from certain pale pinkish forms. *R. arizelum* may have cream, pale yellow or darker yellow, or pale rose or pink flowers—or even almost red in the so-called variety *rubicosum*. Obviously whenever Awards are given to any forms of *basilicum* or *arizelum* they should be given only to named clones. Both are extraordinarily handsome foliage plants and I should have thought that the good forms of both these species were 3/3 star plants at least. And why does the American Rhododendron Society believe that *R. hodgsonii* merits only a single star; or why only 2 stars in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*? In Britain it is one of the longest lived of rhododendrons and a plant of great elegance with fine foliage and beautiful papery fawn or bronze peeling bark. In Edinburgh there are several old plants, between 70 and 80 years old, all beautiful and no two the same, the trusses varying in the degree of compactness and the flowers in the degree of

magenta-purple. The best forms of *R. hodgsonii* are surely 3/3 star plants.

Most members of the Barbatum series grow well both on the East and West Coasts of Scotland and thus in Scotland there is quite a comprehensive collection of these plants, and the more I see of them the more I like them and the more I realize that many of them are in need of a revised merit rating. In the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* *R. strigillosum* is the only 4-star plant and *R. barbatum* and *R. smithii* the only 3-star plants. There are very old plants of all three in Edinburgh and evidently all three live to a considerable age. *R. strigillosum* often disappoints me a little; the foliage, so often rolled in at the margin, is probably the least elegant of any in the series, whilst the flowers, produced in great abundance—too great an abundance for my liking—as often as not are spoiled by the birds which eat holes at the base of the flowers in their search for nectar. Personally I would like to rate this species 3-4/2-3, the same rating that I would give to *R. barbatum*. The old Edinburgh plant of *R. barbatum* is not in very good health but a good *R. barbatum* is one of the finest of rhododendrons. The finest form of *R. barbatum* I know grows at an elevation of 900 feet on Dartmoor in South Devon and is one of Hooker's original introductions of over 100 years ago. It has magnificent foliage and great compact trusses of flowers and well merits 3 stars for foliage and habit and 4 stars for flower. Whilst *R. longesquamatum* is unrated for merit in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*, the American Rhododendron Society regards it as a 2-star plant and I think this is correct for flower. At Benmore, for instance, it makes a most attractive plant with the thick leaves, dark green and lustrous above and very pale green below, crowded at the ends of shaggy shoots and forming a pleasant background to fairly large trusses of pink, or rose, crimson blotched flowers. I would grade it 2/2 at least. I also think it correct to award at least 2 stars to *R. pachytrichum* as is done in America. Both in Edinburgh and at Benmore it makes a big handsome and very floriferous plant; it is a variable plant and the splendid rich pink form which grows at Edinburgh and at Bodnant and with which Lord Aberconway sometimes takes a first prize at Rhododendron Shows is a very different thing to the almost pure white form which is also at Edinburgh and at Benmore. My rating would be 2-3/2-3. I cannot understand why Mr. E. H. M. Cox writes that it is not worth growing and that *R. monosematum* is not worth growing either in

spite of the fact that it *has* been figured in the *Botanical Magazine*. This species is not rated in the *Rhododendron Handbook* but I have seen it every bit as good as *R. pachytrichum*—and just as variable—the pure white form being a very different thing to the deep rose pink form which is also in cultivation and even from some pale pink forms. *R. monosematum* in my opinion is also a 2–3/2–3 star plant. Rhododendrons *glischrum* and *habrotrichum* are 1-starred in the *Rhododendron Handbook* and *R. crinigerum* is 2-starred. I would rate them 2–3/2. *R. crinigerum* has much to recommend it; it always has good foliage; it flowers at an early age and as a rule the trusses are quite charming with flowers white or white flushed with rose, sometimes heavily red-blotched and spotted, sometimes almost free from spots. The fact that one pale pink heavily blotched and spotted form has received the A.M. and a similar form—a seedling of *Rock* 59186—has been figured in the *Botanical Magazine* is further evidence of the necessity for the uprating, from a flower point of view, of this species. Likewise with *R. glischrum* which is always a fine foliage plant with some forms quite handsome in flower—some with almost pure white flowers, some pink or rose, some crimson blotched and spotted, others without these markings. The plant from Caerhays in Cornwall which was figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, t. 9035, is only one of the many forms of this species which, of course, should be given cultivar names, if at any time they should receive Awards either from the Royal Horticultural Society or the American Rhododendron Society. And likewise the plant which received the A.M. in 1935 is only *one* form of *R. habrotrichum* which can be extremely beautiful—and very floriferous too—with flowers varying in colour from white through varying shades of pink with or without darker markings. The red bristles which cover the plant are in themselves most attractive. *R. rude*, not rated in the *Rhododendron Handbook*, is much the same and though possibly not so floriferous, nevertheless the individual truss can be very striking. I would certainly rate it as a 2–3/2 star plant. Neither *R. vesiculiferum* nor *R. spilotum* are rated in the Handbook. The former grows beautifully at Eckford and elsewhere in Argyll, making a nicely shaped plant with very handsome foliage, and carrying numerous trusses of pale rose flowers. I regard it as a very rewarding plant and worth 2–3/2–3 stars. It too is variable for the Edinburgh plant has much richer pink flowers. *R. spilotum*, Farrer's discovery on the alpine woodlands of North East Upper Burma, I would rate a little lower, 2–3/1–2, although it is a very satisfactory plant in Edinburgh.

Though the flowers are not big, they are produced in some profusion and are of a pleasant form and colour, pink, or white tinged with pink, and with a small crimson blotch.

I do not understand why *R. exasperatum* should be condemned in America with an 0. In Britain it receives 2 stars for its foliage—and of course the foliage, especially the young foliage, is particularly beautiful, varying in colour from verdigris-green to beetroot. But foliage apart I think the flower trusses are attractive and 2/2-3 would be my rating. And certainly I cannot understand why the Formosan *R. morii* should merit only the Royal Horticultural Society's 2-star rating, for some forms of this species are utterly beautiful—and very distinct from one another too. In fact Captain Collingwood Ingram even doubted the identity of some of the Benmore plants, so different were they from his; one, with almost pure white flowers, and another with brown-spotted flowers, contrast markedly with the heavily red-blotched and spotted flowers of Ingram's form which received the A.M. in 1956. In still other forms the white flowers are heavily flushed with rose. I would rate *R. morii* 2-4/2-3.

And now I want for a moment to take up the cudgels on behalf of the Taliense series. The *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* treats this series very shabbily in my opinion; a form of *R. wasonii* is awarded 3 stars, *R. wasonii*, *roxieanum*, *recurvoides*, *proteoides*, *microgynum*, *gymnocarpum* and *bureavii*, 2 stars, *adenogynum*, *adenophorum*, *balfourianum*, *bureavioides*, *clementinae* and *vellereum*, 1 star—and the rest no stars at all. Why these rhododendrons should be held in such poor repute I cannot understand, for with hardly an exception they are extremely hardy; they are good foliage plants; some such as *R. clementinae* and *bureavii* magnificent foliage plants; they make most attractive evergreen shrubs, when once they begin to flower they flower quite freely, and those who collected them held some of them in high esteem, as for instance *R. clementinae* which species Forrest regarded as one of the finest he collected, which he dedicated to his wife, and which I should have thought was a good 3-star plant for habit and foliage alone. But there are far worse examples of prejudice towards this series. *R. detonsum* is not even starred in the *Rhododendron Handbook* although there is a magnificent plate of a very fine truss in the *Botanical Magazine*. Forrest thought highly of it and at its best it is a plant of most pleasing proportions, frequently laden with good trusses of varying shades of rose-pink, crimson spotted or unspotted, blooms. I regard a good form as a

3/2 star plant at least—as indeed would I regard the form of *R. paradoxum* (also unstarred in Britain) which grows at Benmore; dark rich pink—or almost red—the buds open to pale pink flowers with a crimson blotch and short lines of spots. *R. wiltonii*, which is occasionally among the prizewinners in London, which has been awarded the A.M. and figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, obviously cannot be rated lower than these. When one compares the Benmore and the Edinburgh plants—the latter figured in the *Botanical Magazine* and grown from seeds collected by E. H. Wilson for the Arnold Arboretum under the number W. 4264—so different are they that it should be obvious that the A.M. plant, which came from Exbury, should have been given a clonal name. In the same way a plant of such excellent habit, good foliage and of so floriferous a nature as *R. velleureum* is worthy of more than 1 star; 2-3/2-3 is my rating; so different is the form with almost white, unspotted flowers from, for instance, the form figured in the *Botanical Magazine* from a plant grown at Borde Hill in Sussex—heavily stained with rose and spotted—that clonal names should be given to distinguish the various forms from one another. These remarks apply in even greater degree to *R. roxieanum* than which no rhododendron is more variable; some forms have fairly broad leaves, others extremely narrow leaves—but they are all fine foliage plants; some have fairly large trusses, some with trusses hardly larger than a golf ball; the flowers of some are white with numerous crimson spots, others stained in varying degrees with pink, as in a plant at Caerhayes, Cornwall, which was figured in the *Botanical Magazine*. They are all charming garden plants—even though slow growing and rather slow in coming into flower. Two stars (the rating in Britain, it is not listed in America) is the very minimum which can be given to any form of *R. roxieanum* I know, and some forms are well worthy of 3 stars; therefore I would rate this species as 2-3/2-3.

I have been speaking of plants with good foliage and I suppose that the rhododendron which is worth growing for its foliage alone is *R. lepidostylum* of the Trichocladum series. Certainly this plant isn't worth growing for its flowers, which are produced very sparingly and singly or in pairs, and which are half hidden among the foliage. In Edinburgh it makes a compact rounded shrub not more than 3 feet in height and the young foliage is of a most lovely bluish-green tint, which colour is carried for most of the year; only in winter do the leaves assume a darker less interesting colour. It *must* be for foliage that this species is given 2 stars in the

Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook although we are not told so. In my opinion the flowers actually *spoil* the plant but as usually they are produced so sparingly it is an easy matter to pick them off as they open. My rating for this species would be 0/2-4. The young foliage of two other members of this series is also extremely pretty—a lovely soft glaucous blue-green—and both species carry a mass of small flowers. Neither is starred in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*. One is *R. viridescens* with attractive bristly branchlets and widely funnel-shaped yellowish-green flowers with green or brownish spots; the flowers are useful in that they are produced in June and July. The other is *R. rubrolineatum*, a good form of which has yellow flowers lined and flushed with rose on the outside. Both are worthy of 2/2 stars.

I have no doubt that the best forms of *R. neriiflorum* and *R. euchaites*, if these really *are* distinct, are worthy of the 4-star rating at present given to them both in Britain and in America, for they are always splendid plants with their bright fresh green foliage, white beneath, and an abundance of waxy red flowers which are produced when plants are quite young. My overall rating of these would be 3-4/2-3. But some forms are very much hardier than others and I doubt whether a hardiness rating of C is accurate enough. *R. mallotum* receives 4 stars in Britain, 3 in America, and no doubt a plant well grown on the West of Scotland or in Cornwall or in a favoured part of America is worth this rating. But this species does not grow satisfactorily everywhere and many growers will disagree with this high rating; 2-4/2-3 stars probably would be better. And many growers will disagree violently with the 4-star rating of *R. forrestii* and its variety *repens*. The F.C.C. plant assuredly is a 4-star plant as are one or two others scattered about Britain—including one in Edinburgh. But there are others in Edinburgh, and there are hundreds all over Britain—and no doubt America too—which have never flowered and which one feels never will flower, and which, as their foliage is not as interesting as all that, are scarcely worth growing. Thus my rating would be 0-4/1-2. On the other hand the very neat *R. chamae-thomsonii*, neat habit, neat truss, is a far finer plant than its unstarred entry in the *Rhododendron Handbook* would suggest, and although very variable—flowers crimson, sometimes orange-crimson—it is an easy 2-3/2-3 star plant.

We rate *R. thomsonii* rather more highly in Britain than do they in the States—we give it 4 stars compared to their 3. No matter, it

is a fine plant, beautiful habit, beautiful stem, beautiful foliage—old and young—beautiful trusses of flowers. It is also a variable plant, variable in foliage and in flower—and yet one hardly ever sees a bad form. A fair rating would be 3-4/3-4. How strange it is that this splendid species should never have received the A.M. Britain and America agree that *R. williamsianum* is a 4-star plant though there are forms which tend to hide their flowers and forms with smaller more insipid coloured bells than others. I personally would prefer a 2-4/3-4 rating—the rating I would also give to *R. callimorphum*, *campylocarpum* and *caloxanthum*. *R. callimorphum* varies in leaf shape and size, in the shape of the flower—some forms having much more widely open bells than others—and in the colour of the flower—various shades of pink to deep rose, with or without a crimson blotch. Nearly every form one sees is good and again it is strange that one of the most beautiful of all rhododendrons should not have received the A.M. This Award *must* come some time and the plant which receives it obviously must be given a clonal name. *R. campylocarpum* has even received the F.C.C.—and as long ago as 1892; but this F.C.C. form was the one introduced by Hooker and figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, t. 4968, and is a very different plant from many in cultivation to-day which are much taller, much looser growing, with orange-vermillion flower buds and flowers with a conspicuous crimson blotch. Moreover, many plants in cultivation to-day are self-sown seedlings and have been raised from seeds of open pollinated plants in cultivation and no doubt have varying degrees of hybridity in them—as at Inverewe in Ross-shire for instance. Some of these forms I would not rate as highly as some forms of *R. caloxanthum*, one of the most free flowering of rhododendrons, with yellow flowers often tinged with pink and at present a 3-star plant in Britain and America—as is *R. stewartianum*. Is a 3-star rating not being rather generous to *R. stewartianum*? And is it not being rather stupid to give a fixed number of stars to so variable a plant? There is no end to its forms—Farrer described a hillside covered with this rhododendron and no two bushes were the same, the flowers varying in colour from pure white through all shades of yellow and buff to rose and even deep crimson. And, of course, it is the same in cultivation and many of these forms are represented in every large collection of rhododendron species. And yet in 1934 '*R. stewartianum*' was given the A.M. in London; which particular form was given the Award, or whether a whole series of colour forms was given the Award, is not recorded as far as I know.

Either way the Award was unfortunate and it is to be hoped that a similar Award will never be made again. An occasional form may be worth 3 stars; but most surely are but 2-star plants; at any rate I would rate them 2-3/1-2. And much the same applies to *R. cerasinum* which is 3-starred in the *Rhododendron Handbook*. Often it makes a nicely shaped plant—and produces beautiful flowers—and then tries to hide them under the foliage almost more than any other rhododendron. The flowers are of two distinct types: one almost white with the lobes deeply flushed with carmine; the other scarlet. Even in the field Kingdon Ward gave the two forms cultivar names—calling the former 'Cherry Brandy' and the latter 'Coals of Fire'. Yet when 'Cherry Brandy' was exhibited in 1934 no distinction was made between the two forms and the A.M. was given to '*R. cerasinum*'. Although Forrest found *R. dasycladum* over 40 years ago and although he—as well as Rock—collected seeds on many occasions—it is not apparently in general cultivation, otherwise it would not be unstarred in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook*. As it grows at Benmore it is a much better plant than either *R. stewartianum* or *R. cerasinum* and one readily understands why Forrest thought highly of it. Very free flowering, it is at the same time variable, with flowers of rose or white and with or without a blotch and spots. Some forms, well grown, are easily worth 3 stars at least and my rating for this species would be 2-4/2-3.

At present 3 stars is the merit rating given to many species in the Fortunei series both in Britain and America. The true *R. fortunei*—and there are many so-called in cultivation which are not true—I would rate as highly as 3-4/3-4, for it is hardy and vigorous, of fine shape, of good foliage and the fragrant pale lilac-pink flowers are most beautiful. The late flowering *R. decorum* I would rate likewise, especially when it regenerates all over the place as it does all along the Scottish West Coast; it is a plant of good habit and produces an abundance of scented flowers often at the same time as the young foliage and the effect is quite charming; the flowers vary from white with a greenish yellow throat to the most delicate shell-pink; they are widely expanded, often with a slight crinkle, and always beautiful; again, it is extremely variable and some of the best forms are well worthy of propagation and distribution under clonal names. The same remarks apply to the less hardy *R. diaprepes*—one form of which has been given the cultivar name of 'Gargantua', on account of its large leaves and flowers, as well as the A.M. Strangely enough *R. vernicosum*, which I value so

highly, never has had an A.M.; and so variable is it that if and when an Award should be made the plant receiving the Award must be given a clonal name. Perhaps I have been lucky but I do not remember seeing a form of *R. vernicosum* which I did not think was extraordinarily decorative and pleasing and a good garden plant. Obviously it is quite wrong to rate any species which varies so much as does *R. vernicosum* with 1, 2, 3 or 4 stars; some forms may be worth 2 stars; others may be worth 4 stars. Consequently it seems to me that the only sensible thing is to give such a species a 2-4/2-3 star rating. I can think of only one reason why *R. erubescens* should be unstarred in the *Rhododendron Handbook*—the reason that few people grow it. It is one of Wilson's Chinese introductions (Wilson, 1547) which Veitch was distributing in 1908 and which was figured in the *Botanical Magazine* in 1916. As far as I know there has been no other introduction. But even the variation in this one introduction is quite remarkable if one compares the truss from which the *Botanical Magazine* plate was made (flowers white within, stained with pink without) with a truss from the plant at Benmore with its richly coloured widely campanulate flowers. This particular form is certainly a 4-star plant for flower and my overall rating for this species would be 2-4/2-3.

Why is *R. uvariifolium* unrated in Britain and rated with an 0 in America? I have never seen a form of this species which I would rate in this fashion. It is extremely variable; even the habit is variable—it may be a shrub or small tree 15 or more feet high, with rather open though more often of compact habit, or, even in sheltered situations, a small rather stunted and knarled plant only 3 or 4 feet high. At all times the foliage is good, especially the young foliage which is beautifully silvery, whilst the firm compact upstanding trusses of white, white flushed with rose, or rich rose flowers, with or without a crimson blotch and spots, make the best forms of this species 4-star plants; 2-4/2-4 I would rate it.

I would agree with the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* in giving a 4-star rating for *R. augustinii*—but only for a *good form* of *R. augustinii*; many forms of this species merit no more than 2 stars. Incidentally, assessing the merit of the many forms of this species is quite a tricky business, for an individual plant will vary in flower colour from year to year, and a form which may be good one year may not be nearly so good the next. I am quite certain that the prize winning sprays of *R. augustinii* are not every year taken from the same plants, and it is by no means certain that the seedling which received the A.M. in 1926 would

have received this Award the following year. Surely a more realistic rating for such a species would be 2-4 stars for flower quality—and possibly 2-3 stars for habit. And the same with *R. racemosum*; there are marvellous forms of this including the well known dwarf form grown under the number *Forrest* 19404—a magnificent plant in the Peat and Rock Gardens in Edinburgh; there is also a very fine white flowered form; such forms are, of course, 3-4/2-3 star plants. But at Benmore there are tall growing forms, of scraggy habit and with smaller pale flowers that are hardly worth growing.

Also splendid in the Peat and Rock Gardens in Edinburgh are the many forms of *R. campylogynum*. They form dwarf spreading shrubs of beautiful compact habit and have a very wide range of flower colour from pale rose purple to salmon pink to almost black-purple. Two stars is the rating given them in Britain and America. I would rate them higher than this—2-3/2-3 at any rate or probably better 3-4 for flower. And certainly much higher than Britain's 2 stars and America's 1 star would I rate the plant which grows so magnificently in Edinburgh, *R. camtschaticum*, covering many yards of rock and soil in the Rock Garden. The stock in Edinburgh is pretty constant for it has been propagated mostly from cuttings. Plants are never more than 6 inches high and planted in full sun—and in full wind almost—they follow the contours of the ground, often layering themselves, and produce an abundance of rose-purple flowers. The Edinburgh plants are certainly 3-4/2 star plants.

In this article I have endeavoured to point out the great variability of a number of rhododendron species. This variability has impressed every collector of rhododendrons. Kingdon Ward in *The Rhododendron*, published by the Leslie Urquhart Press in 1958, wrote: 'The great majority of species from the central pool of South-East Asia occur in more than one form, sometimes many, over the vast and diverse area in which they grow; *R. augustinii*, *campylocarpum* and *racemosum* are well known examples. I have noticed several forms myself over and over again in such species as *R. tephropeplum*, *arizelum*, *megeatum* and many others, though not, of course, in such as *R. leucaspis*, *patulum* and *imperator* . . . Joseph F. Rock . . . though he found but very few unknown species, earned a reputation for sending back the best forms of almost everything he collected. Gresham's Law hardly applies to plants; generally the best drive out the second best. Thus some of Forrest's earlier introductions are known to-day chiefly by plants raised from Rock's seeds. It is to such superior forms that the

overworked and banal adjective "choice" may be legitimately applied. They are literally hand picked. Future plant hunters are advised to look out for better forms or new varieties of known species as well as for new species. They will certainly find them.' This great variability within a species impresses anyone who studies a species in the herbarium where usually there is a wide range of collected material to examine. And this same variability impresses anyone who moves from one garden to another examining any particular species carefully.

When once one realizes the fact of this variability it becomes evident that some revision of the method of rating species for merit in the *Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron Handbook* is necessary. It should be evident that not all the plants in cultivation of any one species are worthy of equal rating; that it is realistic to give a particular rating only to a particular form. By taking a few examples almost at random (there are no doubt better examples I could have chosen) I trust I have shown the necessity for this revision of the existing rating. And again when once we realize the fact of this variability it follows that not every seedling of any one species in cultivation is worthy of an Award of Merit or a First Class Certificate, but only that particular seedling which was exhibited to the Rhododendron Committee and which was deemed worthy of the Award. These Award seedlings must be distinguished from all other seedlings of the species in question by bestowing on them distinguishing cultivar names, so that all who are anxious to grow the Award plants know that they can only do so by procuring vegetative propagations of those particular named clones. The entry in a nurseryman's catalogue of '*Rhododendron fictolacteum* A.M. 1923' means nothing; the entry '*R. fictolacteum* 'Cherry Tip' A.M. 1953' means everything.

RHODODENDRONS AND CAMELLIAS AND THE RESOILING OF THE TEMPERATE HOUSE AT KEW

By JAMES PLATT

THE Temperate House at Kew was not finally completed as we know it to-day until the nineteen-thirties. The original construction consisting of the present-day Centre Block with an Octagon at its north and south ends was completed by 1862 from designs by Decimus Burton. No further construction took place for some thirty years but by 1897 the south wing had been added, and the north wing by 1899. It was only in the nineteen-thirties that the Annex, as it is called, was built on to the west side of the Octagon connecting the north wing to the Centre Block. This is the coolest section of the Temperate House and together with the north wing, which has long been known as the Himalayan House, and to a lesser extent the Centre Block, contains most of the collection of rhododendrons and camellias grown under glass at Kew. The Temperate House is 628 feet long, covering nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres. The Centre Block is 216 feet long, 140 feet wide and 60 feet high. The south wing, known as the Mexican House, and the Himalayan House are each of them 116 feet long, 64 feet wide and 38 feet high and capable of growing such large trees as *Cupressus cashmeriana*.

It was apparent some years after the war that the condition of the soil of the Temperate House had deteriorated. It is generally recognized that the physical condition of soil is at least as important as the chemical, for unless the soil structure allows roots to ramify freely they cannot make use of whatever nutrients are present. Where roots are not merely impeded but actually injured by poor aeration and waterlogging, healthy growth of the plants is impossible. Under natural conditions out of doors, the soil structure is maintained by various agencies, especially swelling and shrinking with changes in soil moisture, the penetration of roots of strong-growing plants, and the activities of burrowing organisms from small mammals through arthropods to worms. Under glass, with more even conditions of soil moisture and a restricted soil fauna, roots are the most important natural agent in the preservation of soil structure. It is due to the absence of roots that the soil



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 16—*R. veitchianum* in the Temperate House at Kew (see p. 56)

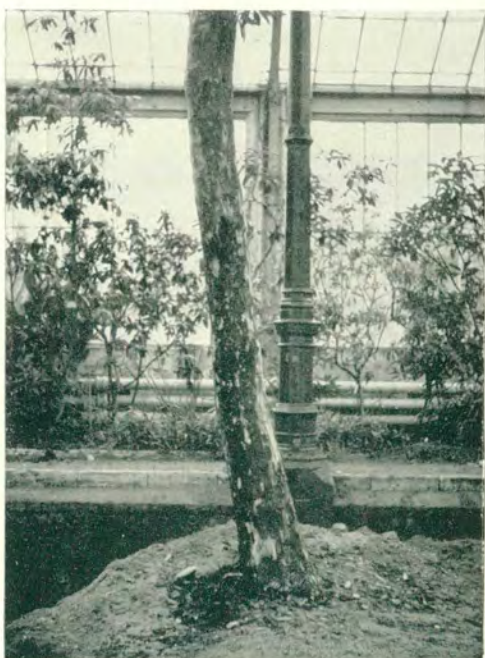


FIG. 17—Moving slightly and straightening an old specimen of *R. arboreum* at Kew
(see p. 50)

deteriorates so fast round an over-potted plant. The old practice of extending a vine border only as the roots need more space is justified by the same consideration. It is significant that in the Temperate House the soil was in worst condition under rhododendrons and tree ferns, both having comparatively weak root systems, while it remained far better near strong-growing plants such as palms, conifers and other forest trees.

As the house had been built in the days of abundant cheap labour, no consideration had been given to providing access for vehicles, and the construction on an artificial terrace some five feet above ground level added to the inconvenience of working. Not even a wheelbarrow could enter without being lifted up steps until a small service ramp was built in 1951. The layout of surrounding roads, as well as internal difficulties such as doors and the strength of the floor where it spanned the stokeholes, made it impracticable to allow the entry of carts or larger vehicles. The resoiling of rhododendron and tree fern beds therefore involved much manual labour. Work was restricted to the winter months and extended over eight seasons. Old plants which were saved often required temporary protection or moving, but many were replaced by young stock which was propagated in anticipation of needs.

Materials for the terrace had been obtained by linking several small gravel pits near the river, the resulting excavation being then flooded to form the present lake. In resoiling the beds, they were excavated until this porous material was met at four to four and a half feet below path level. On this base, about a foot of broken bricks was spread, then clinkers and ash in graded layers. Pits were then opened on the terrace and sandy, gravelly subsoil was dug and used in the beds, bringing them up to 15 inches from kerb level. They were then finished off with that depth of a mixture of loam, peat and sand. As much as possible of the excavated soil, which was wet, pasty, grey and smelly due to reducing conditions was buried in the outside pits, which were topped up with better soil and grassed down again. Should resoiling of these beds be needed in the future, only the top layer will need removal, but with the better drainage now provided it may be many years before this has to be done.

At the same time as resoiling the planting scheme was modified. The Centre Block was to keep much of its original character with its tall temperate palms, its exceptionally fine tender Australian conifers such as *Araucaria*, *Agathis* and *Podocarpus*, its old-established *Mertya sinclairi* from Tasmania, the Himalayan *Talauma*

hodgsonii and its mature *Cordyline australis* amongst other plants. The tree ferns, *Dicksonia antarctica* from Australia and *D. selowiana* from Brazil, are still there, showing in the most marked manner their appreciation of the resoiling. The northern octagon was still to be devoted to tender conifers in pots on the staging with *Camellia japonica* cultivars in pots all round the base. There was to be a miscellaneous collection of pot plants in the outer staging with a gay and cheerful collection of hybrid fuchsias to make colour in the summer months. The Himalayan House and Annex came in for important changes. The accent in future was to be on species as opposed to hybrids and cultivars. The Himalayan House was to be limited, with a very few exceptions to Eastern Asiatic plants and not exclusively camellias and rhododendrons. The four centre beds of the house were to be reserved for species while some hybrids might be included in the outer borders.

By 1950 many a plant was overgrown and spoilt by its neighbours. The selection of rhododendrons had been of rather a mixed nature without a marked system. It must be borne in mind the nucleus of the collection was formed by the plants the late Mr. D. H. Shilson sent up from Cornwall as soon as the house was finished, at a time when there were not so many fine tender species in cultivation. Amongst the plants from Cornwall was R. 'Sir Charles Lemon', a disputed plant which may be either a hybrid or, as others affirm, raised from Hooker's Himalayan seed. Such a plant cannot stand comparison as a cool greenhouse plant with the many tender and sweet-scented species collected at much later dates by Forrest and Kingdon-Ward amongst others. Many old plants had to be sacrificed, but not all by any means. In the case of a very large old *R. arboreum*, too big to transplant and heel in and unsuitable for the climate of Kew out of doors, a system of planks, bricks and car jacks was used to move it slightly and furthermore to replant it with its trunk straight (Fig. 17). This venerable plant, possibly raised from Sir Joseph Hooker's seed, now forms one of the more prominent features of the house. The tree of *Magnolia campbellii* was removed but it was not in the best of health and repeated severe pruning, necessary in the confined house, had mutilated the plant to a degree almost of grotesqueness. A walk round the Himalayan House will commend the present system of retaining a certain number of old shrubs as well as old-established camellias and rhododendrons as accents and for contrast, and renewing them when they become too big for the house. The same can be said of so spacing them, they may be

under-planted with interesting herbs both bulbous and otherwise.

On entering the Himalayan House from the north entrance a wide path will be seen running down the centre. This in turn is crossed by a second path at right angles. An outer path runs all round the house making, with the two other paths, four centre beds of equal size, with a border all round the outside broken only by the north and south doors. Two old rhododendrons of fine, rounded shape and with interesting, shiny bark are planted in the outer borders immediately inside the north door. That on the right is the May-flowering *R. formosum* from Assam with the largest of sweet-scented white flowers tinged rose. It belongs to the *Maddenii* Series, Subseries *Ciliicalyx*. Although it was discovered as early as 1815 in the Eastern Himalayas it was not introduced for many years, flowering for the first time at Kew in 1849. It is underplanted with the Chinese *Iris confusa* which until it was described by Mr. J. R. Sealy at Kew, was much confused with *Iris wattii*. This latter species can be seen as an underplanting to the second rhododendron, *R. ciliicalyx*, on the left. This Chinese species is closely related to *R. formosum* and has white flowers with a delicate external pink flush. It was discovered by the Abbé Delavay in Yunnan and a young plant, raised in Paris from his seed, was received in 1892 at Kew where it first flowered in 1900. The original Kew plant may therefore be regarded as the type introduction to this country. To continue along the outer border on the right, *R. scopulorum* of which there is another plant in the Annex, can be seen there, flowering in March or early April (Fig. 22). Its flowers are white, much flushed pink and smell of violets. Like the two previous rhododendrons it belongs to the Subseries *Ciliicalyx* but is not closely related to any one species of the group. It was discovered by Kingdon-Ward in the Tsangpo Gorge in 1924.

Near it is the interesting hybrid *R. 'Grierdal'* which is the only recorded cross between a lepidote and an elepidote rhododendron. The seed parent of this hybrid was *R. griersonianum*, the parent of many well-known elepidote rhododendron hybrids and of which there is a plant a little further along on the opposite side of the path. The other parent was the Himalayan *R. dalhousiae* whose large, nutmeg scented, funnel-shaped flowers, pale yellowish-white, flushed pink and with darker reds, may be seen in several parts of the house from mid-May to June. The hybrid takes after its seed parent in colour which can be described as geranium-scarlet but with a tinge of blue to it. Near by and where the outer path turns

to run the length of the house is the tender and largest flowered Himalayan rhododendron, *R. griffithianum*, with white slightly fragrant flowers. This species received an F.C.C. as early as 1866 and is the parent of many fine hybrids. Planted appropriately near it the Himalayan herb, *Cauttlea grandiflora*, offers a considerable contrast with its growth spikes showing the purple reverse of its leaves. *R. keysii* of the Cinnabarinum Series is near by with clusters of small bright red tubular yellow-tipped flowers, probably flowering with the neighbouring plant of *R. maddenii* in mid-May. Both are Himalayan and the latter has given its name to the Series and Subseries Maddenii which contain similar species with sweet-scented white or white pink-flushed flowers.

And now we come to our first camellia. This is *C. reticulata* forma *simplex* which is the botanic name for those plants known as the "wild" forms of *C. reticulata*. The plant in the Kew Collection was propagated vegetatively from material sent from Caerhayes Castle by the late Mr. J. C. Williams in 1936 and raised from Forrest's seed No. 25352. It was not until 1932 when the late Dr. Stapf of Kew examined specimens collected by Forrest in 1913-25, that it was established that the species hitherto known from semi-double flowered plants introduced from Chinese gardens in the early nineteenth century, grew wild in the hills round Tengyueh in the Chinese Province of Yunnan. It is only necessary to walk the short distance to the Centre Block to see and compare with the wild plants the magnificent, venerable specimen of a semi-double form introduced from Chinese gardens in 1824 in all probability. It is quite 30 feet high and must be well over one hundred years old. This garden form is generally known as 'Captain Rawes', after its importer from China in 1820. However, the original description of it by Lindley who named it in 1827 appears to have been based on another semi-double form differing but slightly from it and introduced by John Dampier Parks in 1824. Another closely allied species is planted nearby. This is *C. saluenensis*, also collected by the late George Forrest in Yunnan in the same areas as *C. reticulata* forma *simplex*. Again it was not until Dr. Stapf's critical examination in 1932 of material collected by Forrest that it was established as a new species. It had been called at first in cultivation both *C. speciosa* and *C. pitardii*. At the same time Dr. Stapf recognized other material as being that of a probable new species. This however has been modified by Mr. Sealy who regards it as a form of *C. pitardii* which he has named var. *yunnanica*. This is also in the Kew Collection. These three species from Yunnan have single, pink

flowers, some more open than others, some more funnel-shaped and all of shades of pink varying from apple blossom through mallow to crimson but most if not all with a blue tinge. Those of *C. reticulata* forma *simplex* are the largest while those of *C. pitardii* var. *yunnanica* are the smallest of the three. The actual leaves of *C. saluenensis* and *C. pitardii* var. *yunnanica* are often difficult to distinguish. However, in *C. saluenensis* they are densely crowded on much-branched shoots and branches, whereas in the other two species they are normally fewer, larger and more widely spaced on more open branches.

To return to the outer western border a group of young plants of big-leaved rhododendrons underplanted with the hairy, crimson-flowered *Primula mollis* make an effective contrast with another plant of *R. ciliicalyx*. On the opposite side of the path is a plant of *Camellia taliensis* some 7 to 8 feet high. This species was introduced by Forrest and is a close relative of the tea-plant, *C. (Thea) sinensis*, which is to be seen in the Annex. As an ornamental plant it is somewhat superior to the tea-plant with larger and more numerous single white flowers, but in both plants the leaves seem too heavy, too large for the size of the flower. Near it and masking one of the metal pillars of the house is a clump of the noble Himalayan bamboo, *Arundinaria hookerianum*. To return to the outer border, here the foliage of Northern Indian *Hedychium gardnerianum* is an effective foil to that of the July-flowering Burmese *Rhododendron kyawi*. In flower, for both plants are summer-flowering, they must make a fine sight, the hedychium with its heads of white flowers on 6 feet high stems and the rhododendron with its intense rose-scarlet flowers. Beside it a young plant of *R. macabeaenum* is an example of one of the most distinguished of large-leaved rhododendrons. It was first discovered in the Naga Hills, Manipur, in 1882 by Sir George Watt, but it was only introduced to cultivation some fifty years later by Kingdon-Ward who visited the same locality. The material used when this beautiful yellow-flowered species was figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, was taken from a seedling raised from Kingdon-Ward's seed and growing in the Temperate House. The old plant no longer exists. Just opposite is a plant of *Tutcheria spectabilis*, worth mentioning not only because of its close relationship to *Camellia* but also because of the beauty of its single flowers, which are white with a light golden sheen to the exterior and have a great mass of tangerine stamens. They may be four inches across when open. In its native Hong Kong it grows to about thirty feet and as the Kew plant is only 4 feet high it may

be some years before it is seen in its full beauty. It has as a neighbour the slender column of *Cupressus funebris* showing both adult and juvenile foliage. Back on the opposite and *outer border* is Rhododendron 'Sesterianum', a hybrid made in 1862 by the House of Veitch between the two sweet-scented Himalayan species, *edgeworthii* and *formosum*. It has the good qualities of both parents, including their scent. Near it is *R. diaprepes* of the Series and Subseries Fortunei from China and Burma. It is only hardy in the extreme west where it forms quite a tree. It is an admirable if large cool house rhododendron with its faintly scented white flowers in July. Another sweet-scented rhododendron of the Ciliicalyx Subseries *R. johnstoneanum* from Manipur, is planted just before the path turns at the south end of the house. It flowers in May and in its most desirable form is a pale yellow. A Kew-raised hybrid is planted in the angle of the turn. This is 'John Coutts' and named after a former Curator. It is now a plant some ten feet high covered in May with crimson flowers. Its parentage is ('Grand Arab' \times *griffithianum*) \times *griersonianum* and one would judge it is from this latter species it gets its colour. The May-flowering *R. parryae* is planted near by. This is a member of the Ciliicalyx Subseries with smooth, purple bark and white, funnel-shaped flowers with a purple blotch. It is one of the seldom seen members of the Group and was found by Mrs. A. D. Parry in Assam along with the uncommon Gesnerid, *Petrocosmea parryorum*. It was raised from seed taken from the dried specimens sent to Kew by Mrs. Parry and subsequently described by Dr. Hutchinson. *R. polyandrum* of the Maddenii Series is on the opposite side of the path. It has both white and pink forms which have received the Award of Merit. It is a most attractive plant and as it flowers in June after many of the Series are over, helps extend the season of sweet-scented rhododendrons.

One of the last rhododendrons in the outer border, before reaching the central path which runs north to south and leads to the northern octagon, is *R. carneum*. This has rather smaller flowers than most members of the Subseries Ciliicalyx but they are an attractive flesh-pink and a bush in full flower in April or May is a pretty sight. It is a species from North Burma, allied to *R. veitchianum*, which is also Burmese in origin, and was described at Kew by Dr. Hutchinson in 1912.

On crossing the central path one of the first plants to be seen is *R. 'Fragrantissimum'*, an old favourite which received an F.C.C. in 1868 and which is of the same parentage as *R. 'Sesterianum'*.

Facing it in the border opposite are young plants of *R. lyi*. This is a rather isolated member of the Subseries Ciliicalyx from Kweichow in China with pure white fragrant flowers. It is neither so well known nor seen as frequently as other members of the Subseries. It has been grown successfully out-of-doors with wall protection at Borde Hill and in Cornwall. One of the few *Camellia japonica* cultivars, C. 'Adolphe Audusson', remaining in the Himalayan House is planted in the angle of the outer border. It is a fine old plant. It has as a companion near by, a young *Rhododendron lindleyi* \times *sinonuttallii*. A cross between one of the most beautiful and one of the most magnificent members of the Subseries Megacalyx of the Series Maddenii as this is, is full of promise. A hybrid of *R. burmanicum* of the Subseries Ciliicalyx is in the same border. Its soft greenish-yellow flowers are not unattractive. On the opposite side of the path is *Camellia hongkongensis* which has been known since 1837 but which is not frequently seen in cultivation. It is related to *C. japonica* and has smaller flowers of pure crimson with contrasting yellow stamens. The young foliage is bronze tinted. As a tree in Hong Kong it must be most attractive. So far it has not grown away well in cultivation and it is not possible to assess its value as a temperate-house plant. A fresh introduction has been made in recent years and it is hoped it will give better results. It has not yet flowered in the Himalayan House. Another camellia from Hong Kong is planted on the opposite side of the path. This is *C. salicifolia* which is also native to South China and Formosa. It is a fairly recent introduction with small white flowers which are borne freely. The young foliage is bronze tinted which gives a certain added attraction to the plant. It was first discovered by General J. Eyre in 1858. Another camellia in the collection from Hong Kong is *C. granthamiana*. The discovery of this striking plant in 1955 and of which only one small tree about 10 feet high is recorded, is described by Mr. J. R. Sealy in *R.H.S. Journal*, **81**, pp. 181-3, together with its official description. Its habitat is well described by Mrs. Bashall in the *Year Book* for 1960, pp. 129-31, while Mr. Hanger has given further information about it in cultivation at Wisley in the *Year Book* for 1961. It is illustrated in the same *Year Book* (Fig. 40), but the photograph of a single flower on the plant brought up to the Fortnightly Show on August 30, 1960, from Wisley can merely give an impression of its promise.

Amongst the old rhododendrons which were kept after resoiling are three big *R. arboreum*. The replanting of one, the biggest, has been mentioned. It could well be that this plant was raised from

Sir Joseph Hooker's seed. A second is planted near *Camellia hong-kongensis* and has as a neighbour the very uncommon oak from Hong Kong, *Quercus bambusifolia*. The plant in question, now some 12 feet high, was included in the Commonwealth Exhibit at Chelsea Show in 1953. On the opposite side of the path is the Chinese *Rhododendron araiophyllum* of the Irrorum Series. Like other members of its Series, it has white, open bell-shaped flowers often suffused rose and with a crimson blotch and spots within and flowers in April. *Camellia* and *Gordonia* are both placed in the tribe *Gordonieae* of the family *Theaceae* so it is not inappropriate that the Chinese *Gordonia axillaris* should be mentioned here. It is planted near by. With its dark, shiny green, toothed leaves and single cream-white flowers it might be mistaken for a camellia, particularly as it flowers in the winter months or early spring. A form of *Rhododendron crassum* of the *Maddenii* Subseries with pink flushed flowers and darker pink buds is growing near it. It is rather later flowering than many related species and is a useful and attractive shrub. In its two neighbours *R. lindleyi* and *R. dalhousiae*, it has two of the most beautiful members of the Subseries *Megacalyx*. The former, named after Dr. John Lindley, was introduced in 1849 and the latter in 1850, so they are among the first sweet-scented rhododendrons to reach this country. They are both Himalayan and have often been confused. *R. lindleyi* has large, tubular-funnel-shaped flowers which are white or creamy and open in April-May. In *R. dalhousiae* they may be tubular-campanulate or funnel-shaped, pale yellow or white or white flecked pink and open rather later in May-June (Fig. 18, 19). *R. bullatum* which is growing next to them is a member of another sweet-scented Series, *Edgeworthii*. It is apt to make a straggling shrub but the flowers which are white tinged pink are very beautiful. *Camellia* \times *williamsii* 'J. C. Williams' is the next plant to attract the attention for it is one of the first hybrids between *C. saluenensis* and *C. japonica* to have been distributed and is now a well-known garden plant. Near it a hybrid of *R. burmanicum* is not unattractive in May with its green buds and white flowers cream in the throat.

At the north end of the central path there are two small pools, one on either side. *Rhododendron veitchianum* is planted just beyond one of them in the bed on the western side (Fig. 16). This member of the Subseries *Ciliicalyx* has exceptionally attractive white flowers. The corolla lobes are deep cut and rather wide spaced while their margins are singularly waved and crisped. It was introduced from Moulmein in 1850 by Mr. James Veitch of Exeter and named after



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 18—*R. dalhousiae*, a close-up of flowers in the Temperate House at Kew (see p. 56)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 19—*Rhododendron dalhousiae* in full flower in the Temperate House at Kew (see p. 56)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 20—*Camellia japonica* 'Magnoliaeflora', a fine old plant in the Temperate House at Kew (see p. 59)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 21—*Rhododendron scabrum* in the Annexe of the Temperate House, Kew (see p. 58)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 22—*Rhododendron scopulorum* flowering in the Annexe of the Temperate House, Kew (see p. 51)

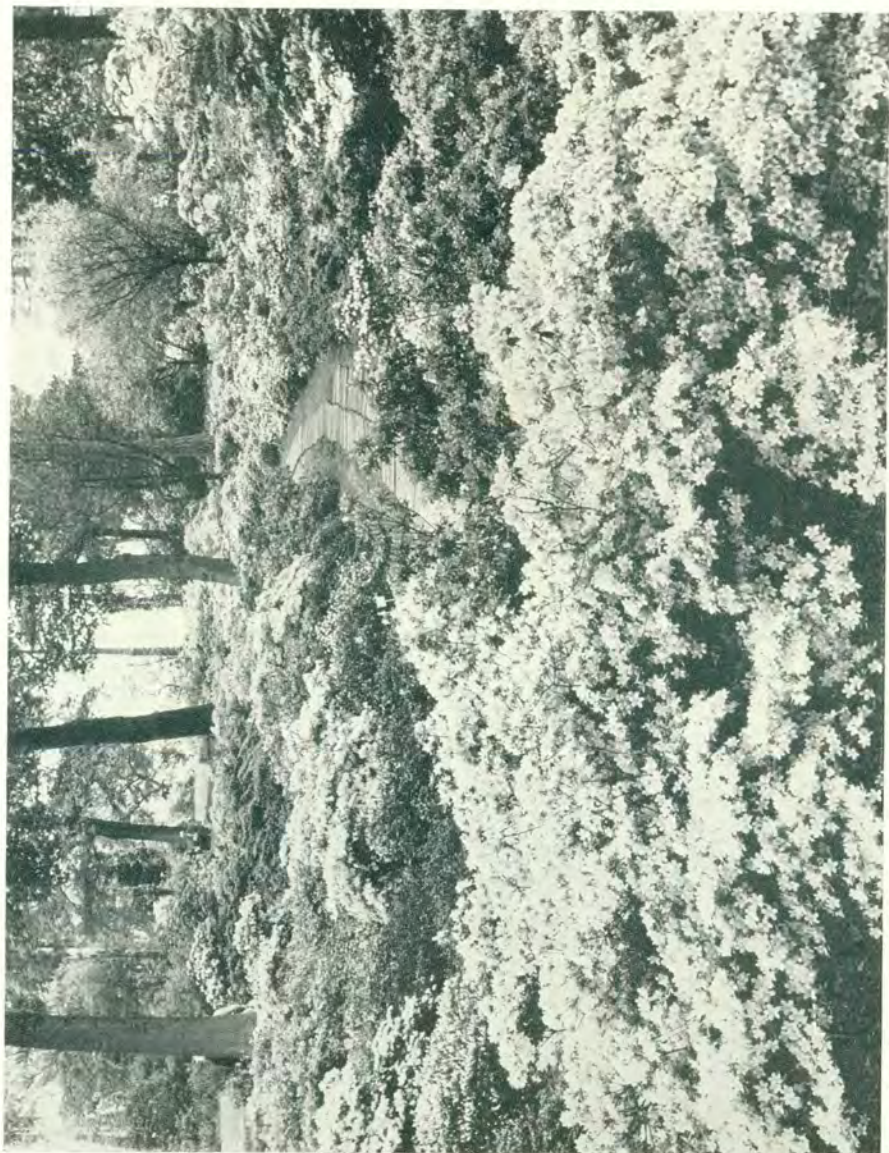


Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 23—Kurume Azaleas flowering on the Battleston Hill at Wisley in 1961

his family. It has a protracted flowering period from May to July. It is planted quite close to *Prunus campanulata* whose crimson flower in early spring have made it one of the best-known plants in the Temperate House. This is one of three plants in the Himalayan House which were not moved during resoiling. To the side of it is a large plant of the June-flowering *Rhododendron manipurense*. This is one of larger members of the *Maddenii* Subseries with a good bushy habit. The large white flowers are tubular-funnel-shaped and appear in June. It was originally introduced to Kew by Sir George Watt who sent back seed from Manipur in 1882. It was then considered to be a variety *obtusifolia* of *R. maddenii*. More recently it has been collected by Kingdon-Ward in North Burma, East Manipur and the Lohit Valley of Assam. In the bed opposite there is a planting of young seedlings of large-leaved rhododendrons and near them several plants of *R. camelliaeflorum*, on the whole rather a dull little plant introduced from the Himalayas as long ago as 1851 and flowering in July. It has given its name to a Series of which it and *R. lucidum*, a little known species not in cultivation, are the only members. *R. leucaspis* which is near by is a charming dwarf species with milky-white saucers in February or March and most suitable in colder districts as a cool-house plant. Here too there is another plant from the tribe *Gordoniae* of the *Theaceae*. It is the Chinese *Schima superba*. The genus is characterized by its flowers being clearly on stems, otherwise the white flowers of this species with their bunches of yellow stamens might well be taken for those of a camellia. A young plant of *Cupressus cashmeriana* is growing beyond the *Schima* and just before the beds are divided by the path running across the house from east to west. It was planted in 1950 and has already reached the roof. In this its young state it is a slender glaucous cascade, ideal as relief to the sombre though rich greens of rhododendrons and camellias. Somewhat balancing it on the other side of the path in the southern half of the western bed but not quite so tall, is the fine old plant of *Mahonia nepaulensis* which was left in this its old position during the resoiling. *Camellia saluenensis* and *Rhododendron stenaulum* are planted at its feet masking the somewhat gaunt stems. The rhododendron belongs to the Stamineum Series and was discovered by the late George Forrest in April 1910, in Western Yunnan. The flowers, which are a beautiful pale lilac, are narrowly funnel-shaped but opening wide, and very fragrant. A little way beyond it is the Chinese *Camellia oleifera*. For many years it was much confused with a single white form of the Japanese

C. sasanqua, but the Kew plant was raised from seed sent from Canton in 1935. It is not an unattractive plant with its single white flowers and purple-tinged young growth, but it must be admitted the white cultivar of *C. sasanqua* which frequently took its place is more lovely as a garden plant. The next rhododendron to it is *R. nuttallii* var. *stellatum* of the Subseries Megacalyx. This, one of the largest-flowered of rhododendron species, was introduced from Bhutan in 1852 and flowered at Kew in 1859. Perhaps only *R. sinonuttallii*, its close Chinese relative, can rival it in the size of its large sweet-scented and clear yellow trumpets with their pink-tinged lobes. The flowers in var. *stellatum* are smaller and it is hardier than the type. It is planted here in the shade of the fine old plant of the red-flowered *R. arboreum* which was successfully replanted at the time of resoiling. Amongst the plants on the opposite side of the path is the Chinese *R. spinuliferum* of the Scabrifolium Series with curious tubular red flowers with protruding anthers and stamens. The nearby *R. grande* is a great contrast to this little shrub with its leaves a foot long and silvery or tawny beneath, and its large trusses of pink-budded waxen, creamy-white flowers. It was introduced from the Sikkim Himalaya by Hooker in 1849 and first flowered at Kew in March 1858. It is a member of the Grande Series like *R. macabeanum* and *R. sino-grande*, but far less hardy. One of the last rhododendrons of note before leaving the Himalayan House is *R. cubittii*, a relative of *R. veitchianum*. It was discovered in March 1909 in Northern Burma but was only known for many years from a small scrap in the Kew Herbarium. It is a charming species with white flowers flushed pink on the exterior and interior.

It is only a short distance to the Annex. Here the planting is not confined to any particular geographical region. *Camellia reticulata* 'Captain Rawes', a fine plant propagated from the old plant in the Centre House, has for instance as neighbours *Lobelia* species from India and *Fuchsia cordifolia* from South America. A Japanese cultivar of *Rhododendron scabrum* (Fig. 21) is opposite the South American *Embothrium coccineum*. As well as cultivars of *Camellia sasanqua* there are on entering by the north-east door, as elsewhere in this house, a number of cultivars of *C. japonica* such as 'Triomphe de Loddi', 'Arejeshi', 'Feodora' and the "fish-tail" camellia, *C. japonica* 'Takeyama'. As a neighbour this cultivar with "fish-tail" leaves has an interesting variant of *C. × williamsii* in which *C. saluenensis* was pollinated with its pollen. The resulting hybrid which was raised by Mr. C. F. Coates in the Arboretum

Nursery at Kew bears his name. It retains the "fish-tail" leaves of the *japonica* cultivar but has the flowers of *C. saluenensis*. There are other *C. japonica* cultivars in the Centre House including a beautiful old plant of 'Magnoliaeflora' (Fig. 20) and an 'Elegans' almost as big as the old *C. reticulata* 'Captain Rawes', and no doubt as old. The well-known *C. × williamsii* 'Donation' is also in the Annex. Another interesting hybrid *C.* 'Cornish Snow' is to be found on the left on entering. It was raised by the late Mr. J. C. Williams and the parentage was given as *C. saluenensis* × *C. cuspidata*. There is just opposite an old plant of this latter species which is found in most large collections of shrubs and a large plant removed from Bulstrode Park is now well established in a border near the flagstaff. With its small white flowers and bronzed-tinted young growth it is not unattractive. The hybrid however has larger flowers borne in great profusion and is a delightful plant. Two other Chinese species and related to *C. cuspidata* are also planted in the Annex. The first, *C. fraterna*, was collected as long ago as 1701 on the island of Chusan. The present plant was received in 1955 from America, where it was raised from seed sent by the Lushan Botanic Garden on the mainland of China. It is still little known in cultivation and has not yet flowered at Kew. It also has small white flowers which may be flushed pink, and according to one collector they are sweet-scented. The second, *C. tsaii*, is better known in cultivation and received the Award of Merit as recently as February 1960 (see *Rhododendron and Camellia Year Book*, 1961, Fig. 51) as a flowering shrub for the cold greenhouse. In the wild it grows in Yunnan, Burma and Tonkin. It is growing in the open at Caerhayes where it was raised from Forrest seed. The branches seen at Vincent Square had numerous small white flowers with prominent stamens and leaves with wavy margins somewhat similar to those of *C. fraterna* growing in the Annex. The leaf margins of both species are toothed but those of *C. fraterna* are more widely spaced and prominent. *C. tsaii* makes a bush of rather horizontal or weeping growth and the young plant *C. fraterna* at Kew seems to have the same habit.

There are yet two more camellias in the Kew collection related to this group, *C. maliflora*, which is hardy outside with the protection of a wall and *C. rosaeflora*, which is being tested outside where it is planted in the border against the west wall of the Temperate House. *C. maliflora* is to be found in some mild gardens and it is a pity it is not more widely planted for it covers itself in early spring with pink flowers like little formal double roses. Few shrubs are

more charming at the time. Its leaves with toothed margins are small and in exact proportion to the flowers. *C. rosaeiflora*, with its small bright rose flowers in mid-April, appears to have a charm similar to that of *C. maliflora*. Neither of these species is known in the wild. *C. rosaeiflora* was described by Hooker in 1858 from a plant of unknown origin growing at Kew but which by 1935 had long been lost and forgotten. In 1939 a dried specimen sent from the Tea Research Institute, Ceylon, was identified as *C. rosaeiflora* and in 1956 it was reintroduced to cultivation by means of cuttings sent from the same Institute. *C. maliflora* was described in 1819 from living material introduced from China in 1818 by Captain Rawes who no doubt obtained it from a Chinese garden. At one time it was considered to be a double-flowered form of *C. rosaeiflora* and it was not until 1935 that its identity with Captain Rawes' *C. maliflora* was established.

If it was inevitable that areas of the Temperate House should lose some of their former attractive luxuriance in the process of re-soiling, there is every indication that in a few years' time they will have resumed this appearance, and with as interesting a collection of plants as before.

I wish here to express my indebtedness to Mr. J. E. S. Souster, N.D.H., F.L.S., Assistant Curator, Temperate House, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for much information freely given.

HARDY HYBRID RHODODENDRONS FOR THE COLDER GARDEN

By FREDERICK STREET

ALL gardens are cold—if the frost stories of the owners are to be believed. Few people will admit to being blessed with a mild climate or a favourable situation. They even tell you tales from Cornwall which send shivers down your spine.

But there is all the difference in the world between the garden that is cold in January and the one that catches the frost in late September and again in May. The old garden proverb which says "It's the first and last frosts that do the damage" is certainly true.

There are other considerations. It is often as fallacious as it is easy to make an analogy between the behaviour of plants and the behaviour of human beings. But there is little doubt that a healthy shrub in good condition will survive bad treatment of any kind better than one which may be fighting for existence, in the same way that a man in good health, fit and well-fed, will be able to suffer physical hardship better than a weakling out of condition. Annual rainfall and relative humidity are important factors to the health of a rhododendron. They will either mitigate or irritate the amount of frost damage.

Severe cold will affect rhododendrons in many different ways. It is not just the freak frost that we are concerned with—the unprecedented frost of May 27 in many parts of the country this year, the 17° which we experienced on May 13, 1935, or the violent frosts of the early autumn on the West coast of America a few years back—it is the cold that comes regularly to affect plants in gardens which are unprotected either by their geographical situation or by climatical conditions. These gardens may be defined as those which enjoy less than 30 inches of rainfall in a year or which may be situated at a low level in relation to the surrounding district. A combination of the two makes the garden very cold indeed.

The results of frost in these gardens can range from damage to flower buds, discoloured foliage, loss of young growth, bark split and even death. The most common of these are damage to the flower bud, causing sometimes as many as six pips of the truss to be lost, either in the early autumn or late spring, and the bark to

split after a spring frost at a time when the sap is rising. If, as sometimes happens, the bush is damaged all the way round the stem, then the plant dies.

Unfortunately, experience has shown that the varieties which are affected in this way, in gardens of this kind, are those which are bred with a strong influence from *Rhododendron griffithianum*.

This means that the grace, delicacy of colouring and that texture of petal which makes earthenware seem like porcelain, will have to be forsaken. It will exclude 'Pink Pearl' and its hybrids, and the sport, 'Mother of Pearl', which portrays its *griffithianum* ancestry in a faint but definite scent.

This severe limitation, which is only enforced by severe weather conditions, might seem to restrict the type of rhododendron that it is possible to grow so much that it would almost be better to avoid them. But this would be a mistake. There are many excellent hybrids which are now almost unknown but which can still be compared favourably with more recent introductions. And there is more to it than that—for when these old hybrids are examined in the light of the material that was available to the men who raised them, it makes our achievements to-day seem puny in comparison.

In *Rhododendrons and Azaleas*, in the "Present Day Gardening" series of handbooks, William Watson defined the object of the early breeders of rhododendrons as: "Their aim was to raise plants that were hardy, sturdy and shapely in growth, so that when not in flower they were good looking shrubs, whilst the flower heads, to satisfy the requirements of the time, were to be large and full, the flowers holding themselves up, of good substance, the colours pleasing, and, most important of all, they were not to expand before June." He further went on to say that many new varieties were raised from the time that the book was written (about 1910) but that it was generally admitted that they were not as good as those raised twenty or thirty years before.

For a long time the method by which these results were achieved remained a mystery to me. But it was not until last year, when I had the opportunity of studying the notebooks kept by the late W. C. Slocock when he was apprenticed to the famous Anthony Waterer of Knap Hill Nursery, that I had an inkling as to how it had been done. The one clue which he gave was that the policy was always to breed like to like. Pinks were always crossed with pinks for better pinks, blotched for bigger blotches and so on. Rigorous selection of seedlings, the rejection of anything which did not meet the standard, and patience in crossing and re-crossing

before deciding to name a new variety, a laborious process made easier by a plentiful supply of labour, were other reasons for the production of so many good plants out of what can only be described as mediocre parents. And, too, it must be conceded, there was a strong financial incentive in those days to be first in the field with a new break of colour from the trial grounds.

There may well have been other reasons—the existence, at the time, of some particularly good forms of the species used, for instance—but the fact that as late as 1947, ‘Saracen’, a bright red raised by the last of the Anthony Waterers, was introduced by the Knap Hill Nursery Company shows that the rhododendrons raised at that time, without the benefit of *griffithianum*, can hold their own to-day.

Yet the best of these hardy hybrids, which are some of the finest examples of the plant breeder’s art, are now almost unknown. In slightly more favoured gardens they have been pushed aside by the more glamorous varieties raised, directly or indirectly, from *R. griffithianum*. In colder gardens, and in countless others that are not so cold but where rhododendrons are only grown as part of a general scheme, they have been neglected as a result of the drive and business efficiency of the Dutch nurserymen of Boskoop.

It would be unkind and ungrateful to disparage in any way the valuable contribution which the Dutch growers have made to the range of hybrid rhododendrons. Perhaps the finest pink hardy hybrid (but with a high proportion of *griffithianum* blood) is *R. ‘Betty Wormald’* from M. Koster & Son, and the same firm has recently sent out a splendid *griersonianum* hybrid, with a better habit and constitution than many that have so far been raised from this species, called ‘Earl of Donoughmore’. It may also be seen from the names of a number of the Dutch rhododendrons—‘Britannia’, ‘Earl of Athlone’, ‘Armistice Day’, ‘Spitfire’, ‘El Alamein’, etc. etc.—that these have been raised expressly for British gardens. Many more have proved to be so good for growing in many parts of this country that they have even been able to live down some very cumbersome names—‘Souvenir de Dr. S. Endtz’, ‘Souvenir de D. A. Koster’, ‘Professor Hugo de Vries’, ‘Kluis Sensation’, ‘Mevrau P. A. Colijn’, etc. But these are described by the Dutch as ‘choice varieties’. And they are slightly more expensive than those which they list in their “general collection”.

It is the requirements for inclusion in the “general collection” which have caused the better hardy hybrids to be neglected. The

Dutch rightly claim the title of "Nurserymen to the world". Consequently, the description "general" has a wide application—it must include the Scandinavian countries, the whole of Europe and both the east and west coasts of the United States. The result of this is that the species which has had the most influence on these very hardy varieties is *catawbiense*, with its ability to stand 60° of frost—and its unfortunate mauve colouring which so many people find distasteful.

It might be assumed that the hardy rhododendrons which are grown for the coldest gardens of the world, not those that are colder in the British Isles, would have little or no influence on the rhododendrons which are grown in this country. But because they are grown on so vast a scale for so large a market, they have been produced, in the past, at a rather lower cost than the better varieties and, as a result, have been distributed over here by general nurserymen to amateur gardeners who may not be aware of the choice available from the overwhelming number of hybrids in cultivation to-day.

The hardy hybrid rhododendrons have fallen into two groups which, very broadly, allowing for a few exceptions, correspond to the classifications of "A"—"hardy anywhere in the British Isles and may be planted in full exposure if desired" and "B"—"hardy anywhere in the British Isles, but requires some shade to obtain the best results." In practice, the "A" list has become amended to "hardy anywhere in the temperate zone". As a great many of these have also been listed as "Y"—"not up to present-day standard in the British Isles" and "Z"—"not worthy of cultivation" some of the mud which has been flung at them has stuck to all the others, of equal hardiness but of greater beauty.

From well over a hundred varieties which are more or less immune from the worst troubles of the colder garden—bud damage and bark splitting—I have made a list of some fifty of the best as an appendix to this article. I have given brief colour descriptions but there are one or two which are worth discussing in rather more detail. There are certain trends revealed in the size and shape of the flowers, habit of growth, etc., which may be of value in indicating the methods of breeding followed by the early raisers and which, possibly, might help towards a further improvement in hybrid rhododendrons suitable for an even wider distribution.

The first point that occurs is that there are very few reds of good clear colour. The reason for this is that all the colour in these early hybrids is derived from *R. arboreum*, the most tender of all the



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 24—*Rhododendron caeruleum album*, a very densely flowered spray shown by Mr. E. de Rothschild for 1st Prize in Class 54 for the *Yunnanense* Series at the Rhododendron Show (see p. 83)



Photo: Marion Street

FIG. 25—*Rhododendron* 'Furnivall's Daughter', which received an F.C.C. after trial at Wisley in 1961. Its colour is Fuchsia Pink with a strawberry red blotch (see p. 140)



Photo: Marion Street

FIG. 26—*Rhododendron* 'Chionoides', a very hardy and late-flowering white rhododendron (see p. 66)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 27—*R. lanigerum* 'Chapel Wood'. A.M. February 28, 1961. Shown by Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor Great Park (see p. 133)

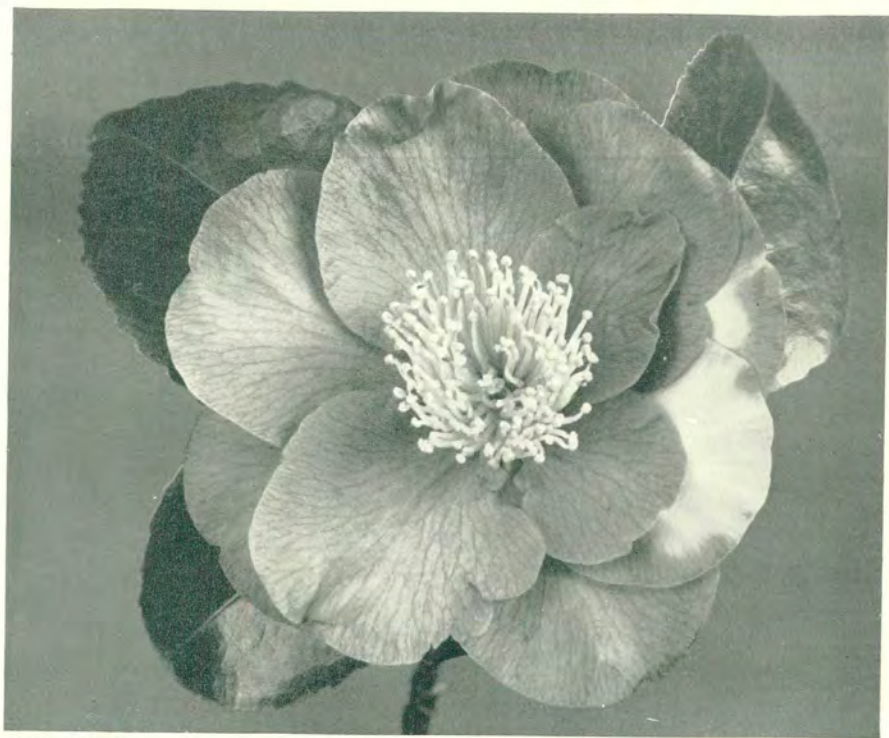


Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 28—*C. japonica* 'Alexander Hunter' (see p. 116)

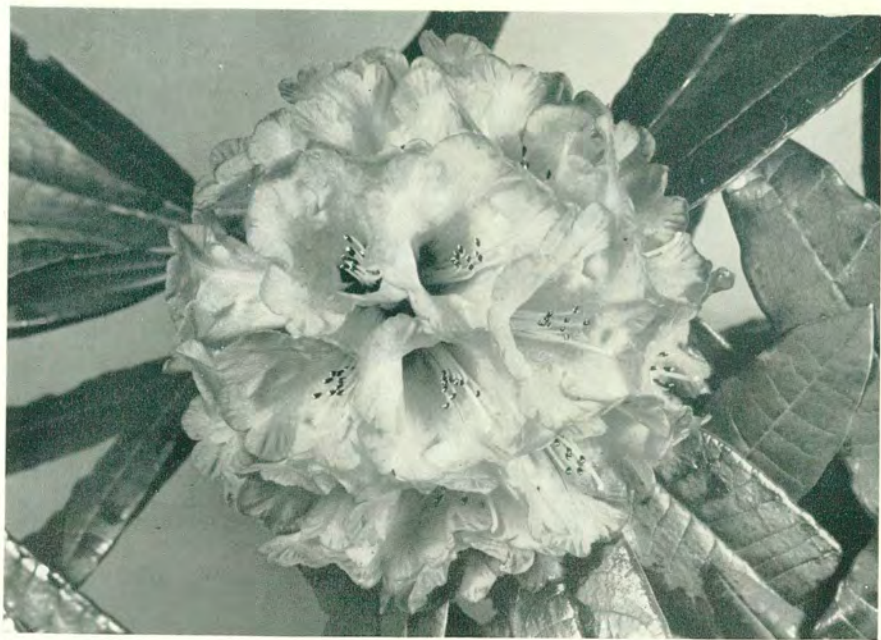


Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 29—*R. lanigerum* 'Stonehurst'. A.M. March 14, 1961. Shown by Robert Strauss, Esq., Stonehurst, Ardingly, Sussex (see p. 133)

species used—and the better the colour, the worse the resistance to frost.

The result is that many of the reds are very “blue”, a typical example being *R. ‘John Waterer’*, a straight cross between *R. arboreum* and *R. catawbiense*. But there are two exceptions, both of which have now become rare—*R. ‘Brilliant’* and *‘Essex Scarlet’*. They have a much more pure tone than any of the other older red hybrids. *‘Essex Scarlet’*, in spite of its bad habit, almost that of a climbing plant on occasions, has been used as a parent to produce eight modern hybrids—the best known being a cross with *R. griersonianum* giving *‘Cavalcade’*. Were it not for its habit, which is compact and neat, everything about *R. ‘Brilliant’* points to it being a form of *R. arboreum*. The flowers are a clear bright red and the young growth is golden. Its hardy constitution is an indication that it must be a cross with some other species but it is very difficult to make a guess as to which. Not only is this rhododendron a good plant for a cold garden but it is also one which ought to receive the attention of hybridists because it has none of the disadvantages of the older hybrids and, instead of aggravating the sprawly growth of a species like *R. griersonianum* (as happens with *‘Essex Scarlet’*), it would at least have within it the hope of a better habit.

With *R. catawbiense* and *R. ponticum* contributing so much to these early hybrids, it is not surprising that many of the better varieties should be in shades of mauve, maroon and purple. The double flowered *‘Fastuosum fl. pl.’* is said by many to be a form of *R. catawbiense*. The same is also said of *R. ‘Everestianum’*, a mauve of a very pleasant shade with an attractively frilled petal. This is a hybrid (or species form) which I find very puzzling in cultivation. It roots from layers very easily but the plants do not grow well and eventually die. Yet if it is grafted on a *ponticum* stock it gets away to a fine large shrub. *‘Moser’s Maroon’*, that fine late flowering plant with strong growth, is an obvious descendant from *arboreum*—the bright red young foliage is a valuable inherited trait—but it is difficult to make a guess at the other parent.

Rhododendron caucasicum, coming from high up on the Caucasus Mountains, is best known in the hybrid *R. ‘Nobleanum’*—a direct cross with *R. arboreum*. But its hardiness, both in flower and wood, and valuable characteristic of opening its flowers over a long period, have been transmitted to several other hybrids, some of which are not as well known as they might be. A little-known French hybrid from *R. caucasicum* is *R. ‘Pierre Moser’* which flowers towards the end of April or early May with star-shaped

pink flowers. It is an interesting fact, both historically and horticulturally, that many of these old hybrids, which are really hardy, were raised in France, Belgium or Germany—the Dutch did not start breeding rhododendrons until quite late in the nineteenth century. Both the French and German plants would need to be able to withstand even more dry conditions and a more intense cold than in countries where the relative humidity is high. Two good reds, usually more tender than the pale colours (although the last is not included in the list because the flowers are rather small), are 'Robert Croux' (French) and 'Leopold de Leipzig' (German).

There are a great many attractive whites with yellow centres, most of them traceable to forms of *R. ponticum album* and to a white form of *R. catawbiense*. One of the largest of these is *R. 'Duchess of Connaught'*, although the habit may be a little ungainly. But like the great many more of similar colouring, all good, it is late flowering and makes an attractive combination with the mauve of *R. ponticum*—a valuable asset in days when *ponticum* was, perhaps, planted to excess. 'Chionoides' is much more compact in growth, but also in the size of the truss (Fig. 26). It has the distinction of being the only bushy growing white rhododendron which is late flowering—and late enough to combine with some of the dark reds, maroons and purples. Now relegated to the list of rhododendrons in the R.H.S. *Rhododendron Handbook* recommended for Northern Europe and the colder parts of America, a very old white called 'Madame Carvalho' is still grown and enjoyed in many cold gardens. It may have a number of faults, one of which is that it is subject to attacks from the rhododendron fly. But it has the one overriding advantage in years when May frosts are sharp—it always flowers, even this year after nearly 10° on May 27. But the same must also be said of a variety much more exotic in appearance—'Mrs. Tom H. Lowinsky'. Its orchid-like white flowers have a rich orange flare.

There is a good range of very hardy pink rhododendrons in many different variations of the colour and in shade and marking. Even though they may lack the clear, waxy texture of the *griffithianum* hybrids, they seldom lack for a complete truss of flowers, no matter how severe the first or last frost may be. A plant with a past and a future—if it were better known—is *R. 'Concessum'*. It has a wide open flower of light pink and very prominent stamens which give it an electric quality. Furthermore, it grows with long stems which, I have been told by an expert, make it the finest rhododendron of all for floral arrangement. Although the name suggests

an improvement, 'Concessum's Master' is a rather harsh bicolor of two shades of coarse pink.

It is difficult to place a date to many of these hybrids but their age may be judged by their strange names which make them seem to be wishing to pass themselves off as species. This was an unfortunate habit of the Victorians which causes confusion in the light of to-day's system of nomenclature.

Perhaps the most interesting pink of the whole group is *R. 'Bianchi'*, praised by Miss Gertrude Jekyll for its purity of colour. She found it difficult to obtain in the 'nineties, which is not surprising when it is realized that it is very difficult to reproduce by grafting and it does not layer easily. On the strength of the evidence of the leaf pattern, and the faintest suggestion of indumentum, there appears to be something of *R. campanulatum* in its ancestry. There is still little to compare with *R. 'Mrs. R. S. Holford'* as the nearest to salmon pink in a hardy hybrid. Purer in colour, but with a yellow blotch, *R. 'Souv. of Anthony Waterer'* is a fitting tribute to the man who raised many of these fine plants. It is one of those found in the Knap Hill Nursery when it was taken over by the late Mr. Gomer Waterer in the 'thirties. Of his own raising, and rather later in date than the majority, is *R. 'Diphole Pink'*. At first I was hesitant to include this because I thought that it owed something to *R. griffithianum*. But its behaviour, after the vicious frost of May 27 this year with no damage to the foliage and the fact that it came into flower later, shows that it is qualified to take its place among the toughest of the tough. It is, possibly, my own favourite pink of them all—as near to that deeper shade which can be seen in many of El Greco's paintings as any flower I know.

There are other characteristics which distinguish the rhododendrons raised about this time. Many of them have frilled petals which gives them greater substance, enabling them to stand up to the wind and last longer in flower. The one fashion which was very much of the time and, incidentally, is becoming *à la mode* once again—is for flowers with a prominent blotch or flare. This is a characteristic inherited very largely from *R. maximum* and is shown at its best in the faint dark spot in the pale pink flower of *R. 'Lady Annette de Trafford'* which also has attractive young growth, as in *R. 'Lady Eleanor Cathcart'*. The most striking of all in this colouring are *R. 'Viscount Powerscourt'*, which is very similar to one of the old fashioned pelargoniums and *R. 'Mrs. R. G. Shaw'*, a pale mauve which fades to white with perhaps the most prominent blotch of any rhododendron.

Spots are another characteristic of the flowers of the period. Sometimes they are attractive—as in the scarlet speckling of the white R. 'Multimaculatum', another of Gertrude Jekyll's favourites—but sometimes they are a blemish. In the variety 'Marie Van Houtte' they are inconspicuous enough to accentuate the purity of the white of the flower. If I had to pick out any single hybrid of this era which represents the achievement of the object defined by William Watson, it would be 'Marie Van Houtte'.

As a pre-*griffithianum* variety it has remarkable size of flower and truss. The foliage and habit make it interesting as an evergreen and it is nearly as hardy as 'Madame Carvalho'. The criticism might be made, as it could of so many, that the truss is a little too rounded, too perfect. But this is something that is an inevitable concession which owners of cold gardens have to make. And it may be that the solidity of the structure of the trusses is symptomatic of the constitution of the plants.

A SELECT LIST OF FIFTY VERY HARDY HYBRIDS

Habit *compact*—3-4 feet. *Medium*—4-6 feet.

Tall—6-8 feet (all in ten years from 18-inch plants under normal garden conditions).

Early—Feb.—April. *Mid-season*—May. *Late*—end May—June.

Very late—June.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Baron Schröder | Purple-red, yellow spot, straggly as young plant, late. |
| Bagshot Ruby | Red, red stems, medium habit, mid-season. |
| B. de Bruin | Red, tall, inclined to be ungainly, late. |
| Bianchi | Pure pink, medium, late. |
| Boddaertianum | White, spotted, medium, early. |
| Brilliant | Scarlet, golden young foliage, mid to late. |
| Cetewayo | Very dark purple, bushy, late. |
| Chionoides | White, yellow centre, bushy, late. |
| Concessum | Pink, prominent stamens, tall, late. |
| Cunningham's White | White, green/yellow blotch, tall, early. |
| Cynthia | Light crimson, medium to tall, mid-season. |
| Diphole Pink | Cyclamen pink, medium, late. |
| Doncaster | Red, bushy, late. |
| Duchess of Connaught | White, yellow blotch, tall, late. |
| Duchess of Teck | Rose pink, deeper at the edge, bushy, compact. |
| Everestianum | Mauve, frilled, medium, mid-season. |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Fastuosum fl. pl. | Double mauve, medium, mid-season. |
| Frank Galsworthy | Deep maroon with yellow centre, medium, mid to late. |
| Garibaldi | Light scarlet, deeper edge, a little straggly at first, late. |
| George Cunningham | White, heavily felted young foliage, medium, early to mid. |
| Helen Schiffner | Pure white, natural black bud, medium, mid-season. |
| Jacksonii | Pink with deeper stripe, compact, early. |
| Joseph Whitworth | Maroon, bushy but tall when mature, late. |
| Lady Annette de Trafford | Pink, dark spot, medium, very late. |
| Lady Clementine Mitford | Pink, yellow centre, medium, late. |
| Lady Eleanor Cathcart | Salmon, dark spot, tall, late. |
| Lord Roberts | Dark red, dark eye, medium, late. |
| Madame Carvalho | White, green centre, tall, very late. |
| Madame Jules Porges | Mauve to white, yellow centre, tall, late. |
| Marchioness of Lansdowne | Rose, very prominent dark eye, tall, late. |
| Marie Stuart | Deep mauve, purple eye, spreading, late. |
| Marie Van Houtte | White, orange spots, medium, late. |
| Michael Waterer | Red, tall, late. |
| Midsummer | Pink, yellow eye, tall, very late. |
| Moser's Maroon | Maroon, red young foliage, tall, very late. |
| Mrs. Davies Evans | Mauve, frilled flower, medium, late. |
| Mrs. Furnival | Pink, dark eye, medium, mid-season. |
| Mrs. John Kelk | Crimson, medium, very late. |
| Mrs. R. G. Shaw | Mauve fading to white, very dark blotch, medium, late. |
| Mrs. R. S. Holford | Salmon, medium, late. |
| Mrs. Tom H. Lowinsky | White, orange blotch, medium, late. |
| Mrs. Wm. Agnew | Pink, yellow blotch, tall, late. |
| Multimaculatum | White, scarlet spots, tall, late. |
| Mum | White, yellow blotch, medium, late. |
| Nobleanum varieties | Pink to red, medium, very early. |
| Old Port | Wine red, medium, mid-season. |
| Pierre Moser | Pink, star shaped, tall, early. |
| Prince of Wales | Pink, deeper edge, medium, late. |
| Purple Splendour | Purple, dark centre, frilled edge, mid-season. |
| Robert Croux | Dark red, medium, mid-season. |
| Viscount Powerscourt | Crimson, dark eye, medium, late. |

RHODODENDRON COMPETITION

March 14 and 15, 1961

By JAMES PLATT

THE early-flowering rhododendron competition was held some three weeks earlier than last year and with very happy results. In most parts of the country the weather had been mild and fine for several weeks and rhododendrons, which were exceptionally well budded in spite of the wet, sunless season of 1960, were flowering precociously and profusely. The competition attracted many more entries than usual. There were in all 329 entries from 20 exhibitors; an increase of over 100 for the figures for 1960. The entries were all in fine condition and many of them had rarely been seen at Vincent Square before, if at all.

In Class 1, for one truss each of four species, the Crown Estate Commissioners were first with a fine quartet composed of a very good mauve-pink *sutchuenense*, a well-shaped *barbatum*, a *macabeum* which was a good yellow and a deep pink truss of the uncommon *mollyanum*. This latter species belongs to the Grande Series and is very handsome with its large leaves plastered beneath with a silvery-white indumentum. Though it may take many years to reach the flowering stage, it is well worth waiting for. Lady Mairi Bury and the National Trust, who were second, brought over from Mount Stewart a welcome and interesting quartet composed of an almost white *sutchuenense*, a *macabeum* with larger though paler flowers, the tender *grande* long known as *argenteum*, with large, waxy, pale lemon bells and a *magnificum* with a pyramidal truss of light plum-coloured flowers. The National Trust for Scotland brought an exhibit from Brodick Castle and were third with a *magnificum* whose truss was rounder, a *mollyanum* with rather wavy petals, *arizelum* with short bells of a light wine colour and an unnamed large-leaved species with waxy bells. Major-General E. G. W. W. Harrison was fourth, having brought from Cornwall a shell-pink *calophytum*, a good yellow *macabeum*, *mollyanum* and the attractive *ririei* of the Arboreum Series which has a small truss of pale violet flowers suffused crimson.

In Class 2 for a spray or branch of any species Mr. R. Strauss

of Stonehurst, Ardingly, was first with an unusually pink *fulvum*. Mr. Edmund de Rothschild's *irroratum* 'Polka Dot' was second. This attractive species always has neat trusses of flowers. In this case the white flowers were profusely speckled and flushed with rosy purple with a result both pleasing and unusual. Sir Edward Bolitho's lovely *albrechtii*, a clear purplish-rose, was third and Sir Henry Price, Bt., was fourth with a large white *irroratum*. In Class 3 for any species, a large and magnificent truss of *magnificum* from Brodick Castle well deserved to be first, though Lady Mairi Bury's *macabeanum* with very large good yellow flowers and her more upright truss of *magnificum* with deeper coloured flowers, respectively second and third, had great merit. It is pleasant to realize from this competition that *R. macabeanum* is doing well in Cornwall, Northern Ireland, Western Scotland, Sussex and Windsor Great Park amongst other places. Mr. L. Riggall of Titness Park, Sunninghill, had an interesting truss of *praestans* with waxen white flowers in this class. Class 4 was for three varieties of *R. arboreum*. Lord Aberconway and the National Trust (Bodnant) were first with a shell-pink variety, light rose-pink one and another which was a deeper pink with crimson edges. Mr. E. de Rothschild was second and the Crown Estate Commissioners third. In Class 5 for any species of the Arboreum Series, Mr. R. Strauss was first with his bright crimson *lanigerum* 'Stonehurst', Lord Aberconway second with *arboreum* and Sir Ralph Clarke of Borde Hill third with another well-shaped crimson *silvaticum*.

Class 6 was for any species of the Barbatum Series and first, second and third prizes were all won by Lord Aberconway with the waxy scarlet *strigillosum*, a pure white *pachytrichum* and a typical *barbatum*, respectively. Lord Aberconway was again first in Class 7, for any species of the Falconeri Series, with an unnamed truss which had creamy-white flowers, the lobes slightly flushed pale mauve, on long, almost crimson pedicels. The Misses E. and E. Godman were second with a small truss of *basilicum* with cream flowers flushed pale mauve. The Crown Estate Commissioners were third with another *basilicum*. Class 8 for any species of the Fortunei Series was won by Major-General Harrison with a pale mauve-pink *calophytum*, the reverse of the bells having a rich purple flush which contrasted with the almost orange-red pedicels. The Crown Estate Commissioners were second with a pale mauve-pink *sutchuenense*. Sir Ralph Clarke was third with another *sutchuenense* of a deeper colour.

In Class 9 for any species of the Grande Series a superb truss of

magnificum with very handsome foliage from Brodick Castle was first, though the Countess of Rosse and the National Trust from Nymans were second but only by a narrow margin with a beautifully shaped truss of *macabeanum* with clear lemon yellow flowers. The Crown Estate Commissioners were third with another *macabeanum*. Their other entry in this class was a particularly attractive truss of *mollyanum*.

Class 10 was for any species of the Neriiflorum Series. Sir Edward Bolitho was first with *pocophorum* with long, waxy scarlet bells in a flat-headed truss. This is a species which is not often seen. Sir Ralph Clarke was second with *mallotum*. This species, which is more frequently grown for the beauty of its foliage, the undersides of the leaves being covered with cinnamon-brown indumentum, had a small neat truss of cherry-red flowers. Mr. E. de Rothschild was third with a dark waxy red *chaetomallum*. Mr. R. Strauss was first in Class 11 for any species of the Thomsonii Series with a good sized truss of *eclectum* var. *brachyandrum*, rose-pink in colour and much speckled. This is a charming species which unfortunately is usually too early-flowering for cold gardens. The Countess of Rosse was second with a bright red *meddianum* var. *atrokermesinum* and Mr. E. de Rothschild was third with a light red *thomsonii*. Class 12 for any species of the Boothii, Campylogynum, Glaucophyllum, Lapponicum, Moupinense, Saluenense, Scabrifolium, Triflorum or Virgatum Series had 21 entries. The National Trust for Scotland was first with *glaucophyllum* var. *luteiflorum* from Brodick Castle. This variety, which was described in the *R.H.S. Journal*, 85, p. 369, was collected by the late Captain F. Kingdon-Ward in North Burma and received the Award of Merit in April 1960 in Scotland. It had good sprays of numerous greeny-yellow open bells. Lord Aberconway's richer yellow *megeratum* was second while Colonel N. R. Colville's very pretty *racemosum* var. *oleifolium* was third. Sir Edward Bolitho had an attractive *chrysodoron* in this class. Class 13 was for a truss or spray of any species not included in any Series or Subseries mentioned in the foregoing classes and was won by Mr. E. de Rothschild's *irroratum* 'Polka Dot'. The Crown Estate Commissioners were second with *uvarifolium*, whose numerous trusses were very close together, the flowers being palest pink with purple speckles and blotch. Sir Edward Bolitho's *albrechtii* was third.

Class 14 was for four hybrids and produced some very fine trusses. The Misses Godman were first, amongst their entries being a particularly good 'Cornubia'. Lord Aberconway was second with

amongst others a fine 'Redwing' and the palma violet *ririei* \times *niveum*. Mr. E. de Rothschild was third, having amongst his entries a 'Choremia' in which the truss seemed more compact. Amongst the Crown Estate Commissioners' entries *meddianum* \times *barclayi* with dark, waxy red flowers which have rather wavy-edged, incised lobes, appeared rather striking. In Class 15 for a spray or branch of any hybrid Lord Aberconway was first with a very fine vase of 'Choremia' whose scarlet is accentuated by the scarlet of its much developed calyces. The Countess of Rosse was second with the pretty candy pink 'Christmas Cheer' and Mr. E. de Rothschild third with 'Valaspis' which has a very open truss of soft yellow, open bells with a deeper yellow flush on the outside. There were 19 entries in Class 16 for one truss of any hybrid. Lord Aberconway's 'Choremia' was again first, while his *calophytum* \times *griffithianum* was second. This hybrid had a nice truss of small white open bells with a dark purple blotch, on remarkably orange pedicels. The leaves were very long and narrow. Major-General Harrison was third with *lacteam* \times *sinogrande* which has very large, frilly-edged white flowers with a purple blotch in a good round head. The leaves are long and narrow. Lord Aberconway was fourth with 'Mrs. Henry Shilson'. Class 17 was for any hybrid of the Arboreum or Fortunei Series. Mr. E. de Rothschild's 'Jocelyne' was first. This hybrid is *lacteam* \times *calophytum* and has very beautiful thick creamy-white flowers with a purplish blotch, in a well-shaped truss. The Misses Godman were second with a fine 'Cornubia' and Mr. M. Cripps of Barn Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey, was third with 'Choremia'. Lord Aberconway's *niveum* \times *ririei* was fourth. Lady Mairi Bury's 'Shilsoni' was first in Class 18 for any hybrid of the Barbatum or Thomsonii Series. Major-General Harrison was second with 'Campirr' (*campylocarpum* \times *irroratum*) which has very pale, delicate greeny-cream flowers flushed light salmon. The Crown Estate Commissioners were third with the rich pink 'Lady Linlithgow' and Lord Aberconway fourth with 'Elizabeth' \times *hookeri* with well-shaped scarlet flowers showing its *griersonianum* blood. Lord Aberconway was first in Class 19, which was for any lepidote hybrid of which neither parent was a species of the Arboreum, Barbatum or Thomsonii Series, with the Bodnant-raised 'Redwing'. This has large, open, dusky crimson flowers in a tight head. Major-General Harrison was second with *barclayi* \times 'Werei' with waxy, crimson flowers in a tight truss. Lord Aberconway also won a third prize with another Bodnant hybrid, the light red 'Bartia' which has similarly coloured calyces and is almost hose-in-hose.

Lord Aberconway was again first in Class 20 for any lepidote hybrid with *johnstoneanum* \times *chrysodoron*. This cross takes more after *johnstoneanum* in shape while having the richer greener yellow of *chrysodoron*. The Crown Estate Commissioners' 'Chink' was second, which will be referred to again in Class 22; they were also third with that old favourite 'Praecox'. Class 21 was for any tender species or hybrid grown under glass. The Crown Estate Commissioners took all three prizes. Their first was 'Harry Tagg', which has widely cut and spaced petals, white with a green flush on the upper lobe and a faint crimson tinge on the outside. This hybrid received the Award of Merit for its raisers, The Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, in 1958 (see *R.H.S. Journal*, 83, p. 488). Their second was a pure white *dendricola* with a yellow flush to the upper lobe and their third was for a greeny-yellow budded *inaequale* which opens pure white. Class 22 was for a plant of any rhododendron in bloom. There were only two entries. The Crown Estate Commissioners were first with a plant of 'Chink' on which every twig was covered with innumerable small yellow flowers. This appears a most successful cross, for the resulting greenish-yellow flowers are of a richer colour than those of its parents *R. trichocladum* and *R. keiskei*. The flowers also seem bigger. Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd. were second with an equally well-budded plant of 'Racil' but it was only just coming into flower.

THE RHODODENDRON SHOW

April 25 and 26, 1961

By ALAN HARDY and PATRICK M. SYNGE

THE rhododendron season this year was an unusually early one and so the Show was of a size and magnificence which has rarely been surpassed. The centre of the hall was filled with eight large nurserymen's groups which made splashes of brilliant colour. The early season enabled them to show in full flower both the evergreen and deciduous azaleas which we normally expect to see massed at Chelsea, while the Loderi rhododendrons were at their best and we have seldom seen at the show such a large selection of the various forms. Last year Mr. Platt wrote in his report of the Rhododendron Show that the plants were remarkably well budded after the hot summer of 1959, but the cool and wet summer of 1960 seems to have produced an equal floriferousness for us in 1961, although during May and June of 1960 there was some hot weather and perhaps it is the weather at this season which is the most significant for next year's flowering. Luckily in most parts of England there were no severe frosts within the two weeks before the show although the West of Scotland recorded severe frosts over Easter, so much so that it proved necessary to cancel the Scottish Rhododendron Show. In consequence the number of species from Scotland was less than in some previous years, but this was more than compensated by the wealth of hybrids shown.

In front of the entrance was a large group from Messrs. Hillier and Sons for which a silver gilt Banksian Medal was awarded. The centre was made up of a group of 6-foot Loderis including 'Sir Edmund', 'Fairly Queen', 'Patience', 'Helen', 'Pink Topaz' and the unusual pale creamy-yellow 'Julie', which is rarely seen. On the corner was a particularly well-flowered plant of the pink 'Coronation Day', which has flowers as large as those of any Loderi but is much deeper and more striking in colour. The pillar-box scarlet 'W.F.H.', raised at Pylewell Park, was placed in the centre of the group in front of the Loderis and contrasted well with the pale yellow 'Chaste' and the pale pink 'Margaret'. 'W.F.H.' is such a

striking colour that it deserves to be more widely grown although the truss is rather a loose one.

Next came a fine group of mixed rhododendrons and azaleas from John Waterer, Sons and Crisp, to whom a gold medal was awarded. It was dominated by a very large plant of that old favourite, the pink 'Mrs. G. W. Leak'. The dark red 'David' showed up well, as a contrast to the pale yellow 'Idealist' and 'Mary Swaythling'. Also notable were a fine flowered plant of the 'Jenny' form of Rhododendron 'Elizabeth', 'White Dawn' and 'Loderi Sir Joseph Hooker'.

Mr. Frederick Street's group of hardy hybrids, for which a Flora Silver Medal was awarded, was made up with the compact plants covered with flower which he shows so well. Noteworthy among them were the pink 'Kate Greenaway', the deeper crimson 'Kluis Sensation' and 'Hon. J. M. Montague' and the slightly lighter 'J. H. van Nes'.

The next group of azaleas and hardy rhododendrons from the Knap Hill Nursery was one of the finest which we have seen for some time and was awarded a gold medal. It showed a very high standard of cultivation in the plants. A large plant of the old white 'Beauty of Littleworth' made a centrepiece, flanked by deciduous and evergreen azaleas. Among the former 'Barbara Jenkinson', apricot-orange, and the white 'Albacore' were noteworthy, while among the rhododendrons the creamy-yellow 'Diane' and 'Idealist' were both well shown.

Walter Slocock, who also received a gold medal, showed two fine groups, one of brilliantly coloured deciduous and evergreen azaleas, the other, staged under the clock, of rhododendrons with some evergreen azaleas. The group of azaleas was dominated by a large plant of the brilliant orange-flame 'Danger', well-named and perhaps the most striking splash of colour in the show. Also notable in the group were the white 'Persil', which lives well up to its name and the rather more creamy 'Marina'. On the corner was a pleasant group of the compact pink 'Homebush'. The other group had some large plants including 8-foot specimens of *oreotrephes* and 'Lady Rosebery' and ranged down, comparatively abruptly, to dwarfs like *impeditum* in front. Particularly striking was a mass in the centre of the front of the exhibit of the large-flowered evergreen azalea 'Vuyk's Scarlet', a very strong piece of colour although crimson rather than scarlet. A fine specimen of the cream-coloured 'Letty Edwards', which was raised at this nursery, was shown and by it was an unusual hybrid between *ambiguum* and *cinnabarinum roylei*

which had tubular yellow flowers flushed pink on the outside. A group of the beautiful pink *williamsianum* hybrid 'Bow Bells' formed a corner piece and this is a plant which certainly deserves wider planting since it has finely coloured young foliage as well as a good flower.

G. Reuthe staged an interesting mixed group which contained a number of the more tender hybrids, including crosses between 'Lady Alice Fitzwilliam' with *johnstoneanum* and *bullatum*. The centrepiece was a large plant of his 'Ightham Yellow' while the white 'Tregedna Hybrid' with large wide-open flowers was also a desirable plant. Some young plants of large-leaved species and hybrids were also notable.

The Sunningdale Nurseries had a group successfully arranged against a pillar and showed well the good garden value of some of the old ghent azaleas such as 'Daviesii' with creamy-yellow flowers which blended rather pleasantly with the mauve rhododendron 'Susan'. Interesting also was the pale yellow 'Carita' and the pink 'Naomi Beauty'.

We were glad to welcome also a small group but one with plants of good quality and well grown from a new exhibitor at these shows, the Hydon Nurseries. The group was mainly of evergreen azaleas and included the white 'Palaestrina' flanked by the pink 'Henrietta' and 'Kathleen' and the darker red 'John Cairns' and the almost scarlet 'Rasho Mon'.

COMPETITION CLASSES

In Class 1 for trusses of eight species there were 5 entries, and the first prize went to the Crown Estate Commissioners who included in their group an unusually finely marked *aberconwayi* with more crimson specklings than usual, a good truss of *rex* white flushed pale pinkish-mauve and a dark form of *habrotrichum*. Lord Stair from Lochinch won second place and in his group we noted a good truss of the rarely seen *maddenii* var. *jenkinsii* and a fine *rude* with pink flowers and large hairy leaves. Mr. E. de Rothschild from Exbury was third and included in his eight a good form of *wiltonii* with pale flushed flowers and a deep crimson blotch. We also noted a nice blue *campanulatum* and a rather unusual *crinigerum* with a large dark blotch and a heavily speckled large *rex*. In a group from Lord Aberconway and the National Trust from Bodnant perhaps the most notable truss was a very fine *griffithianum*.

In Class 2 for three species Mr. E. G. Kleinwort of Haywards Heath was the winner and his vases included an unusually fine deep pink *orbiculare*, which we saw again later in several other classes and which was always notable, and good *haematodes* and *vernicosum*. Mr. E. de Rothschild was second with *yakusimanum*, *wardii* and *thomsonii*, of which the *wardii* was particularly fine, a tall truss with very wide-open flowers and a deep blotch at the base of each. Mr. E. M. King of Embley Park was third with a large truss of a fine blush-coloured *rex* together with *falconeri* and *sidereum*. In general, however, owing to the very early season the large-leaved species were not as well represented as usual, being over in most gardens.

In Class 3 for trusses of three species but restricted to competitors who have not, within the last five years, won a prize in the previous classes, Mr. E. G. Kleinwort again won first place with the same three species as he showed in the previous class. Mrs. R. M. Gosney of Kingswood, Surrey, was second with a very nice truss of the pale lilac *exquisitum* combined with *campylocarpum* and *oreotrephes*.

Class 4 for one truss of a species proved as usual one of the most popular classes in the Show. The McLaren Challenge Cup is awarded for this class. There were 21 entries and the first prize was won by the Crown Estate Commissioners with the same fine form of *aberconwayi* as we noticed in Class 1. Sir Henry Price of Wakehurst was second with a rather unusually full, tight truss of *falconeri* with pale-coloured bells, and the Crown Estate Commissioners third with *coryanum*, F.20322, which had rather neat small flowers, snowy-white which contrasted with the long crimson pedicels. It was an attractive plant. Also notable in this class was a fine truss of *lindleyi* from Lord Stair, a creamy-yellow *sidereum* and a rather unusual *arizelum*.

In Class 5 for a spray of one species Sir Henry Price was first with a splendid large spray of the pink form of *argyrophyllum* covered in flower and in beautiful condition. The Crown Estate Commissioners were second with their lovely *aberconwayi*, this time standing up sturdily like a young tree. Lord Aberconway was third with a beautiful spray of the deep butter-yellow form of *xanthocodon*.

Class 6 was restricted to one truss of *arboreum* and its subspecies and was won by Lord Stair with a very nice white form. Sir Henry Price won second prize with a large truss of *niveum* and the Crown Estate Commissioners third with a good red *arboreum*. Also

notable in this class was a pretty pink *arboreum* from Bodnant and a good truss of *cinnamomeum* from Major Hardy at Sandling Park displayed to show the dark, rusty indumentum on the other side of the leaf. Although very close to *arboreum* and belonging to the same Subseries *R. niveum* is not regarded in *The Species of Rhododendron* as a subspecies of *arboreum* and so was oddly allowed by the judges for this class rather than the succeeding one. Last year it was also exhibited in this class.

In Class 7 for a truss of any species of the Arboreum Series other than *arboreum* Sir Henry Price won first prize with the same *argyrophyllum*, the Crown Estate Commissioners were second with the same Forrest *coryanum*, Mr. L. Riggall of Titness Park was third with a very nice *argyrophyllum* var. *cupulare* which has more cup-shaped flowers than the type. In Class 8 for a truss of the Barbatum Series the Crown Estate Commissioners were first with a fine truss of *glischrum*, which had unusually good foliage. The second prize went to the Countess of Rosse and the National Trust who showed from Nymans a fine truss of *habrotrichum* while the third place was given to Mr. de Rothschild for *crinigerum*. Also notable in this class was a pretty cherry-pink *rude* from Mr. E. M. King of Embley Park and the rarely seen *nankotaisanense* from Sir Henry Price. It had a small truss of white flowers with a crimson blotch at the base of each and is allied to *R. morii*.

Class 9 took us to the Boothii Series and allowed either a truss or small spray up to 1 foot in height from the top of the vase. Various forms of *tephropeplum* won the three places and showed an interesting variation in depth of colour and size of flower. The Countess of Rosse showed from Nymans for first place a deep pink form with a rather tight truss in excellent condition. This contrasted with a pale form with narrow leaves from the Crown Estate Commissioners which gained second place while the third prize went to Mr. de Rothschild who had a deep-coloured form with rather large flowers for the species but arranged in a looser truss.

The first prize in Class 10 for a member of the Campanulatum Series went to Messrs W. C. Slocock of Woking for a really magnificent coloured truss of *wallichii* which we thought one of the best exhibits in the Show. Lord Stair was second with a good *campanulatum* and Lord Aberconway third with *wallichii* again. Class 11 for the Cinnabarinum Series called for a spray and Lord Aberconway was first with a very fine *cinnabarinum* var. *roylei*, probably as good as the one portrayed on the cover of the year book in 1958. He also won the other two places, the second with a beautiful clear

yellow spray of *xanthocodon*, very well flowered and standing slightly upright, while for third he showed an unusually deep-coloured *concatenans* with large flowers.

In Class 12 for a truss of *falconeri*, although there were twelve entries the trusses were not as fine as usual owing to the very early season. Lord Stair was first with a full truss with pale, creamy bells, Sir Henry Price second with a rather lighter truss and the National Trust for Scotland from Brodick Castle third.

In Class 13 for a truss of *fictolacteum* there was a very interesting variation both in foliage and flower shown by the different forms. It also brought out how close *rex* is to *fictolacteum* and probably some forms of the former were shown both in this and the next class for any other species of the Falconeri Series. The first prize went to Lord Aberconway for an unusually snowy-white and very full-flowered large truss. Mr. R. Strauss of Stonehurst was second with a more normal but also a good *fictolacteum* while Mr. de Rothschild was third with an unusual pink form with heavy speckling inside. In Class 14 Mr. M. Cripps of Ewhurst, Surrey, was first with a nice truss of white *galactinum*, the flower being flushed pink on the outside. This rarely seen member of the Falconeri Series has smaller leaves than other members but is regarded as distinctly hardier. Mr. E. de Rothschild was second with a fine *rex*, a large flower with a dark eye and much speckling, combined with a heavy indumentum on the underside. Wing Commander F. L. Ingall from Castle Douglas was third with *hodgsonii*.

In Class 15 for *griffithianum* it was very encouraging to find the first prize given to a plant grown within fifty miles of London. This was a beautiful pale form flushed pink from Mrs. Martyn Simmons of Quarry Wood, near Newbury. A third prize was given to Mrs. L. G. David of Pembrokeshire for a nice form, showing some red at the base.

In Class 16 for any other species of the Fortunei Series, there were 18 entries and there were some good pink forms of *fortunei*, especially those from the Crown Estate Commissioners which won first prize and from Mrs. L. G. David which was unplaced. The second prize went to Mr. E. G. Kleinwort for a magnificent clear deep pink *orbiculare* which stood out from the other forms shown. Mr. C. E. Sexton of Redhill was third with a good white form of *decorum* with a tall truss. Class 17 for *fulvum* attracted no exhibits but there were several for a truss of the Grande Series in Class 18. The first prize went to the National Trust for Scotland for *grande* from Brodick, the second to the Countess of Rosse for a good



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 30—*Rhododendron polyandrum*, a fine specimen shown in Class 22 of the Rhododendron Show (see p. 81)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 31—*Rhododendron trichostomum* var. *ledoides*, an unusually fine specimen of this aromatic plant shown by Mr. E. de Rothschild to win 1st Prize in Class 37 for the Anthopogon Series at the Rhododendron Show 1961 (see p. 82)

sidereum with a dark blotch from Nymans and the third again to the National Trust for Scotland for *grande*. In Class 19 for the Irroratum Series the Crown Estate Commissioners were first with their fine form of *aberconwayi*, the Countess of Rosse second with the rare but attractive *araiophyllum*, which had a small compact truss of snowy-white flowers with a deep red blotch at the base of each. Lord Aberconway was third with *aberconwayi*, while other unusual exhibits in this class were *laxiflorum* and *pogonostylum* from Yunnan.

In Class 20 for a member of the Lacteam Series the season had proved too early for most exhibitors, but W/Cmdr. F. L. Ingall won a first prize for the only truss of *lacteam* in the show. Class 21 for a member of the Megacalyx Subseries grown in the open or otherwise also attracts some very beautiful entries and this year the first prize went to Lord Aberconway for a very fine truss of *sinonuttallii* with enormous flowers. The Crown Estate Commissioners were second with *inaequale*.

Class 22 which had nine entries was restricted to any species of the Maddenii Series other than the Megacalyx Subseries, grown in the open or otherwise. Mr. O. W. Howlett of Lymington was first with a fine *polyandrum* with unusually large flowers, buff-yellow at the base (Fig. 30). The Crown Estate Commissioners were second with another lovely *polyandrum*, smaller in flower but pure white and in very good condition. Lady Mairi Bury and the National Trust were third with a rather pale truss of *burmanicum* from Mount Stewart. We also noticed in this class an unusual *iteophyllum* with willow-like leaves and flowers with pink stripes along the outer petals.

In Class 23 for any species of the Haematodes Subseries the prizes went to three fine exhibits of the type species shown respectively by Mr. de Rothschild, Mr. E. G. Kleinwort and Sir Henry Price. The Neriiflorum Subseries was again a popular class and the first prize was won by Mr. O. W. Howlett with a good truss of *euchaites*, the second place went to Lady Mairi Bury for a rather light form of *neriiflorum* and the third to Mr. de Rothschild for the same species. Class 25 for *aperantum* had no exhibits but Class 26 for any other species of the Sanguineum Subseries was more popular. Mr. de Rothschild was first with a good dark red *haemaleum* and Lord Aberconway second with an even darker *didymum*. The Crown Estate Commissioners were third with *herpesticum*. At long last the Taliense Series are producing more flowers and Class 27 for this Series had 12 entries among which

were some interesting species. Mr. R. Strauss was first with a very nice truss of the white *sphaeroblastum*, the foliage showing rusty indumentum below. Mr. de Rothschild was second with *wiltonii*, a species which merits wider planting, while the Crown Estate Commissioners from Windsor showed the unusual *microgynum* (F.14242) which had dark red flowers with a slightly frilled edge. Also of interest in this class from Windsor was a truss of the pink *clementinae*. In Class 28 for a spray of *campylocarpum* it was difficult to pick out any special points in a very fine series of exhibits. This reliable species seems to have been particularly good this year and is undoubtedly still one of the most valuable rhododendrons we have. The prizes went respectively to Sir Henry Price, Mr. de Rothschild, the Misses E. and E. Godman, and a fourth prize to Lord Aberconway.

The other species of this Subseries in Class 29 showed a very fine spray of a deep pink *callimorphum* from the Countess of Rosse for first place, a slightly paler form of the same species from the Crown Estate Commissioners for second place and for third place an unusually deep yellow *caloxanthum*, flushed on the outside with red from Major Hardy.

Among the remaining classes for species we noted a good pink *dasycladum* from W/Cmdr. F. L. Ingall as the prizewinner in Class 30 well supported by a nice pink *selense* from Mr. de Rothschild; the Crown Estate Commissioners had a very fine *litiense* to win first place in Class 32. It was a good deep yellow with open saucer-shaped flowers and in very good condition. W/Cmdr. Ingall's *thomsonii*, the first prize winner in Class 33, was an unusually good one with a large truss and flower of a lovely colour. In Class 36 the Crown Estate Commissioners had a very fine, deep pink *roseum*, a good colour and also conspicuous for its long curved red style and stamen. In the same class Lord Aberconway's *albrechtii* was very lovely though lighter in colour than usual. He also had a good pink *vaseyi*. In Class 37 for the Anthopogon Series Mr. de Rothschild won first prize with a delightful vase of the aromatic pink-budded form of *trichostomum* var. *ledoides* (Fig. 31). Lord Aberconway was second with a nice vase of var. *radinum* and the Crown Estate Commissioners third with a rather large-flowered form of the yellow *sargentianum*. These dwarf species are particularly valuable for the small garden since they make low-growing compact bushes.

In Class 39 for any species of the Edgeworthii Series Sir Giles Loder's pure white form of *bullatum*, K.W.22019, was particularly noteworthy, having no trace of pink in the flower, which had a neat

green eye. It was also a form with an unusually wide leaf and it contrasted well with the very fine spray of a pink form which Lord Stair showed for second place. In Class 40 for a spray of the *Glaucophyllum* Series the Countess of Rosse's spray of a pale lilac form of *tsangpoense* was very well flowered and won first prize over the numerous specimens of the type which were shown. These showed a wide variation both in colour and in form. Class 42 for sprays of the *Lapponicum* Series was a popular one and the Crown Estate Commissioners won first prize with a very striking violet-mauve *rupicola* while Sir Henry Price's *russatum* which was second was a deeper colour with more blue in it but slightly less bright. Lord Aberconway's *telmateium* with small rosy-purple flowers was interesting since it is a plant rarely seen at shows.

Another class, which showed interesting variations, was 48 for the *Trichocladum* Series. Sir Henry Price was first with an unusual very pale form of greenish-yellow. The Crown Estate Commissioners form K.W.9519 was a much deeper colour with a crimson flush on the outside of the flowers which did not open so flat. The young leaves also had a purplish flush which was attractive. In many gardens *augustinii* was already over but nevertheless the Crown Estate Commissioners won first prize with a lovely light form. Major A. E. Hardy's, which won second place, was a deeper rosy-mauve with a large tight truss. The *oreotrephes* shown in Class 51 were lovely and the first prize went to a very free flowering but pale lilac form from Lord Aberconway. Mr. Strauss's form was deeper coloured with more funnel-shaped flowers and a looser truss.

Class 54 for the *Yunnanense* Series was also popular, and rightly so since they are certainly among the best rhododendrons for garden use in a wide range of conditions. There was an interesting variation in forms particularly of *yunnanense*, *caeruleum* and *zaleucum*. The first prize went to a very densely flowered spray of an evergreen white *caeruleum album* from Mr. de Rothschild and we thought that this was one of the finest sprays in the show (Fig. 24). Lord Aberconway showed this same species but it was a deciduous form and without any leaves. The Balkan form of *R. ferrugineum* named *kotschyi* was shown for first prize in Class 55 by the Crown Estate Commissioners. It was obviously close to the alpine species but in this case the stamens were barely visible. The Commissioners also won the other two prizes in the class with *carolinianum album* and *minus*, the latter having a good flushed pink compact truss and a rather camellia-like habit of growth.

HYBRIDS

These began with Class 61 for a truss of eight hybrids and here the first prize was won by Mr. de Rothschild. Outstanding in this group from Exbury and also one of the really notable flowers of the show was the truss of 'Crest', which still appears unrivalled for depth of yellow among the Hawks. His 'Cornish Cross' and 'Mata-dor' were both very fine. His others were Loderi, 'Yvonne', 'Kiev', 'Queen of Hearts' and 'Idealist'. Lord Aberconway and the National Trust were second with a beautiful group in which were specially notable 'Camilla', a pale blush pink with large flowers well spaced out and the creamy-white form of 'Penjerrick'. His other flowers were 'Loderi Venus', 'Cardinal', 'Hiraethlyn', 'Ruddigore', Loderi \times Luscombei, 'Chanticleer' \times 'Loderi King George'. Mr. M. Haworth-Booth was third with a group which showed the value for exhibition purposes as well as for garden of some of the older hybrids such as 'Loder's White', 'Susan', and 'David'. His 'Orion' with a prominent bright crimson flared blotch was also striking.

In Class 62 for three hybrids the Crown Estate Commissioners were first with perhaps the finest truss of 'Crest' in the show. The flowers were wide open and slightly flushed with pale rosy-purple round the edges and with a dark red streak at the base. Their other two were 'Easter Bonnet' and 'Cornish Cross'. Major A. E. Hardy was second with a very good truss of 'Idealist', a deep-coloured form of Luscombei and 'Mrs. C. B. van Nes'. Messrs. Slocock were third and Waterer's fourth. Due to an error three plants from Exbury, which otherwise might have been placed, were staged in Class 63, one for a restricted entry. Notable among these was a very dark red 'Gibraltar'. Class 63 was won by the National Trust with an entry from Trellissick and it was good to see an entry from Cornwall among the prizewinners in these classes. Notable in their three was 'St. Probus', which was raised by the late Mr. George Johnstone and was not unlike 'Cornish Cross', but with a slightly smaller flower of a better form. They also had an excellent truss of 'Coronation Day', whose very large strawberry pink flowers are generally difficult to stage well. Mr. L. Riggall was second with 'Loderi King George', 'Loder's White' and *campanulatum* \times *fortunei*, a very delicate pale mauve flower. In Sir Henry Price's exhibit, which won third place, we noticed particularly 'Robin Redbreast', which had bright pink flowers on long red pedicels, somewhat reminiscent of *orbiculare* which was one of its

parents. There was also an interesting cross with pale yellow flowers between 'China' and 'Hawk'.

In Class 64 for three sprays of hybrids Mr. de Rothschild had a pleasing contrast between the creamy-yellow 'Idealist', the deep blood red 'Chanticleer' and the more scarlet 'Matador' and won first prize.

The Loder Challenge Cup is given for the best hybrid, one truss only, shown in Class 65 and this was won by 'Crest' again shown by Mr. de Rothschild. Lord Stair and Messrs. Waterer were jointly second, Lord Stair showing the very lovely tender hybrid named after himself and Waterer's showing 'White Swan', a hardy hybrid with an unusually tall truss. A fourth prize went to Lord Aberconway for a hybrid of 'Solon' \times 'Loderi King George' and also notable in this big class of 18 entries was a very fine pink form of Loderi from Mr. Haworth-Booth.

The Crosfield Cup for six hybrids raised by or in the garden of the exhibitor was won by Mr. de Rothschild who showed a very distinguished collection. Perhaps the outstanding one was 'Kiev', a large truss of waxy, brilliant blood red flowers. He also showed well 'Yvonne', 'Janet', 'Gibraltar', 'Idealist' and 'Crest'. Lord Aberconway won both second and third places and outstanding among his exhibits were 'Gretia' and 'Cornish Cross' \times Kewense, while in his second group 'Barclayi' \times 'Penjerrick' and 'Solon' \times 'Loderi King George' attracted attention. Sir Giles Loder's group from Leonardslee was also Highly Commended. Class 67 for three hybrids produced some fine flowers most of which have been already mentioned in previous classes. Hawk \times *griffithianum* hybrid from Windsor was a noteworthy plant as was also their 'Lady Chamberlain' \times *xanthocodon*. Lord Aberconway's 'Royalty' was a pleasant flower of the same type as 'Lady Rosebery' and we also noted down a deep orange-red hybrid between 'Yunncinn' and 'Cinnmadd', a great deal better than it sounds.

Messrs. Slocock won the first prize for six hardy hybrids classified A or B with 'David', 'Mrs. E. C. Stirling', 'Corry Koster', 'Bonito', 'Goldfort' and 'Blue Peter'. Mr. E. G. Kleinwort was second and included nice trusses of 'China' and 'Idealist'. It was obviously an unusually good year for R. Loderi and there were 22 entries of fine quality for this class which was won by the Crown Estate Commissioners with a very tall and large-flowered truss of the white 'Loderi Fairyland'. They also won the second place with 'Loderi Patience', two varieties rarely seen but obviously well worth growing.

Mr. M. Cripps won the first prize in Class 71 for a *griffithianum* hybrid other than with *fortunei* or *campylocarpum* with 'Loder's White' a plant which always stands up well on the show bench.

For a hybrid of the Neriiflorum Series 'David' won both first and third place, being shown by Mr. Haworth-Booth and Mr. M. Cripps respectively. Mr. O. W. Howlett was second with a deep salmon pink truss heavily freckled with darker colour raised from *apodectum* \times *elliottii*. For *thomsonii* hybrids there was a large entry and Sir Giles Loder won first prize for 'Red Glow', an upright truss with rather tubular flowers. Sir Henry Price's 'Gem' with rather open pale crimson flowers and a starry flat calyx was notable for third prize. Mr. de Rothschild's magnificent dark 'Queen of Hearts' won first prize in the next class and for the only time in the show his 'Crest' took second place. *Griersonianum* hybrids in Class 78 were popular as usual and the Windsor 'Grenadine' with a tall truss of large flowers won first place. Mr. de Rothschild showed here a particularly dark form of 'Matador' with a large, heavily freckled flower. The old pink 'Dr. Masters' was a worthy first in the class for azaleodendrons and Mr. Adams-Acton's lovely 'Perseverance' won first prize for sprays of Cinnabarinum hybrids in Class 80, a class which showed tremendous divergency in colour and form. He also won the next class with a rather unusual form of 'Countess of Haddington' with diffuse pink colouring on the outside and more open flowers than usual. For second place the Crown Estate Commissioners showed a nice hybrid from *maddenii* \times *oreotrephes*, though inclining more towards the latter species, especially in the aromatic scent of its young foliage.

Among other notable hybrids was Messrs. Slocock's yellow 'Honey', the prizewinner in Class 88; it was enhanced by the two trusses of the spray growing together while Sir Giles Loder's large white 'Jubilee Queen' in the same class was a lovely flower.

Among the miscellaneous section the sprays of evergreen azaleas in Class 101 were outstanding and the Crown Estate Commissioners' spray of the pink large-flowered 'Kathleen' must almost have been of record size in lateral spread. Mr. Kleinwort's 'Hinomayo' was nearly as good.

Unfortunately there were no entries for Javanese rhododendrons nor any tables submitted for the Lionel de Rothschild Cup in Class 100.

Class 109 for species or hybrids grown under glass always attracts some lovely flowers and the first place went to the Crown Estate Commissioners for an unnamed plant close to *polyandrum*. Sir

Giles Loder's 'White Wings' \times 'Parisienne' was an unusual colour, a faint greenish-yellow which contrasted with the beautiful pure white 'Princess Alice' from Mr. G. A. Judson which won third prize. The group of leaves in Class 107 drew attention to one of the most valuable characteristics of rhododendrons and the *bureavii*, *mallotum* and *falconeri* from Windsor were outstanding for the fine cultivation there but Mr. Strauss's *fulvum* had perhaps the brightest tawny, orange-red indumentum of any shown.

On the dais two very fine hybrid plants raised from 'Pauline' \times *yakusimanum* were shown from Wisley where they had been raised; they were most shapely, compact perfect domes covered with bell-shaped flowers, about 3 feet in height and 4 feet across and perhaps these are an indication of a desirable trend of breeding for the smaller gardens of the future. The pinker form received an Award of Merit, since named 'Renoir', but both should be excellent garden plants.

RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA NOTES

THE RHODODENDRON SEASON AT LOCHINCH

IN some ways, this has been a peculiar season at Lochinch. After three consecutive nights of 12° of frost, we had in flower on January 1, the following rhododendrons: *R. arboreum*, *R. Nobleanum*, *R. sperabiloides*, *R. 'Nobleanum Venustum'*, and *R. 'Early Gem'*. After this, there was practically no frost during the winter and as a result, most species flowered perfectly but the flowers lasted no time at all.

Many of the more interesting early ones were completely over before the date of the Rhododendron Shows, in fact, the Edinburgh one was cancelled for this reason and my own choice of flowers for the R.H.S. Show was very limited.

At this moment we have in flower Lord Digby's lovely hybrid 'Jacquetta'. *R. griersonianum* has many flowers and my own latest hybrid 'Lady Jean', which is a cross of *eriogynum* and *diaprepes*, is only just finishing and has been well covered with flower. *R. auriculatum* is in full flower and its offspring 'Polar Bear' is also flowering. Unfortunately, I personally, dislike the smell of both these lovely flowers most intensely and can hardly write at this table with a vase of them less than a yard away.

R. discolor is still making some showing.

Rye's enthusiastic successor, Collison, has been trying to make many new hybrids but in this we have been considerably handicapped by lack of sufficient knowledge of the actual parentage and success or otherwise of many previous efforts by other people.

During the past year we have made a new group of the different seedlings of Grande Series and hybrids, among these I am particularly interested in hybrids of *sinogrande* × *macabeanum*, the foliage of these is quite lovely. I am not quite sure whether all these were made by Rye, some may have been given me by Mr. Gibson, Rhu, Dunbartonshire. Some are also crosses with *R. mollianum* from Colonel David Buchanan, Corsewall, pollen of course, none of them may be expected to flower for some years.

STAIR

Lochinch,
1.9.61

THE EFFECTS OF THE FROST ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 2-3, 1961,
AT RHU, DUNBARTONSHIRE

WE had a few friends prowling around on Easter Sunday, April 2, in the afternoon. It was an early season and everything was about four weeks ahead. We were aware of frost indications on the night of April 2, but it was not until the morning of Monday, April 3, we realized about 8° of frost had occurred overnight. We had a great many good rhododendrons in flower at the time, including *R. macabeanum*, *R. barbatum*, *R. wardii* (*astrocalyx*), *pemakoense*, *forrestii* var. *repens*, *megeratum*, *leucaspis* and others. They were in full flower or almost finished when the frost smote us. Thanks to it (or perhaps no thanks), we shall not be put to the bother of dead-heading them, the frost did it for us and they will not be setting seed. *R. genesterianum*, *giganteum*, *ramsdensianum* and *griffithianum* and most of the small early stuff had their new foliage ruined. We were also able to make the following observations:

R. griffithianum flowered normally though its new growth was cut to bits. It has since then made a second, rather shabby growth. The buds of *R. manipurens*, *R. crassum* and *maddenii* were unhurt and all flowered. *R. bullatum* was much spoilt both in the unopened flower buds and also as regards potential growth. Both the flower buds and growth of *R. 'Royal Flush'* (*maddenii* × *roylei*) were unhurt. It was superb in flower and we have never seen it better. With the Ludlow and Sherriff form of *R. lindleyi* the growth was more or less unharmed. The flowers were about normal though rather shorter on each pip. We made a count after the frost and made up to twelve pips per point on some of them.

R. dalhousiae made an attempt to flower and put out a few unharmed trumpets but with only three pips to each point, the other one or two being nipped by the frost. Nevertheless we would vote *R. dalhousiae* rather more frost-resistant than, for example, *R. 'Countess of Haddington'* which has it as one of its parents and *R. ciliatum* as the other. *R. dalhousiae*, when it flowers, is spectacular to anybody's taste. Not so its daughter with *ciliatum* blood! The cross is far more tender than either parent and not half so good when she does deign to flower, or so we think. At Rhu she is not a patch on the various *maddenii* × *roylei* combinations and far less hardy with us. The yellow Boothii, *R. chrysodoron*, under an L. & S. number, flowered well out of doors without protection though some growth was cut badly. Not so with rhododendrons of the

Glaucum Series, all of whose potential unopened flowering buds were caught. The very young new growth was also caught.

We also observed that the pips of the trusses of rhododendrons which were frost-resistant and subsequently flowered, were smaller than usual. It occurred to us the deadly April frost might be blamed for this.

These observations drive one to re-assess the relative hardiness of various plants. Perhaps a conclusion might be that members of the Glaucum Series, for example, are less frost-resistant than others marked as more tender in the *Rhododendron Handbook*.

A. C. GIBSON

Rhu

THE SEASON

THE year from a grower's point of view may be summed up in one word—NIGHTMARE. Continuous rain is good for rhododendrons and camellias but last year showed that even a good thing can be overdone. During the year many areas became so waterlogged that roots rotted and many plants died, while transplanting was impossible. However, in the spring nature relented for a short period and the flowers in February, March and April left little to be desired. Growth was enormous and by Chelsea Show most varieties were over.

At the end of May the plants were in a condition expected in June after a good spring, but then came the frost. In one night of wind frost of between 6° to 8° nearly every plant was cut and all the young growth if not destroyed was so mutilated as to be useless and had to be cut off. Azaleas were not so badly affected—why I know not!

What we now hope for is a slice of last summer's weather so that some recovery can be made. This, of course, is being assisted by irrigation and we live in hope.

O. C. A. SLOCOCK

Woking

NOTES ON FROST DAMAGE IN THE NURSERIES OF MESSRS. W. FROMOW & SONS, WINDLESHAM NURSERIES, WINDLESHAM, SURREY

WE have never seen such havoc among our rhododendrons as that caused by the frost of some 10° in intensity on the nights of May 26 and 27, 1961.

All our rhododendrons, hardy hybrids so called, were stripped of all young growth some 1 to 3 inches long. I should state here that we purposely do not grow any of the more tender hybrids; our plants are all grown in the open without any specially planted shelter belts. The older plants from 18 inches upwards are now (July 8) breaking into fresh growth and promise quite well for the autumn.

The main damage, however, was to two batches of younger plants, damage such as we have never seen before. One batch is of 4-year grafts and the other of grafts 2½ years old. Not only was the young growth stripped but all the foliage (one- and two-year-old leaves) was killed. Foliage that would have stood twice the amount of frost or indeed more, was killed because of the rise of sap in the plant.

These young plants made no fresh growth before the end of June, indeed many died back. They were young stock trained by pruning to four to six breaks to make a crown for the basis of a plant. Some 40 per cent of these young plants have had their crown of branches killed and are now making a fresh break from the original graft, the remainder are slowly breaking from the crown. Thus 2-3 years' growth has been lost on the plants most badly affected, only a few plants are entirely dead.

Such is a picture of the havoc which can be caused by these weather freaks in a hardy plant nursery.

A. S. FROMOW

THE RHODODENDRON YEAR AT CRARAE

AT Crarae, as was the case in most parts of the country, 1961 was an exceptionally early flowering year for rhododendrons, though it is perhaps of interest to note that *Camellia reticulata* opened its first flower on February 21, exactly the same date as the previous season, whereas we have known it to produce blooms as early as February 5.

R. moupinense, the first of the genus to flower at Crarae, was fully out at the end of the second week in February this year, while its

lovely hybrid *R. 'Cilpinense'* was carrying its creamy-pink bells in profusion by the 26th. Last year a photograph of this plant at the same stage is dated March 16, and most of the other early flowerers were similarly a fortnight ahead of schedule.

The first week of March 1961 saw *R. praecox*, *R. virgatum*, *R. pocophorum*, *R. fulvum* and, surprisingly, *R. ramsdenianum* in full flower, while *R. lutescens*, *praestans*, *leucaspis* and '*Shilsonii*' were just breaking bud. This last-mentioned hybrid between *R. barbatum* and *R. thomsonii*, to my mind finer than either parent, deserves special mention. Planted in 1937, it is over 14 feet in height by about 10 feet across, and this year was so covered with its pillarboxed trusses that it was hardly possible to see a leaf.

The Scottish Rhododendron Show was scheduled for April 26 and already we feared that everything would be over before that date. Our old standbys and constant prizewinners in former years such as *pankimense*, *racemosum*, '*Ibex*' and *rubiginosum* were coming into flower over a month before the date of the Show!

By the end of the month the first flowers were showing on *R. augustinii* and *cinnabarinum*, which are not normally in bloom before the first week in May.

Over Easter week-end the final death warrant of the show was signed when on the nights of April 2 and 3 we had 9° and 8° of frost respectively, and overnight all colour in the glen turned to brown paper. An exception to the rule was *R. 'Blue Diamond'* whose deep blue-purple flowers were completely undamaged. We were despondent, and reports from neighbouring gardens of similar devastation did little to cheer us. Most of Argyll appeared to have been affected, though in Lord Strathcona's garden on the Isle of Colonsay, we were told, no frost was registered at all!

But things were not as bad as they seemed, and although a certain amount of damage was done to young growth, and we had to forgo our usual blue waterfalls of *R. augustinii* down the steep banks of the glen; by May 21, and the visit to Crarae of the National Trust for Scotland's Commonwealth Cruise, the garden was ablaze with azaleas and some of the hybrid rhododendrons whose buds had been quite unaffected by the frost.

At this time too, our group of *Rhododendron cinnabarinum* var. *roylei* '*Magnificum*' was in flower—and a remarkable sight. These plants, grown from seed originally from Exbury, and planted in full sun and on what might be thought to be rather unsuitable ground, never fail to give a fine display of their deep wine-red tubular bells rather larger in size than the usual form.

The *griersonianum* tribe flowered well this year, R. 'May Day'—perhaps the best of all in colour and form—'Fabia', 'Fusilier', 'Flamingo', one of Sir James Horlick's fine hybrids, 'Tally Ho' and, at the time of writing, 'Arthur Osborn' (*didymum* × *griersonianum*) is carrying on the succession.

Perhaps one of the most remarkable sights at Crarae in the latter part of the flowering year is the great mass of plants grown from seed of *R. diaprepes*—these vary in colour from pure white to shell pink—but all have huge trusses and fill the air around with their delightful scent.

ILAY M. CAMPBELL

Crarae,
Argyll.

RHODODENDRONS AND CAMELLIAS AT CAERHAYS IN 1961

THE rather severe drought that is at present affecting the garden makes the writing of gardening notes a rather joyless business. One is quite powerless to give the old plants adequate water, so that walks around the woods have been rather frustrating.

The worst sufferers seem to be *Rhododendron fargesii*, *hookeri* and *meddianum*. The curled withered yellow leaves make a sad spectacle. *Fargesii* always appears to be fastidious and surly, outwardly showing its disapproval of nearly every aspect of the Caerhays climate, but despite this, still growing and flowering quite well.

On the other hand our very soft rhododendrons seem to be growing well. Those plants which a severe winter cuts to the ground are rallying. *Rhododendron stenaulum* is putting on fine new growth out of doors. *Rhododendron championae* (planted in 1897, almost certainly barren of flowers since that date, and still very small) looks in good heart. These are bad signs, and make me fear the winter visits of the plumber armed with his blow-lamps and sad smiles.

Phillip Tregunna and I have been trying our hand at a little hybridizing—concentrating on *R. sulfureum* and *burmanicum* as pollen parents.

Some of our big old plants in the garden here are nearing the end of their lives, namely *R. griffithianum*, *williamsianum* and *barbatum*; all of these cannot stand heavy pruning here. We are, therefore, experimenting with raising seedlings from these species with a view to their eventual replacement, and also to seeing how great a variation in flower and growth there will be between the various species. We are giving *R. planetum*, *bureavii*, *orbiculare* and *megacalyx* similar treatment.

CAMELLIAS

Four years ago we were sent our first batch of the New Yunnan *Reticulatas*.

The plants are still very small and have taken a long while to settle down to our out-of-door conditions.

'Osmanthus Leaf' and 'Butterfly Wings' are beginning to look healthier. Their foliage becomes darker year by year, and their new growth better. On the other hand, 'Professor Tsai' and 'Buddha' are still struggling, and their chances of survival are in the balance.

I have named a few more of our *williamsii* Hybrids here in the past few years. The complete list:

Pale Pink Singles

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 'J. C. Williams' | |
| 'Beatrice Michael' | Very free flowering |
| 'Charles Michael' | Later to flower, and flowers do not open out so much as 'J. C. Williams' |

Darker Pinks

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 'November Pink' | |
| 'St. Ewe' | |
| 'Rosemary Williams' | Very floriferous |
| 'John Pickthorn' | A vivid pink |
| 'Mary Jobson' | Large flower—foliage dark |

Peony Centred

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 'Caerhays' | Mauve |
| 'George Blandford' | Pinkish mauve. Flowers a month earlier than 'Caerhays' |

In response to prodding I have named the darker form of 'J. C. Williams' 'Philippa Forwood'. The most difficult of these plants to propagate by cuttings is 'George Blandford', only about 10 per cent of the cuttings take root.

JULIAN WILLIAMS

Caerhays Castle, Cornwall

RHODODENDRON FORRESTII var. *REPENS*

Two plants were given to me of the Kingdon Ward form of *R. forrestii* var. *repens* in 1927 by the then Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, the late John Charles Williams, from his gardens at Caerhays. These have increased largely through the years, planted at the base of an east wall, where they enjoy much reflected light, in a courtyard in well drained soil in two long beds.

The soil is actually a prepared compost of 3 parts lime-free loam, 2 parts leafy soil, 3 parts granulated sphagnum peat and 3 parts sharp sand. The normal flowering period is in early April but this form usually flowers again during August and September.

As with other rhododendrons, we find that *R. forrestii* var. *repens* should never be allowed to dry out. We give our plants a top dressing twice a year; first when the young spring growth has

hardened slightly and that is with us about the end of May or the beginning of June. This dressing is repeated again usually at the end of September or the beginning of October. The top dressing consists of 3 parts peat and 1 part sharp sand. We find this encourages stem rooting which this plant does very freely so that rooted layers can be taken off in quantity.

N. COLVILLE

*Penheale Manor,
Launceston*

SOME LATE-FLOWERING RHODODENDRONS

I THINK perhaps some of the later-flowering rhododendrons tend to get overlooked for their quality because one's eye has been so satiated with the colour of the mass of rhododendrons and azaleas during April and May.

My father and other horticulturists thought so highly of the rhododendron genus that their aim was to prolong the flowering season, and in the second week of July we can see glorious blooms of varying shades of colour peeping through the rather heavy and luscious green of the shrubberies. One cannot help thinking that these late rhododendrons are a reminder of those experts whose forethought brings such lingering pleasure into our gardens. It would no doubt be an asset to any garden to devote a part of the woodland to these plants.

There is one of these rhododendrons in particular which as a species is itself first class and as a parent has produced many magnificent hybrids: I refer to *R. elliottii*. The plant is upright and stands well, the flower a tight red truss with a depth of colour that compares favourably with the early-flowering reds of March–April and it is supported by dark green foliage. Its progeny in many instances bear a strong resemblance to the parent.

Unfortunately the rating in the Rhododendron Handbook is “D”, but I am told by Mr. Francis Hanger that the reason for this is that as the plant makes its young growth very late in the season (July–August), it is therefore susceptible to the early autumn frosts.

Some of the hybrids, however, do not appear to justify this classification for many were crossed with either a hardy parent or an early flowering one: for example—

‘Kilimanjaro’, F.C.C. (*elliottii* × ‘Dusky Maid’): this hybrid seldom fails to bloom and the size of its deep red truss lives up to its imposing name.



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 32—*R. yedoense* var. *poukhanense*. A.M. April 11, 1961. Shown by Capt. Collingwood Ingram, V.M.H. of Benenden, Kent (see p. 133)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 33—*R.* 'Renoir' (*yakusimanum* \times *R.* 'Pauline'), hybrid No. 1 raised at Wisley, the plant to which an A.M. was given on April 25, 1961 (see p. 133)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 34—*R. xanthostephanum* 'Yellow Garland' F.21707. A.M.
May 15, 1961. Shown by the Crown Estate Commissioners,
Windsor Great Park

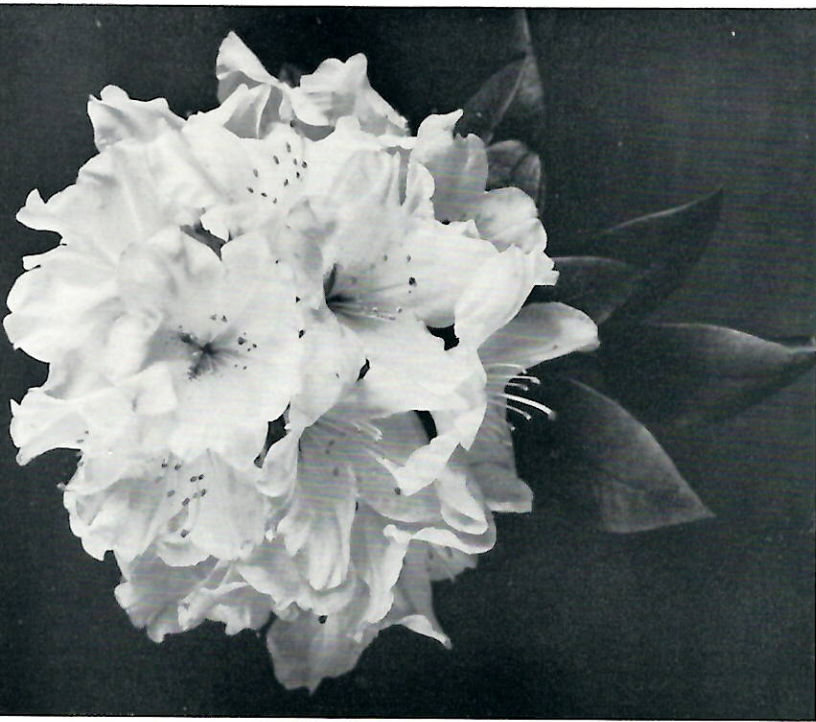


Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 35—*R. 'Constable'* (Hawk g. 'Jervis Bay' \times *litiense*). A.M.
April 25, 1961. Shown by R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley (see p. 132)

'Grenadier', F.C.C. (*elliottii* × 'Moser's Maroon'): this plant has a vigorous habit and will grow up to 15-20 feet in height: dark blood red in colour. I have been told of a plant thriving in a sheltered garden on Long Island in spite of the severe winters experienced in the State of New York.

'Leo', A.M. (*elliottii* × 'Britannia'): sturdy and a deep ruby red, tending to take after 'Britannia'.

'Gaul', A.M. (*elliottii* × 'Shilsonii'): good broad-leafed foliage, medium in height with a fine deep red compact truss: shows definitely a mixture of both parents.

'Golden Horn', A.M. (*elliottii* × *dichroanthum*): low growing and not a very compact truss—somewhat misnamed on account of its colour which is generally orange though one form, 'Per-simmon' is more red than orange.

'Gibraltar', (*elliottii* × 'Bibiani'): an intense deep red strong plant with upright habit.

'Marshall', (*elliottii* × *haematodes*): low growing, nice bushy plant, not a tight truss, colour—scarlet.

All these hybrids I think fall in the category of plants that would grow in all but the most cold garden, though a sheltered site would be ideal for them.

Alas, one cannot say the same of the undermentioned plants—
'Jutland', A.M. (*elliottii* × 'Bellerophon'): this rhododendron is, according to the International Rhododendron register, geranium lake in colour, proliferous and has a medium habit: both the parents are late flowerers.

'Kiev', A.M. (*elliottii* × 'Barclayi'): a very fine hybrid, but the 'Barclayi' blood makes it a plant for only the more favoured climatic conditions.

'Fusilier', F.C.C. (*elliottii* × *griersonianum*): both parents are late flowerers. 'Fusilier' is a tall growing rhododendron and my head gardener, Mr. F. Wynnatt, tells me he considers that when in bloom it is hard to find a better free-flowering brilliant red.

EDMUND L. DE ROTHSCHILD

Exbury.

SOME FURTHER NOTES ON HYBRIDS OF RHODODENDRON YAKUSIMANUM

FOR the past few years we have been breeding a race of hardy, dwarf and compact growing rhododendrons based on the use of

Rhododendron yakusimanum as a parent. The colour range is being gradually extended and now includes white through cream, pink and rose to salmon red.

Selection is most rigid, only those plants being retained for further breeding that have kept the neat and compact habit of *R. yakusimanum*. It may be some time yet before the best of these will be available to the general public.

Here are some descriptive notes of one or two very promising Clones.

R. yakusimanum × *R. 'Fabia Tangerine'*—Clone No. 4309.

This is proving to be a very compact and dwarf growing hybrid showing very clearly the influence of *R. yakusimanum*. The leaves show the typical silvery grey covering on their upper surface and the fawn-coloured indumentum underneath and on the leaf stalks. They also curve inwards along their length. On average the leaf measurements are, petiole 1 cm., and leaf blade 7 to 8 cm. long by 3 to 3½ cm. wide. At 10 years of age this plant measures 18 inches high by 30 inches across. Flowers are borne in loose trusses and are red in bud, passing through rosy red to soft salmon.

R. yakusimanum × *'Fabia Tangerine'*—Clone No. 4310.

This plant at 10 years is slightly dwarfer and more compact than No. 4309, and the fawn-coloured indumentum on the underside of the leaves is a deeper shade. Typical leaf measurements are petiole 8 mm., and leaf blade 6 to 7 cm. long by 2 to 3 cm. wide, with the leaves folding inwards lengthwise so typical of *R. yakusimanum*. The flowers are a soft salmon red in colour and are borne in loose trusses. The plant measures 15 inches high by 24 inches across.

For comparison, the form of *R. yakusimanum* we have, has leaf measurements as follows—

Petiole 1 cm., length of leaf blade 9 to 10 cm., width 3 to 3½ cm. The whole of the young shoot is covered with a light fawn indumentum. The young leaves have a silvery grey covering on their upper surface which they lose as the leaf matures, while the underneath retain the typical light fawn indumentum which darkens somewhat with age.

R. yakusimanum × *'Doncaster'*.

This cross gave a colour range from deep rose to white. Of several clones planted up for further trial two have so far been selected.

Clone No. 4317—In which the flowers are in good compact trusses, 18–20 flowers in the truss and bright rose in colour with crimson spots. At 10 years old the plant measures 18 inches high by 30 inches broad, and the leaves are 9 to 11 cm. long by 3 to 3½ cm. broad.

Clone No. 4319—Has light pink coloured flowers with a yellowish

bronze eye. The leaves measure 11 to 12 cm. long by 3 to 4 cm. wide. The overall height at 10 years is 18 inches by 24 inches wide.

While both clones show clearly the influence of *R. yakusimanum* they lack the characteristic indumentum of this species.

P. WISEMAN

*John Waterer, Sons & Crisp Ltd.,
Bagshot, Surrey.*

DROUGHT RESISTANCE IN CAMELLIAS

THE extent to which camellias are capable of withstanding severe drought conditions does not appear to be generally realized. It is commonly supposed that the innumerable forms of *Camellia japonica* which are now in cultivation need a semi-shaded site and a relatively moist soil. That, perhaps, is what they like best, but they are certainly not vital requirements. That they can and do live quite happily in strong sunlight and in ground which, periodically at any rate, must become extremely dry, was conclusively proved to me when I was shown a large healthy bush of a single scarlet-flowered variety in a friend's garden near Algeciras. There, unless occasionally watered by hand, which seems unlikely, it has perforce to submit annually to a period of four consecutive months without so much as a drop of rain, for in that part of southern Spain there is virtually no precipitation from the end of April to the beginning of September which, of course, include the hottest and sunniest months of the year.

Further proof that they are able to exist with what would appear to be only a modicum of moisture is forthcoming from the city of Vigo. In the centre of that town, situated in north-west Spain, half-standard camellias have been planted as roadside trees. As only a very small open space has been left round the base of each of their trunks—the rest of the ground being paved—it follows that notwithstanding a fair and evenly distributed rainfall, very little overhead water can ever reach their roots.

In my garden, of course, camellias are never subjected to such severe tests, but on several occasions, during prolonged spells of dry weather, I have been amazed how little they have resented the arid conditions. While rhododendrons growing on either side of them have wilted and have needed copious watering to keep them alive; the camellias have shown no visible signs of distress.

COLLINGWOOD INGRAM

Benenden.

JOHN MACQUEEN COWAN, V.M.H.,
C.B.E., M.A., D.Sc., F.L.S., F.R.S.E.

JOHN MACQUEEN COWAN was born in Banchory in Kincardineshire in 1892. After four years at Edinburgh University with Honours in Botany he was appointed in 1914 a probationer in the Indian Forest Service. He volunteered at the outbreak of the war, but like so many of those who volunteered in the early days of 1914-15 he was told to continue his training for the position of forest officer. Ultimately he was allowed to join up and served in the Middle East until 1919.

On his return to India in due course he became a Divisional Forest Officer and held various charges, among them Kalimpong in the eastern Himalayas where much of his time was spent in botanical survey and where he became an enthusiastic student of the Himalayan flora. In 1926 and 1927 as Director of the Botanical Survey of India and Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Garden at Calcutta he was able to supplement what he had already accomplished at Kalimpong.

After retiring from Indian service in 1928 he worked at Kew until 1929 when he undertook a botanical expedition to Persia. In 1930 he was invited by Sir William Wright Smith, Regius Keeper of the Royal Botanic Garden at Edinburgh, to become his deputy, a position that he held for 24 years. It was at this Mecca of the rhododendron world that his interest in this genus intensified, an interest that continued until his death. Perhaps this great interest was inevitable in such surroundings with the rhododendron atmosphere created by Sir Isaac Bailey Balfour permeating the entire garden and with such colleagues as Sir William Wright Smith, H. F. Tagg, L. B. Stewart and R. L. Harrow all with the same intense feeling for the genus.

In addition to the scientific and ecological sides of this great genus John Cowan fully appreciated its garden value as an ornamental plant. It was largely owing to his keenness and influence that the great Tower Court collection of rhododendron species formed by Jack Stevenson was kept as an entity and transferred to Windsor Great Park.

Throughout his years at the Royal Botanic Garden he was always willing to help gardeners who could appreciate plants in

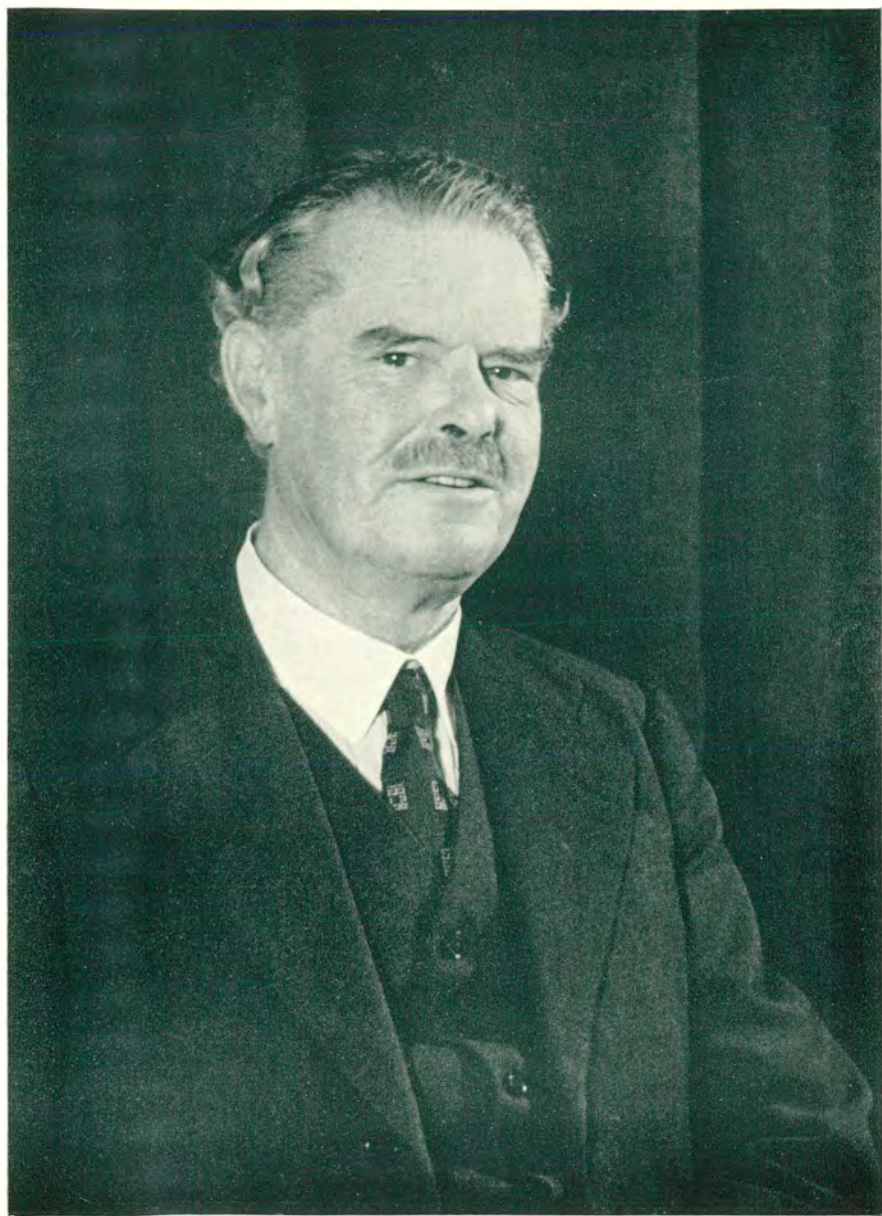


FIG. 36—Dr. John McQueen Cowan

which he was interested, Rhododendrons, Campanulas and Cyananthus among others, was frank over their garden values and generous with such young plants and seeds as could be spared from the famous garden. He was also deeply interested in the garden past, present and future, and his History of the Royal Botanic Garden published in Vol. XIX of the Notes of the Royal Botanic Garden is a fascinating piece of historical research.

Sir William Wright Smith was one of the last of the old civil servants to whom no definite retiring age applied. This blocked any possibility of John Cowan succeeding to the Regius Keeper-ship at Edinburgh. For years he had taken the greatest interest in the National Trust for Scotland and had been an active member of the Executive Committee and Council. It was largely through the keenness and drive of Lady Elphinstone and himself that the Garden Committee was formed. One of the most important tasks was the series of negotiations that ended in the transfer of the famous garden at Inverewe in Wester Ross from Mrs. Marie Sawyer, the daughter of the founder Osgood Mackenzie, to the Trust. When she died shortly after, John Cowan accepted the position of Garden Adviser to the Trust with special application to Inverewe. Owing to Mrs. Sawyer's intense respect for her father and for all he had done in making this previously barren promontory into a lovely garden few of the new introductions of the last 30 years had been planted, as she desired everything to be left more or less as it was when he was alive. Those who have seen Inverewe in the past two or three years will realize what an improvement has been made by Dr. and Mrs. Cowan by adding fresh plant material and re-aligning many of the paths, making new vistas and replanting shelter that had blown when past its prime. They arrived at Inverewe to take up the appointment on June 4, 1954, and in seven short years it has become almost as great a memorial to him as to the originator, Osgood Mackenzie.

He and Mrs. Cowan were also the enthusiastic originators of the garden cruises of the National Trust for Scotland. It was a stroke of genius to combine the financial gains that have accrued each year to the funds of the Trust with visiting some of the most famous gardens in Scotland, England and Ireland that are within reach of the sea under such pleasant conditions. His enthusiasm on these cruises was infectious. He enjoyed every moment and showed it.

It had long been felt that a revision of the various series of Rhododendrons was overdue. He and H. H. Davidian undertook

this laborious task which is by no means completed. The revisions of the various series were published in the *Rhododendron Year Books* beginning with the *Anthopogon* series in 1947, followed by the *Boothii*, *Glaucum* and *Lepidotum* alliance in 1948, the *Campanulatum* and *Fulvum* series in 1949, a discussion on *R. repens* in 1951/2 and the *Campylogynum* and *Saluenense* series in 1954.

In addition he wrote numerous papers for botanical and forestry journals. He edited and wrote a considerable portion of *The Journeys and Plant Introductions of George Forrest*, published by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1952, and in 1950 wrote a learned monograph on *The Rhododendron Leaf*. He was engaged on another book on rhododendrons when he died.

It is rare to find a botanist who was such a good and enthusiastic gardener. I, who have known him for many years, was always enthralled by the enthusiasm which he showed for whatever subject he took up. He never missed an opportunity of encouraging the kind of horticulture in which he was most interested; and his many friends and the horticultural world in general will miss him sadly.

E. H. M. Cox

TWO NEW RHODODENDRONS

By H. H. DAVIDIAN, B.Sc.

Rhododendron fletcherianum Davidian, sp. nov.

Species *R. valentiniano* Forrest affinis, sed habitu erecto, corolla late infundibuliformi, petiolo lamina decurrente anguste alato supra plano, foliis plerumque oblongo-lanceolatis infra squamis laxioribus, ovario superne piloso recedens; a *R. ciliato* Hook. f. corolla pallide lutea late infundibuliformi, foliis supra glabris margine crenulato, petiolo lamina decurrente anguste alato supra plano, ovario superne piloso, cortice caulium et ramorum scabro differt; a *R. amando* Cowan corollis majoribus latis infundibuliformis extra sparsim lepidotis vel elepidotis, foliis minoribus plerumque oblongo-lanceolatis margine crenulatis supra glabris infra squamis laxioribus, petiolo lamina decurrente anguste alato supra plano, ramulis setulosis, pedicellis dense pilosis, ovaris superne piloso differt.

Frutex erectus 60 cm.–1.20 m. altus; ramuli lepidoti, setulosi: Folia sempervirentia; lamina oblongo-lanceolata vel oblongo-elliptica, 2.3–5.3 cm. longa, 1.1–2.6 cm. lata, apice obtusa vel acuta et mucronata, basi obtusa vel cuneata decurrens, supra sparsim lepidota vel elepidota, glabra, margine crenulata setulosa, infra squamis pallide fuscis vel viridifuscis inter se a 3–6 diametris distantibus praedita; petiolus 0.4–1 cm. longus, lepidotus et setulosus, lamina decurrente anguste alatus, supra planus sulcatus. Inflorescentia terminalis, umbellata vel breviter racemosa, 2–4 (raro 5) flora; pedicelli 6–9 mm. longi, sparsim lepidoti, dense pilosi. Calyx 5-lobatus, 0.8–1 cm. longus, lobis oblongis vel oblongo-ovatis, extra basi lepidotis, margine setuloso-ciliatis. Corolla late infundibuliformis, 5-loba, 3.6–4.2 cm. longa, pallide lutea extra sparsim lepidota vel elepidota. Stamina 10, inaequalia, 2–3.2 cm. longa; filamenta basim versus dense villosa. Ovarium conoideum vel ovoideum, 3 mm. longum, 5-loculare, dense lepidotum, in dimidio superiore pilosus; stylus gracilis, rectus, elepidotus. Capsula conoidea vel ovoidea, 6–9 mm. longa, 5–7 mm. lata, dense vel moderate lepidota, in dimidio superiore setulosa, calyce inclusa.

S.E. TIBET. Province of Tsarung. Forests and alpine regions of the Solo-la. *Rhododendron valentinianum* aff. Shrub 3–4 feet. Flowers yellow. Altitude 14,000 feet. May–June 1932. Joseph F. Rock, No. 22302 (Type in Herb. Hort. Bot. Edin.).

S.E. TIBET. Province of Tsarung. Forests and alpine regions of the Solo-la. *Rhododendron valentinianum* aff. Shrub 2–3 feet, flowers yellow. Alpine region. Altitude 13,500 feet. August–October 1932. Joseph F. Rock, No. 22659.

Rock discovered this plant in 1932 in the Province of Tsarung, S.E. Tibet, growing at elevations of 13,500–14,000 feet. He introduced it into cultivation under No. 22302—the type number. The herbarium specimens and cultivated plants are under the tentative name *R. valentinianum* aff.

R. fletcherianum is a distinctive species, one of the finest of the yellow-flowered rhododendrons. It can be easily recognized by its habit of growth, by the widely funnel-shaped pale yellow flowers, and by the oblong-lanceolate leaves. A diagnostic feature is the decurrent leaf-base, the petiole being narrowly winged on each side and flat above. Moreover, the margin of the leaf is crenulate, the ovary is pilose in the upper half, and the scales on the under surfaces of the leaves are widely spaced. It is related to *R. valentinianum*, *R. ciliatum* and *R. amandum*, from all of which it is readily distinguished by well-marked characters.

R. fletcherianum flowers freely in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, and seldom fails to display the beauty of its pale yellow flowers in March or April. It is hardy, easy to grow, and should be a most valuable acquisition for every garden.

I have named this species in honour of Dr. H. R. Fletcher, V.M.H., Regius Keeper, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to horticulture, including the cultivation of rhododendrons.

Erect shrub, 60 cm.–1.20 m. high; branchlets scaly, bristly. Leaves evergreen; lamina oblong-lanceolate or oblong-elliptic, 2.3–5.3 cm. long, 1.1–2.6 cm. broad, apex obtuse or acute, mucronate, base obtuse or cuneate, decurrent on petiole; upper surface sparsely scaly or not scaly, glabrous, margin crenulate, bristly; under surface scaly, the scales medium in size, unequal, pale brown or pale greenish-brown, widely spaced, 3–6 times their own diameter apart; petiole 0.4–1 cm. long, scaly and bristly, narrowly winged on each side, flat above, grooved. Inflorescence terminal, umbellate or shortly racemose, 2–4 (rarely 5-) flowered; pedicels 6–9 mm. long, sparsely scaly, rather densely pilose. Calyx 5-lobed, 0.8–1 cm. long, lobes oblong or oblong-ovate, scaly at the base outside, margin setulose. Corolla widely funnel-shaped, 5-lobed, 3.6–4.2 cm. long, pale yellow, sparsely scaly or not scaly outside. Stamens 10, unequal, 2–3.2 cm. long; filaments densely villous towards the base. Ovary conoid or ovoid, 3 mm. long, 5-celled, rather densely scaly, pilose in the upper half; style long, slender, straight, not scaly. Capsule conoid or ovoid, 6–9 mm. long, 5–7 mm. broad, rather densely or moderately scaly, bristly in the upper half, enclosed by the calyx.

Rhododendron cookeianum Davidian, sp. nov.

Aspectu *R. eriogyni* Balf. f. et W. W. Sm. sed corolla alba vel pallide rosea vel purpurea, pilis stellatis in foliis juvenilibus parvis, calyce minuto, capsula anguste cylindrica plerumque curvata, stylo glabro vel basi floccoso differt.

Frutex vel arbor, 1.80–6 m. altus; ramuli dense vel moderate tomentosi, tomento tenui albido vel pallide brunneo, eglandulosi nonnunquam sparsim glandulosi, sub inflorescentia 4–6 mm. diametro. Folio sempervirentia; lamina oblongo-lanceolata vel oblongo-elliptica, 6.5–15 cm. longa, 2.4–6.5 cm. lata, apice acuta vel breviter acuminata, basi obtusa vel rotundata, supra glabra (in foliis juvenilibus pilis parvis stellatis praedita), costa media sulcata, venis primariis 14–19 impressis, infra glabra (in foliis juvenilibus parce stellato-tomentosa vel glabra), costa media prominente glabra raro sparsim floccosa eglandulosa raro sparsim glandulosa, venis primariis elevatis; petiolus 1–2.8 cm. longus, supra sulcatus, sparsim vel moderate tomentosus, tomento tenui albido vel pallide brunneo, nonnunquam glaber, plerumque eglandulosus. Inflorescentia terminalis, racemoso-umbellata, 8–15-flora; rachis 1–2.5 cm. longa, floccosa, plerumque eglandulosa; pedicelli 0.8–3.2 cm. longi, dense vel raro sparsim stellato-floccosi, eglandulosi raro pilis glandulosis brevistipitatis praediti. Calyx 5-lobatus, minutus 0.5–1 mm. raro 2 mm. longus, lobis triangularibus vel rotundatis, extra et margine dense vel moderate stellato-floccosis raro glabris plerumque eglandulosis. Corolla campanulata, 3–5 cm. longa, alba vel pallide rosea vel purpurea basi nonnunquam atro-rubro-notata; lobis 5, 1–2 cm. longis, 1.5–2.6 cm. latis, rotundatis, plerumque emarginatis. Stamina 10, inaequalia, 1.1–3.4 cm. longa; filamenta basi vel ad tertiam partem villosa. Gynoecium 2.4–4.2 cm. longum; ovarium oblongum, 4–7 mm. longum, 8–10-loculare, dense vel raro moderate stellato-tomentosum, eglandulosum raro pilis glandulosis brevistipitatis praeditum; stylus glaber vel basi floccosus, eglandulosus raro basi sparsim glandulosus. Capsula anguste cylindrica raro oblonga, 1.6–3.4 cm. longa, 3–4 mm. raro 6 mm. lata, curvata nonnunquam recta, moderate vel sparsim stellato-tomentosa, calyce persistente.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Kulu. Shrub or tree, 3–3.5 m.; flowers white. In spruce and fir forest; altitude 4300 m. June 1929. J. F. Rock, No. 18103.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mount Siga, north-east of Kulu. Shrub, 2.5–3 m. Among alpine rocks; altitude 4460 m. September 1929. J. F. Rock, No. 18142.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Kulu. Tree 8 m. In fir forest; altitude 4460 m. September 1929. J. F. Rock, No. 18169.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Muti Konka, a snow range east of the Yalung, Mutirong. Shrub 5–6 feet. Flowers white. Spruce forest. Altitude 12,000 feet. May–June 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 23698 (Type in Herb. Hort. Bot. Edin.).

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Yetsi, north of Kulu.

Shrub 6–8 feet. Flowers pinkish. Alpine meadows. Altitude 13,000 feet. May 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 23895.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Kulu. Shrub or tree 4–10 feet. Flowers white. Altitude 13,000 feet. May 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 23933.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Western slopes of Mt. Mitzuga. Shrub 5–6 feet. Flowers white. Alpine region. Altitude 13,500 feet. 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 24004.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muti Konka, east of Yalung. Shrub 5–6 feet. Spruce forest. Altitude 12,000 feet. September 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 24322.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Mountains of Yetsi. Shrub 6–8 feet. Flowers pinkish. Alpine meadows. Altitude 13,000 feet. September–October 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 24440.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Kulu. Shrub or tree 4–10 feet. Flowers white. Altitude 13,000 feet. October 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 24471.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Kulu. Tree 20 feet. Flowers red purple. Forming forests on alpine ridges and spurs. May 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 25475.

S.W. SZECHUAN. Muli. Mountains of Kulu. Tree 20 feet. Flowers red purple. Forming forests on alpine ridges and spurs. October 1932. J. F. Rock, No. 25476.

This species was discovered by Rock in S.W. Szechuan in 1929. He collected it again in the same region in 1932.

R. cookeianum agrees with the species of the Parishii Subseries in that the hairs on the young leaves, pedicel, ovary and calyx are stellate—a criterion of diagnostic importance to this Subseries. It resembles its ally *R. eriogynum* in habit of growth and more or less in leaf shape and size, differing in the colour of the flowers, in the sparsely hairy young leaves, in the minute calyx, in the slender usually curved capsule, and in the style being glabrous or rarely floccose at the base. Moreover, unlike *R. eriogynum* which is tender along the east coast, *R. cookeianum* is hardy out of doors.

The plant is in cultivation under Rock No. 03749, and Forrest No. 8 (this number was given in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, to one of the 100 packets of Forrest's seeds which were received unnumbered from Yunnan after his death). It first flowered some years ago in Mr. R. B. Cooke's garden at Corbridge, and in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

R. cookeianum is a valuable plant in that it is a late-flowerer, the flowers appearing in June or sometimes in July. Although rare in

cultivation, it is well worth a place in every collection of rhododendrons.

The species is named in honour of Mr. R. B. Cooke, V.M.H., Kilbryde, Corbridge, Northumberland, as a tribute to his remarkable achievements in the cultivation of rhododendrons.

Shrub or tree, 1.80-6 m. high; branchlets densely or moderately tomentose with a thin whitish or fawn tomentum, eglandular or sometimes glandular, those below the inflorescences 4-6 mm. in diameter. Leaves evergreen; lamina oblong-lanceolate or oblong-elliptic, 6.5-15 cm. long, 2.4-6.5 cm. broad, apex acute or shortly acuminate, base obtuse or rounded; upper surface glabrous (in young leaves with scattered stellate hairs), midrib grooved, primary veins 14-19 on each side impressed; under surface glabrous (in young leaves sparsely stellate-tomentose or glabrous), midrib prominent, glabrous, rarely sparsely floccose, eglandular, rarely sparsely glandular, primary veins raised; petiole 1-2.8 cm. long, grooved above, sparsely or moderately tomentose with a thin, whitish or fawn tomentum, or sometimes glabrous, usually eglandular. Inflorescence terminal, a racemose umbel of 8-15 flowers; rachis 1-2.5 cm. long, floccose, usually eglandular; pedicels 0.8-3.2 cm. long, densely or rarely sparsely stellate-floccose, eglandular, rarely glandular with short stalked glands. Calyx 5-lobed, minute, 0.5-1 mm. (rarely 2 mm.) long, lobes triangular or rounded, outside and margin densely or moderately stellate-floccose, rarely glabrous, usually eglandular. Corolla campanulate, 3-5 cm. long, white, pink or red purple, with or without a crimson blotch at the base; lobes 5, 1-2 cm. long, 1.5-2.6 cm. broad, rounded, usually emarginate. Stamens 10, unequal, 1.1-3.4 cm. long; filaments densely villous at the base or up to three-fourths their length. Gynoecium 2.4-4.2 cm. long; ovary oblong, 4-7 mm. long, 8-10-celled, densely or rarely moderately tomentose with stellate hairs, eglandular, rarely glandular with short stalked glands; style glabrous or floccose at the base, eglandular, rarely sparsely glandular at the base. Capsule slender cylindric, rarely oblong, 1.6-3.4 cm. long, 3-4 mm. (rarely 6 mm.) broad, curved or sometimes straight, moderately or sparsely tomentose with stellate hairs, calyx persistent.

THE RHODODENDRON SHOW OF THE PORTLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

By SIR GILES LODER, Bt.

THE Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society arranged their annual show to coincide with the International Rhododendron Conference which was being held in that city on May 11-13, 1961, knowing that many people from near and far would be present for it.

The Chapter are fortunate in having their test gardens on the outskirts of the city, and these provide a most pleasant location for such an event. Situated in natural woodlands adjoining a lake, partly on an island and partly on a peninsula connected by a bridge, this garden provides an ideal test ground or rather a demonstration area, showing how rhododendrons, azaleas, and ericaceous plants thrive on the soil there. Beautifully kept, visitors to the Show passed large plantings, and could see for themselves the size and shape of many of the plants, similar to those blooms exhibited in the show.

Reverting to the Show itself, this was staged around the plastic-roofed temperate house, recently erected for growing the more tender rhododendrons. The Show Schedule included over 100 classes, starting off with some 15 for pure species; followed by the hybrid classes. Some of these were subdivided into colour groups, and were hotly contested by many exhibits of the hardy nurseryman-type hybrid. A certain amount of latitude was required to place a bloom in its exact colour hue, and so one saw the same variety exhibited in different classes according to individual interpretation of colours.

Familiar names like 'Mrs. G. W. Leak', 'Blue Peter', 'Van Nes Sensation', and 'Mrs. E. C. Stirling' were frequent among the prizewinners, while the class for *griersonianum* hybrids, which frequently attracts such a big entry in this country, was well patronized and won by 'May Day'. The type of R. 'Elizabeth' shown, one which was frequently seen, in the gardens of the West Coast, seemed a paler colour to the type of plant known here. The Loderi class was well filled, some varieties like 'Superlative' and

'Queen Mary' not being known in this country. It was interesting, and encouraging, to see the enthusiasm of the hybridists along the Pacific West Coast; but one hopes they will be discriminating in their seedlings, and reserve and name only the best of each cross.

Classes for azaleas, both deciduous and evergreen, were well filled and provided a colourful section for the crowds. The show was well attended by the general public as well as by rhododendron enthusiasts; and was supported by several good sized trade exhibits, which were well staged out of doors in the woodlands. However, there was no one knowledgeable attending these stands to give advice, nor were many of the plants labelled.

13TH ANNUAL TACOMA RHODODENDRON SHOW

By LEONARD F. FRISBIE

TO those concerned with rhododendron shows the weather is both friend and enemy. It can give bountifully, and it can take away disastrously in a brief spring night when temperatures fall below freezing and the year's work of nature and gardener to produce beautiful flowering is completely neutralized. The Pacific Northwest is not often plagued by such things, but 1961 was hit quite generally by sharp freezes. The Puget Sound country, however, has many mild areas that escaped due to salt water, and fortunate gardeners made an extra effort to help with the production of an unusually fine show. Advance warnings of cold induced others to stuff greenhouses and to provide frost protection, and the 13th Annual Tacoma Rhododendron Show, held May 13-14, in the spacious and beautiful second-floor lobby of the County-City Building was really outstanding in size, quality and the variety of material displayed. The adequate lighting of the building with fluorescent tubes of soft white showed plants and flowers in their natural garden colours.

The Pacific Rhododendron Society has done much to stimulate rhododendron activity among home gardeners, and this effort was very favourably reflected in the 1961 show. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. R. Hall of Puyallup brought a remarkable display of fine plants to the show, and they won top honours by capturing the President's Cup. This marked the first time in the Tacoma Show that a home gardener has competed on even terms with the larger commercial displays. A large plant of a grand form of *R. yunnanense* took first place in the evergreen species class. A nice plant of *R. occidentale* Tacoma No. 157 won First Place in the American native species class. This form has large, white flowers with a very pale yellow blotch. *R. cinnabarinum* attracted favourable attention in this display. The purple flowered Gable azalea 'Herbert' along with well-flowered plants of the hybrids 'Betty Wormald', 'Loder's White', 'Mrs. C. B. Van Nes', and a Lester Brandt cross, 'Nereid' × 'Mahomet' helped the display take First Place in the Amateur Class. Second place was awarded for Amateur Landscaping, and a unique

flat featuring propagation took first place in the Gardener Assistance Division.

A group of members from Lewis and Thurston Counties brought a fine co-operative display; home gardeners all, they won Second Place in the Amateur Display Class, First in Amateur Landscaping, and Second Place in Non-Rhododendron Material. The Exbury azalea clone 'Gibraltar' was well displayed as were small plants of 'Mrs. G. W. Leak', 'Butterfly', 'Mrs. Betty Robertson', 'Blue Peter', 'Hon. Jean Marie de Montague' and 'Bow Bells'. Plants of *R. vernicosum* and *R. decorum* grown from seed filled out a highly attractive display which was landscaped in original fashion.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kvam of Tacoma won First Place for Evergreen Azaleas with 'Sherwood Orchid', 'James Gable' and 'Treasure'. They won Third Place for Amateur Display and Third Place for Amateur Landscaping. A yellow-flowered seedling azalea of the Knap Hill class attracted much attention in this display due to the very fine colour. Hybrid plants of 'Hon. Jean Marie de Montague', 'Jock' and 'J. H. Van Nes' were all presented in excellent flower.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Badger of Tacoma brought a huge plant of 'Mrs. G. W. Leak' with fine flowering, a charming Lester Brandt cross, *R. haematodes* × 'May Day', 'Bow Bells' and 'Hon. Jean Marie de Montague'. Due to the excellent condition and flowering of the plants and attractive arrangement this display was given a Special Award for Excellence.

Mark Burton and Claude Parkinson of Tacoma featured *R. davidsonianum*, 'Betty Wormald', 'Blue Peter', 'Souv. of W. C. Slocock' and the Glenn Dale azalea 'Glamour'. A very fine specimen of the Washington native mountain conifer, *Abies procera*, the Noble Fir, pleased everyone.

Dr. Charles S. Berry and Leonard F. Frisbie brought from the Lemons Beach Garden a number of plants of the modern azalea hybrids, 'Brazil', 'Ballerina', 'High Fashion' and 'Rusty Sparrow', Exbury clones and seedlings of Exbury parentage. 'Rusty Sparrow' was new this year, and begins opening with a dusky brownish appearance, reminding one of the friendly, communicative little sparrow that follows one around the garden. A large block of plants of the Knap Hill 'Flamingo' pleased everyone. 'Center Bush', an Edgar Stead original from New Zealand, and the Dr. Yeates' cross, 'Melford Glory', both won friends from the big audience that crowded the show. A pink-flowered form of *R. canescens*, *R. nudiflorum* in a delicate shade of pink, a well-flowered

plant of *R. austrinum*, the Florida native, along with a plant of *R. occidentale* Tacoma No. 158 aroused great interest in the American native azalea species. Pleasant fragrance and charming elegance of flower makes of these plants desirable garden subjects. The natural hybrid, 'Snowbird', from Georgia with its interesting whorled habit, and pure white flowers that have spicy, clean fragrance, charmed all visitors as it has in many past Tacoma shows. *R. campylogynum* var. *cremastrum*, *R. trichostomum* var. *radinum*, *R. luteum*, *R. carolinianum* and *R. orbiculare* all stimulated a great deal of interest in species. The big flowered Glenn Dale azalea 'Elizabeth' was well displayed as was a large block of plants of 'May Day' and 'Betty Wormald'. 'Fragrantissimum' with its strong perfume was the centre of feminine attention.

The Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma under the direction of Howard Harmon and a crew of good workers displayed a high degree of floral art with a huge massed display featuring *R. decorum*, *R. mucronatum album*, 'Naomi' and hundreds of plants of colourful calceolaria. This display was a distinct achievement in floral arrangement, and it was greatly enjoyed by all show visitors.

Due to heavy frosts just before the show date only two commercial firms were able to participate. Roy and Honore Hacanson of Puyallup staged an excellent exhibit with many fine hybrids in excellent flower and of goodly size. Outstanding were plants of 'Countess of Derby' which won the Sweepstakes Award for the Best Plant in the Show, and 'Naomi Glow'. 'Snow Queen', 'Mars', 'J. H. Van Nes', 'Souv. of W. C. Slocock', 'Hon. Jean Marie de Montague', 'Blue Peter' and 'A. Bedford' helped this display to take First Place for Hybrids. First Place was also awarded for Best Commercial Display. Good landscaping won Second Place in this division, and First Place was awarded for Use of Non-Rhododendron Material. The Hacansons staged a very impressive display that was beautifully balanced with excellent colour grouping. These youngsters with their Rhododendron Specialty House in Puyallup are making a real contribution to the advancement of rhododendrons in this area.

I. S. Broxson of Tacoma also brought a large and impressive display and he arranged it with the most effective landscaping that we have ever had in our show. First Place in this division was awarded for his effort. The display won Second Place for Commercial Display, for Hybrids and for Use of Non-Rhododendron Material. A large plant of 'Naomi Exbury' excited all visitors. Huge plants of 'Hon. Jean Marie de Montague' and 'Mrs. C. B.

Van Nes' helped to make the exhibit outstanding. A block of plants of *R. vaseyi* was most charming, and *R. davidsonianum* was well displayed. Plants of the azalea 'Hexe' filled the foreground. Mr. Broxson has had annual exhibits in the Tacoma Show since 1949, the first one, and come frosts or disastrous winters, yet he has always had a beautiful exhibit, one that has helped to make the show outstanding.

The public response and interest serves to make the immense effort of staging a big plant show worthwhile. The shows are characterized by a wide diversity of material and annually some outstanding plants turn up in the exhibits. The new, modern, ten-storey County-City Building of Tacoma, Pierce County, Washington, provided a wonderful show place with huge marbled corridors and spacious lobbies.

Dr. J. S. Yeates of the New Zealand Rhododendron Association, with Mrs. Yeates, Dr. John Wister, Director Arthur Hoyt Scott, Horticultural Foundation, Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, with Mrs. Wister, Dr. Henry Skinner, Director U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C., with Mrs. Skinner, were all welcome and distinguished visitors to our 1961 Show.

GUESTS OF THE NATIONAL TRUST: A VISIT TO STOURHEAD BY THE RHODODENDRON GROUP

One of the most picturesque scenes in the world . . .

So Stourhead, now a property of the National Trust, was described by Horace Walpole. Many members of the Rhododendron Group found it indeed so on their visit in early June. For a number of years members of the Group have visited rhododendron gardens in the London area but, for 1961, a change was made. This enabled members in the West Country to partake while happily it did not deter Londoners.

The great landscape garden was the conception and creation of Henry Hoare the younger after inheriting the estate from his mother in 1741. Hoare drew up the original design himself for he did not employ a landscape gardener and John Britten pleasingly recalls that Mr. Henry Hoare "at an advanced age had the heartfelt satisfaction to hear his own creation universally admired and to see a barren waste covered with luxuriant woods". Basically the garden is made in a broad valley facing south. Several fish ponds were originally dotted about and these were converted into the central feature of the garden—a magnificent lake—when a dam was built across one corner of the valley. The steep sides of the lake were planted with beeches, many exotic conifers and bold groupings of rhododendrons and azaleas.

The visit of the party was made particularly interesting—and enjoyable—by the fact that Mr. Graham S. Thomas, F.L.S., Gardens Advisor of the Trust and authority on roses kindly acted as our Guide. Mr. Thomas has an exceptionally wide knowledge of plants and with Mr. C. Brickell, B.Sc., the Society's Botanist and Mr. A. Marshall, the Head Gardener, all members had an opportunity of discussing the wide range of plants to be seen. Those unable to keep pace with Mr. Thomas's bold strides lingered to enjoy Mr. Marshall's anecdotes in the richest and deepest and pleasantest of West Country accents. At one juncture it was discreetly suggested to Mr. Marshall that in the past perhaps *Rhododendron* 'Cynthia' had been planted in excess. Undeniably it had and it was explained that the last owner, Sir Henry Hoare, the sixth baronet, had disliked the variety but his wife, fearing that

some of the plants might be removed because of this, surreptitiously ordered a dozen young specimens to be planted each autumn for many years!

The estate and the fine mansion are managed, on behalf of the National Trust, by Mr. G. L. G. Noel, M.A., A.R.I.C.S., F.L.A.S., who joined the party on their tour of the Gardens. Anticipating the extent of our morning excursion Mr. Noel, thoughtfully, on behalf of the Trust, arranged a small sherry party, to which all gratefully accepted invitations. Afterwards Mr. Noel had plans already made for us to be shown the main features of the house containing the large and varied collection of fine arts made by generations of the family. Not least of interest was the portrait of one wayward member done, appropriately perhaps, in shades of black.

Like many large gardens, it is not easy for the owners of Stourhead to find financial wherewithal to run the establishment as its originators envisaged. However, a great number of visitors are coming each year and moreover Mr. Noel is a man of enterprise. This is typified by his refusal to leave the ancient church clock stopped "still at ten to three" and it may suffice to say that the problem of starting it again after many years needed something more than a horological propensity. Likewise in the gardens, Mr. Thomas had no mind for letting things stand still and the party saw that a sound policy of new planting is being undertaken everywhere as funds and labour permit. With such beautiful surroundings the scope for ambitious planting is almost endless and it is hoped that our friends in charge of Stourhead will be able to continue planting—if not on the scale for *Rhododendron* 'Cynthia' in the past, at least on something comparable. As with the area to be planted, so with the rhododendrons are the varieties almost legion. Here perhaps is the opportunity and place for replanting bold groups of many of the old hybrids which seem to be gradually disappearing from cultivation. Following up this thought it might be ignoble to suggest that any self-respecting rhododendron enthusiast should go gardening without *griersonianum*; notwithstanding it would be pleasant to think of Mr. Noel attracting more and more visitors to see large groupings of early—and late—flowering, old fashioned rhododendrons and species of azalea like the sweetly-scented *Rhododendron occidentale*.

Without doubt a group excursion has never been more enjoyed than the visit to Stourhead. The weather was perfect and so was the hospitality of our hosts Mr. Noel and Mr. Thomas; indeed it was really their company which made the day so memorable.

DESCRIPTIONS AND HISTORY OF A FURTHER EIGHTEEN POPULAR CAMELLIA JAPONICA VARIETIES

By CHARLES PUDDLE and FRANCIS HANGER, V.M.H.

It is with pleasure that we present descriptions of 18 further varieties of *Camellia japonica* and thank all readers for their favourable reception of our previous work in 1960 and 1961. It is hoped that comments and further information will be forthcoming. The Nomenclature of varieties of *C. japonica* is most confusing and any help to unravel this confusion will be very much appreciated.

'Adelina Patti'

BLOOM

Form: Single, Class I.

Petals: 7, rotund or orbicular, 4 cm. long, 3.5 cm. wide, emarginate, forming cup-shaped flower.

Stamens: Conspicuous central boss of yellow stamens.

Diameter: 7-8 cm.

Colour: Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623) with Carmine (H.C.C. 21) veination and irregular edging of silvery-white to each petal.

FOLIAGE Elliptic, 7.5-8 cm. long, 3-4 cm. wide, broadly serrulate, acuminate, deep glossy green.

HABIT Vigorous, erect but with pendulous branches.

HISTORY Imported from Japan by Mr. Gerald Waller and described in *The Garden* 1889. Distributed by B. S. Williams, London, Louis Van Houtte, Belgium, and received in 1899 by the Caledonia Nursery, Guernsey.

REMARKS A very attractive single camellia of unusual colouring and good habit. Sports to both self-carmine and pure white forms.

'Alexander Hunter'

BLOOM

Form: Semi-double, Class II.

Petals: About 16, broadly elliptic to rotund, varying in size with largest 6 cm. long, 5 cm. wide, notched at apex, of firm texture.

Stamens: In central cluster, about 3 cm. across, conjoined for about three-quarters of their length. Filaments reddish, anthers golden. Some petalodes often present.

Diameter: 9.5–10 cm.

Colour: Carmine (H.C.C. 21).

FOLIAGE Obovate or broadly elliptic, 7–9 cm. long, 5–6 cm. wide, crenate or serrate, short acuminate, dark green, glossy.

HABIT Fastigiate, vigorous.

HISTORY An Australian cultivar raised by Mr. Alexander Hunter about 1884. It was later named by Mr. G. C. Linton, a subsequent owner of his property, and first listed by Messrs. Hazlewood Bros., of Epping, New South Wales, in their 1941 catalogue.

REMARKS A strong upright, free flowering red camellia, with attractive stamens and good foliage.

‘Ama-no-Kawa’ (variant ‘Ama-no-Gawa’)

BLOOM

Form: Semi-double, Class II.

Petals: 12–15, broadly obovate, 5 cm. long, 4.5 cm. wide, irregularly serrate, many almost fimbriated, centre petals cup-shaped, outer petals reflexed, firm texture.

Stamens: Central cluster, outer filaments conjoined for one-third of length, bright yellow.

Diameter: 8–10 cm.

Colour: White.

FOLIAGE Elliptic, 8–9 cm. long, 4–4.5 cm. wide, sharply serrate, long acuminate, thick, dark green, glossy.

HABIT Vigorous, upright, branching.

HISTORY The earliest reference located is in a book dealing with the flora of Japan, published in 1931, where it is illustrated and described in Japanese. It was imported into America from Japan in 1930 and listed by McIlhenny in 1941, recorded in the catalogues of Chugai Nurseries, Kobe, 1939–40, and K. Wada, Yokohama in 1940.

REMARKS A fine semi-double white with petals of good substance. The dense dark green foliage and good habit make it a good garden plant at all times of the year.

‘Augusto L. Gouveia Pinto’ (A.M. 1958)

SYNONYMS ‘Jack McCaskill’, ‘Portuguese Pink’.

BLOOM

Form: Rose Form, Class V.

Petals: Numerous, broadly obovate, 5 cm. long, 3–5 cm. wide, slightly notched, inner petals smaller and obtuse, firm texture, centre of flower often composed of petalodes.

Stamens: None usually visible.

Diameter: 10–11 cm.

Colour: Variable, Crimson (H.C.C. 22/2) to Carmine (H.C.C. 21) flushed Tyrian Rose (H.C.C. 24/3) with margins silvery white or Neyron Rose 623/1 with silvery edges.

FOLIAGE Broadly elliptic. 9 cm. long, 4.5–5 cm. wide, shallowly but sharply serrate, short acuminate, decurved.

HABIT Upright, open.

HISTORY A mutation of 'Mathotiana', said to have originated in Portugal about the end of the nineteenth century. The first listing located is in the 1920 catalogue of Moreira da Silva, Oporto, Portugal.

REMARKS A distinctive camellia, perhaps most suitable for cultivation under glass in Britain. There is a great variation in flower colour and outdoors it is usually crimson or carmine with a purplish tint, but given greater warmth it produces most attractive coral pink blooms, each petal having an irregular silvery white margin. Flower form also varies and Formal Double blooms are produced. In all characteristics except flower colour it resembles 'Mathotiana'.

'C. M. Wilson' (A.M. 1956)

SYNONYMS 'Grace Burkhard', 'Lucille Farrell', 'William B. Smythe'.

BLOOM

Form: Resembles 'Elegans' (see 1960 *Year Book*, p. 146), of which it is a mutation, in all floral characteristics except:

Colour: Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/2).

FOLIAGE and HABIT As 'Elegans'.

HISTORY A sport of 'Elegans' which arose in 1936 in the garden of Mrs. Ada E. Wilson of Pensacola, Florida, and first recorded in the April 1948 Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society. Registered and described in the July, 1949, Newsletter of the American Camellia Society.

REMARKS A first-rate camellia with all the best qualities and hardiness of 'Elegans'. The bright pink blooms are freely produced and are very weather resistant. Its white sport is known as 'Shiro-Chan'.

'Commensa'

SYNONYMS 'Reine des Fleurs', 'La Reine des Fleurs', 'Lady Derby'.

BLOOM

Form: Formal Double, Class VI.

Petals: Numerous, obovate to orbicular, 5 cm. long, 4–4.5 cm. wide, tiered, decreasing in size to centre, retuse or entire, recurved.

Stamens: None visible.

Diameter: 9 cm.

Colour: Claret Rose (H.C.C. 021), inner petals Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622), often flecked white or with white band down centre of petals.

FOLIAGE Elliptic or narrowly elliptic, 7-9 cm. long, 3-4.5 cm. wide, sharply serrulate, acuminate.

HABIT Upright, dense foliage.

HISTORY A chance seedling of *Camellia* 'Donckelarii' raised by M. Donckelaar and introduced by J. Makoy of Leige in 1844 and described by Berlese in his *Monographie* 1845. Described and illustrated by Verschaffelt in 1848, both as 'Commensa' and 'Reine des Fleurs'. This cultivar was first introduced as 'Commensa' but three years later the same camellia was exhibited under the new name of 'Reine des Fleurs'. Both names were widely used up to 1890.

REMARKS A mid- to late season floriferous camellia, strong grower and thrives outdoors.

'Daikagura'

SYNONYMS 'Kiyosu', 'Idaten-Shibori' (erroneously).

BLOOM

Form: Paeony Form, Class IV.

Petals: Numerous, orbicular, 5 cm. long, 4.5-5 cm. wide, notched, wavy central mass of small petals and petalodes.

Stamens: Inconspicuous, mixed with central petalodes.

Diameter: 10-11 cm., high centre.

Colour: Carmine Rose (H.C.C. 621/1) splotted on a white background, the proportion of each colour varying greatly.

FOLIAGE Elliptic to broadly elliptic, 8-9 cm. long, 5 cm. wide, serrate, acuminate, decurved, pronounced veination.

HABIT Upright, spreading with age, dense foliage.

HISTORY A very popular Japanese cultivar, first listed in its translated form by the Yokohama Gardeners' Association in 1891.

REMARKS This exceedingly variable camellia has many named sports, 'Shiro-Daikagura' (pure white), 'Yokogawa-Shibori' ('High Hat') (pale pink) and 'Beni-Daikagura' (self-coloured Carmine Rose) are the best known in Britain. In all its forms 'Daikagura' is one of the finest paeony-type camellias, having excellent foliage and a very long season of flower, often being one of the earliest to bloom.

'Eximea'

BLOOM

Form: Formal Double, Class VI.

Petals: Numerous, outer petals obovate, 5 cm. long, 3.5-4 cm. wide, emarginate, inner petals small and mucronate.

Stamens: None visible.

Diameter: 9-10 cm.

Colour: Cherry Red (H.C.C. 722) fading at centre.

FOLIAGE Obovate or broadly-obovate, 10.5 cm. long, 5-6 cm. wide, shallowly serrate, short acuminate, dark green, glossy.

HABIT Spreading, dense foliage.

HISTORY Raised by Messrs. Chandler of Vauxhall in 1819, described and illustrated by Chandler and Booth in 1831.

REMARKS Blooms over a long season, a succession of flowers being freely produced. Good dark green foliage and handsome shaped bush.

'Eugene Lize'

SYNONYMS 'Lady Jane Grey', 'Donckelarii Eugene Lize'.

BLOOM

Form: Paeony Form, Class VI.

Petals: 12-14 outer petals, broadly obovate, 6 cm. long 4-5.5 cm. wide, retuse, reflexed, mass of small central petals and petalodes, irregularly notched and undulated.

Stamens: Some stamens visible amongst central mass of petalodes, pale yellow.

Diameter: 10 cm.

Colour: Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622) blotched and spotted white.

FOLIAGE Elliptic, 7 cm. long, 3-3.5 cm. wide, serrulate, acuminate, decurved.

HABIT Upright, loose branching.

HISTORY Listed by Henri Guichard, Nantes, in an undated catalogue issued about 1910. Said to be a seedling of 'Donckelarii'.

REMARKS Very weather resistant, this camellia is suitable for cultivation in all districts. Occasionally self-coloured rose flowers appear but normally the plant is laden with attractive mottled blooms of good size.

'Gosho-Guruma'

BLOOM

Form: Semi-double, Class II, to Paeony Form, Class IV.

Petals: Variable in number, outer petals arranged in two layers, narrowly obovate, 5-5.5 cm. long, 3.5 cm.-4 cm. wide, emarginate, central petals and straplike petalodes varying greatly in number.

Stamens: Spreading group of stamens intermixed with petalodes.

Diameter: 10 cm.

Colour: Cherry Red (H.C.C. 722 to H.C.C. 722/1), blotched and streaked white.

FOLIAGE Narrowly elliptic or elliptic. 8-10 cm. long, 4-4.5 cm. wide, serrulate, acuminate, dark green, glossy.

HABIT Slender, erect, but well branched.

HISTORY This old Japanese cultivar was imported into America from Japan in 1930, and listed by Domoto in 1935, it is also listed by K. Wada of Yokohama in 1940. The self-coloured red form usually seen in Britain is regarded as a mutation by the Japanese and has

been given the name 'Karo-Ito'. It should be noted that white variegation is characteristic of the true 'Gosho-Guruma'.

REMARKS A mid to late season cultivar which succeeds well in the open; its variegated blooms are freely produced and are fairly weather resistant.

'Lady MacKinnon'

SYNONYMS 'Lady de Saumarez' (America), 'Tricolor Folki', 'Pride of Rosebud Farm'.

BLOOM

Form: Resembles 'Tricolor' (see 1960 *Year Book*, p. 160), of which it is a mutation, in all other floral characteristics except:

Colour: Carmine (H.C.C. 21) marbled with white.

FOLIAGE and HABIT As 'Tricolor'.

HISTORY Introduced from Japan by Mr. Gerald Waller, and listed by B. S. Williams & Sons in their 1891 Catalogue.

REMARKS 'Lady MacKinnon' can be briefly described as the variegated self-red sport of 'Tricolor'. Unfortunately in America it is known as 'Lady de Saumarez' which correctly is the self-coloured red mutation of 'Tricolor' without any variegation (see 1960 *Year Book*, p. 153). 'Tricolor' and its sports although normally 'semi-double' often produce single flowers.

'Rubens'

BLOOM

Form: Formal Double, Class VI.

Petals: Numerous (about 75), perfectly imbricated, broadly obovate, 5 cm. by 3.5 cm. wide, obtuse or retuse, centre petals lanceolate, firm texture.

Stamens: Occasionally visible in fully open flowers.

Diameter: 10 cm.

Colour: Crimson (H.C.C. 22/1) outer petals fading to (H.C.C. 22/2) in centre. An irregular white band down centre from apex to base, on almost all petals.

FOLIAGE Narrowly elliptic or elliptic, 9 cm. long, 4-4.5 cm. wide, shallowly serrate, short acuminate.

HABIT Upright, bushy.

HISTORY A seedling introduced by M. Donckelaar of Ghent about 1847 and recorded in *Revue Horticole*, 1853, listed by Franchetti, Florence, 1855, described and illustrated by Verschaffelt 1856.

REMARKS One of the best double camellias of this colouring for outdoor culture. Very free flowering and of good habit.

'Sarah Frost'

SYNONYMS 'Clarke's Red', 'Owl Face', 'Frostii'.

BLOOM

Form: Formal Double, Class VI.

Petals: Numerous, outer petals broadly elliptic to orbicular, 6 cm. long, 3.5-4 cm. wide, retuse or rounded, recurved, centre petals small, deeply notched.

Stamens: Although inconspicuous, sometimes visible mixed with central petals.

Diameter: 8.5-9 cm.

Colour: Carmine (H.C.C. 21) fading to Carmine H.C.C. 21/2) in centre.

FOLIAGE Broadly elliptic, 8-9 cm. long, 4.5-5 cm. wide, serrations widely spaced, serrulate, acuminate to long acuminate, dark green, glossy.

HABIT Upright, vigorous, dense foliage.

HISTORY This American camellia was introduced by Ritchie & Dick of Philadelphia, in 1841, and later described by Berlese in the *Annales de la Societe Centrale d'Horticulture de France*, in 1849. Also illustrated and described by Verschaffelt 1850, and in the *Magazine of Horticulture*, 1851.

REMARKS A very free flowering mid-season to late camellia, with good foliage to set off its small flowers, which often have a double centre.

'Shiragiku'

SYNONYMS 'Purity' (America), 'Neige d'Or'.

BLOOM

Form: Rose Form, Class V.

Petals: Numerous, variable, rotund or orbicular, 4 cm. long, 3.5-4 cm. wide, rounded or retuse, reflexed; central petals small and pointed.

Stamens: Visible when fully open, mixed with central petals, golden-yellow, sometimes completely absent.

Diameter: 8-9.5 cm.

Colour: White.

FOLIAGE Elliptic, 8-10 cm. long, 4-4.5 cm. wide, serrulate, acuminate, deep glossy green.

HABIT Upright, loosely branched.

HISTORY An old Japanese camellia, first listed in its transliterated form by the Yokohama Gardeners' Association, 1891. Illustrated in 1895 Catalogue of the Yokohama Nursery Co.

REMARKS A good double white with neat blooms which are fairly weather resistant for this colour.

'The Mikado'

SYNONYMS 'Mikado'.

BLOOM

Form: Resembles 'Hikaru-Genji' (see 1961 *Year Book*, p. 114) of which it is a sport, in all floral characteristics except;

Colour: Rose Madder (H.C.C. 23/2) with regular distinct white border to each petal.

FOLIAGE and HABIT. As 'Hikaru-Genji'.

HISTORY A mutation of the variable Japanese cultivar 'Hikaru-Genji', 'The Mikado' was introduced by Mr. Gerald Waller from Japan, and first described in *The Garden*, 1889.

REMARKS This sport differs from 'Hikaru-Genji' by the regular white border to the petals which is not crossed by rose streaks. It is liable to reversion to any of the named mutations of 'Hikaru-Genji'.

'Yours Truly' (A.M. 1960)

BLOOM

Form: Resembles 'Lady Vansittart' (see 1960 *Year Book*, p. 153), of which it is a mutation, in all floral characteristics except:

Colour: Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 263/2) with deeper veination, and the margins bordered white.

FOLIAGE and HABIT As 'Lady Vansittart'.

HISTORY Although this colour variation was known in Europe for many years, it was first named in America and recorded in the 1949 Nomenclature List of the Southern California Camellia Society.

REMARKS A most attractive form of 'Lady Vansittart', a very variable and free-flowering camellia, which can be recommended for all districts.

'Yuki-Botan'

SYNONYMS 'Shiro-Botan', 'Pride of Descanso', 'Haku-Botan'.

BLOOM

Form: Semi-double, Class II.

Petals: About 12/14 outer petals, broadly oblong, 5 cm. long, 3-4.5 cm. wide, retuse, small central petals and petalodes irregularly notched, sometimes very numerous making the flower Paeony Form, of good substance.

Stamens: Conjoined for a third of their length but intermixed with petalodes, golden.

Diameter: 10-12 cm.

Colour: White.

FOLIAGE: Elliptic 10 cm. long 5.5 cm. wide, serrulate, acuminate, dark glossy green with pronounced veination.

HABIT Upright, openly branched.

HISTORY An old Japanese camellia first listed in its transliterated form by the Yokohama Gardeners' Association in 1891.

REMARKS 'Yuki-Botan' is rather variable in form and although normally semi-double when grown outdoors in Britain, it can be Paeony Form under warmer conditions. It has very good foliage but the white blooms are rather sensitive to damp and cold.

'Yukimi-Guruma'

SYNONYMS 'Alba Simplex' (erroneously), 'Devonia' (erroneously), 'Amabilis' (America).

BLOOM

Form: Single, Class I.

Petals: 8-9, orbicular, 4-5 cm. long, 4-4.5 cm. wide, emarginate, undulated, but forming flat flower, soft texture.

Stamens: Conspicuous central boss, conjoined for half their length, golden.

Diameter: 8-10 cm.

Colour: White.

FOLIAGE Elliptic, 7-9 cm. long, 4-4.5 cm. wide, serrulate, acuminate, deep glossy green.

HABIT Upright. Loosely branched.

HISTORY An old Japanese cultivar, first listed in the Yokohama Gardeners' Association Catalogue, 1891. The current American use of 'Amabilis' for this cultivar is invalid, the name having been used by Berlese in 1838 for a distinct camellia, and it is pre-dated by the Japanese 'Yukimi-Guruma'.

REMARKS There is much confusion concerning single white camellias in Britain. The name 'Yukimi-Guruma' should be applied to the flat single white with conspicuous stamens which often masquerades as 'Alba Simplex' and 'Devonia', both of which have more cup-shaped flowers and are described in the 1960 *Year Book*.

CAMELLIA COMPETITION

April, 1961

By REGINALD A. R. TRY¹

IT is a source of great excitement and delight never dulled by passing years, to enter the fine Royal Horticultural Hall as an exhibitor in the Camellia Competition. For here we know that the blooms are shown to the greatest advantage under the wide glazed roof and that the delicate colourings affected adversely by any form of artificial light will be seen at their fullest beauty. I personally will never cease to be amazed by the magnificent displays and feel great pleasure in finding myself in competition with such superb growers.

The winter of 1960-1 in the Windsor area had been the mildest in my memory; from December until the date of the show there was no frost and indeed never even a thin sheet of ice on the outside water tanks. Thus most of our plants were very forward in blooming and past their best leaving a very small selection worthy of exhibition. There was too, as always, the anxious realization that Camellia plants and blooms are easily bruised and damaged in transit and that however carefully they are packed flowers are apt to shake from the plants. What a boon it would be if we could place our plants in position a week or so before the show. In this way blooms would have more chance of coming undisturbed to perfection at the right time.

In spite of difficulties however this show offered blooms of amazing loveliness and the perfection of such sprays as those shown by Sir Giles Loder makes us wonder if he has some secret means of packing and transporting.

The high quality reached by small exhibitors this year was a source of great pleasure to us all. But the four new sections for exhibitors who had won no prize previously were not supported as we had hoped they might have been. It should be more widely realized that an amateur owning only one plant with the time to coddle it may step in and walk away with a first prize.

Apart from these, some of the small exhibitors showed flowers

¹ Mr. Try was invited to write this article from the point of view of an exhibitor.

of outstanding quality. One of these, Mrs. Bainbridge who grows five or six plants, brought her entries on the day of the show by train from Sale, Cheshire, in a cardboard box, staged them herself with great care, and had a rich reward in two firsts, one second and one third. In Class 32 her 'Mathotiana Alba', although I thought it had a fleck of red, gained a worthy first. Miss March too proved that a lady with a little greenhouse could produce most beautiful blooms. She took two firsts, one second, two thirds and a fourth. In Class 34 her 'Imbricata Alba' was a fine first while in Class 28 her 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi' was of extraordinary loveliness.

At the other end of the scale there are of course the large and outstanding growers. Notable among these were Sir Giles Loder with ten firsts, six seconds and three thirds, Lord Aberconway with seven firsts, two seconds and five thirds, Mr. O. Cutts with six firsts, eight seconds and eight thirds, and Mr. de Rothschild with five firsts, seven seconds and seven thirds. Messrs. Waterer, Sons & Crisp gained nine firsts, five seconds and thirteen thirds.

The Crown Estate Commissioners had to cancel their entries owing to a devastating frost.

In Class 1 there were thirteen entrants of whom Mr. L. Riggall was deservedly first with a large fresh specimen of 'Alba Simplex' and in Class 2 the Duke of Devonshire had an outstanding winner in 'Jupiter'. Class 3 'Kimberley' attracted four entries. Very fine specimens were shown by Mr. E. L. de Rothschild first and J. Waterer, Sons & Crisp second. The first prize in Class 4 went to Mr. Haworth-Booth for his bloom 'Mrs. C. M. Brockhouse' but an extremely attractive entry was Major-General Harrison's 'Donckelarii fulgens' which was placed second. Mr. Riggall was first again in Class 6 with an excellent 'Hatsu-Sakura' whose petaloids and stamens were beautifully spaced. His seedling in Class 7 where there were only three entries was delightfully clear and well-striped. He was second however in Class 8 to Mr. E. L. de Rothschild whose 'Furoan' was an undoubted first of a good entry of eight.

Class 9 had eleven entries and the Misses Godman gained a first with a really beautiful specimen of 'Adolphe Audusson'. Major-General Harrison's 'Donckelarii' carried off the first in Class 10 though the splashes of white should have been more prominent. As it was they were hardly distinguishable. And in Class 11 where only six 'Gloire de Nantes' were entered the first prize taken by Lord Aberconway seemed somewhat imperfect. Class 12 produced nothing particularly outstanding but 'Lady Clare' was well entered

in Class 13 and Major-General Harrison's bloom gained a well-deserved first. In Class 14, however, there was an unmentioned 'Magnoliaeflora' which though smaller than the three prizewinners, appeared very fresh and untouched whereas the winning entry showed signs of bruising.

Class 15 produced 16 entries among which there were some beautiful specimens, Mr. de Rothschild's 'Mercury' being placed first. It must indeed have been difficult to choose the prize blooms.

'September Morn', Mr. Cutts' entry in Class 16, was an excellent flower (Fig. 39) and his 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' in Class 17 was extraordinarily beautiful. In this class also one was very struck with the lovely 'Hana Fuki' from Waterers. It was Paul Jones' beautiful painting of 'Hana Fuki' to the life and it gained a third. Waterers' winning entry in Class 18 'Princess Murat' was indeed a princess among camellias and was deservedly first from an entry of eleven. In Class 19, *Camellia japonica* any three semi-double varieties, there were 10 entries. Mr. Cutts was again outstanding with his 'September Morn', 'Guilio Nuccio' (Fig. 37) and 'Hana Fuki'. Sir Giles Loder's 'Elegans' was decidedly first in Class 20 and in Class 21 Waterers' beautiful, fresh 'Nobilissima' was a worthy winner. In these two classes of Victorian favourite camellias, I personally had great difficulty in finding a bloom worthy of show from either my outside shrubs which are 80 to 100 years old or from inside plants, due to the mild winter.

The twelve entries in Class 23 provided a dramatic splash of red next to the pink of 'Preston Rose' in Class 22, Viscount Falmouth taking first award in both classes with splendid blooms. The three prize blooms in Class 23 were 'Altheaflora', the Misses E. and E. Godman second and Mr. O. Cutts third. Mr. E. de Rothschild was awarded second and John Waterer, Sons & Crisp third for their 'Preston Rose' entries. Class 24 was poorly entered and only a third prize was awarded to Mr. O. Cutts for 'Paeoniaeflorus'. But Waterers' 'C. M. Wilson' in Class 25 and their 'R. L. Wheeler' in Class 26 were fine specimens of their kind and worthy of first awards.

Again in Class 27 the entry of any three anemone or paeony-formed varieties was outstanding. 'Elizabeth Le Bey', 'Edwin H. Folk' (Fig. 39), 'R. L. Wheeler' shown by Waterers being three fresh and lovely blooms worthy of the first prize awarded. Sir Giles Loder was a close second with Miss C. A. M. Marsh third.

In Class 28 Miss Marsh's 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi' was an out-

standing success. It was beautifully marked, clear and untouched, one of the real beauties of the show, and deservedly first.

The Misses Godman had the winning 'Mathotiana' in Class 30, a truly lovely bloom though it seemed perhaps that the true 'Mathotiana' was that shown by the Duke of Devonshire, which was placed second. These lovely 'Mathotiana', cut from the "show" shrub of great age at Chatsworth were to be seen exhibited in a number of the classes.

'Mathotiana Rosea' gained another first for Mr. Cutts in Class 31 for this particular variety, but were not the leaves somewhat curled in comparison with the second and third awards? In Class 32 although Mrs. Bainbridge's beautiful entry of 'Mathotiana Alba' took first prize am I not right in thinking it had a slight flush? But Miss Marsh with 'Imbricata Alba', Mrs. Bainbridge with 'Souvenir de Bahuaud Litou' and Mrs. McDonald with 'Margherita Coleoni' were clearly firsts in Classes 34, 35 and 36 with finely formed blooms and excellent leaves, showing fine healthy plants. Sir Henry Price, first in Class 37, showed a flower of outstanding beauty having a decidedly cream centre. Waterers' entry awarded third prize was a fine example of 'Joshua E. Youtz'. Class 38 for any rose formed or formal double self coloured variety other than red or white and not already specified gave a deserved first for Mr. K. F. Butler.

The Misses Godman were again outstandingly successful in Classes 39 and 40 and Sir Giles Loder in Class 41 gave us one of the best displays ever offered in this class, any six varieties of *Camellia japonica*, with the varieties 'Duc de Bretagne', 'Adolphe Audusson' Seedling No. 2, 'Lady Clare', 'Jupiter', 'Joseph Pfingstl' (Fig. 40). In this class Mr. O. Cutts was second, the Duke of Devonshire third and Miss Marsh fourth. This is the third year running that Sir Giles Loder has won this most difficult and competitive section.

The Duke of Devonshire in Class 44, *Camellia reticulata* any double or semi-double variety, provided the show with a flower of outstanding perfection, his *Camellia reticulata* being quite deservedly first of ten entries. Lord Aberconway's *Camellia sahuensis* in Class 45 was very fine but there was only one entry in Class 46 which called for an unusual species and no prize was given. Of eleven entries in Class 47, *Camellia* × *williamsii* any single variety, Lord Aberconway was awarded first and third with Sir Henry Price placed second. Class 48 for lovely 'Donation' attracted 11 entries with Maj.-Gen. Harrison first, Mr. E. de



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 37—*C. japonica* 'Guilio Nuccio' (see p. 127)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 38—*C. japonica* 'Edwin Folk' (see p. 127)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 40—*Camellia japonica* 'Joseph Pfingstl', shown by Sir Giles Loder in Class 41 at the Camellia Competition (see p. 128)



Photo: J. E. Downward

FIG. 39—*Camellia japonica* 'September Morn', the winning entry shown by Mr. O. Cutts in Class 16 at the Camellia Competition 1961 (see p. 127)

Rothschild second and Lord Aberconway third. Mr. Cutts with 'Donation "Sport" Flirtation', Lord Aberconway with 'Citation' and Waterers with 'Inspiration' were the only entrants in Class 49 and all gained prizes while in Class 51 with a bloom of 'Leonard Messel' which was still as beautifully fresh at the end of the show as it was when we first saw it, Waterers were deservedly first.

Class 52, any three camellia blooms, in which the Misses Godman were placed first, provided some lovely flowers. The Duke of Devonshire's 'Mathotiana' was again shown to perfection and I personally was thrilled with 'Pink Ball' shown by Waterers.

Class 53, for a bloom from any six camellias, attracted 7 entries and made a magnificent show. This is the most difficult class to compete in and the Duke of Devonshire's six blooms were quite worthy of first prize. Sir Giles Loder was placed second, Lord Aberconway third and Mr. E. de Rothschild fourth. In the section for sprays Classes 61 to 77, Sir Giles Loder's entries were outstanding. It is difficult to make a show of *cuspidata* but his entry in Class 61 stood up well and in Classes 62, 63 and 64 his sprays of 'Jupiter', 'Donckelarii' and 'Elegans' were fresh and delightful and he fully deserved to win firsts in each of these classes. The Duke of Devonshire and Waterers shared the other awards. In Class 65 for a spray of any rose-formed or formal double my entry 'Salvator Rosa' from a 70 to 80 year old outside shrub was awarded first, the Misses Godman second, and Waterers third.

Classes 69 *saluenensis*; 71 *williamsii*; 72 'Donation'; 74 'Cornish Snow', provided more first awards for Lord Aberconway and the National Trust. The sprays of these varieties were indeed excellent, but only a very few growers have sprays to cut.

Class 76 Camellias, any three, one spray of each, and Class 77 Camellias, any six, one spray of each, were both won by Sir Giles Loder with a grand display of almost perfect sprays. Lord Aberconway, the Duke of Devonshire and Waterers were the other prizewinners and the judges must have had a difficult task to decide on the awards.

In Classes 81 and 82 for Camellia plants in bloom Messrs. Waterers were awarded first prize in both classes, for a single plant and for a group of three. Mr. Cutts gained third prize in Class 81 and second prize in Class 82. Only nine plants were exhibited. The difficulty of transportation of large plants is no doubt responsible for the small number of exhibits in these classes. The last class, for a vase or bowl of camellias, had three entries only. Mrs. M. E. McDonald was again first with a vase of 'Margherita Coleoni'

making a splash of rich red beside the second prizewinner Mrs. Bainbridge's pink 'Elegans', and Miss Marsh's arrangement of red and white camellias.

It was noteworthy in this show that successful exhibitors as Mr. Cutts, Waterers and others showed a large number of the new American varieties. We must accept the fact that these will take more and more prizes in the future but we can be sure that in spite of this the old favourites will not disappear. In fact they will probably be grown more widely than ever by camellia lovers who particularly look for varieties for outside cultivation in this country. And indeed no exotic bloom could be more beautiful than that lovely flower so suitable for English growing, 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi'.

Camellias in trade exhibits were far fewer than usual, the result no doubt of the early season. Messrs. John Waterer, Sons and Crisp Ltd., in their splendid Gold Medal exhibit of flowering trees and shrubs, had amongst *Camellia japonica* varieties Europeans such as 'Fleur de Peche' with its soft pink semi-double flowers, the richer 'Madame Le Bois' and the salmon-red 'Blood of China' ('Victor Emmanuel'). Amongst recently introduced American raised varieties the semi-double, dark red 'Joseph Pfnstl' showed its good qualities as did the semi-double rose-red 'H. A. Downing'. The dark red, paeony-flowered 'Letitia Schrader' was also attractive. They also had good plants of 'Leonard Messel'.

Messrs. Hillier and Sons, in an attractive exhibit mainly composed of rhododendrons, had here and there *C. × williamsii* 'J. C. Williams' and such old favourite varieties of *C. japonica* as 'Mercury', 'Lady Clare', 'Elegans', 'Jupiter' and 'Alba Simplex'.

Messrs. L. R. Russell again had an exhibit mainly composed of flowering trees and shrubs other than camellias. They did however, have an informal edging along the side facing the dais of similar varieties of *C. japonica*, 'Contessa Lavinia Maggi', 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Magnoliaeflora' and *× williamsii* 'J. C. Williams'.

Messrs. Haskings Bros. alone had an exhibit entirely composed of camellias with, as is their custom, their plants of varying sizes standing on the floor. They had good plants of the double 'Madame Cachet' which is a medium pink with lighter margins, the pale pink 'Shimeo-Tonil' and the richer pink 'Taroan'. Amongst the reds their formal double 'Rosamond' the colour of 'Jupiter', seemed most attractive. Along with other *C. japonica* varieties in their Group were 'Lady Marion', 'Dobreei', 'White Lady' and 'Mar-

gherita Coleoni'. They also had *C. × williamsii* 'Donation' in excellent condition.

And now immediately the show is over there is the thrill of beginning again for next year. Some of the factors on which next year's show depends are beyond our control, factors such as the intensity of sunshine and rain, the violence of winds, the frequency or lack of frosts. Others such as watering, fertilizing, pruning, dis-budding, depend upon us. So that all the year through we anticipate the happiness we shall have when we present ourselves and our specimens of this most versatile and loveliest of all flowers at the next Camellia Show at The Royal Horticultural Hall.

RHODODENDRONS WHICH HAVE RECEIVED AWARDS IN 1961

Rhododendron (keiskei × trichocladum) 'Chink', A.M. March 14, 1961. In this hybrid is to be found a plant of low-growing habit and an early season of flowering. The leaves are $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches long and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch across with some scaling beneath. Usually the lax truss is made up of five drooping flowers. Each of these is flat campanulate in shape and coloured Chartreuse Green (H.C.C. 663/1) with some spotting in a darker shade of the same colour, on the central lobe. Exhibited by Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor Great Park, Berkshire.

Rhododendron (Hawk 'Jervis Bay' × litiense) 'Constable', A.M. April 25, 1961. This is a hybrid with a large, open truss composed of some twenty flowers. Each has a long, pale green pedicel and a rim-like calyx; in colour the open campanulate corolla is Chartreuse Green (H.C.C. 663/3) darkening on the upper lobe and some reddish spotting in the throat. Exhibited from the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey (Fig. 35).

Rhododendron 'Fulbrook', A.M. April 11, 1961. It is thought that *Rhododendron grande* might be one of the parents of this cultivar. Its coriaceous leaves are $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches across and its petiole stout. The corolla is campanulate and coloured a varying shade of Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625/3) with a blotch and prominent spotting on the upper lobes, both of Beetroot Purple (H.C.C. 830). Exhibited by Mrs. Douglas Gordon, Sandford House, West Street, Farnham, Surrey.

Rhododendron (Azalea) ('Glory of Numazu' × indicum) 'General Wavell', F.C.C. June 13, 1961. This cultivar was described in the *R.H.S. Journal*, Vol. LXXXV, pt. 1, pp. 39-40, January, 1960. Exhibited by Capt. Collingwood Ingram, F.L.S., V.M.H., The Grange, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent.

Rhododendron Merops 'Guepier', A.M. March 28, 1961. As a result of crossing *R. 'Cunningham's Sulphur'* and *R. lacteum* this cultivar was obtained. The small, rounded truss is made up of

about seventeen flowers, shallow campanulate in shape. These are coloured Chartreuse Green (H.C.C. 663/3) with a vestige of darker shading on the upper lobe. Exhibited by Capt. Collingwood Ingram, F.L.S., V.M.H., The Grange, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent.

Rhododendron lanigerum 'Chapel Wood', A.M. February 28, 1961. Seed of this species was collected in North West Yunnan in 1929 under the name *R. coriaceum* Rock 03913. The plant belongs to a large group of variants—including *R. sylvaticum*—which are now included under *R. lanigerum*. The particular form in question made a large, handsome shrub bearing a very tight, globular truss composed of some forty to fifty flowers. These were coloured Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1–623/2) with the buds a varying shade of rosy pink. Exhibited by Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor Great Park, Berkshire (Fig. 27).

Rhododendron lanigerum 'Stonehurst', A.M. March 14, 1961. For a considerable number of years this plant has been grown as *R. sylvaticum*. In shape and form it is typical of the species having a thick indumentum on the underside of its leaves and a tight globular truss packed with flowers. These are coloured a light shade of Cherry (H.C.C. 722/3). Exhibited by R. Strauss, Esq., Stonehurst, Ardingly, Sussex (Fig. 29).

Rhododendron ('Pauline' × yakusimanum) 'Renoir', A.M. April 25, 1961. Like its parent, *R. yakusimanum*, this hybrid is dwarf in habit and free-flowering. About eleven flowers make up each rounded truss. The corolla on each flower is deep campanulate in shape and coloured Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623); it is white in the throat and has some dark crimson spotting on the upper lobe. Exhibited from the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey (Fig. 33).

Rhododendron (Azalea) yedoense var. poukhanense, A.M. April 11, 1961. This is a Korean azalea with flowers coloured Mauve (H.C.C. 633/2) and some scattered spotting of a darker shade; the stamens are a shade of pale mauve. It does well in light protection from the sun or in the open garden. Exhibited by Capt. Collingwood Ingram, F.L.S., V.M.H., The Grange, Benenden, Cranbrook Kent (Fig. 32).

AWARDS TO RHODODENDRONS AFTER TRIAL AT WISLEY, 1960

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.

HARDY HYBRID RHODODENDRONS

'Azor Sister.' (Raised, introduced and sent by the late J. B. Stevenson, Tower Court, Ascot, Berks.) F.C.C. June 15, 1960. Plant 12 feet high, 13 feet spread, vigorous, fairly compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $6\frac{7}{10}$ inches long, 2 inches wide, medium to dark dull green. Flower truss 7 inches diameter, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, fairly compact, dome-shaped, nine flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, 3 inches long, funnel-shaped, margins crimped, Rhodamine Pink (H.C.C. 527/1), Turkey Red (H.C.C. 721) at base, speckling on upper petal at throat Currant Red (H.C.C. 821). Flowering from June 10, 1960. (330)

'Frank Galsworthy.' (Raised and introduced by the late A. Waterer; sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd., Goldsworth Nursery, Woking, Surrey.) A.M. June 2, 1960. Plant $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, 9 feet spread, vigorous, fairly compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches long, $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches wide, medium to dark dull green. Flower truss 5 inches diameter, 4 inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, fifteen to twenty flowers per truss; corolla 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, 2 inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, a colour near Garnet Lake (H.C.C. 828), spotting on upper petal very pale olive. Flowering from May 28, 1960. (715)

'Goldsworth Crimson.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd.) A.M. May 10, 1960. Plant 9 feet high, 13 feet spread, vigorous, compact slightly spreading habit, very free-flowering; leaves 5 to 8 inches long, $1\frac{4}{8}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, medium dull green. Flower truss 7 inches diameter, 5 inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, thirteen to sixteen flowers per truss;

corolla 3 to $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, Crimson (H.C.C. 22/1), spotting on upper petal black. Flowering from April 25, 1960. (749)

'Ice Cream.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd.) A.M. June 2, 1960. Plant 5 feet high, $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet spread, vigorous, fairly compact upright habit, free-flowering; leaves $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $1\frac{7}{10}$ to $2\frac{1}{10}$ inches wide, medium dull green. Flower truss $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, 4 inches deep, fairly compact, dome-shaped, twelve to fourteen flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{4}{5}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{3}{5}$ to $2\frac{4}{5}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622/3) with white throat, spotting on upper petal pale olive. Flowering from May 29, 1960. (954)

'James Burchett.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd.) A.M. June 15, 1960. Plant 10 feet high, 15 feet spread, vigorous, fairly spreading habit, very free-flowering; leaves 8 to $8\frac{3}{5}$ inches long, 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, dark green. Flower truss 6 inches diameter, 4 inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, fifteen to seventeen flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{7}{10}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, white with a very pale touch of pink at margins, speckling on upper petal at throat yellowish green, buds Rhodamine Pink (H.C.C. between 527/2 and 527/3). Flowering from June 7, 1960. (374)

'Mrs. J. C. Williams.' (Raised by the late A. Waterer and sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd., Lower Knaphill, Woking, Surrey.) A.M. June 2, 1960. Plant $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, 12 feet spread, vigorous, slightly spreading habit, very free-flowering; leaves $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{4}{5}$ inches wide, medium dull green. Flower truss $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches diameter, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, sixteen to nineteen flowers per truss; corolla 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $1\frac{7}{10}$ to $1\frac{4}{5}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, white, spotting on upper petal reddish brown. Flowering from May 22, 1960. (383)

'Flavour.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd.) H.C. June 2, 1960. Plant $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, 6 feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, medium dull green. Flower truss $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, fairly lax, dome-shaped, eleven flowers per truss; corolla $2\frac{3}{10}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{3}{10}$ to

2½ inches long, campanulate-shaped, margins entire, a slightly darker shade of Maize Yellow (H.C.C. 607/3), Mimosa Yellow (H.C.C. 602/2) at throat, spotting on upper petal maroon. Flowering from May 26, 1960. (955)

'Langworth.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Walter C. Slocock Ltd.) H.C. May 20, 1960. Plant 9½ feet high, 15½ feet spread, vigorous, spreading habit, very free-flowering; leaves 7 to 8 inches long, 2⅓ to 3 inches wide, dark dull green. Flower truss 9 inches diameter, 7 inches deep, fairly lax, conical-shaped, sixteen flowers per truss; corolla 4 inches diameter, 2½ to 3 inches long, funnel-shaped, margins slightly waved, white, streaked greenish brown at throat, spotting on upper petal green. Flowering from May 14, 1960. (376)

DECIDUOUS AZALEAS

'Clyde.' (Raised and sent by The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Woking, Surrey.) H.C. May 20, 1960. Plant 4½ feet high, 6 feet spread, vigorous, spreading habit, very free-flowering; leaves 3½ to 4 inches long, 1½ inches wide, medium green. Flower truss 6 inches diameter, 3 inches deep, fairly compact, dome-shaped, twelve flowers per truss; corolla 3½ inches diameter, 3 inches long, funnel-shaped, margins crimped, white touched pink, heavy spotting on upper petal orange. Flowering from May 15, 1960. (157)

'Dee.' (Raised and sent by The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens.) H.C. June 2, 1960. Plant 4½ feet high, 5 feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, free-flowering; leaves 4 inches long, 1½ inches wide, medium glossy green. Flower truss 5½ inches diameter, 3½ inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, fourteen to seventeen flowers per truss; corolla 3 inches diameter, 2½ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, white with slight flush of pink on reverse of upper petal, spotting on upper petal orange yellow. Flowering from May 26, 1960. (147)

'Golden Eagle.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd.) H.C. May 20, 1960. Plant 5½ feet high, 7 feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves 3½ to 4 inches long, 1⅓ to 2 inches wide, bright glossy green. Flower truss 6 inches diameter, 3½ inches deep, fairly compact,

dome-shaped, ten to twelve flowers per truss; corolla 3 inches diameter, $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire and dentate at apex, wide border of Nasturtium Red (H.C.C. 14/1) at margins, mid-rib a shade near Orpiment Orange (H.C.C. 10/2), blotch on upper petal Orpiment Orange (H.C.C. 10/1). Flowering from May 13, 1960. (805)

'Mrs. Gomer Waterer.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd.) H.C. May 10, 1960. Plant 5 feet high, $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet spread, vigorous, fairly spreading habit, very free-flowering; leaves 3 to 4 inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, medium glossy green. Flower truss $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 inches diameter, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, compact, dome-shaped, sixteen to seventeen flowers per truss; corolla $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, white tinged Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/2), spotting on upper petal Lemon Yellow (H.C.C. 4), buds yellow tinged red. Flowering from May 4, 1960. (754)

'Ribble.' (Raised and sent by The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens.) H.C. June 2, 1960. Plant 5 feet high, 5 feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, medium glossy green tinged brown. Flower truss $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, 3 inches deep, fairly compact, dome-shaped, thirteen flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins frilled, a colour between Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622/1) and Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1), single upper petal bright orange. Flowering from May 24, 1960. (908)

'Tyne.' (Raised and sent by The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens.) H.C. May 20, 1960. Plant 6 feet high, 5 feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves 4 inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, light to medium glossy green. Flower truss $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, eleven flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, Carmine Rose (H.C.C. between 621 and 621/3), blotch on upper petal orange. Flowering from May 14, 1960. (190)

'Waveney.' (Raised and sent by The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens.) H.C. May 20, 1960. Plant $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet spread, fairly vigorous, compact upright habit, free-flowering; leaves 4 to

5 inches long, $1\frac{1}{5}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, medium glossy green tinged brown. Flower truss $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, 3 inches deep, compact, globular-shaped, twelve to eighteen flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{3}{5}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins waved, Buttercup Yellow (H.C.C. 5/2), blotch on upper petal Saffron Yellow (H.C.C. 7). Flowering from May 14, 1960. (894)

EVERGREEN AZALEAS

'Fedora.' (Raised by Messrs. C. B. van Nes & Sons, and sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd.) **F.C.C.** May 10, 1960. Plant $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, 7 feet spread, vigorous, spreading habit, very free-flowering, flowers borne in pairs; corolla $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $1\frac{1}{10}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625/1), spotting on upper petal Cardinal Red (H.C.C. 822/3). Flowering from April 26, 1960. (549)

'Maxwelli.' (Sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd.) **A.M.** May 20, 1960. Plant $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet high, 6 feet spread, vigorous, spreading habit, very free-flowering, flowers borne in threes; corolla $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{5}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{5}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, Rose Bengal (H.C.C. 25/2), dark spotting on upper petal at throat. Flowering from May 10, 1960. (534)

'Prins Bernhard.' (Raised by Mr. A. Vuyk, introduced and sent by Messrs. Vuyk van Nes, Boskoop, Holland.) **A.M.** May 20, 1960. Described *R.H.S. Journal*, **85**, p. 36. Flowering from May 8, 1960 (**H.C.** 1959). (124)

'Purple Triumph.' (Raised by Mr. A. Vuyk, introduced and sent by Messrs. Vuyk van Nes.) **A.M.** May 20, 1960. Described *R.H.S. Journal*, **85**, p. 36. Flowering from May 8, 1960 (**H.C.** 1959). (128)

'Vida Brown.' (Raised by Mr. Charles E. Brown, introduced and sent by Messrs. D. Stewart & Son Ltd., Ferndown, Dorset.) **A.M.** June 2, 1960. Plant 13 inches high, 31 inches spread, vigorous, spreading habit, very free-flowering, flowers borne singly; corolla $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{7}{10}$ inches diameter, $\frac{9}{10}$ to $1\frac{1}{10}$ inches long, hose-in-hose, a colour near Rose Madder (H.C.C. 23/2). Flowering from May 20, 1960. (769)

'Little Beauty.' (Raised by Mr. A. Vuyk, introduced and sent by

Messrs. Vuyk van Nes.) **H.C.** May 20, 1960. Plant $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet high, $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering, two to six flowers per truss; corolla $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, a colour near Phlox Pink (H.C.C. 625/1). Flowering from May 8, 1960. (127)

Awards were also given to the following rhododendrons growing in The Royal Horticultural Society's collection of plants at Wisley.

HARDY HYBRID RHODODENDRON

'Moonshine Crescent.' (Raised at The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens.) **A.M.** May 10, 1960. Plant $4\frac{3}{4}$ feet high, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches long, $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches wide, dark dull green. Flower truss 5 inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, compact, globular to dome-shaped, fourteen to sixteen flowers per truss; corolla $2\frac{3}{10}$ inches diameter, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, Primrose Yellow (H.C.C. between 601/2 and 601/3).

EVERGREEN AZALEA

'Jitsugetsuse.' **H.C.** June 15, 1960. Plant $1\frac{3}{4}$ feet high, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet spread, vigorous, very spreading habit, free-flowering, flowers mainly borne singly with a few pairs; corolla $2\frac{1}{10}$ to $2\frac{2}{3}$ inches diameter, $1\frac{7}{10}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, Mallow Purple (H.C.C. 630/2), speckling on upper petal red.

AWARDS TO RHODODENDRONS AFTER TRIAL AT WISLEY, 1961

ON the recommendation of the Rhododendron and Camellia Committee, the Council has made the following awards to rhododendrons, after trial at Wisley.

The number in brackets after the description of the variety was that under which it was grown in the trial.

HARDY HYBRID RHODODENDRON

'Furnivall's Daughter.' (Raised, introduced and sent by Messrs. Knap Hill Nursery Ltd., Lower Knaphill, Woking, Surrey.) F.C.C. May 5, 1961. Described *R.H.S. Journal*, **82**, p. 445 (A.M. 1958). Flowering from April 21, 1961. (207) (Fig. 25).

Awards were also given to the following rhododendrons growing in The Royal Horticultural Society's collection of plants at Wisley.

EVERGREEN RHODODENDRONS

'El Greco' ('Jalisco' \times 'Break of Day'). (Raised at The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Woking, Surrey.) A.M. May 5, 1961. Plant 5 feet high, $5\frac{3}{4}$ feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, medium dull green. Flower truss 8 inches diameter, 4 inches deep, flat, ten flowers per truss; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, funnel-shaped, margins entire and slightly crumpled, Saffron Yellow (H.C.C. 7/3) changing to Azalea Pink (H.C.C. 618/2) at margins with flush of Carmine Rose (H.C.C. 621/1).

'Degas' (*R. elliottii* \times *R. haematodes*). (Raised at The Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens.) H.C. May 5, 1961. Plant 3 feet high, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet spread, vigorous, compact upright habit, very free-flowering; leaves $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, dark dull green. Flower truss 6 inches diameter, 3 inches deep, compact, flat, nine flowers per truss; corolla $2\frac{7}{10}$ to $2\frac{4}{5}$ inches diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, campanulate-shaped, margins entire, Currant Red (H.C.C. 821), spotting on upper petals very dark red.

ADDITIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL RHODODENDRON REGISTER, 1959-1961¹

compiled by

HAROLD R. FLETCHER

Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., V.M.H.

(International Registrar for Rhododendron names, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh 3)

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Adamant | cl. <i>barclayi</i> ♀ × <i>werei</i> ; (Harrison); fl. deep red, no spots, 3 in. across, 2 in. long, 15 in tight truss. |
| a Albacore | cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); pure white. |
| Albert Schweitzer | cl. parentage unknown; (Adr. van Nes); fl. 13-14 in large pyramidal truss, pale pink Rose Bengal, (H.C.C. 25/3), with reddish blotch Currant Red (H.C.C. 821/3). S.M. Rotterdam, 1960. |
| Alice Franklin | cl. 'King George' × 'Old Olsen'; (Larson); fl. 7-10 per truss, funnel-campanulate, 4 in. wide, Naples Yellow (H.C.C. 403/3) throat Uranium Green (H.C.C. 63/3). |
| Alley Cat | cl. parentage unknown; (raised Endre Ostbo; introduced Owen Ostbo); fl. 3½ in. wide, coral pink, darker blotch. P.A. (A.R.S.) 1960. |
| a Alpine | cl. <i>indicum</i> × <i>kaempferi</i> hybrid; (Beltsville); white, hose in hose. |
| Ambassadeur | cl. 'Jan De Kens' ♀ × 'Mme de Bruin'; (P. van Nes); fl. 3 in. across, 20 to truss, deep pink Rose Bengal, (H.C.C. 25/2), lighter pink upper petal. S.M. (Rotterdam, after Boskoop Trials) 1960. |
| a Amber Rain | cl. [Ghent]; parentage unknown; (Rothschild); named by Waterer, 1958; fl. 11 per truss, Buttercup Yellow (H.C.C. 5/2), orange blotch on upper lobe. A.M. 1958. |
| Ambition | cl. <i>ambiguum</i> ♀ × <i>lutescens</i> ; (Raffil); named by Ingram 1961; pale primrose yellow, with a yellowish green flare. |
| Annie Dalton | cl. 'America' × (<i>R. decorum</i> × <i>griersonianum</i>); (Gable); fl. funnel shaped, to 4 in. across, Fuchsine Pink (H.C.C. 627/2) throat Crimson (H.C.C. 22/1); A.E. (A.R.S.) 1960. |
| a Avon | cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley, 1958); deciduous; truss compact, dome shaped, fl. Straw Yellow (H.C.C. 604/1) spotting at throat golden yellow, petal margin waved, stamens Straw Yellow (H.C.C. 604/1). A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1958. |

¹ Copies of this list printed separately for insertion into The International Rhododendron Register are also available price 1s., postage 4d.

- Azor Sister cl. parentage unknown; (J. B. Stevenson); truss 7 in. diam., compact, dome shaped, 9 flowers, Rhodamine Pink (H.C.C. 527/1) Turkey Red (H.C.C. 721) at base of petals, speckling on upper petals Currant Red (H.C.C. 821). F.C.C. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1960.
- Baccarat cl. Garden Hybrid ♀ × 'Max Sye'; (Adr. van Nes, 1960); round truss of 14-15 flowers, Crimson (H.C.C. 22) with large black blotch. A.M. (after trial at Boskoop), 1960.
- a Balkis cl. parentage unknown (Rothschild); cream, yellow blotch.
- a Balls of Fire cl. [Knap Hill]; (Bovees, Oregon); parentage unknown; fl. vivid red (Nickerson 5R. 5/13).
- Barto Ivory cl. probably a *fortunei* hybrid; Barto seedling; (raised by Steinmetz, introduced by Greer, Oregon); fl. open funnel shaped, 7-lobed, ivory (Nickerson 7.3Y 13/4), faint markings on top lobes (11Y.R.5. 2/6).
- Barto Lavender cl. parentage unknown; Barto seedling; (raised by Steinmetz, introduced by Greer, Oregon); truss upright, up to 17 flowers, open campanulate (Nickerson 7.5p.7/5), spotted upper lobe (8.5R.P. 3/9).
- Bastian cl. 'Bibiani' ♀ × *elliottii*; (Rothschild); fl. in tight upright truss, blood red, spotted black. P.C. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- Beechwood Pink cl. 'Atrosanguineum' × *fortunei*; (Gable); named by Herbert, Pennsylvania, 1960; fl. 3 in. across, Fuchsine Pink (H.C.C. 627/1). A.E. (A.R.S.) 1960.
- Beefeater cl. *elliottii* × 'Fusilier'; (R.H.S. Wisley); flat-topped truss of up to 26 flowers, Geranium Lake (H.C.C. 20/1), besides some limited pale spotting. A.M. (R.H.S.), 1958; F.C.C. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- a Bel Air cl. 'Jan De Kens' ♀ × 'Mme de Bruin'; (P. van Nes); fl. in pyramidal truss, dark carmine rose (Fuchsia-Purple H.C.C. 28); pale pink blotch. S.M. (Rotterdam), 1960; A.M. (after trial at Boskoop, 1960).
- Bellbird cl. 'Isabella' ♀ × *souliei*; (C. Ingram); fl pure white in loose truss.
- Benmore cl. form of *R. mollyanum*; raised at Younger Botanic Garden, Benmore, Argyll; fl. 2½ in. long, 2¼ in. wide, Fuchsine Pink (H.C.C. 627/2) with some deep pink staining and a small deep crimson blotch in the base of throat. F.C.C. (R.H.S.), 1957.
- Betty Breen cl. *R. smirnowii* × Dexter hybrid; (Leach, Brookville); pale pink, flushed mauve.
- a Betty Kelly cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); Mandarin Red (deeper than H.C.C. 17/6).
- Blackie cl. 'Arthur Osborn' × 'Moser's Maroon'; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. funnel campanulate, 14 per truss, Indian Lake (H.C.C. 826/3), centre of tube Cardinal Red (H.C.C. 822/2).
- Black Prince cl. 'Romany Chal' × *thomsonii*; (Brandt, Tacoma); fl. 4½ in. wide, 2 in. long, 12 in compact truss, Oxblood Red (00823/1 to 00823).

- Blaze cl. *R. catawbiense* var. *rubrum* × 'Mars'; (Leach, Brookville); fl. bright red, lighter centre.
- Blessed Event 'John Coutts' × 'Sarita Loder'. (Lyons, Oregon); upright truss, 9-16 flowers, Tyrian Rose (24/3), cherry spots.
- Blue Light cl. clone of *R. brachyanthum* var. *hypolepidotum*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves covered beneath with dense silvery scales, 1½ in. long, ¾ in. broad; corolla ¾ in. long, 1 in. diam., broadly tubular, pale shade of Aureolin (H.C.C. 3/2). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1951.
- Blue River cl. 'Emperor de Maroc' × 'Van Nes Sensation'; (Lyons, Oregon); fl. in upright truss of up to 17 flowers, Campanula Violet (37/3). A.E. (A.R.S.) 1961.
- Blue Star cl. *impeditum* × 'Saint Tudy' ♀; (Harrison); fl. 1½ in. across, mauve blue.
- Bombardier cl. 'Fusilier' ♀ × *griffithianum*; (Harrison); fl. 4½ in. across, 3 in. long, 16 per truss, bright pink, fading in sun.
- Boskoop cl. Garden Hybrid ♀ × 'Max Sye'; (Adr. van Nes); round truss of 12-13 flowers, rosy red China Rose (H.C.C. 024/1), dark brown blotch (H.C.C. 1030). A.M. (after trial at Boskoop) 1960.
- Boule de Rose cl. red *catawbiense* hybrid ♀ × 'Boule de Neige' ♂; (Leach, Brookville); Persian rose with maroon spotted blotch on upper lobe.
- a Boutonniere cl. ('Maxwelli' × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); fl. 1½ in. to 1¾ in. across, white with cream throat, hose-in-hose, very profuse.
- Bray cl. *R. griffithianum* hybrid × 'Hawk'; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); truss 8-flowered, flat-topped, very pale Mimosa Yellow (H.C.C. 602/3), upper lobes pale shade of Mimosa Yellow (H.C.C. 602/2), reverse side limited pale pink shading; buds varying shade of deep pink. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- Brickdust cl. 'Dido, × *williamsianum*'; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. 6-8 per truss, campanulate, Rose Madder (32/2), shaded to rhodonite red (22/3).
- Brumas cl. *detonsum* × *griffithianum* seedling ♀ (Harrison); 13 fl. in light conical truss, 7- and 5-lobed, 4¾ in. across, pure white with purple honey pouches and very lightly spotted.
- Bunting cl. 'Dr. Stocker' × 'Fabia'; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. 9-11 per truss, tubular campanulate, 3 in. across, Dresden Yellow (64/3), spotted Uranium Green on upper lobe.
- Buxom cl. Loderi × 'Sophia Gray'; (Horlick, 1930); deep pink with dark throat.
- a Cam cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous, truss compact, 16-20 flowers, petals waved, Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/3) deepening through Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/2) to Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1) at margins, blotch on upper petal at throat golden yellow. A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1959.

- Captain Jack cl. *eriogynum* × 'Mars'; named by R. Henny, Oregon; dark red. P.A. (A.R.S.) 1956.
- Canton Consul cl. clone of *R. hanceanum* var. *nanum*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves broad elliptic, 1½ in. long, ¾ in. broad; truss 6-flowered; corolla campanulate, ¾ in. long, 1 in. diam., cream, buds creamish-green. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1957.
- Captain Kid cl. 'May Day' × 'Princess Elizabeth'; (R. Henny, Oregon); 13-15 fl. in flat truss, Turkey Red (721/3), centre shaded Signal Red (719/2). P.A. (A.R.S.) 1960.
- Carlene cl. 'Lem's Goal' × *williamsianum*; (Raised by Lem, Seattle; introduced by Fawcett, Tacoma); golden.
- Carolyn Grace cl. *R. wardii* hybrid; (Grace, Oregon); Chartreuse Green (663/1), on outer petals, Uranium Green (63/2) in tube. A.E. (A.R.S.) 1960.
- a Casablanca cl. 'Indica Alba' × 'Snow'; (Beltsville); evergreen, fl. white, single, in clusters of 3-7.
- a Cathe Mayo cl. [Knap Hill]; parentage unknown; (Bovees Oregon); pale orange yellow (Nickerson 7.5Y.R. 9/4), flushed brilliant yellow (2.5Y. 7/9), blotched vivid yellow (2.5Y. 8/12).
- Ceramic cl. *R. wardii* selfed. (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. campanulate, 6 fls. in upright truss, white, throat Sap Green (62/1).
- a Chaka cl. [Knap Hill]; parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); deep red, large.
- Chapel Wood *R. lanigerum* seedling; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); seedling of Rock 03913, 1929 exp. to N.W. Yunnan; truss 40-50 flowered, Neyron-Rose (H.C.C. 623/1-623/2); A.M. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- Charley cl. *croceum* × 'Fabia'; (James, Oregon); fl. 5 in. wide, 2 in. long, upstanding truss, white tinted (Amaranth Rose, H.C.C. 530/3), as flower develops corolla becomes creamy-yellow, yellow blotch.
- Charlotte de Rothschild cl. *discolor* ♀ × 'Saint Keverne'; (Sir Frederick Moore g.) (Rothschild); heavy truss of 14 flowers, campanulate, 3¼ in. long, 4¼ in. across, whitish pink with chocolate spotting in the throat and the outside stained deep pink. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- Chartreuse cl. *flavidum* × 'Lady Rosebery'; (Brandt, Tacoma, 1951); named 1960; fl. 10 or more, in loose truss, Chinese Yellow (606/1).
- Chat cl. 'Albatross' × *wardii*; (R. Henny, Oregon); Mari-gold Orange (11/3) changing to Sap Green (62/3).
- Chatterbox cl. 'Arthur Osborn' × *didymum*; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. funnel campanulate, 6-8 per truss, Currant Red (821).
- Cheetans cl. *williamsianum* ♀ × *souliei*?; (Gibson Bros.); white in lax truss. P.C. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- Chinese Silver cl. clone of *R. argyrophyllum* var. *nankingense*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves elliptic, leathery, covered below with thin felty indumentum; loose truss of 16 campanulate flowers, Persian Rose (H.C.C. 628/3) shaded with some darker flushes chiefly in the lobes. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1957.

- Chink cl. *keiskei* × *trichocladum*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor, 1948); pale yellow. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- Chivalry cl. *apodectum* ♀ × *griersonianum*; (Harrison); fl. 8 per truss, hose-in-hose, 3 in. across, 2½ in. long, orange salmon.
- a Chorister cl. [Knap Hill]; parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. double, pale cream, foliage bronze-tinted.
- a Clara Brown cl. parentage possibly *macrantha* (orange) × *Caldwelli*; (Stewart, 1937); evergreen, light shade of Mandarin Red. A.M. (R.H.S. Trials) 1937.
- a Clyde cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); truss of 12 flowers; fl. funnel-shaped, margins crimped, white, touched pink, heavy spotting on upper petal orange. H.C. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1960.
- a Colyer cl. [Kurume]; parentage unknown; (raised by C. E. Brown, introduced by Stewart); evergreen, fl. large, Cyclamen Purple (H.C.C. between 30/1 and 30/2), spotted crimson on upper petal at throat. A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1959.
- Confection cl. 'Corona' × 'Dondis'; named by R. Henny, Oregon; Rose Madder. P.A. (A.R.S.) 1956.
- Coral Beauty cl. 'Daimio' × 'Imbros'; ♀ (Haworth-Booth); fl. large 3 in. across, orange-pink.
- a Corston's Yellow cl. derived mainly from *R. luteum*; (Knap Hill); yellow, strongly scented; foliage bronze tinted.
- Cosmopolitan cl. 'Cunningham's White' ♀ × 'Vesuvius'; (Hagen, Boskoop); light pink, brownish red blotch, fading to pale pink. A.M. (Boskoop) 1957
- Cotillon cl. 'Fabia' × 'Naomi'; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. 7-lobed, 4 in. across, 9–10 per truss, Mars Orange (013/3) inside, Jasper Red (018/2) outside.
- Cotton Candy cl. 'Loderi Venus' × 'Marinus Koster'; (J. Henny and Wennekamp, Oregon); fl. pink in tall conical truss.
- Cream Trumpet cl. *R.* × *victorianum* form (R.B.G. Edinburgh); fl. 3–4 per truss, funnel-campanulate, white with large orange stain in throat and on upper lobe. F.C.C. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- Creeping Fire cl. 'Jaipur' × 'May Day'; (Brandt, Tacoma); 8 flowers in loose truss, Orient Red 8/19/1.
- Cutie cl. possibly *R. calostrotum* hybrid seedling; Phlox Purple 632/2.
- a Dainty Rose cl. (*kaempferi* × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); fl. single, in clusters of 2–3, 1–1½ in. across, Bengal Rose.
- Dalriada cl. parentage unknown; probably from seed of *R. degronianum*; (raised by A. Kenneth, introduced by Mrs. K. L. Kenneth); differs from *R. degronianum* only in spreading habit. P.C. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- a Dart cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); large 9-flowered truss, fl. 3¼ in. long, 4¾ in. across, pinkish orange maturing to light shade of Carmine Rose (H.C.C. 621/1) spotted yellow on upper lobe and some of stamens petaloid. A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley) 1958.

- David Gable cl. 'Atrosanguineum' \times *fortunei*; (Gable); fl. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, Fuchsine Pink (627/1), basal blotch Indian Lake (826). A.E. (A.R.S.).
- Daylight cl. *fortunei* \times 'Mrs. Slocock'; (Harrison); tight truss of 11 flowers, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, pink with crimson spots.
- a Dee cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); truss globular, 14-17 flowers, fl. funnel shaped, 3 in. diam., white with slight flush of pink on reverse of three upper petals, spotting on central upper petal orange-yellow. H.C. (R.H.S. Wisley) 1960.
- Degas cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); compact truss of 9 flowers, Currant Red (H.C.C. 821), spotting on upper petals very dark red. H.C. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- Del cl. *croceum* \times 'Fabia'; (Thompson, Oregon, 1958); fl. funnel shaped, 12 per truss, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, 2 in. long, Amaranth Rose (H.C.C. 530/1), shading white to centre, greenish yellow spotted blotch.
- Destiny cl. *R. griffithianum* hybrid \varnothing \times *thomsonii*; (Harrison); fl. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, 3 in. long, 12 per truss, deep coral pink.
- Ding Dong cl. *discolor* \times *lacteum*; (Bolitho); white.
- Donnie cl. 'Unique' \times *wightii*; (Horlick); 15 flowers per truss, cream with port wine spots on upper lobe.
- Dolphin cl. *R. apodectum* \times *crinigerum*; (Harrison); fl. 12 in. flat truss, hose-in-hose, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, salmon pink.
- Doris Caroline cl. 'Lady Bligh' \times Loderi g.; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. 10-12 per truss, 4 in. across, 6-7 lobed, Tyrian Rose (24/3). P.S. (A.R.S.).
- a Double Damask cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); cream, fading to white, in dense trusses.
- Down Under cl. clone of *R. lochae*; (Crown Estate Commissioners Windsor); fl. 2-7 per cluster, tubular-funnel-shaped, light shade of Geranium Lake (H.C.C. 20). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1957.
- Duet cl. *R. catawbiense* var. *album* \times (*dichroanthum* \times *griffithianum*) \times *R. auriculatum*; (Leach, Brookville); pale yellow, edged pink, green blotch with green spotting in throat.
- Earlybird cl. *fargesii* \times *williamsianum*; (R. Henny, Oregon); 6 fl. per truss, funnel campanulate, Rose Madder (23/1), tube shaded to almost white.
- a Eastern Fire cl. clone of *R. kaempferi*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); fl. funnel-shaped, 1-4 per truss, salmon-pink. F.C.C. (R.H.S.) 1955.
- Edna McCarty cl. 'Alice' \times *auriculatum* (No. 70); (E. Ostbo, Washington); white. P.A. (A.R.S.) in 1959 under introducer's code number Lily No. 3.
- El Greco cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); fl. 10 per truss, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, funnel-shaped, Saffron Yellow (H.C.C. 7/3), changing to Azalea Pink (H.C.C. 618/2) at margins with flush of Carmine Rose (H.C.C. 621/1). A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1961.

- Elisabeth Inglis-Jones
Ellestee cl. *griersonianum* × 'May Day'; (Horlick, 1941); red flowers in loose trusses.
- Elsie Purnell cl. form of *R. wardii*; (C. Ingram); bright yellow, deep crimson blotch in throat. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- Endre Ostbo cl. *R. bullatum* × *calostrotum*; (Thatcher, 1950); loose truss of scented flowers, shell pink fading to white.
- Ermine cl. *discolor* × *souliei*; (E. Ostbo); lax truss of 7-9 flowers, 3½-4 in. wide, 7-lobed, blush pink fading to white, upper half of tube streaked rose at base. P.A. (A.R.S.) 1954.
- Exotic cl. 'Britannia' × 'Mrs. A. T. de la Mare'; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. white, unspotted, funnel-campanulate, 3½ in. wide, 11 per truss.
- Fake cl. 'Loderi King George' × Ostbo No. 3 (Bovees, Oregon); fl. 4½ in. wide, 10-12 per truss, strong red blend effect (2.5R. 8/5) to (2.5R. 4/10), back of calyx moderate yellow-green (2.5G.Y. 5/5). P.A. (A.R.S.) 1961.
- Fanfare cl. a form of *R. pseudoyanthinum*; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. tubular-campanulate, 2 in. wide, Orchid Purple (31), crimson spots.
- a Farall Flamingo cl. red *catawbiense* hybrid × red *catawbiense* hybrid; (Leach, Brookville); bright red.
- a Farall Ruby cl. parentage unknown; (Haworth-Booth); deciduous, truss 5-7-flowered, Tangerine Orange (H.C.C. 9/1), suffused later with Saturn Red (H.C.C. 13/1).
- Fine Bristles cl. *R. indicum* var. *macranthum* × 'Hinodegiri'; (Haworth-Booth); fl. 1¾ in. across, Scarlet (H.C.C. 19/1) flowering after midsummer.
- Fiona cl. clone of *R. pubescens*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves small, narrow lanceolate, slightly revolute, covered on both sides with long hairs; corolla ¾ in. × ½ in. with deep lobes, white suffused with shades of Persian Rose (H.C.C. 628/1), buds a deep shade of pink. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1955.
- a Flash cl. 'Bow Bells' × 'Loderi Pink Diamond'; (Brandt, Tacoma, 1952); fl. 6 per truss, 7-lobed, 4 in. wide, 2 in. long, Phlox Pink (625-625/1) in bud, fades to 625/3.
- Flavour cl. 'Flame Sport' × 'Pride of Mobile'; (Beltsville); semi-evergreen, 3-9 flowers per truss, single, deep brick red.
- Fleece cl. Seedling K.30 × 'Dido'; (Sloccock); truss 11-flowered, dome-shaped; fl. 2½ in. diam., campanulate, a slightly darker shade of Maize Yellow (H.C.C. 6-7/3), throat Mimosa Yellow (H.C.C. 602/2) with slight spotting on upper petal of maroon. H.C. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1960.
- a Flirtation cl. Loderig. × 'Luscombei'; (Heneage-Vivian, 1927); named by Mrs. R. M. Stevenson, 1959; truss 7-flowered, loose; fl. Rhodamine Pink (H.C.C. 527/2) with some deep pink flushes and limited red spotting on upper lobe.
- a Flirtation cl. 'Maxwelli' × 'Snow'; (Beltsville); fl. hose-in-hose, 2½ in. diam., clusters of 3 or 4, purple.

- Floriade cl. parentage unknown; (Adr. van Nes); round truss of 16-20 flowers, Turkey Red (H.C.C. 721/3) with dark brown blotch (H.C.C. 1030/2). Gold Medal (Rotterdam), 1960.
- a Florida cl. [Vuykiana]; unnamed seedling ♀ × 'Vuyk's Scarlet'; (Vuyk van Nes); evergreen; fl. deep red (Currant Red H.C.C. 821/3), hose-in-hose with some petaloids. F.C.C. (after trial at Boskoop) 1958.
- a Flower Girl cl. (*kaempferi* × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); semi-evergreen; fl. in profusion, dark pink, single.
- Fred Harris cl. 'Corona' × *fortunei*; (Harrison); fl. clear pink, 14 per conical truss, 5-, 6- or 7-lobed, slightly reflexed, 4 in. diam.
- Fred Rose cl. *lacteam* × 'Mary Swaythling'; (raised by F. Rose, named by Sunningdale Nurseries); lemon yellow flowers with slight red spotting at throat.
- Frome cl. parentage unknown (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous, 12-14 flowers per truss, 2½ in. diam., funnel-shaped, Saffron Yellow (H.C.C. 7), overlaid Fire Red (H.C.C. 15/1) in throat, margins waved and frilled. A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1958.
- Fruehauf cl. probably *R. caucasicum* hybrid; (Albertzand, Germany); ruby red (German Rhod. Soc. Colour Chart 12-13d); normally flowering in April, but used for forcing at Xmas.
- Fulbrook cl. *grande* × unknown seedling; (Gordon); fl. in large truss, pink with slight maroon speckling on upper petals, maroon blotch in throat. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- a General Wavell cl. 'Glory of Numazu' × *indicum*. (C. Ingram); fl. single, 3¼ in. diam., Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622/1. suffused in centre of each lobe with Porcelain Rose (H.C.C. 620) while central three lobes are marked with limited crimson spots; late flowering. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- Gladys Johnson cl. 'Diva' × *fortunei*; (Johnson, Tacoma); fl. 4 in. diam., wide funnel-shaped, 15 per round truss, rose pink in bud, lighter when open. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- Goldstrike cl. *oreotrephes* × 'Royal Flush' (F2) Selfed. (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. 8 per truss, funnel-campanulate, 2 in. diam., Aureolin (3/2), upper lobes shaded Buttercup Yellow (3/1); early mid-season.
- a Golden Guinea cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); deep yellow, stamens sometimes petaloid, foliage bronzed-tinted; mid-season to late.
- Goliath cl. 'Antoon van Welie' × 'Professor J. H. Zaayer' × 'Annie E. Endtz'; (P. van Nes, 1958); truss of 15 flowers, 4 in. diam., deep pink (Spiraea Red H.C.C. 025/1); F.C.C. (after trial at Boskoop) 1959.
- Grand Finale cl. 'Doncaster' × *eriogynum*. (Haworth-Booth, 1932); vivid red, July flowering.

- Great Lakes cl. *catawbiense* var. *album* × *yakusimanum*; (Leach, Brookville); clear pink buds, opening light pink, fading to chalk white, mid-season; probably 41. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- Greeley cl. 'Fawn' × *elliottii* × 'Umpqua Chief'; (Greer, Oregon); fl. campanulate, 6 lobes (Nickerson 11 R.P. 4/11), top three lobes densely spotted (12P.R. 1/10). May blooming.
- a Green Eyes cl. [Kurume]; 'Maxwelli' and *indicum* parentage; (Beltsville); fl. hose-in-hose, 3-4 in. diam., in clusters of 3, white with marked green blotch on standard.
- Guepier cl. 'Cunningham's Sulphur' × *lacteum*; (C. Ingram); truss 17-flowered, fl. shallow campanulate, 2 in. diam., 1½ in. long, Chartreuse Green (H.C.C. 663/3) darker shading on the upper lobe. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- Half Penny cl. 'Anna' × 'Margaret Dunn'; (James, Oregon); buds pink opening to Primrose Yellow (601/3), large Ruby Red (827) blotches entirely around centre of corolla, widely campanulate, 6 in. diam., 12-14 in erect truss. Late bloomer.
- Harry Tagg cl. 'Albescens' × *ciliicalyx*; (R.B.G. Edinburgh); truss of 3-4 flowers, 3 in. long, 4½ in. diam., white with faint greenish-yellow stain on upper lobe and faint tinging of pink on outside. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- His Lordship cl. clone of *R. aberconwayi*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); fl. campanulate, 2-2½ in. diam., white with pattern of crimson dashes on the upper petals. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1945.
- Honey cl. 'Bow Bells' × *R. wardii*; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. 3½ in. diam., Egyptian Buff (407/3) fading paler; mid-April.
- Hunter's Moon cl. *chasmanthum* ♀ × *concatenans* (Harrison); fl. 8 per truss, tubular, 1 in. diam., and 1½ in. long, dull white, greenish brown spots.
- Iberia 'Isabella' ♀ × *wardii*; (C. Ingram, possibly raised in 1949); fl. in well-filled trusses of 10-12 funnel-shaped, creamy white with a conspicuous dark ruby crimson blotch in the throat.
- Ice Cream cl. 'Dido' × *discolor*; (Sloccock); truss dome-shaped, 12-14 fl.; fl. 3½ in. diam., Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622/3), throat white with spotting on upper petal of pale olive green. A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials), 1960.
- a Imago cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. double, deep yellow tinged red-lilac; mid-season.
- Imbros cl. parentage unknown; (Rothschild); fl. flat, 3 in. diam., Rose Bengal (H.C.C. 25/2).
- Janet Blair cl. Dexter hybrid × ?; (Leach, Brookville); very pale pinkish mauve, golden bronze rays on upper lobes; mid-season; probably H1.

- Janielle cl. unnamed yellow seedling \times 'Marcia'; (Greer, Oregon); fl. funnel-shaped, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., 5-lobed, Nickerson 2.5R.P. 9.5/1.5, tinged 4R.P. 8.5/5, with prominent upper blotch 5R.4. 5/12. Late mid-season.
- a Javelin cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. bicoloured, saffron yellow and red. Late flowering.
- Jay McMartin cl. 'C. P. Raffill' \times 'Moser's Maroon'; (Halfdan Lem, 1950); named by Bowman; truss dense, rounded, 18-flowered, fl. *Chrysanthemum* Crimson (824/1), heavy black spots on upper lobe.
- Jiminy Cricket cl. *euchaites* \times *gymnocarpum*; (James, Oregon); truss 12-14-flowered; fl. widely funnel-campanulate, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., Turkey Red (721). Early April.
- John Barr Stevenson cl. *lacteam* \times 'Logan Damaris'; (J. B. Stevenson); lemon yellow.
- a Katanga cl. parentage unknown; (Rothschild); deciduous; deep pink, deepening in the throat.
- a Kilauea cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); brilliant orange red, yellow-orange blotch. Late.
- Kitty Cole cl. *griersonianum* \times white flowering *discolor* hybrid; (raised Lowinsky, 1930 introduced by Horlick); rose.
- Kubla Khan cl. 'Britannia' \varnothing \times 'Goldsworth Orange'; (Brandt, Tacoma, 1950); Mandarin Red (17/2) fading to Fire Red (15/3), very large blotch Currant Red (821) extending to rays of spots of same colour; calyx very large.
- La Bar's White cl. *R. catawbiense* clone or a natural hybrid found in W. Virginia about 1942; (introduced La Bar, Pennsylvania, 1958); white in bud and white with yellowish green markings in the throat when open.
- a Lady Elphinstone cl. [Kurume]; parentage unknown; (raised C. E. Brown, introduced by D. Stewart); evergreen; fl. salmon pink. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1952.
- Lady Horlick *R. campylocarpum* \times Loderi g.; (Horlick, 1931); 7-flowered truss; fl. white, 6 in. diam., lightly scented.
- Lal Kapra cl. *neriiflorum* \times *sanguineum*; (Bolitho); red.
- a Lavender Elf cl. ('Maxwelli' \times 'Snow') \times (*kaempferi* \times 'Snow'); (Beltsville); hose-in-hose, lavender.
- Lemon Drop cl. Seedling of 'Moonstone'; (Bovees, Oregon); fl. $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., brilliant light yellow-green, Nickerson 2.5Gy. 9/8.
- a Leprechaun cl. cross between two unnamed seedlings of *kaempferi*, Kurume and *indicum* parentage; (Beltsville); semi-evergreen; fl. lavender, single, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., clusters of 2-7.
- Little Ernie *forrestii* var. *repens* \times 'May Day'; (Allen, Oregon); dwarf plant; truss of 8-10 flowers, Turkey Red (721). Early April.
- Little Patty cl. *forrestii* var. *repens* \varnothing \times 'Humming Bird'; (R. Henny); Orient Red (H.C.C. 819/3), 4-5 flowers per truss. P.A. (A.R.S.).

- a Little White Lie cl. *kaempferi* hybrid \times 'Snow' \times 'Firefly'; (Beltsville); semi-evergreen, fl. in clusters of 2-3, 1 in. diam., white, hose-in-hose.
- Logan Belle cl. *R. arizelum* \times *hodgsonii*; (Hambro); fl. in large compact truss, opening cream flushed pink, fading to cream with purple blotch at base of corolla. P.C. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- a Lorelei cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. pale lilac double. Mid-season.
- Maestro cl. Barclayi g. \varnothing \times *williamsianum*; (Harrison); dark red suffused pink.
- Maricee cl. Seedling of *sargentianum*; (Caperci, Seattle); fl. creamy-white, 5, 4 or 3 partite. A.E. (A.R.S.).
- Marine cl. A selection of *R. augustinii*; (Bovees, Oregon); strong purple (Nickerson 5P. 4/9), shading to light purple (5P. 7/7) with purple spots on upper petal. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- a Martha Isaacson cl. *occidentale* \times 'Mrs. Donald Graham'; (Ostbo, Washington); white. P.A. (A.R.S.) 1956.
- a Martin Stewart cl. parentage uncertain; (Stewart); evergreen, fl. blood red, hose-in-hose, tubular. H.C. (R.H.S.) 1957.
- Marvellous cl. 'Countess of Derby' \times ?; (Greer, Oregon); fl. Nickerson 7R.P. 5.5/11, spotted upper lobe 4R.P. 1/9, open funnel-shaped, 5½ in. diam., in upright truss. Mid-season.
- Mary Greig cl. *euchaëtes* \times *souliei*; (Greig, Royston, B.C.); fl. Rose Madder (H.C.C. 23), 2½ in. diam., unequal calyx.
- Mary Harmon cl. 'Mrs. Donald Graham' \times *occidentale*; (E. Ostbo); fl. funnel-shaped, 2 in. diam., fragrant, 15 per truss, white striped pink on outside. A.E. (A.R.S.).
- Mary Mayo cl. 'Loderi King George' \times Ostbo Y 3; (Bovees, Oregon); fl. 4½ in. diam., frilled, deep pink (Nickerson 2.5R. 6/11), strong pink (2.5R. 7/8) and moderate pink (2.5R. 8/5), throat suffused brilliant yellow (2.5Y. 9/9). Mid-May. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- Mary McQuilkan cl. *griersonianum* \times 'Souvenir of W. C. Slocock'; (Horlick); fl. smallish, in loose truss, white with port wine throat. Late May.
- a Mauna Loa cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); red, suffused orange blotch. Mid-season to late.
- May Firth cl. *R. caucasicum* \times ?; (Knap Hill); fl. large, pale pink, in loose truss. March-April.
- a Medway cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous; petals waved and frilled at margin, Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/3), deepening to Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1) towards margin, blotch at throat golden yellow. A.M. (Wisley Trials) 1959.
- a Melford Glory cl. 'Brick' \times C4; (Yeates, New Zealand); truss of 8 flowers, open and flat, Tangerine Orange (H.C.C. (9/1) wing lobes tipped with Capsicum Red (H.C.C. 715/1).
- Mi Amor *R. lindleyi* \times *nuttallii*; (Sumner, San Francisco); white with yellow throat.

- a Midsummer Beauty cl. 'Kokinshita' × *R. indicum* var. *macranthum*; (Haworth-Booth); fl. 2½ in. diam., orange-pink of a deep vermilion shade (H.C.C. 18/1) suffused (H.C.C. 20/1). Midsummer flowering.
- Mildred Fawcett cl. 'Faggetter's Favourite' × 'Mrs. Donald Graham'; (Fawcett); fl. 3 in. diam., blush pink, orange pink blotch. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- a Mimi cl. [Kaempferi]; parentage unknown; (Bunschoten, Boskoop); evergreen, soft Bengal Rose (H.C.C. 25/2) with darker pink blotch Rose Opal (H.C.C. 022). A.M. (after Trial at Boskoop) 1958.
- Ming cl. 'Albatross' × *wardii*; (R. Henny, Oregon); fl. to 4 in. diam., Uranium Green 63/3 with Indian Lake blotch on upper lobe. Mid-May flowering.
- Miss Olympia cl. 'Loderi King George' × *williamsianum*; (cross by E. Ostbo, raised and introduced by Roy Clark); fl. to 4 in. diam., blush pink darker pink throat. Mid-April. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- Miss Prim cl. *R. decorum* × *R. irroratum*; (Bovees, Oregon); white blotched brilliant yellow green Nickerson 2.5GY. 8/9. Late March to early April.
- Mobur cl. 'Burgundy' × 'Moser's Maroon'; (cross made by Lem, 1950, raised and named by Bowman, Fort Bragg); fl. in truss of 15, Dahlia Purple (931/3), upper lobes spotted Maroon (1030).
- Moonshine Crescent cl. 'Adriaan Koster' × *litiense* (R.H.S. Wisley); truss compact, globular or dome-shaped, 14–16 fl. 2½ in. diam., Primrose Yellow (H.C.C. between 601/2 and 601/3). A.M. (R.H.S. Wisley Trials) 1960.
- Morocco cl. clone of *R. coriaceum*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves 9 in. long, 3½ in. broad, oblanceolate, covered below with pale fawn indumentum; truss 16–20 flowers; corolla 1½ in. long, 2½ in. diam., funnel-campanulate, white with deep crimson blotch and little spotting on upper lobe.
- Morvah cl. *elliottii* × *wattii*; (Bolitho); truss globular, 20 flowers, Turkey Red (H.C.C. 721/3). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1956; F.C.C. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- Mountain Star cl. 'Stanley Davies' × *yakusimanum*; (Street); truss of 20–30 rose pink flowers. P.C. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- Mouton Rothschild cl. 'Beau Brummel' ♀ × *elliottii*; (Rothschild); truss globular, tightly packed, blood red (H.C.C. 820/2), brown spotting over inside of flower.
- a Nam Khan Nestucca cl. parentage unknown; (Rothschild); deep pink. cl. *fortunei* × *yakusimanum*; (Smith); fl. white, 5 in. diam., in 12–15 fl. truss. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- a Northland cl. *Kaempferi* hybrid × 'Snow'; (Beltsville, 1960); evergreen; flowers in clusters of 2, white, petals crenate.
- Nugget cl. 'Cowslip' × *chamae-thomsonii* var. *chamaethauma* (Brandt, Tacoma); truss of 8 flowers; fl. 2½ in. diam., erect, Empire Yellow (603/1) flushed Peach (512).

- Opal Fawcett cl. parentage unknown; (raised E. Ostbo, Washington, introduced by Fawcette, Tacoma); fl. funnel-shaped, 5-lobed, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., 16 to truss, slightly fragrant, very pale, opalescent pink, fading to white. A.E. (A.R.S.).
- Openwood cl. seedling of *R. yunnanense*; (Knap Hill); mauve-lavender, speckled red.
- a Orchid Belle cl. *kaempferi* × 'Snow' × 'Firefly'; (Beltsville); single orchid fl., slightly deeper colour in throat, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam.
- Ostbo's Low Yellow cl. parentage unknown; (raised E. Ostbo, introduced by Owen Ostbo); creamy yellow, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam. P.A. (A.R.S.).
- a Paramount cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); double, rich yellow, late.
- a Pastiche cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); large, yellow, splashed pink. Mid-season.
- Patricia cl. clone of *R. campylogynum* var. *charopoeum*; (Caperci); fl. Magnolia Purple (030 to 030/1), $1-1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam.
- Peggy Bannier cl. Seedling of unknown hybrid × 'Antoon van Welie'; (Adr. van Nes); large pyramidal truss of 20-22 fl.; fl. $3\frac{1}{2}-4$ in. diam., Tyrian Rose (H.C.C. 24/1), fringed. A.M. (after trial at Boskoop) 1960.
- a Pequeno cl. Cross between two unnamed seedlings of *kaempferi* × 'Snow' × 'Firefly' parentage; (Beltsville); semi-evergreen; fl. hose-in-hose, clusters of 3, salmon.
- a Petrouchka cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); apricot and yellow; mid-season.
- a Pierre Du Pont cl. [Indian]; parentage unknown; (Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania); corolla pure white except for dense yellow green spotting at base of upper lobe, spotting fading to an almost imperceptible greenish flush on ageing flowers.
- a Ping Pong cl. ('Maxwelli' × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. hose-in-hose, clusters of 3-5, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., white with cream throat.
- a Pink Elf cl. ('Maxwelli' × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. hose-in-hose, shell pink.
- a Pinkette cl. cross between two unnamed seedlings of *indicum*, Kurume and 'Maxwelli' parentage; (Beltsville); deciduous; fl. in clusters of 3-9, bright medium pink.
- Pink Flourish cl. *catawbiense* var. *album* × (*decorum* × *griffithianum*) × red *catawbiense* hybrid; (Leach); bright strong pink, boldly blotched. Mid-season. Probably H1.
- Piquante *leucaspis* × *valentinianum* ♀; (Harrison); truss of 3 flowers, 2 in. diam., pale yellow, deeper in centre.
- a Port Knap cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); evergreen; fls. in threes, $\frac{7}{8}$ in. diam., funnel-shaped, Phlox Purple (H.C.C. 632/1) fine spotting on upper petal, crimson at throat. A.M. (Wisley Trials) 1958
- Portrait cl. *chasmanthum* ♀ × 'Lady Chamberlain'; (Harrison); truss of 6 flowers; fl. tubular, 2 in. diam., pale oyster pink.

- Powell Glass cl. Natural white variant of *R. catawbiense*; (Amateis, New York); Amateis writes "Seeds of 'Catalgia' bought from Gable in 1947. The third generation broke into whites, pinks and varying shades of lavender. Fourth generation showed a majority of whites. 'Powell Glass', the fifth generation, has bloomed all white and can be presumed to be stabilized in its white genes. As best white to best white was always crossed there has been no diminution in the vitality of this plant."
- a Purple Cushion cl. (*kaempferi* × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. 1½ in. diam., cyclamen-purple, very profuse.
- Quartz cl. clone of *R. rex* (Rock 03800); (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves 12 in. long, 4 in. broad, narrow oblanceolate, covered below with thick hard brown tomentum; fl. 3 in. diam., tubular-campanulate, white with a faint pinkish-blue tinge, deep crimson blotch in base of throat and scattered crimson spots on the upper lobes. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1955.
- Queen Bee cl. *dichroanthum* × ?; (Corbin, Oregon); truss lax, 6-7 fl., burnt orange-red, tubular-campanulate, 3 in. long, 1½ in. diam.
- Queen Mab cl. 'Corona' × *souliei*; (Brandt, Washington); truss compact, 12-flowered; fl. 2½ in. diam., 1½ in. long, Tyrian Rose (24/2-24/1), upper petals 24.
- Rajah cl. *euchaetes* × *thomsonii*; (Harrison); fl. 12 per truss, 5-lobed, 2½ in. diam., 2 in. long, dark bright red, no spots.
- Ralph Purnell cl. *cerasimum* (red form) × 'Doncaster'; (Thacker, 1942); fl. 20 per compact truss, 5-lobed, 2 in. diam., 1½ in. long, dark red.
- Record cl. seedling of 'Antoon van Welie' × 'Professor J. H. Zaayer' × 'Annie E. Endtz'; (P. van Nes, Boskoop); fl. 13-14 in large pyramidal truss, deep pink (Spiraea-red, H.C.C. 025/1) slightly darker veined, ageing to lighter pink. A.M. (after trial at Boskoop) 1958.
- Red Hot cl. 'Britannia' ♀ × 'Elizabeth'; (R. Henny); Orient Red (H.C.C. 819/3), shaded Mandarin Red (H.C.C. 17/1) in throat.
- Red Imp cl. seedling of *R. haematodes*; (The Bovees, Oregon); fl. moderate red 2.57 4/10 (Nickerson) outside, lighter inside. Early May.
- a Ribble cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); fl. 13 per compact dome-shaped truss, 3½ in. diam., 3½ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins frilled, between Camellia Rose (H.C.C. 622/1) and Neyron Rose (H.C.C. 623/1) upper petal bright orange. H.C. (Wisley Trials) 1960.
- Romany Rye cl. *griersonianum* ♀ × 'Souldis'; (Harrison); fl. 9 per truss, 4½ in. diam., 3 in. long, deep pink.

- Ronald cl. *hodgsonii* × *sinogrande*; (The Gibsons, 1933); fl. 30 in heavy truss, white extensively stained a shade of pink, rose purple besides some variable darker staining on outside. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- Rona Martin cl. 'Cornubia' × 'Shilsonii'; (Horlick); fine dark red trusses of medium size. March flowering.
- a Rose Elf cl. ('Indica Alba' × 'Snow') × 'Salmon Beauty'; (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. 1 in. diam., light rose, very profuse.
- Rosenkavalier cl. *erigynum* × 'Tally Ho'; (R.H.S. Wisley); fl. 15 per truss, 4 in. diam., scarlet (H.C.C. 19/1) with scattered red spotting on upper lobes. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- Round Wood cl. seedling of *R. lanigerum* (K.W. 6258); (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); globular truss of 20–25 fl., crimson (H.C.C. 22). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1951 under *R. silvaticum*.
- Royal Anne cl. 'Azor' × ('Nereid' × *discolor*); (Greig, Royston); loose truss of 8–10 flowers, 3½ in. diam., Buttercup Yellow (H.C.C. 5/1) suffused towards lobes Vermilion (H.C.C. 18/2) with streak of Vermilion running down tube from intersection of lobes, spotted dull Sap Green (H.C.C. 62).
- a Rozanne Waterer cl. Parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. double, white tinged carmine, deep pink tube. Mid-season.
- Ruth Lyons cl. selection of *R. davidsonianum*; (raised Barto, introduced Lyons, Oregon); upright truss of 10 flowers, Rhodamine Pink (527/1–527/2). P.A. (A.R.S.).
- a Ryde Heron cl. form of *R. macranthum*; (Knap Hill); evergreen; fl. singly or in pairs, 2¼ in. diam., 1¾ in. long, funnel-shaped, Rose Bengal (H.C.C. 25/2), spotted Rose Bengal (H.C.C. 25) at throat. June–July flowering. A.M. (Wisley Trials) 1958.
- a Sahara cl. Parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); yellow. Mid-June.
- a Saint Ruan cl. Parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); pure white, large golden blotch. Mid-season.
- Saint Tudy cl. Parentage unknown; (Harrison); truss of up to 15 flowers, 2 in. diam., 1¼ in. long, shallow campanulate, Lobelia Blue (H.C.C. 4122). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- a Salmon Elf cl. Cross between two seedlings of *kaempferi* × 'Snow' × 'Firefly' parentage; (Beltsville); deciduous; fl. in clusters of 2 or 3, hose-in-hose, 1¼ in. diam., salmon pink with dark blotch on standard.
- a Sandra Marie cl. [Knap Hill type]; Parentage unknown; (Bovees, Oregon); fl. 12–14 per truss, 3½ in.–4 in. diam., pale orange yellow (7.5Y.R. 9/4), flushed strong yellowish pink (10R 7/9,) blotch 10Y.R. 8/10 (Nickerson).
- a Sanguinare cl. 'Flame Sport' × 'Pride of Mobile'; (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. in clusters of 2–3, 1½ in. diam., dark red.
- a Saskia cl. parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. large, pink; pink-bronze foliage. Late.

- a Scotty cl. [Knap Hill]; (The Bovees, Oregon); truss of 15-18 fl. 3 in. diam., frilled, blend of deep to moderate yellowish pink (Nickerson 5R. 6/11 to 5R. 8/6) flushed with pale to moderate orange yellow (7.5Y.R. 9/4 to 7.5Y.R. 8/8) with a strong yellow blotch.
- Seemly cl. *griersonianum* × rose coloured *discolor* hybrid; (Horlick); large rose flowers. Mid-June.
- Senorita cl. 'Loderi King George' × Ostbo's 43 No. 2. (The Bovees, Oregon); fl. ruffled, strong reddish-purple (2.5R.P. 4/10) (Nickerson), throat light yellowish pink 7.5R. 9/3, upper lobe spotted strong yellowish brown 7.5Y.R. 5/7. Mid-May.
- a Shocking Pink cl. cross between two unnamed seedlings of 'Maxwelli', *indicum*, Kurume and *kaempferi* parentage; (Beltsville); fl. numerous in twos or threes, 3 in. diam., bright clear pink.
- Silverburn cl. *kotschy* ♀ × *telmateium* ♂; (J. N. J. Hartley, 1951); fl. 3-4 in fairly compact truss, Orchid Purple (H.C.C. 31/1). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- a Snowdrop cl. ('Maxwelli' × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. in clusters of 2-7, hose-in-hose, clear white.
- a Snow Flurry cl. ('Firefly' × 'Snow') × (*kaempferi* × 'Snow'); (Beltsville); evergreen; hose-in-hose, clear white.
- Spectra cl. *discolor* hybrid; (raised E. Ostbo, introduced Fawcett, Washington); flushed pink fading to white. Late.
- Spring Dance cl. a *triflorum* hybrid; (raised Barto, introduced Bovees, Oregon); similar to *R. triflorum*.
- Spring Parade cl. 'Cunningham's White' × red *catawbiense* hybrid; (Shammarrello, Ohio); truss globular, fl. funnel-shaped, to 2½ in. diam., scarlet red, no blotch. Early May.
- Stanley Perry cl. *glaucophyllum* × *trichostomum* var. *radinum*; (Thacker, Warwickshire); truss of 10 flowers, 5-lobed, ¾ in. diam., ½ in. long, old rose, frilly.
- Stonehurst cl. seedling of *R. lanigerum*; (Strauss, Sussex); truss globular, tight, about 35-flowered, campanulate, 2 in. long, 2½ in. diam., light shade of Cherry (H.C.C. 722/3). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- a Stour cl. Parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous; dome-shaped truss of 1-3 flowers; corolla 2¾ in. diam., 2¼ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins wavy, Mandarin Red (H.C.C. 17/1) upper petal at throat blotched Tangerine Orange (H.C.C. 9). A.M. (Wisley Trials) 1958.
- a Summer Sunset cl. clone of *R. prunifolium*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); fl. saucer-shaped, 1½ in. diam., nine per flattish truss, Vermilion (H.C.C. 18/1). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1950.
- a Swallow cl. Parentage unknown; (Rothschild); golden yellow.
- Sweetie Pie cl. 'Cowslip' × *forrestii* var. *repens*; (James, Oregon); loose truss of 6 flowers, 2½ in. diam., widely funnel-shaped, pale cream, flushed pink. April.

- a Sweet Sue cl. [Knap Hill]; (The Bovees, Oregon); truss of 8-12 flowers, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.-4 in. diam., strong purplish pink, (Nickerson 7.5R.P. 7/10) with deep yellow blotch.
- a Syncopation cl. Parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); bicoloured, yellow and deep cherry. Mid-season.
- Tacoma Maiden cl. *ciliatum* \times *cilicalyx*; (raised Brandt, introduced Fawcett, Washington); pure white, scented. April. Probably H5.
- Tahiti cl. (*maximum* \times *catawbiense*) \times (*dichroanthum* \times *discolor* \times *campylocarpum*); (Leach, Pennsylvania); ivory, edged salmon-orange, russet blotch on upper lobe, conspicuous calyx. Late mid-season.
- Tan Crossing cl. 'Jalisco Eclipse' \times 'Jalisco Goshawk'; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor, 1950); The material used for the purpose, from which the hybrid takes its name, gives some indication of the curious colour.
- a Tang cl. *R. bakeri* \times 'Red King'; (Leach, Pennsylvania); deciduous; orange, ageing to brilliant scarlet. Late mid-season. Probably H1.
- Tara cl. (*griersonianum* \times *kingianum*) \times 'Tally Ho' ♀; (Harrison); truss conical, 19-flowered; fl. $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. diam., $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, bright scarlet, no spots.
- a Tay cl. parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous; truss of 10-14 flowers, compact; corolla $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins waved and frilled, Chinese Yellow (H.C.C. between 606 and 606/1), orange blotch at throat. A.M. (Wisley Trials) 1959.
- Thacker's Sulphur cl. *campylocarpum* \times 'Cunningham's Sulphur'; (Thacker, 1940); truss compact of 15 flowers, bell-shaped, 5-7-lobed, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, 1 in. long, sulphur yellow, reddish blotch.
- Thelma cl. 'Armistice Day' \times *griersonianum* ♀; (Lem, Washington); fl. funnel-shaped, 4 in. diam., 5-lobed, near Geranium Lake (H.C.C. 20/1). P.A. (A.R.S.).
- Thicket cl. *moupinense* \times *seinghkuense*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); truss 3-4-flowered, Chantreuse Green (H.C.C. 663/3), throat spotted Spanish Orange (H.C.C. 010/1). P.C. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- Titness Aladdin cl. *auriculatum* \times *griersonianum*; (Horlick); rose trusses in late June.
- Titness Crimson cl. 'J. G. Millais' \times Loderi grex; (Horlick); truss of 11-12 deep glowing red flowers; early April.
- Titness Delight cl. a Loderi hybrid; (Horlick); truss of 11 flowers, bell-shaped, light pink fading to white, slightly scented. Mid-May.
- Titness Perfection cl. 'Shilsonii' \times *praevenum*; (Horlick); fl. rose-pink with a deep throat. April.
- Titness Pink cl. 'Shilsonii' \times *sutchuenense*; (Horlick); fl. deepish rosy pink. April.
- Titness Saucy cl. Loderi hybrid; (Horlick); truss of 12 flowers, 3 in. diam., slightly scented, apple blossom turning to white. Mid-May.

- Titness Scarlet cl. 'Fabia' \times *neriiflorum*; (Horlick); loose truss of dark red orange scarlet flowers. Late May.
- Titness Victory cl. *basilicum* \times *mollyanum*; (Horlick); truss compact of off-white slightly mauve tinted flowers. April.
- Tosca cl. 'Exbury Naomi' \times *litiense*; (R.H.S. Wisley); truss round, 10-flowered; corolla $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. diam., shallow campanulate, Primrose Yellow (H.C.C. 601/3), opening buds tinged pale pink. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1959.
- a Trent cl. Parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous; truss compact, dome-shaped, 10-flowered; corolla 3 in. diam., $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins waved, Chrome Yellow (H.C.C. 605/1) tinged Salmon (H.C.C. 412) at margins, spotting on throat golden yellow.
- Trude Webster cl. 'Countess of Derby' \times ?; (Greer, Oregon); fl. open funnel-shaped, 5 in. diam., 5-lobed, 14 in upright truss, (Nickerson 3.5R.P. 8/5), spotted upper lobe 5R.P. 3/9. Mid-season.
- Truth cl. (*decorum* \times *griffithianum*) \times 'Mrs. Slocock'♀; (Harrison); truss of 12 flowers, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, pale pink in bud opening to white.
- Tudor cl. *arboreum* (pink) \times 'Carex'; (Harrison); 14 fl. in truss, 3 in. diam., $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, pink, lightly spotted.
- Minstrel Tyee cl. 'Esquire' \times 'Idealist'; (James, Oregon); fl. Primrose Yellow (601/2), throat Uranium Green (63/2), up to 4 in. diam. May. A.E. (A.R.S.).
- a Tyne cl. Parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); flowers 11 per truss; corolla slightly over 3 in. diam., $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins entire, Carmine Rose (H.C.C. between 621 and 621/3), blotch on upper petal orange. Mid-May. H.C. (Wisley Trials) 1960.
- a Tyrol cl. Parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); fl. large, cream fading to white. Late.
- Vernus cl. 'Cunningham's White' \times red *catawbiense* hybrid; (raised Shammarello-Leach, introduced Leach, Pennsylvania); fl. light pink, early, shortly after *mucronulatum*. Probably H1.
- Veronica Milner cl. *campylocarpum* \times 'Little Ben'; (Greig, Royston); truss of 4-5 fl., Rose Madder (H.C.C. 23/1).
- Vibrant cl. *discolor* ♀ \times *wardii*; (Harrison); truss of 14 fl., 4 in. diam., $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, saucer-shaped, 6-7-lobed, edges frilled, greenish-white, no spot; young foliage bronze.
- a Victorine Hefling cl. [Kurume]; seedling of 'Hinomayo'; (Adr. van Nes, Boskoop); fl. 2-3 per truss, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in-3 in. diam., deep pink (Rose Madder H.C.C. 23/1).
- a Vida Brown cl. [Kurume]; Parentage unknown; (raised C. E. Brown, introduced Stewart); evergreen; fl. large, hose-in-hose, deep rose pink. H.C. (Wisley Trials) 1956; F.C.C. (Wisley Trials) 1960.
- Vigil cl. *discolor* \times *wardii* ♀; (Harrison); fl. 15 per truss, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. across, 2 in. long, saucer-shaped, 7-lobed, cream with basal spots, buds shrimp colour, compact conical truss.

- Vin Rosé cl. clone of *R. cinnabarinum* var. *roylei*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves 3 in. long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. broad, oblanceolate; truss 7-flowered, lax, drooping; corolla 2 in. long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., tubular, waxy, lobes 1 in. long, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., outside Currant Red (H.C.C. 821/1) deepening towards the base and lightening towards the lobes, inside Blood Red (H.C.C. 820/2) dulled with a waxy bloom. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1953.
- Virgo cl. 'Antoon van Wellie' \times 'Professor J. H. Zaayer' \times 'Annie E. Endtz'; (P. van Nes, Boskoop); pyramidal truss of 17–18 fl.; fl. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., fringed, white, buds and fresh opened flowers slightly pink (Rhodamine Rose H.C.C. 5–27) with large red-brown spotted blotch. A.M. (Boskoop Trials) 1959.
- Virtue cl. 'Lady Chamberlain' \times *oreotrephes* ♀; (Harrison); 6 fl. per truss; fl. $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. diam., 2 in. long, mauve.
- Wakehurst cl. Parentage unknown; (Price); truss of 25 fl.; fl. campanulate, 2 in. diam., $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, Mellow Purple (H.C.C. 630/2) with prominent crimson spots on upper lobe. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- Warm Spring cl. 'Dido' \times 'Fawn'; (James, Oregon); truss rounded, 8–10 flowered; fl. Indian Yellow (6/2) flushed pink, widely funnel-campanulate, 4 in. diam.
- a Waveney cl. Parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); truss compact, globular, 12–18 flowers; fl. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins waved, Buttercup Yellow (H.C.C. 5/2); blotch on upper petal Saffron Yellow (H.C.C. 7); mid-May. H.C. (Wisley Trials) 1960.
- Wendy cl. 'Cornish Cross' \times *williamsianum*; (Brandt, Washington); fl. $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. diam., 2 in. long, Cherry (H.C.C. 722/1 on back 722/2 on front), in 9-flowered compact truss.
- a Whitecap cl. 'Indica Alba' \times 'Snow'; (Beltsville); fl. numerous, clusters of 2 or 3, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., white.
- a White Doll cl. Cross between two unnamed seedlings of 'Maxwelli', Kurume and *indicum* parentage; (Beltsville); semi-evergreen; fl. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.–2 in. diam., in clusters of 2 or 3, white.
- a White Elf cl. Cross between two unnamed seedlings of 'Maxwelli', Kurume and *indicum* parentage; (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. $1-1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., white.
- a White Find cl. form of *R. vaseyi* found in mountains of N. Carolina; (La Bars Nursery, Pa.); foliage lighter green than in pink form; fl. buds white to greenish white at base, clear white when open, throat of upper 3 petals mottled greenish-yellow.
- a White Nymph cl. ('Firefly' \times 'Snow') \times (*kaempferi* \times 'Snow'); (Beltsville); evergreen; fl. $1-1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., profuse, white.
- William Pattman cl. 'Belvedere' \times 'Fabia'; (Thatcher); fl. 10 per truss, 5-lobed, salmon-orange.

- William Wright Smith cl. *nuttallii* × *veitchianum*; (R.B.G. Edinburgh); fl. in clusters of 4, slightly scented, campanulate, 5 in. long, 5½ in. diam., lobes recurved and prominently frilled, white with distinct orange tinge around the base and the outside tinged with varying shades of pink. F.C.C. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- Wink cl. Loderi g. × 'Mrs. Mary Ashley'; (R. Henny, Oregon); pink. P.A. (A.R.S.) 1960.
- Winkfield cl. 'Fusilier' × 'Jalisco Elect'; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); corolla 2½ in. long, 3 in. diam., pinkish-yellow, freely suffused with pink, upper 3 lobes on reverse side stained Mandarin Red (H.C.C. 17), throat tinged and spotted Crimson. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- Winter Brightness cl. clone of *R. mucronulatum*; (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves deciduous, about 3 in. long, 1½ in. broad; flowers about 1½ in. diam., rich purplish-rose. F.C.C. (R.H.S.) 1957.
- Wizard cl. 'Catawbiense Album' × 'Fabia'; (Lem, Washington); trusses round, conical, 14–20-flowered; fl. 5-lobed, apricot buff, old rose at margin, calyx enlarged, apricot coloured. A.E. (A.R.S.).
- Wonderland cl. 'Alice' × *auriculatum*; (Slocock); truss flattened dome-shaped, compact, 12-flowered; fl. 3½ in. diam., 2¾ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins waved and frilled, white, light spotting at throat mustard, buds creamy pink. Mid-June. A.M. (R.H.S.) 1958.
- a Wye cl. Parentage unknown; (R.H.S. Wisley); deciduous; truss globular, 10–14 flowered; corolla 3¼ in. diam., 2½ in. long, funnel-shaped, margins waved and frilled, shade of Chrome Yellow (H.C.C. between 605/605/1) slightly flushed Carmine Rose (H.C.C. 621/1) at margins, heavy spotting on upper petal orange. H.C. (Wisley Trials) 1959.
- Xenophile cl. *fortunei* ♀ × 'Tally Ho'; (Strauss, Sussex, 1950); fl. 10–14 per truss, cerise-scarlet.
- Yellow Creek cl. 'Idealist' ♀ × 'Sarita Loder'; (Del James); Primrose Yellow (H.C.C. 601/2). P.A. (A.R.S.).
- Yellow Garland cl. clone of *R. xanthostephanum* (F.21707); (Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor); leaves 1½ in. long, ½ in. broad, silvery beneath; truss 4–8 flowered; corolla 1 in. diam., ¾ in. long, campanulate, Aureolin (H.C.C. 3/1). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1961.
- Youthful Sin cl. *cinnabarinum* × *yunnanense*; (Aberconway); Rhodamine Purple (H.C.C. 29/2). A.M. (R.H.S.) 1960.
- Zanna cl. *catawbiense* var. *compactum* × *dichroanthum* ♀; (Haworth-Booth); fl. orange-pink (H.C.C. Vermilion 18/2).
- a Zanzibar cl. Parentage unknown; (Knap Hill); deep bright yellow splashed shrimp red. Mid-season to late.

ABBREVIATIONS

The abbreviations used will be found on page viii of the International Rhododendron Register. Add the following:

- S.M. Silver Medal, Rotterdam.
P.C. Preliminary Commendation, American Rhododendron Society.
H1-H7 Hardiness ratings of American Rhododendron Society.
Nickerson Nickerson Colour Fan, published by the American Horticultural Society.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIST OF MAIN RAISERS AND STOCKHOLDERS OF THE RHODODENDRONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL RHODODENDRON REGISTER

- ALLEN, E. V. Eugene, Oregon, U.S.A.
AMATEIS, E. Brewster, New York, U.S.A.
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CORBIN, W. L. Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.
FAWCETT, C. Tacoma 66, Washington, U.S.A.
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GRACE, G. D. Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.
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HAGEN, J. C. Boskoop, Holland.
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VAN NES, Adr. Boskoop, Holland.
VAN NES, P. Az. Boskoop, Holland.

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*Figures in Clarendon type refer to illustrations
(a) denotes Azalea*

An asterick denotes award after trial at Wisley

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