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KATE SHEPPARD. A WHITE CAMELLIA FOR CELEBRATION (PAGE 37)

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REPORT OF REGISTRAR 1991-93

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COMPTE RENDU REGISTRER

INFORME DEL REGISTRO

RELOZIONE DEL REGISTRO

BERECHT DES REGISTRAR

Since the last Directors meeting in New Orleans, the International Camellia Register was printed and distributed in all areas except the USA. This was because, during the distribution it was found that a percentage of the Registers were poorly bound and a section of 14 pages in the section "W" was omitted. As only the USA had not begun individual distribution at that time and they decided not to go ahead with it, they are now the only area who have not distributed the Registers to those who ordered them.

Negotiation with the printers in Singapore resulted in an offer to reprint the entire run at no charge. It was decided that this opportunity be taken to correct certain of the contents, in particular the Oriental Appendix. This is the section of 82 pages at the end of Volume II in which the oriental characters were found to have more than acceptable errors, and changes would not cause a roll-over of pagination requiring new printing plates beyond their section. However the revision to this section increased it by one page. Because of the mechanics of book publishing this meant an increase of four pages. Therefore the opportunity of using the extra blank pages for errata was decided on. The errata was limited to the correction of erroneous orthography of valid names only, and will be bound in the front of vol. II, not as a loose page as originally planned.

This extra work beyond the original agreement for reprinting will be at the cost of the ICS and the amount is not yet known, except the revision of the 82 pages of the Oriental Appendix at \$25 Aust each for the computer work.

It was also decided to use a different colour on the cover and a different numbering system by using the prefix "ICS". This is to make it clear which is the valid

publication and to preserve the integrity of a limited edition publication. It is believed that those to whom the Register has already been distributed should be asked to tear out and return the title page in vol. I to receive a copy of the reprint as a replacement of the Register.

As was anticipated, the distribution of the Register brought considerable correspondence which included new data and catalogues which added new names, changed first publication date, which sometimes revised the valid name, as well as pointing out errata in the Register. As the cut-off date for material to be included in the Register was 31st Dec 1990, a supplement is in the course of preparation which will include all further data that has come to hand on cultivars validly published up to this cut-off date as well as any errata from the present publication. Early catalogues from Japan, Australia and Italy recently received, have added a substantial number of new names, and it is envisaged that the supplement will be in the order of 64 pages which are planned to be in the same format as the Register but with a soft cover. This supplement cannot be completed until the republished Register is distributed in the USA and further data is received from there. It is known, for example, that considerable numbers of camellia cultivars have been imported from China to the USA and it has been found that some of them are the same as Japanese cultivars, long grown in USA under their USA synonyms, such as 'Purity', 'Pink Perfection' etc.

I have been informed by Dr. Chris Brickell, Director general of the RHS, who has been involved in number of cultivar Registers, that it is the usual thing for a new Register to bring forth a considerable amount of new information from the files of interested horticulturalists and that sup-

plements or revisions usually become necessary after it has all settled down. The RHS produce an annual supplement to the various cultivar Registers for which they are responsible.

It is envisioned, if the ICS Directors are agreeable, and the finance is available that the first supplement should be published in 1994 and this supplement would be limited to completing and correcting the information on camellia cultivars up to the cut-off date of the Register.

To look to the future, any further supplements would be largely devoted to the new registrations and validly published names occurring after this cut-off date. It is suggested that a second supplement be planned to include all new camellias in the 5 years to the end of 1995 and this be published in 1996.

Looking further into the future the idea would be that these would be incorporated into a new edition of the Register, but it must be said that there is an enormous amount of work involved in doing this. Purely for planning purposes I would propose that the year 2001 would be a suitable time, 10 years after the original cutoff date. At which time, if I am still around, I would be 88 years old. It thus behoves the ICS to start looking round for a replacement in the next few years.

As I proposed in my report at New Orleans, the Society badly needs an Oriental Registrar. If one had existed before the publication of the Register I am sure that its Japanese portion would have been more accurate. Mr. Shinoda did an amazing job, virtually off the cuff, but if he or a similar person had accepted the position as Oriental Registrar and had time to accumulate all the necessary backup data, they would have automatically had the complete checking of all oriental names in the

Registrar proofs. In this case the final proofs were not sent to him as it was not thought fit to further involve a private person in all the extra work involved. I might add he has since done this rechecking most graciously and we are deeply indebted to him for his efforts.

I would suggest that our Japanese Directors seriously consider such an appointment and endeavour to get the agreement of the National Camellia Societies in Japan and also, perhaps in China.

The members of the UK region will be putting forward, at the Director meeting in South Africa, suggestions for controlling the process of registering camellia cultivars.

It was initially envisaged that each region, other than that already covered by National Registration Authorities, would have arranged their own local registration committees for the purpose of checking local applications, and arranging any reprint of the application form in the local language, as well as deciding on a registration fee suitable for their area. The only activity has been from the UK region, who have also handled an occasional application from Italy. It is desirable that applications from other areas, such as France, Italy, Germany and Portugal-Spain and Japan have someone locally appointed to vet applications as far as accuracy of description and actual existence as a new cultivar is concerned. All that can be done as far away as Australia is check that the actual name selected is according to the nomenclature code and to register it.

If it is decided that a Certificate of Registration is desirable, this can be arranged. It is being put to the Annual Council meeting of the ACRS in Australia to see if there is any interest here.