



CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF

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MODERATE WINTER BRINGS INCREASE IN SPRING SHOW BLOOMS. CSPV IS ENCOURAGED!

In view of the moderate temperatures that prevailed during the winter of 1987-88, it is not surprising that our Spring Camellia Show was a real success and that the total number of blooms at the Show exceeded 700. Comparisons of numbers of blooms in competition show that there were 25 per cent more this year than in 1987 and 19 per cent more than in 1986. We hope that we are now on our way back to those 4-digit totals that used to be common in the 1960s and early 1970s. One of the most heart-warming aspects of the 1988 Show was the increased number and better condition of the blooms from outdoor plants. Also there was a near-doubling--to 15--in the number of exhibitors who entered blooms in that class. (The tabulation on page 2 lists the winners in this and other Show classes.) Another heart-warming aspect was to see the return appearance at the Show of some CSPV members who used to be faithful exhibitors--remember, for example, Mrs. Richard Brown and the beautiful "Rosehill Reds" that she used to enter?

The American Camellia Society Certificate for Best Bloom in Classes 1, 2, and 3 was won by Betty and Bill Sette with their entry of "Kramer's Supreme." In some years there seems to be a duplication of winning cultivars. Last year it was "Ville de Nantes," which won in Classes 2B and 2C. A similar thing happened this year, except that the cultivar was "Kramer's Supreme," with Margaret White's entry in 2A and the Settes' entry in 2C. All afternoon on the day of the Show the Settes kept wondering about their good fortune. The reason: The plant from which that bloom was plucked just before the Show has not been very fruitful. This year if the plant had more than one bud, the Settes never found it. Furthermore, the plant is somewhat ungainly. There have been any number of times when they have considered doing away with the plant and using the space more gainfully. What a mistake that would have been. So, don't despair, those of you with some plants that have not been too productive lately. The Settes' luck might be yours next season!