

PREFACE

TO THE

MIMEOGRAPHED REPRODUCTIONS

OF THE

MONTHLY BULLETINS

OF THE

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

FOR

January through December

of

1934

May 31, 1967

The attached set of bulletins have a novel story behind their reproduction and conversion from the original 8½" by 14" size paper to the 8½" by 11" size paper.

During the early months of 1966, Mrs. Muriel Perz, then ABS President, found that the ABS Library no longer had a complete file of the Monthly Bulletins of the American Begonia Society for the years of 1934 and 1935. A 6" by 9" notebook of the folded issues for 1936 and 1937 were found to still be in the Library. These were found by Mrs. Terry Olmsted, the Librarian. Mrs. Perz had heard of some members who had expressed a desire to have copies of the early bulletins to complete their files of ABS publications. Mrs. Perz had also heard that Herbert H. Warrick, an ABS member in Seattle, Washington, several years ago had borrowed certain issues from the ABS Library to copy on a typewriter. This had been done and all library copies had been returned to Mrs. Lola Fahey, the Librarian at that time. Muriel Perz and Herb Warrick then discussed the possibility of duplicating the Warrick file to reestablish the ABS file of the early issues. The Warricks owned an old mimeograph and had experience issuing club bulletins for the local begonia branches around Seattle. Herb and Mrs. Elizabeth Warrick volunteered their services in case the National Board of the ABS decided to go ahead with the mimeographed type of reproduction of the early bulletins. Samples of a few of the legal size bulletins were reproduced and sent to Muriel Perz for study. Progress toward a decision continued but no conclusions were reached by the National Board in 1966.

In early 1967, Everett Wright, then ABS President, began more study on the problem of duplicating the early bulletins of the ABS. After Herb Warrick had given Everett Wright an approximate reproduction cost figure, further studies were made by the National Board and the possible demand of the ABS Membership was explored further, also.

On May 1, 1967, President Wright gave Herb Warrick the word to go ahead and money was forwarded from the ABS. The National Board wanted the reproduced copies to be run on 8½" by 11" white mimeograph paper. The paper shall be provided with a

three hole punching for filing in any regular three ring notebook that might be used by the members who purchased the copies in sets of four years.

Work was started immediately by the Warricks and by May 31, 1967, one hundred sets of the issues for 1934 had been completed. These will be shipped to and held by the President, Everett Wright, until a suitable disposition can be made of them pending the completion of the issues for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937.

Many interesting work details have been found during the early stages of this mimeograph reproduction work. For instance, the reduction of paper length from 14" to 11" usually requires one extra stencil per monthly issue. The length of lines in each paragraph vary between the early typewriter setup and ours today. These variations were accepted by the President, Everett Wright, as being inherent in the procedures selected by the National Board.

Another decision that we have had to make concerns the accuracy of spelling of words in the reproduced copy. All secretarial services commonly produce errors. There were errors in the original work and we will very likely have some of our own. For fear that the readers might think that some of the obvious early typographical errors were ours, we have tried to remove all that we have noticed. We did not change sentence construction nor the manner in which the various thoughts and ideas were expressed. We did take a little liberty in using one-form of paragraph indentation rather than to try to follow every inset of the many secretaries. We have tried to make our reproductions very accurate and complete in every form except for page size, and minor errors of the originals and those made inadvertently by us.

It will be noted in the early issues of 1934 that the secretaries and club officers had some difficulty in using the bulletins to adequately establish dates and records of past, present and future meetings. Dates were sometimes omitted and it is a little difficult to decide which meetings the bulletins were describing. After the name of the organization was changed from the "California Begonia Society" to the "American Begonia Society" in July 1934 the dates of events began to be more definitely outlined in the bulletins.

Since we have to read each issue several times for proof reading purposes we have become quite well acquainted with the people and information in each issue. We respect the talents of these people and the efforts they made to keep the ABS going and growing. Today our Branches have the identical administrative problems and if we all could read these early issues we could avoid many problems that we have today. There are many cultural hints in these issues that also can give us a lot of help today.

For the members who buy these early issues of what later became "The Begonian" we feel that your money is well spent. We plan to withhold one copy and send the money to the National Treasurer. It is a pleasure to work with these early records and we thank all members who have helped us get access to these records. We are using Bert Slatter's original file for 1934 and 1935. Rudolf Ziesenhenné also has an early file. We can call him on any item needing verification. Everett Wright has assisted immensely by steering us to these sources of early bulletins. We are using the ABS Library file for 1936 and 1937. These were loaned to us by Mrs. Terry Olmsted.

Again thanks to all,

Elizabeth and Herbert Warrick

CALIFORNIA BEGONIA SOCIETY

Vol. 1

MONTHLY BULLETIN

No. 1

January 1934

Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

The January meeting of the California Begonia Society will meet at the home of C. M. Kelly, 285 Park Ave., Long Beach, on Wednesday Jan. 10th, 1934 at 7:00 P.M.

The December meeting was held at the home of the President H. P. Dyckman on Dec. 13, 1933. It was decided not to go ahead with publishing a magazine at present. The Secretary was instructed to produce a sample mimeographed sheet, such as was discussed during the meeting.

Mr. Kelly brought in a tuberous begonia bulb (5 inches) across and (15 inches) around.

The following officers were elected to hold office during the year of 1934.

Fred M. Riedman, President.
J. Paul Walker, Vice President.
W. Sherwood Bell, Secretary & Treas.
Mrs. O. P. Palstine, Corresponding Sec.

We wish to express our appreciation to Mr. Dyckman, the retiring president, for his efforts in behalf of the society. The credit of organizing and developing the society is largely due to him. He has given unstintingly of his time to assure its success and progress, and has ever been willing to give of the store of his Begonia knowledge and experience for the help of others. We think that his efforts have been rewarded in the establishment of an enthusiastic and progressive group of flower lovers.

The following message from retiring President Dyckman is symbolic of his co-operation toward a better Begonia Society.

"I wish to thank the members for their fine cooperation with me in the building up of this fine society that we all get so much pleasure from. I hope you will all give our incoming president the same cooperation and wish all the success in the world to carry on this work.

I will always be willing to give what help I can to advance and interest other people in our society".

H.P. Dyckman.

Fred M. Riedman, President Elect, is one of the charter members of the society. His exhibit of Rex Begonias at the 1931 Dahlia Show interested many of our present members in begonias for the first time. Mr. Riedman served as our secretary of our society during the first year of its inception. During the last year he has served as Vice-President and program chairman.

The following message is from President Elect Riedman.

"I wish to thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me and I will endeavor to the best of my ability to maintain the fine record which our Past President Mr. Dyckman has set. This is going to be hard to do unless I have the full cooperation of each of you. At the next meeting, in order to spread the work out more, I am going to appoint the following committees:

(continued on page 2)

1. To classify Begonias for show purposes.
2. To lay plans for a flower show.
3. A publicity committee.

Also appoint one person to choose the speakers and arrange the program for the various meetings".

Signed -- Fred M. Riedman

Space will not permit more this month, but we will give a short article on begonia names, and answer questions next month if these notes take well with the membership.

This meeting will be our second anniversary meeting. Every one come, bring your friends, and help us celebrate. Among other things we will have the induction of new officers and we will decide what we are going to do about continuing these notes.

J. Paul Walker, Sec.

CALIFORNIA BEGONIA SOCIETY

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 1

No. 2

Mrs. Oliver P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

NOTICE

The February meeting of the California Begonia Society will be held at the home of our president, Mr. Fred M. Riedman, 3411 Gundry Ave., Long Beach, California.

"Care of the Rex Begonias" will be discussed by Mr. Roy Berry, whose extensive experience and enthusiasm in his work assure us of desirable information presented in practical form. Do not miss it. Bring a friend who is interested or may become interested in begonias.

SECRETARIAL NOTES

Thirty-four members and visitors attended the meeting at the home of Mr. C. M. Kelly, 285 Park Ave., Long Beach, California.

The meeting was called to order by President, H. P. Dyckman. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and accepted. Mr. Walker moved the President appoint a committee to audit the Treasurer's books. Seconded. Motion lost.

The newly elected officers were summoned by President H. P. Dyckman to take their respective chairs. These are the following officers for the year of 1934:

Fred M. Riedman, President
J. Paul Walker, Vice President
W. Sherwood Bell, Secretary & Treas.
Mrs. O. P. Palstine, Corresponding Sec.

President Riedman appointed committees for the following:-

1. To classify begonias
for show purposes.

Mr. H. P. Dyckman
Mr. C. M. Kelly
Mr. R. G. Hunt

2. Meeting places and
Speakers.

Dr. Nellie Schenck

3. Show Committee.

Mr. Roy Berry
Mr. A. Waterstreet

4. Publicity.

Mr. Lou Mason

Mr. B. Norwood gave an instructive and entertaining talk on Tuberous Begonias. A brief outline of Mr. Norwood's talk is given elsewhere in this report. Our Society gives sincere thanks to Mr. Norwood. May he appear again.

Committee reports.--Mr. Lou Mason made a report on publicity.

SECRETARIAL NOTES (cont'd)

Unfinished Business.--Mr. Walker made a report on the form and cost of the bulletin. Moved by Mr. Walker that the Society continue with the bulletin. The Editor to be the Corresponding Secretary. Seconded and carried.

New Business.--Mr. Waterstreet reported the Sunset Magazine was preparing a begonia map of the Pacific Coast, but only had listed a few places in California. It was suggested we might send them a more complete map of Southern California.

Our member, Mr. E. P. MacMillen from Catalina Island and nine visitors were introduced.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned.

The Kellys happily surprised the Society by having two large Birthday cakes in celebration of the second anniversary of the founding of the Society. Each was decorated with the two candles and the words, "Happy Birthday, Begonia Society." After the ceremony of blowing out the candles, the cakes with cocoa were enjoyed by the guests.

Respectively submitted

W. S. Bell
Secretary

DUES for 1934 are now due. The treasurer would appreciate it if you would either bring your dollar to the next meeting or mail it to--W. S. Bell, 3014 East Second Street, Long Beach, California.

MR. B. NORWOOD'S TALK

The following notes were taken on Mr. B. Norwood's Talk on Tuberous Begonias, given before our Society.

Tuberous begonias are very notional. They will grow under certain conditions for one person; under other conditions for another person; and under no conditions for others.

The roots coming from the top of the tuber indicates that the top soil should be cool and moist and the bottom soil well-drained.

Soil Preparation.

The soil should be prepared ninety days before planting. Well-drained soil is of first and foremost importance. One-third the depth of the pot is filled with sharp sand or its equivalent in drainage material. The balance of the pot is filled with the following soil mixture:-

- 1/3 well-rotted cow manure.
- 1/3 decomposed leaf mold.
- 1/3 sharp sand.

A small amount of equal parts of powdered charcoal and flowers of sulphur.

Starting the Tuber.

Start the tuber in a cool place. Never force a plant in too warm a house. A forced plant is absolutely no good the following year.

MR. NORWOOD'S TALK (cont'd)

In February, start the tubers in a mixture of one-half leaf-mold and one-half sharp sand. Sink the tuber one-half its depth, leaving the top exposed. Water carefully. If the plant is an especially fine one, the first shoots when two inches high may be taken off as cuttings and rooted in sharp sand. After the tuber is started, sift enough of the soil mixture on top to cover the top of the tuber one-half to an inch. As the plant develops, shift to larger pots being careful not to disturb the roots. Use new drainage material each time.

Feeding.

Do not overfeed as moderation of bloom means longer life and a stronger tuber.

Watering.

Avoid watering in a strong sun as it "spots" the foliage. Early morning is the best time to water tuberous begonias.

Storing the Tubers.

Do not lift the tubers but leave them in the pots. Store the pots on edge. In the spring, after the leaves come through, remove the ball of soil. Put in new drainage material. Practically no new soil is added except about an inch on top.

February

Work in Tuberous Begonias, make up compost for pottings. Place tubers in flats on damp leaf-mold to force growth.

BEGONIA HISTORY

Prior to 160 years ago Begonias grew only as wild plants in their native tropical habitat. When they were discovered, brought to civilization and classified botanically they were found to be only distantly related to other living plants. They were grouped in a new family - Begoniaceae - honoring M. Begon, a French patron of botany.

The first Begonia to be introduced into Great Britain, in 1777, came from Jamaica and is still grown commercially as NITIDA, meaning shining leaves. Other early introductions were: HUMILIS from West Indies (1788) and MACROFOLIA from Jamaica (1793). Early in 1800 many more fibrous types came from Brazil and two from the Cape of Good Hope. (DREGEI AND DIPTERA). The originals of the semperflorens groups came from Brazil in 1828.

As botanists and plant-explorers penetrated unexplored tropical countries other new species were added, until 350 natives are known, half of which have horticultural value. As late as 1908 China gave us a new species - CATHAYANA. Around 1860 two entirely new types were found, the REX (1857) in Assam, India in the Himalaya Mountains and on the East side of the Andes several tuberous varieties. In Natal South Africa was found another tuberous - SUTHERLANDII. Later from the island of Socrata in the Indian Ocean came a winter blooming semi-tuberous or bulbous one - SOCOTRANA.

Hybridizers early began working with these native species and have developed the hundred of improved garden varieties we now have in the four groups, fibrous, tuberous, semi-tuberous, and Rex.

(Contributed by C.M. Kelly.)

NOTE

Snails and sow bugs are not so numerous at this time of year. Scatter poison now and keep them from multiplying.

A LETTER

Dear Member:

With the new year, the California Begonia Society plans to issue a monthly bulletin to its members and prospective members. The objects of this bulletin are to:

1. Announce the date and place of the next meeting.
2. Give a resume of past regular or special meetings.
3. Insert interesting articles on begonias or kindred plants.
4. Answer questions sent in by members.
5. Such other matters as are of interest to members.
6. To increase the membership of the society.

The editorial responsibility will rest with our newly elected corresponding secretary, Mrs. O. P. Palstine. We ask your co-operation and assistance in making the venture a success and credit to our society.

The Editor will be expecting each one of you to contribute something to these bulletins. If you will write a short article on begonias; if you have observed something that has interested you, and you know it will interest others; if you know a good way to make the plants thrive in the house; if you have a question that you would like answered; if you have good constructive criticism toward the betterment of our bulletin; please send them into your corresponding secretary, Mrs. O.P. Palstine, 2443 Maine Avenue, Long Beach, California.

These bulletins should contain sufficient information to merit each member filing them for future reference.

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Mrs. D. H. Campbell
528 Cherry Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif. | 4. Mr. & Mrs. H. Haines
Orange, California | 8. Mrs. H. F. Logan
146 Park Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. |
| 2. Edna M. Church
1955 Locust Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif. | 5. H. G. Hineley
5722 Lewis Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif. | 9. Mrs. Alice Quick
920 Pacific Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. |
| 3. Mr. & Mrs. Ed. F. Dunn
155 St. Joseph Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif. | 6. Mrs. Jessen
4430 E. 4th St.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 10. Charles Strong
2254 Hildigo Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif. |
| | 7. Mrs. Anna L. Jordon
806 Main Ave., City | |

CALIFORNIA BEGONIA SOCIETY

Long Beach, California

Vol. 1

No. 3

O. P. Palstine, Corresponding Secretary.
February 14, 1934

SECRETARIAL NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Twenty-seven members and visitors were present at the meeting of the Begonia Society at the home of President, Fred M. Riedman, 3411 Gundry Avenue, Long Beach, California.

The meeting was called to order by President, Fred M. Riedman.

Communications.

A letter was read from Mrs. Fannie E. Cheatham, Makaweli, Kauai, Hawaii, in which she expressed a desire to sell seeds of begonias to members.

Committee Reports.

1. The committee on the classification of begonias for show purposes was continued for another month at Mr. Kelly's request.
2. Show Committee- Mr. Berry reported his investigations, indicated the cost of the Society putting on a show alone was almost prohibitive. Mr. Walker moved the show committee be continued for another month. Seconded and carried.
3. Dr. Schenck reported the next meeting would be MARCH 14th at the home of Mrs. Palstine, 2443 Maine Avenue, Long Beach, Calif.
4. Mr. Mason suggested the printing of invitations to be given to prospective members.

President Riedman appointed the following to serve as a Reception Committee:-

Mrs. J. S. Williams
Mr. C. M. Kelly
Mr. H. C. Roque

A meeting of the Executive Board was announced for February 20th at the home of Mr. Lou Mason.

Mr. Roy Berry gave a most instructive talk on the raising of Rex begonias from cuttings.

Soils.

1. Good sharp sand is a little more sure than any other kind of soil but the cuttings must be potted as soon as rooted or they will go backwards.
2. If sawdust is used it should be wet at least two weeks before planting to prevent burning.
3. Mr. Berry said he now starts his cuttings in leaf-mold because if he hasn't time to pot them when they are rooted they will not be injured by remaining in the leaf-mold. There is more trouble with "damping off" when using leaf-mold. The leaf-mold should be wet a few days before putting in the cutting bed. It shouldn't be necessary to water again until the plants are up, which should be in about six weeks. When putting the leaf-mold into the cutting bed, fill the bed level full. There seems to be less trouble with "damping off" when the bed is full than when there is an inch or two space left at the top. This is probably because there is a better circulation of air when the bed is level full.

Cuttings.

Best results are sometimes secured in using old leaves and other times with newer leaves. If a small or medium sized leaf is used, the whole leaf is planted. The main veins can be cut and pegged down. About one and a half to two inches of the stem is left on the leaf and planted a half inch deep. If large leaves are used they can be cut cross-wise into strips from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches wide. These strips are placed in the cutting soil on edge at an angle of about 60 degrees. The plants are left in the cutting bed until they have developed three fair-sized leaves. The best percentage of "strikes" is usually in March.

After his talk, Mr. Berry demonstrated the proper method of making cuttings.

REPOTTING by Mr. Berry

Now that the rains are about over it is time to think of repotting your begonias.

A soil mixture of $\frac{1}{4}$ sharp sand, $\frac{1}{4}$ top soil, $\frac{1}{4}$ well rotted manure, $\frac{1}{4}$ leaf-mold is used by many while others use $\frac{1}{2}$ soil and $\frac{1}{2}$ leafmold, still others use, sand, leaf-mold, manure and soil in varying proportions, but all seem to agree that leaf-mold should be at least 25% of mix.

The writer has obtained best results by using 100% leaf-mold. The important thing in potting is good drainage, no matter what kind of potting soil is used, and this may be assured by covering drain hole in pot with piece of crock and a covering of coarse gravel over that.

Never pot begonias in dry leaf-mold as it is almost impossible to wet leaf-mold without mixing first.

Knowing when a plant needs a larger pot is something you will learn from experience, but to get best results don't over pot, but use a pot not over 2 sizes larger.

When repotting root bound plants, slash roots with sharp knife, or razor blade or loosen roots with hand.

If pot has worms in it, or you desire to use same size pot, as in case of large pots where it is not advisable because of lack of space, size of jardiniere, or similar cause, to use larger size, you may knock all old soil off roots and repot in same pot without injury to plant.

If plant has two or more crowns, and you desire more plants they may be obtained by dividing and no harm will result to plant.

- 1st Soak pots before using.
- 2nd Put drainage material in pot.
- 3rd Cover with small amount of soil.
- 4th Insert plant in center of pot and firm soil around it.
- 5th Water plant and keep moist at all times.

Meeting adjourned.

The refreshments served by the Riedmans were greatly enjoyed by those present.

SPEAKER FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Hans Von Hafgaarden, of the Mira Mar Nursery, will be the speaker at the March 14 meeting.

He will talk of the gardens he saw, and his trip to Europe, last year.
Everybody come. Be there at 7:30 sharp.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

Because of numerous requests of those who only wish to grow a few tuberous begonias the Society has ordered a number of tubers from Mr. Alfred Robinson to be sold to members at cost. There will be Lloydii, Sutherlandii, Frilled, Narcissiflora, and Doubles in orange, scarlet, rose, pink, and yellow. These are first class bulbs and will be 12 cents each. You can secure them at the next meeting or from the Secretary, 3014 E. 2nd St., Long Beach, California.

NEW TYPE BEGONIA

Considerable praise should be given Mr. Roy Berry for his development of a fine new type of begonia. He has successfully made a cross between a semi-tuberous and a Rex begonia. This is the only cross of this type introduced in recent years. At a recent talk on Rex begonias, Mr. Robinson devoted considerable time to this particular plant.

REX BEGONIA SEED

Mr. Roy Berry will present each member present at the next meeting with a packet of Rex Begonia seed.

CORRECTION IN BULLETIN NO. 2 IN MR. NORWOOD'S TALK

The following sentence in "Notes from Mr. Norwood's talk on Tuberous Begonias", --"The roots coming from the top of the tuber indicated that the top soil should be cool and moist and the bottom soil well-drained" should be corrected to read, "The roots of the tuber being close to the surface of the soil indicated that the top soil should be cool and moist and the bottom soil well-drained."

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Della H. Campbell
528 Cherry Avenue,
Long Beach, California

Mrs. Carrie Jessen
4430 E. Fourth St.,
Long Beach, California

Mrs. E. W. Reed
1316 Ocean Avenue,
Long Beach, California

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Mrs. Sarah P. Deck
297 St. Joseph Avenue,
Long Beach, California

Miss Eleanor Plaw
1453 Linden Avenue,
Long Beach, California

Mr. George G. Randall
4125 E. 5th Street, Long Beach, Calif.

Mr. & Mrs. Adolf Rosenfield
1044 Redondo Avenue, Long Beach, Calif.

Mr. & Mrs. F. M. Penland
6685 Rose Avenue, Long Beach, Calif.

Mr. & Mrs. Philander McHenry
Blackstone Hotel, Long Beach, Calif.

TUBEROUS BEGONIA NOTES by Alfred D. Robinson

Tuberous History

The modern Tuberous Begonia with its large blooms in a great range of color has come a long way from its source and we find at the present day in California but very few species. Among these, however, are at least two that must look with

Tuberous History (cont'd)

pride or consternation on their descendants. These are Pearcei the lovely small flowering single with mottled velvety foliage from Ecuador to which we owe practically all of our yellows and yellow shades, and Boliviensis the Fuchsia-like tall grower from Bolivia that makes the Lloydii weep. Here it might be permissible to inject this about the name Lloydii. This title rightly applies only to the pink hanging type and was given to this because a chap named Lloyd introduced these to this country from Europe. There is no Lloydii in other countries; they are Tuberous Pendula.

Probably the reader is saying what about Froebeli, the single red winter bloomer from Ecuador; Evansiana the hardy one from Asia; Socotrana from the Island of Socotra in the Red Sea; and Martiana the Hollyhock type from Mexico, and I answer "Well, what about them?, they do not belong in this chapter" and may be dismissed with the Kiplingesque comment, "And that is another story."

There is no double species, though one called Octopetala with eight petals was something more than a mere single.

France, Belgium, and Holland did the first work with the Tuberous followed quickly by England and the accounts of the first doubles produced make even me, a sober ancient, smile. Within a comparatively short period named varieties multiplied without adequate excuse and though today certain propagators list a host of named varieties at pre-depression prices, the immense majority grown are seedlings listed by color and type only.

It is of interest to know that the influence of Boliviensis was so strong in the early days that the pendulous type was much in evidence and the breeders had considerable trouble in getting compact plants that could stand alone and bear their flowers where they could be seen.

I have been unable to discover how the various types almost duplicating camelias, roses, peonies, poppies, carnations, daffodils, etc., originated. To make it plainer no combination of the original types could be conceived that stood a chance of producing this bewildering variety; and the same may be said of color.

The Tuberous Begonias are peculiarly South American. The semi-tuberous Weltoniense, etc., are South African and the Rexes (for I would not dare say Begonia in the neighborhood of Long Beach without mentioning them) are Asiatic. This must not be allowed to betray us into thinking any of them want tropical conditions for their development. The altitude where they grew makes for temperate conditions.

CULTURAL COMMENTS

For our tuber potting soil we add more sand than for the fibrous, they seem to need a firmer soil. We test all the material that goes into our compost for alkalinity, a certain degree of which must be suspected in Southern California soils on the Ocean slope. There are soil testing sets at very reasonable prices that the least intelligent should be able to operate. I might suggest that the California Begonia Society might consider owning a set such as the Morgan soil tester made by the La Motte Chemical Co. of Baltimore and costing \$10, when I got mine, and making tests of soil samples brought to the meetings.

Begonias want an acid soil and to get this is one of the main reasons for making leaf-mold the foundation of all soil mixtures for them. It should be noted that all leaf-mold is not acid, only that from hard wood trees. The tannic acid in the oak leaves, the bugbear of many a tyro, is the chief recommendation. However I have found the Manzanita leaf-mold quite as good as the oak if not better.

I have neither time nor desire to repeat Mr. Norwood's excellent advice but am trying with none too great a hope to add something to it.

For some inherent reason Tuberous Begonias will not stand for overpotting. They must be started in a small pot and shifted on. Even for bedding, potting has a great advantage, it enables one to capitalize the plants one-sided habit. If the tubers are planted direct in the bed they can just as easily as not, face in the

CULTURAL COMMENTS (cont'd)

wrong direction and then where are you, but if they are in pots sunk in the soil and try to act like the Irishman's pig going to market, just twist the pot and there you are.

It is better not to try and get a lot of food in the planting compost. One of the curious ideas that has crept into our gardening technique is that one can in the Spring give the garden in one big allopathic dose, all the food it will need to start or too little afterwards. Don't try it on your Tuberous. Don't force them till they begin to bud then give them liquid fertilizer at least every week. Don't ask me what fertilizer, use any that has been successful with you ONLY USE IT WEAK and NEVER ON A DRY PLANT. Tuberous Begonias should never be dry anyhow.

Thoughts by the Way

Because the large majority of those that sell Tuberous Begonias do not grow them, or if they do, to sell is so much more important than To Grow, there has been incorporated in the transaction the misleading price scaling according to the size of the tuber and the bigger the tuber the greater the cost. I am quite aware that so widespread is the belief that large tubers produce large flowers that a denial of this will subject the denier to the charge of ulterior motives, however I shall risk it. I deny that quality in tubers is indicated by size except in so far that an oversized tuber is apt to be rather superannuated or to produce inferior bloom. Imagine trying to sell Dahlias by the size of the tuber. Expert growers of Tuberous for exhibition have told me that they won't use a large tuber but are very particular to select for medium size good depth nicely rounded shape and an emphatic saucer top, and for condition a clean skin under the roots and a slight give to pressure when handled. Within a decade our tubers on the coast came from the growers beautifully polished, all the roots rubbed off. Now we know those larger roots are not dead but start growing in the spring and save the tuber lots of effort. Quite a small tuber can make a wonderful specimen.

As California realizes more and more the wonders of the Tuberous Begonia they will become enormously more popular, and especially so as the ease of culture becomes apparent. Few even of the Begonia folks here realize the extent both in quantity and territory covered by these Tuberous. Australia grows lots of them, Alaska loves them, and Iceland decorates her streets with them. And between these extremes they are found in all places except the Tropics. They do no good there.

The Tuberous are suffering from one of the recurring garden fevers. The same disease that puts one really worthy family after another on the discard and makes the nurseryman's hair turn gray. The craze for size and double form. The far lovelier singles and Frilled must not be neglected, for bedding uses they are much superior to the Doubles, but will you believe it? I fear not.

A LITTLE PHILOSOPHY BEFORE CLOSING

There is much beauty in the world if we but look for it, and if we are not careful we are going to miss a lot of it.

Dr. Frank Crane said in his 'Footnotes to Life', "Everything has a message for the soul. Every tree, star, and stone, every porch pillar and vine is trying to say something to us".

DON'T FORGET THE MEETING IS March 14, at 7:30 P.M.

CALIFORNIA BEGONIA SOCIETY

Long Beach, California

Vol. 1

No. 4

Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

SECRETARIAL NOTES

March 14, 1934

There were 44 present at the meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O.P. Palstine, 2443 Maine Avenue, Long Beach, California.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President, J. Paul Walker. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Communications.

Letters from Mr. Alfred D. Robinson, Mrs. Florence E. Robinson, Mr. R. G. Hunt, and Mr. T. C. Spruit were read.

Such communications and their constructive suggestions are always appreciated.

Committee Reports.

1. The following report of the committee on the "Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes" was given by Mr. Dyckman.

Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes.

First, second, and third places to be given in each class.

- I. Rex Begonias.
 - A-Rhizomatous Type.
 - B-Upright or Branching Type.
 - C-Helix or Spiralled Type.
 - D-Small-leaf Type
- II. Fibrous Rooted Begonias.
 - A-Tall Growers.
 - B-Intermediate Growers.
 - C-Intermediate Growers-Small-leaf Type.
 - D-Rhizomatous Type.
 - E-Semperflorens.
 - F-Scandens.
 - G-Scharffiana Group.
 - H-Rubras.
- III. Semi-Tuberous Rooted Begonias.
- IV. Tuberous Rooted Begonias.
 - A-Garden Double.
 - B-Garden Single.
 - C-Lloydii.
 - D-Original Type as Pearcei and Boliviensis.
- V. Rarest Plant in the Show.
- VI. Best Plant in the Show.
- VII. Best Display.
- VIII. Hybrid-Originated by the Exhibitor.

The committee on the "Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes" was ordered discharged.

SECRETARIAL NOTES (cont'd)

2. The Show committee was discharged by the President until a more favorable time.
3. Dr. Schenck reported the next meeting would be held at the home of Mr. J. Paul Walker, 515 West 20th Street, Long Beach, California, on Wednesday evening, April 11th at 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Roque introduced our good members from Santa Monica, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Rodenburg, also the following visitors:- Mr. Henry Graef, Miss Plaw, Miss Jewell, Mr. Allen, Mrs. MacAllister, Mr. and Mrs. Sipe, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, and Mr. and Mrs. Logan.

BE SURE AND MAIL INVITATIONS

New Business

Mr. Roque suggested the club start a scrap-book of photographs of members begonia gardens.

Mr. Berry moved each member receive a copy of the bulletin and a charge of five cents be made for each additional bulletin desired. Seconded and carried.

The club greatly enjoyed hearing Mr. Hans Von Hafgaarden tell of his early training in Germany for the nursery business and of his experiences on his recent trip to Europe. Mr. Von Hafgaarden has a rare sense of humor and this combined with his unusual descriptive ability made his talk most interesting.

The President appointed Mr. Bell and Mrs. Palstine as a committee to make a report at the next meeting on the cost of the bulletin.

REX BEGONIA SEED

Anyone who was unable to attend the last meeting can secure at the next meeting their packet of the Rex Begonia seed kindly donated by Mr. Roy Berry.

BE SURE AND MAIL INVITATIONS

THE SPEAKER FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. M. R. Armstrong, Industrial heating specialist of the Southern California Edison Co., Los Angeles, has arranged an interesting program and will also show slides.

Prizes will be given by the host to attending members.

PLANTING OF REX BEGONIA SEED

The seed of the Rex Begonia is exceedingly small. It is necessary therefore to use more than ordinary care in its propagation.

Straight leaf-mold should be sifted through a quarter inch mesh screen and then through ordinary window screening. This provides coarser material for the bottom of the seed pan and the finer material for the surface layer. The upper layer should be about an inch in depth.

The soil should be sterilized to kill any animal or plant life it may contain particularly the fungus that causes "damping off" of young seedlings. In sterilizing the soil, it should be brought close to a boiling temperature and maintained thereat for several minutes. This may be done by using steam, boiling water or top of oven. If the last, care must be taken that steam does not form below the surface

SECRETARIAL NOTES (cont'd)

and force the material out of its container. Stir often to prevent this.

Wet the soil by setting the seed pan in a basin of water and allow water to soak up through the soil. Do not have surface of soil soaking wet when seed is planted.

Make the soil in seed pan as level as possible. Mix the seed with sand. Place in a salt shaker and scatter evenly over the soil. Do not put any covering over the seed.

Place a glass and cloth or paper over the seed pan and place it where the temperature will not vary greatly and out of strong light.

INVITATIONS

Here are the invitation cards enclosed in this monthly bulletin. Don't set them on the mantle or in the right hand bureau drawer for later use, but instead have them in the mail by tonight.

Each month 2 invitation cards and envelopes will be sent out and you will be doing somebody a favor by sending them one.

You will note that a space has been provided to be filled in relative to the time, place, and date of the meeting.

We are betting dollars to donuts that the reception committee will have to get up on its toes to handle next month's guests if all of these invitations are mailed out.

NEW MEMBER

Mr. George G. Randall
4125 E. Fifth Street,
Long Beach, Calif.

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

1. Dr. S. Pillsbury, Security Bank
2. Floyd Bensick, 1926 Magnolia
3. Thomas Chumasero, 1444 Cerritos

BE SURE AND MAIL OUT YOUR INVITATIONS TONIGHT!!!!!!

CALIFORNIA BEGONIA SOCIETY

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 1

No. 5

Mrs. Oliver P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

SECRETARIAL NOTES -- APRIL 11, 1934

Forty-eight members and guests enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Walker, 515 West 20th St., Long Beach, California. The Walkers have a beautiful garden with an attractive garden house and fireplace.

The meeting was called to order by President, Fred M. Riedman. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Rocque introduced the seventeen guests and our good member Mrs. Florence E. Robinson of Los Angeles.

Communications:

A most interesting folder of the Garden Club of America, in which were drawings of the fifty-seven varieties of begonias exhibited in their recent show, was received from Mr. Alfred D. Robinson.

Mr. Walker reported he had written the Sunset Magazine regarding their Begonia map.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Palstine made a report on the cost of the bulletin.

The president appointed Mr. J. S. Williams to have charge of the Club scrap-book. Mr. Williams would appreciate each member sending him two or more photographs of their gardens of at least postcard size.

Mr. M. R. Armstrong of the California Edison Co. gave an interesting talk, illustrated with lantern slides, on the advantages of the Electric Hotbed.

Meeting adjourned.

Mr. Walker presented each one present with a fine potted plant.

The delicious refreshments served by the Walkers were enjoyed by all.

NEW MEMBERS

Miss Eleanor Plaw
1453 Linden Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif.

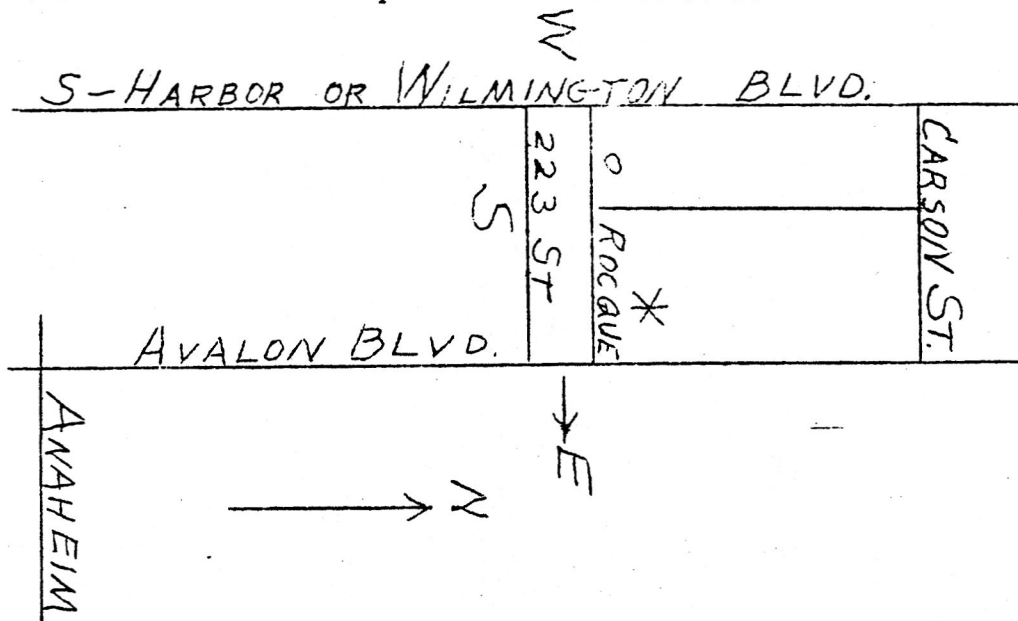
Mr. J. A. McElhinney
204 Roswell Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif.

Mrs. Maud Dunn
155 St. Joseph,
Long Beach, Calif.

SECRETARIAL NOTES (cont'd)

NEXT MEETING PLACE

The next meeting will be held with Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Rocque, Wednesday, May 9, at 7:30 P.M. Below is a description of the directions:



SPEAKER FOR THE MEETING

Mr. A. C. Brazee will be the speaker.

NOTICE: MR. DYCKMAN'S NEW ADDRESS OF BUSINESS

We are very happy to announce that the place of business of Mr. H. P. Dyckman, past president, is 4210 E. Anaheim. He will specialize in Rex Begonias, rare plants and cut flowers. With his knowledge of plants, Mr. Dyckman will undoubtedly develop an interesting and profitable business. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Dyckman success in their new business.

SPECIAL NOTICE

It costs money to edit the bulletin. Our only source of income is from the dues of members. Therefore, it is necessary for present members to pay this year's dues. Make use of the enclosed card and get a new member.

We have been able to present interesting and valuable articles in the bulletin from a limited number of our members. Each of us is having experiences that bring both success and failure. It is only by the exchange of ideas obtained through such experiences that the number of failures may be decreased and the number of successes increased. We would suggest that each member bring an item to this meeting, describing some experience he has had with begonias or other plants.

FIBROUS ROOTED BEGONIAS

Santa Monica's favorable climate makes it possible not only to grow Fibrous Begonias in the lath garden, but also many of the hardy varieties in the outside garden must have a mulch of some kind to keep the roots cool and moist. By having the mulch, I have found in my soil that one good watering a week is all that is necessary to keep the Begonias growing well. As the mulch decays it feeds the plants and helps to build up the soil above the old roots of the Begonias. The new roots

FIBROUS ROOTED BEGONIAS (cont'd)

of the Begonias have a tendency to grow above the old root system and this building up of the soil above the old roots is the secret of growing good Begonias.

People often remark to me. "you must have a secret you do not tell that you are able to grow such fine Begonias in the sunny locations". I always tell them that the mulch is the real secret of my success in the outside garden. Another rule to follow is never to cultivate around the Begonias in the ground. Their root system is shallow which accounts for their dislike of any cultivation near them. The tiny hair-like roots lie close to the surface and when you disturb them you ruin your plant. The mulching takes the place of all cultivation and has the added benefit of keeping the weeds down. I often tell others that the Begonia garden is the lazy man's garden for once in, it lasts for years with little additional work.

I have had for six years in my outside garden many varieties of the tall growing, intermediate and low growing fibrous Begonias. Here you may find numerous plants of the ever beautiful Coralline Lucerne with its immense branches of red flowers. President Carnot, somewhat more delicate and refined, also having the red flowers. The bunches of flowers not as large but the individual flowers are larger. De Lesseps not quite as rapid a grower or as tall with a white flower flushed pink, bringing a change of color to our garden. Multiflora Rosea with its dainty pink fuchsia-like blossoms is one of my favorites doing not only well in the ground, but making a beautiful pot plant. Then the tall graceful Rubra or Angel wing type Begonias work in beautifully for a back ground. Another tall grower with the small foliage and red fuchsia-like flowers is Fuchsioides Coccinea. This one has surprised me for its rapid bushy growth when placed in the outside garden and its flowers are much more abundant. Our old friend Argentea Guttata makes wonderful growth here also. Lately I have placed Wallow, Chiala, Robego and Bertha Von Lothringen in the ground and they are responding well at this early date.

Among those of lower growth that grow well outside are Robusta with its red flowers and fountain-like appearance, Odorata Alba one of the sweet scented ones. Marguerite with its lovely flowers and foliage and the real beauty Bertha DeChateau Rocher with its multitude of coral blossoms. Sachem, Ricinifolia, Digswelliana, Haageana, Jessie, and others do wonderfully well without lath protection. The only attention these have had in all the time they have been in, besides the watering, is the putting on of the mulch and an occasional cutting back or the taking out of some of the old canes.

The Semper-florens or bedding type Begonias are certainly a great addition to our gardens where ever they are used. Mine attract more attention and comment than the other varieties. I think because many have tried to grow them without success. I grow them in all locations, on the South and East where they have a great deal of hot sunshine they are as fine or perhaps finer than on the North or West. They are such wonderful bloomers that in a short time they carry many seed pods and when a plant commences to run to seed something must be done. I cut them back at least once a year and they start their good work all over again. They come in shades of red, pink, and white. Some are even two-toned. They may be single or double flowered. The doubles are indeed charming. This type of Begonia may be grown from cuttings. But do not take the slips that have had the flowers and finished their work, but take the new tender shoots. They will form a good plant. The seeds of all these germinate very easily and the seedlings grow without a great deal of care. In fact, I believe the seedlings make the best plants. All the fibrous Begonias may be grown from seed, but I do most of my propagating from slips, which I root in good sharp river sand. When the slips are well rooted I put them in small pots in a soil mixture of six parts leaf-mold, three of compost, one of sand and a sprinkling of bone meal. When I move the plants to the next sized pot I add a small amount of nitrophoska and they certainly do grow.

FIBROUS ROOTED BEGONIAS (cont'd)

Not all have lath gardens, but we can grow Fibrous Begonias in pots or in our yards. They are comparatively easy to grow as they are hardier and are more suited to general use. Their waxy clean loveliness is a delight to all. I contend that these plants are far more useful than they are generally considered to be, and by their use we can add much to the beauty of our gardens.

By

Charlotte A. Rodenburg

CALIFORNIA BEGONIA SOCIETY

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 1

No. 6

Mrs. Oliver P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

NEXT MEETING

Rosecroft Begonia Gardens, 530 Silvergate Avenue, Point Loma, San Diego, on Sunday June 3, at 11:30 A.M. Take picnic lunch. Rosecroft is almost 100 miles from Long Beach. The shortest route is given as follows: Take coast route through Mission Beach. Turn left at LaJolla through Rose Canyon, at Garnet Avenue (about 6 miles) turn right to Pacific Beach. Follow road to Point Loma.

"2nd MEETING IN JUNE"

Keystone Begonia Gardens, between 220th and 223rd Streets on Delores Ave. (first Street West of Avalon Blvd.) Torrence, California.

NOTES ON LAST MEETING-MAY

The H. C. Roque family were gracious hosts to more than sixty begonia fans on Wednesday, May 9. Their home and lath house were very attractive. Many comments such as, "this is the best idea in lath houses for a hobby, that I have ever seen", was voiced by both members and new friends alike.

During the meeting, Mr. Roy Berry answered questions on Rex Begonias and Mrs. C. A. Rodenburg did likewise about Fuchsias and Fibrous Begonias.

The Roques had cleverly prepared three large Begonia cakes. On one was the word "Rex", on another "Fibrous", and on the other "Tuberous". But the puzzle is, why was the "Rex" cake on Angle Food, the "Fibrous" a Devil's Food, and the "Tuberous" a nut cake.

NEW MEMBERS

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Mr. J. A. McElhinney
204 Roswell Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif. | 5. Mrs. H. F. Logan
146 Park Avenue,
Long Beach, Calif. | 9. Mr. H. W. Newing
530 Mapleton,
Los Angeles, Calif. |
| 2. Mr. C. A. Robinson
157 West 89th St.,
Los Angeles, Calif. | 6. Miss Edna Jewell
2034 Florida Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 10. Mr. Thomas Bakewell
8151 Magnolia,
Riverside, Calif. |
| 3. Mr. C. A. Rodenburg
1111 Yale Ave.,
Santa Monica, Calif. | 7. Mr. A. D. Hough
381 Mira Mar Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. | |
| 4. Mr. Walter M. Randall
2545 East 5th St.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 8. Mr. Charles E. Stong
2254 Hidalgo Avenue,
Los Angeles, Calif. | |

NOTES--By C. M. KELLY

Again--on June 3--our Society will have the good fortune to be the guests of Mr. & Mrs. Alfred D. Robinson at Rosecroft Begonia Gardens, Point Loma. They are most gracious hosts and so generous of their knowledge and experience in Begonia culture. Mr. Robinson by his experimental and pioneer work has given to Southern California a distinctively new type of garden, peculiarly adapted to this section--the lath house garden, and at Rosecroft it will be found developed almost to

perfection. It is a shrine for all flowers lovers. The artistic arrangement and blending of the many kinds of shade loving plants could be accomplished only by the vision and creative genius of a master horticulturist.

As a result of many years of research and importation Mr. Robinson has assembled the most complete collection of Begonias in America and is our highest authority in all things pertaining to them.

Through his work as a hybridizer we are favored with hundreds of such plants as: Sea Nymph, Moon Beam, and Davis in the Rex type; Mermaid, Rose and Prunifolia in the Rubra type; Orrell and Lugano of the tall fibrous type; and Mrs. Schinkle and Rubra Odorata of the Lucerne type. Outstanding among his new introductions is the White Lady Blanche of the Lloydii type.

It is always an inspiration to visit Rosecroft, to view its loveliness and associate with its creator.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Rosecroft meeting is one you can not afford to pass up. Mr. Robinson, the best authority on Begonias in the United States and probably in the world, has something worth traveling many hundred miles to see. We also expect to have him tell us something worthwhile.

So pack up your sandwiches and an extra piece of pie or cake, and meet us at Rosecroft at 11:30 A.M. on Sunday June 3, and we will eat soon afterwards, inspect the gardens, have a short meeting, and let out so you may get home before dark.

An interesting side trip, either coming or going, may be found at the Begonia Gardens of our member Mrs. Ella Fewkes, 4453 Montalvo St., San Diego. This is only a mile or two from Rosecroft and is worth the trip to San Diego to see alone.

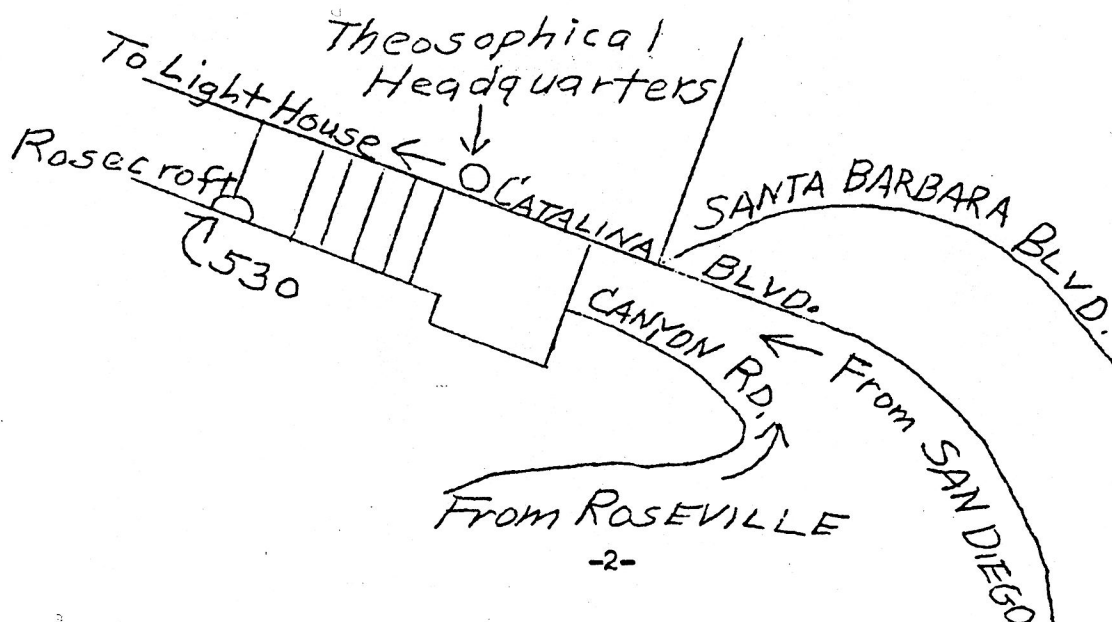
The meeting at Roy Berry's "Keystone Begonia Gardens" on June 27 is well worth seeing. Mr. Berry has over ten thousand Rex Begonias in one lath house. This is probably the largest collection of Rex Begonias in the world. Cards will be sent out later in June announcing this meeting again.

(signed) J. P. Walker
Substitute Editor

RIDES DOWN TO SAN DIEGO

If you have room to take others with you to Rosecroft, or if you have no way to go, and would like to go with someone else, call Mr. Walker at Long Beach 646-143

REMEMBER: ROSE CROFT, SUNDAY JUNE 3, ----- 11:30 A.M.



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

MONTHLY BULLETIN

July 1934

Vol. 1

Bulletin #7

NEXT MEETING

Keystone Begonia Gardens, located between 221-223rd Sts. on Delores Ave., Sunday, July 1, at 2:30 P.M. Delores Avenue is about half way between Avalon and Harbor (or Wilmington) Blvd. and the gardens are about two miles north of Wilmington.

NOTES ON LAST MEETING

Over a hundred attended the last meeting at Rosecroft Begonia Gardens, Point Loma, San Diego on Sunday June 3.

The society voted to change its name from California Begonia Society to American Begonia Society, and to have its new name copyrighted.

Mr. Robinson talked on the early history of Begonias in California and spoke of such late creations as the Double Lady Blanche of the Tuberous hanging basket type, and the Wallow begonia in the fibrous type.

Members and visitors joined in naming 12 prominent seedlings. Each attendant was presented with a rare Primrose (Auricula) by Mr. and Mrs. Robinson.

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

This Society was organized a little over two years ago as a means of increasing interest and mutual knowledge in begonias and kindred plants. Membership is open to anyone interested. Dues are \$1. per annum. Meetings are held, as a rule, on the first Wednesday night of each month during the winter; and visits are made to interesting begonia gardens on one or more Sunday afternoons each month during the summer. Visitors are always welcome. Correspondence may be addressed to "The American Begonia Society, Long Beach, California."

CORRESPONDENCE - The following letter from Mr. Robinson will explain something of the culture of the plant presented each person at Rosecroft garden last month:

"I am obliged to rely on what I can find in Books for information as to Auricula culture as this is my first attempt and I contact no one who has any more practical experience.

I take it from what I can gather that they want a strong light, but no direct sunshine in a cool place. They should be moist but not wet and foliage should not be wet. They do not require at any time a large pot, 4" being enough for a flowering specimen. Any decaying leaves should be removed. September is the time given for repotting and the potting mixture is two parts good fibrous loam, one part leaf-mold, one part well decayed cow or sheep manure with a little sand. Normal flowering time seems to be the Spring, we have some now showing buds for the first time.

Any recipient of a plant sufficiently interested should take the trouble to inquire of possible sources of practical information as these notes were taken from Bailey's Encyclopedia and will apply more to back East conditions.

I am gratified that the Begonia Club seems to have enjoyed themselves at Rosecroft and appreciated the effort made to give all a good time. More power to the organization".

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS:

The society has been treated to considerable information from experts on raising tuberous begonias. Mr. Norwood's talk at our Anniversary meeting is outlined in Vol. 1-#2 and further information is given by Mr. Robinson in Vol. 1-#3 of this bulletin. Mr. Dyckman gives us the following varieties of Tuberous Begonias:

Have you seen the different varieties of this wonderful plant, if not look these up for your own good.

Pearcei
Martiana
Evansiana
Boliviensis
Narcissiflora
Fimbriata

The garden buttercup
The hollyhock
The old faithful
The father of the Lloydii
Our Daffodil
The Carnation

Tuberous begonias by this time should be starting to bloom and should be fed from now on. A good fertilizer to use is liquid manure or some good nitrogen fertilizer such as floranide. If floranide is used, take one tablespoon full to a gallon of water, giving each plant a very little of this mixture at a time, and only after watering, repeat about every two weeks.

by H. P. Dyckman

EDITORS NOTE

The society is greatly indebted to Mr. & Mrs. Robinson for the privilege of visiting and picnicing amongst the greatest collection of begonias and kindred plants in the world. The unprecedented number that attended a meeting over a hundred miles distant, proves that our society has gone ahead during the last year in developing interest in Begonias.

Mr. Robinson's suggestion that we sell the idea of raising begonias and kindred plants in one of our Long Beach parks is worth getting behind and pushing. When a hundred or more local residents will travel over 200 miles to see a great collection in one day, surely a lath house landscaped with begonias and kindred plants would be a great drawing card for nature loving tourists. And because of our society and climate, Long Beach is the ideal place to use this type of thing to interest both residents and tourists.

While the June meeting was at a world famous plant collection, the July meeting is to be held amongst the largest and finest collection of Rex Begonias in the world. About seven years ago Roy Berry bought two Rex begonias from the Mira Mar Nursery. That collection has grown to number over 11,000 plants. Mr. Berry has at least one plant of practically every Rex known. He is especially interested in hybridizing and has developed a cross between the Rex and the Semi-tuberous which Mr. Robinson states is the greatest advancement in Begonias in the past ten years. Don't fail to visit Keystone Begonia Gardens on Sunday, July 1, at 2:30 P.M. and bring a friend.

Several members have failed to get their bulletins lately due to wrong addresses etc. If you know of any such cases please advise the society.

It is with deepest regret that we lose the services of our Corresponding Secretary and Editor for the space of a few months. May the Yosemite bring enjoyment to her and health to her husband.

Constructive criticism is what builds up a good bulletin. Lets have a little.

(signed) J. Paul Walker
Substitute Editor

MAILING INVITATIONS

Keep up the good work. This is about the best form of publicity that we have as it reaches the individual that is interested in Begonias. We are sure that the recipients of these invitations appreciate your individual kindness in sending them.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce the following new members. We hope we get this many each time and that each attends regularly.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mr. Charles C. Auge
1001 East Broadway,
Long Beach, Calif. | 4. Mrs. H. J. Newing
530 Mapleton Drive,
Los Angeles, Calif. |
| 2. Mr. Kenneth C. Auge
2300 Palm Grove Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif. | 5. Mr. E. C. Hudson
c/o Rosecroft Begonia Gardens,
Point Loma, Calif. |
| 3. Mr. M. B. Dunkle
4543 Colorado Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 5. Mrs. R. D. Temple
Route 2--box 2406,
Anaheim, California |
| 7. S. G. Lippincott
630 North Parton Ave.,
Santa Ana, California | 8. Mrs. Congdon
1506 E. 4th St.,
Long Beach, Calif. |

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Monthly Bulletin

Vol. 1

August 1934

Bulletin No. 8
Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

NEXT MEETING

Home of the "Begonia Lady" 1111 Yale Ave., Santa Monica, Calif., on Sunday August 5, at 2:30 P.M. 1111 Yale Ave. is about 29 blocks from the ocean, and near Wilshire.

Mr. Hugh Evans and son Jack Evans of the Evans Rare Plant Gardens will discuss Fuchsias.

Mrs. Rodenburg not only has the largest variety of fibrous begonias that we know of, but has numerous Rex and Tuberous Begonias, rare plants, and over 175 varieties of fuchsias. This is one place you should not miss seeing, and Mrs. Rodenburg says to bring your friends.

NOTES ON LAST MEETINGS

110 members and friends enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. Roy Berry of Torrance. Mr. Berry has the largest and finest collection of Rex begonias in the world. His collection numbers over 11,000 plants.

President Fred M. Riedman appointed the following committees:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Flower Show Committee | 2. Municipal Lath House for Long Beach |
| Dr. Nellie Schenck | Mr. C. C. Auge |
| Mr. J. Paul Walker | Mr. C. M. Kelly |
| Mr. H. P. Dyckman | Mr. Lou Mason |

The Society voted to discontinue sending bulletins to all members whose dues are a year in arrears.

Mr. Rodenburg reported that in the instructions given in the last bulletin for fertilizing Tuberous begonias, they should have read, one teaspoon of floranide instead of one tablespoon per gallon of water.

A large number of members and friends enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs. John D. Fredricks of Bel-Air on Sunday July 23. The thousands of tuberous, rex and fibrous begonias, and the great variety of other interesting and rare plants inspired the awe of all those that were fortunate enough to attend.

NOTICE

This will be the last bulletin sent to those that are a year in arrears. If you are in arrears or know of some enthusiasts that desire to join, just send the \$1 to our Secretary-treasurer, W. S. Bell, 3014 E. 2nd Street, Long Beach, Calif.

PICTURES

Mr. J. S. Williams, 2034 Florida St., Long Beach is desirous of securing pictures of your Begonia garden for the club scrap book. There is a page for each member. Lets each one of us do our share in making this enterprize a success.

FUCHSIA NOTES BY MRS. C. A. RODENBURG

In this article I shall deviate from the subject of Begonias and write of a very interesting class of shrubs which combine very effectively with other shade loving plants, such as Ferns and both Fibrous and Tuberous Begonias. This group of shrubs is known as the Fuchsia family, the more common name for them being Jewel Flowers, and indeed they are real jewels in our gardens, with their graceful sprays

of flowers in many sizes and colors. I know you will love their beautiful drooping colorful bell-like flowers for they bloom so freely and are especially desirable for our coast gardens. At the present time flowering shrubs are in great demand and the Fuchsia has become very popular because it brings this wealth of colorful bloom to our gardens. It is not a new class of shrub, but the revival of an interest in an old favorite. They are evergreen here on the coast, perennial and very ornamental, coming from Mexico, New Zealand, Central and South America. Fuchsia Triphylla is said to have been discovered as far back as 1703. Later other forms were found and sent to Europe for propagation and hybridization. They received the greatest amount of attention in France and England and many crosses were also made in Germany, the Triphylla hybrids being produced in Germany fifty years ago. Fuchsias are very easy to hybridize which has resulted in many hundreds of new varieties. The natives were largely singles and either all red or red and purple combinations, while today the color combinations are varied and unusual, often exceedingly striking in their contrast of coloring.

For foundation plantings, hedges or placed here or there in the gardens they are unequalled since as I have stated they are our best flowering shrub, bearing flowers continuously from about March until October, and some varieties are in bloom at all times if the weather is favorable. They easily are grown if given the things needed. Do not necessarily require a rich soil but one well drained. In some locations they need shade, but in this location can be grown anywhere if they are well mulched. Mulch may be leaf-mold, peat moss or dried lawn cuttings. These all help to conserve the moisture and feed the plants as they decay. The roots of the Fuchsias like those of the Begonias lie close to the surface and the mulch helps to keep the roots cool and moist and does away with any need for cultivation. If given sufficient moisture they make wonderful growth in a short time. They can be cut back very vigorously late in the fall or early spring and it is quite remarkable how strong the growth starts anew. They, of course, respond still better if they are well fed, so if your soil is deficient in things that are necessary to make strong plants give them a good plant food and you will be well paid with vigorous growth and wonderful flowers.

Fuchsias are easily propagated by cuttings from the old wood or from the tender tips of the new growth. In the winter take the old wood cuttings and the spring or summer take the new tender tips, making a clean cut below a joint. Place in sharp river sand and give sufficient moisture until rooted. I prefer the tender new growth cuttings for it seems to me they grow more rapidly and make the best shaped plants. The cuttings may also be put where you want them to grow if you put a small amount of sand in the bottom of the hole and keep moist until the roots develop. The young plants when well rooted grow very rapidly and may be placed in pots filled with a good potting soil. They need a frequent change to larger pots as their root system develops. Plants in pots are in great demand at this time for patios and some varieties of the Fuchsia family make ideal plants for shady or partially shady patios. Here too, you may use them for a new kind of hanging basket, one which will be a real joy to you. There are a number of Fuchsias which are trailing or semi-trailing which make these wonderful baskets. Among these trailers with small flowers we have Procumbens, Venus Victrix, Thymifolia, and Reflexa. With somewhat larger flower in a beautiful shade of rose, we have a slender flowered one known as Caledonia. Others with larger flowers are trailing Queen, Mrs. Eva Boeg, the lovely red Marinka, and two with variegated foliage, Corallina and Autumnale. Convent Garden with its dainty pink and white flowers and Balkon the most trailing of all Fuchsias are two outstanding ones.

Fuchsias may also be grown from the seed even by the inexperienced. The seed germinates very readily and the plants mature very quickly and are soon growing happily in our gardens. Those of us who like to experiment or create something new may carry the pollen from one Fuchsia flower with a small paint brush to another flower on a different variety, marking with a string or covering with a

FUCHSIA NOTES BY MRS. C. A. RODENBURG (cont'd)

tissue paper the flower so pollanized. Save the seed produced and perhaps a new variety will be the result.

We may have tall growing Fuchsias, medium growing or procumbent types. The flowers may be double or single. The doubles with a longer or short corolla. The singles, very small or long and slender. We have many in the purple and red shades both large and small. One very small one with delicate foliage is known as Pumila. We have the larger doubles such as Phenomanal, Baron Von Kettaler, Royal Purple and Allene, and they are indeed striking as are also many of the singles in these colorings such as Otto, Swanley Gem and our old standby Red Monarch. The so-called yellow group also receives much attention. In this group we have Swanley Yellow, Prince of Orange, Mrs. Rundle and Salmon Queen. Salmon Queen is said to be the same as Aurora Superba, but the English catalogue says Aurora Superba is a shy doer, but my Salmon Queen has nothing shy about her. Likely our Southern California climate agrees with her. Among some of the good pink and white combinations with the long tube are Duchess of Albany, Starlight, Santa Barbara, Lustre Improved and a number of others, a very popular group indeed. Then we have a large double pink known as General Drude, it is one that never fails to draw comment. The Doctor is another attractive one in pink shades. Should you prefer a white and red combination, you may have quite a choice here also. The large double known as Diamint has a short very double white corolla and red sepals, Molesworth another white somewhat different in shape and size. Pride of Orion with a long unevenly shaped corolla of white and Pasteur like a lovely white rose and some of the larger sized whites. Mrs. E. G. Hill, Snowdrop and Alice Hoffman are smaller sized ones with white corollas and white sepals. Other exceptionally attractive with varying colors are Rollo, Rose of Denmark, Countess of Aberdeen, Pride of Exeter and Serratifolio. The Triphylla group needs some mention for it is a different but indeed an interesting group, as it has beautiful foliage with a soft velvety look and bright colored flowers.

They surely brighten up the corners where they are. I cannot begin to tell you of them all in one short article, but come to the Begonia meeting on August 5th, and Mr. Hugh Evans, who imported many Fuchsia types into this country from Europe, and his son Jack both of the Evans' Rare Plant Garden will add more to this Fuchsia story.

By

Charlotte A. Rodenburg

A RECOMMEND

Mrs. S. G. Lippincott recommends the following for slugs:

1	tablespoon	Paris green
16	"	" bran (heaping)
4	"	" molasses

Mix to crumbly stage. Use no water. Scatter on plants. It green and does not look bad on plants.

Mr. Charles E. Strong reports over eighty strikes of a midnight.

EDITORS NOTE

Many of the members are failing to get as much enjoyment as they should out of the Begonia Society. Your bulletins list around seventy-five members. Everyone of these members are glad to have you visit their begonia gardens.

During the past few weeks I have had the pleasure of visiting several gardens and every one of them has merit.

Those interested in an outdoor living room would be especially interested in the open faced lath house of Mr. McMillan of Catalina, the use of fibrous begonias by Mrs. E. S. Thompson of Long Beach, the use of all kinds of begonias and kindred plants in the Kelly's back yard, and, the start the Fords have made in a lath

EDITORS NOTE (cont'd)

covered living room. Those interested in lath houses would enjoy seeing the creditable starts of both our ex-president H. P. Dyckman of Long Beach and our new member Mrs. S. G. Lippincott of Santa Ana.

If you have not visited the Walter M. Randall green house you have missed something. And don't forget that our President has a nice layout also.

Practically every member has something you would enjoy seeing. Why don't you go and take a few looks?

J. Paul Walker
Substitute Editor

NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Mr. H. D. Heinley
5722 Lewis Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 5. Mr. Charles Paterson
3020 E. 3rd St.,
Long Beach, Calif. |
| 2. Mr. L. F. Thomas
2525 E. 5th St.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 6. Mrs. C. W. Crawford
169 Quincy Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. |
| 3. Miss Lillian Zeck
535 West Highland,
Redlands, Calif. | 7. Miss Lena Higgins
2224 Orange Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif. |
| 4. Miss Laura Dodge
3031 E. 3rd St.,
Long Beach, Calif. | 8. Mrs. Chas. R. Schenck
Rt. 2, Box 99,
San Louis Obispo, Calif. |

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 1

SEPTEMBER

Bulletin No. 9
Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - August 5, 1934

A large number of begonia lovers and friends enjoyed the hospitality and wonderful collection of begonias and fuchsias of Mrs. Rodenburg, 1111 Yale Ave., Santa Monica. We are always royally entertained at the Rodenburgs.

The Society decided to put on a begonia exhibit in the arcade of the Jergins Trust Bldg. The following committee was appointed to have charge of the exhibit:- Mr. J. Paul Walker, Mr. H. P. Dyckman, Mrs. Eunice Thompson, and Mr. J. S. Williams.

Mr. Hugh Evans gave an interesting account of his early introduction of fuchsias and rare plants. His son, Mr. Jack Evans, gave a most instructive talk on the culture and uses of fuchsias.

Uses of Fuchsias.

Besides their usual uses, fuchsias may be used as hedges, pot plants, in hanging baskets, and in the rock garden.

Culture.

1. Soil--Fuchsias like a rich soil with plenty of leaf-mold and manure.
2. Watering--They require plenty of water.
3. Shade--Prefer semi-shade, although a few varieties will grow in full sun.
4. Mulching--As the roots of the fuchsia are near the surface, the top soil should be kept cool and moist. This can best be done by mulching. Mrs. Rodenburg has had excellent success using grass clippings.
5. Pruning--Best success has been secured by cutting back severely during the winter.
6. Propagation--Fuchsias are usually propagated by cuttings but they can be grown from seed. In planting seed, do not tamp the soil as they seem to prefer a loose soil of leaf-mold, peat, and sand.

NEXT MEETING PLACE

Mr. Roscoe S. Baldwin has very kindly invited us to his place for our Society meeting. The date is September 8, Saturday afternoon at 2:30 P.M. The address is 550 Atlanta Street, Pasadena, Calif.

THE FERN STORY by Roscoe S. Baldwin

A fern is a flowerless plant growing from a rootstalk with fronds usually raised from an under-ground branch. The fronds, usually rolled up at first, bear on their lower surfaces at maturity the spores by means of which the plant reproduces.

The eight thousand species of ferns we find on the earth today are but a handful to the great number which grew on the earth centuries ago. As the temperature was much higher then, ferns attained their maximum growth. The great coal beds in lands that are now covered with ice for a large part of the year indicate that they once supported a luxuriant fern flora. Although individual fronds seldom live more than a year, nearly all ferns are perennial. Many are evergreen. Tree ferns with their erect trunks and tufts of fronds at the summit are probably the typical form. Ferns bear no flowers although one species is called the flowering fern.

Fern seed has always been elusive. The ancients had many queer ideas regarding fern seed and flowers. One legend says that in the beginning ferns had flowers but

THE FERN STORY (cont'd)

lost them in the following way. A great man died sometime back in the ages. All the flowers were very sad over the occasion and to show their sorrow they closed their flowers. The ferns failed to do this so the gods doomed them to be forever without blooms.

Ferns were among the first and most beautiful of the larger land plants, and were extremely abundant during the Carboniferous periods. Notwithstanding their apparent abundance in favored northern localities, it is in truly tropical regions that ferns reach their highest development as to number of species, for here only are combined the prime requisites; heavy rainfall and equable temperatures throughout the year, with wide range in elevation. Far from being rooted in the ground, as in the North, more than two-thirds of the ferns of tropical forests are likely to be found on trees, many often perched far beyond reach. The island of Jamaica, botanically well explored, boasts nearly five hundred kinds of ferns, the larger island of Haiti a few more. The Andean region from Mexico to Chile has several thousand, but it will require a generation of exploration, geographically as well as botanically before this rich flora is even approximately known. In our own country we have in the fern flora of Florida a sort of connecting link between tropical and temperate regions.

In many respects out-and-out desert ferns seem the most remarkable of all. Except for a few of the cliff-loving kinds. Northern ferns as a rule live in cool, shady situations, or at least where there is a generous supply of water throughout the year. How different are conditions in the arid mountain ranges and foothills where drought is perennial and shade is rare! There ferns have adapted themselves in a wonderful way. In general, desert ferns seek the shelter of seams and clefts in the rocks where the soil is occasionally moistened by temporary rills, and have nearly all put on a dense undercovering of close-set hairs, or overlapping scales, thus being able to retain their water. As a further aid from drying out, most desert ferns have the habit of rolling up their fronds during the driest periods.

Contrasting sharply with the thickleaved ferns of arid regions are the Filmy Ferns, an extensive group found mainly in the cool, cloud-drenched mountain forests of tropical regions. They grow mostly upon logs and mossy tree trunks. A few kinds occur in the lowlands, on trees and banks, or clinging to moist rocks. The forms of leaf assumed by the "filmies" are many, ranging from simple or coarsely lobed to many times finely divided, the divisions flat or ruffled, devoid of hairs or so thickly covered with them that they glisten with a silvery, golden, or warm-brown silky sheen. Some kinds grow stiffly erect, but the more beautiful are those that hang limply from the mossy trees.

to be continued-

NOTES BY THE WAY by Mrs. O. P. Palstine, Corresponding Secretary.

First I want to thank Mr. J. Paul Walker for his two fine bulletins he so kindly published for me while I was in the Yosemite. It was such a pleasure to visit eleven of the members' gardens after returning and to find they had stood the hot weather so well. Our own made me gasp with joy when entering the lath house.

Four of the club members put a table of choice tuberous, fibrous and Rex Begonias in the First Annual Hobby Show, held by the Recreation Commission, on Saturday afternoon and Sunday, August 18, 19, which attracted the attention of all attending.

Don't forget the coming display in the Jergins subway, some of you other good members get busy, don't leave it all for the same group.

Also the big flower show in September in the Auditorium, help to make it a success and get new members, only \$1.00 per year. Make use of the membership cards.

NOTES BY THE WAY (cont'd)

The expense of the bulletins have to be met, we just increased the number and printed more back numbers for each of our new members.

Have you had any blossoms on the rare Auricula Primroses Mr. Robinson gave us when in Dan Diego? So sorry to hear Mr. Robinson has been so ill and hope he is entirely recovered.

CORRECTIONS

It is George Randall that has a greenhouse, not Walter.

Mrs. Lippincott's instructions for mixture should read: put around plants, not on them as it will kill plants.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Winifred M. Young	5223 El Rio Ave.,	Eagle Rock
Mrs. Henry Ludwick	1342 Roycroft Ave.,	Long Beach
Mrs. George Worden	1224 E. Montecito	Santa Barbara
Mr. William B. Hasty	1130 Fiske St.,	Pacific Palisades
Mr. L. H. Reeve	140 Reeve Way,	Altadena

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

SPECIAL BULLETIN

September 19, 1934

The meeting scheduled for the Huntington Library on Sunday September 23rd has been canceled.

There will be a business meeting of the Society at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Walker, 515 West 20th St., Long Beach, Monday evening September 24th at 7:30. Please come prepared to let us know what plants you can enter in the flower show.

The Long Beach Flower show will be held in the municipal auditorium on Sept. 28-29, 1934. Members of the society are offering a large number of prizes this year in order to encourage interest among the members. The show may also be held on the 30th too.

Prizes will be given for the following entries, as listed in Robinson's Begonia catalogue:

1. The best general display of Begonias and kindred plants.
2. The best display of Rex Begonias.
3. The best display of fibrous begonias.
4. The best display of specimen plants.
5. The best educational display.
6. The best fibrous lucerne type plant.
7. The best fibrous rubra type plant.
8. The best other tall form plant.
9. The best intermediate type plant.
10. The best growing branching type plant.
11. The best thick stems procumbent type plant.
12. The best Scharffiana group type plant.
13. The best climbing or scandent type plant.
14. The most odd or rare plant.
15. The best large leaved Rex begonia.
16. The best medium sized leaved Rex begonia.
17. The best small leaved Rex begonia.
18. The best Helix or spiralled type Rex begonia.
19. The best discolor or branching Rex begonia.
20. The best Lloydii tuberous begonia.
21. The best other tuberous begonia.
22. The best bedding type begonia plant.

Every member is expected to make an entry of some kind if possible, even if it is only one plant. Surely you have one of these plants that will take a prize and at the same time help make our exhibit one that will make us be proud of. This is your Society's show. Won't you help make it a success?

All plants should be delivered at the Municipal auditorium between 5-8 P.M. on Thursday evening, Sept. 27. You may carry your plants in through any of the doors on the ground floor. Or you may drive down the first alley east of American Ave. and south of Ocean on past the parking station, and in through the large door just south of the parking station.

If you are unable to come to the business meeting Sept. 24th, please call Mr. Walker (Long Beach 646-143) or send him a post card at 515 West 20th St., Long Beach, telling him exactly what you intend to bring to the show. In case you fail to do this, bring your plants to the exhibit on the date set above.

We need a few more plants for prizes. If you are willing to donate one or more plants for prizes please let Mr. Walker or some other member of the flower show committee know.

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The Monthly Bulletin

Vol. 1

October
1934

Bulletin No. 10
Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

NEXT MEETING

Mrs. Stella Ross, 1028 Ocean Front, Newport Beach, will entertain the members and guests of the American Begonia Society at 2:30 P.M., Sunday October 21, 1934.

Those who will see the beautiful lath houses for the first time have a rare treat in store, and the older members always look forward to the invitation to return, for Mrs. Ross is a gracious hostess.

Due to the early meeting in September and the late meeting in October, the club has had busy days; so have waited until after the flower show to make a report on all meetings and issuing a bulletin.

A special meeting was held at J. Paul Walker's home on the 17th to discuss last minute affairs for the show which was very successful.

HOBBY SHOW

The club was invited to put an exhibit in the Hobby Show, given by the Recreation Commission, which was held during the month of August. Due to short notice Mr. Riedman asked Mr. Kelly, Mr. Williams and the Palstines to attend to the matter.

The table in the center entrance was 8 by 9 feet with a raised portion in the center and two beautiful hanging baskets of tuberous begonias. There were tuberous, fibrous, rex and ferns on the stand which were greatly praised. Mr. M. B. Dunkle had an exhibit of beautiful tree fuchsias.

SPECIAL GREETINGS

To Mr. Alfred D. Robinson and Mr. Fewkes, we trust that they are much better.

NOTES ON LAST MEETING

The meeting on Sat. P.M. Sept. 8, at Roscoe Baldwin's in Pasadena was attended by about 50 members and friends. Mr. Baldwin discussed the propagation of ferns by runners, bulbs and spores. Those attending secured a great deal of information from both the lecture and an inspection of the glass houses.

It was decided that any new member joining after Sept. 1, 1934 should be entitled to membership until Dec. 31, 1935. Any back bulletins desired would, however have to be paid for by the new members for five cents per copy.

Mr. Williams announced that many members have not yet turned in pictures of their begonias or gardens.

Mrs. Palstine announced that she had a number of copies of a letter about information on the Begonia Society that she would send to any one interested.

It was decided to ask Mr. Hunt, Mr. Norwood and Mr. Rinhart to serve as judges of Begonias and kindred plants at the Dahlia Show.

FLOWER SHOW

The society as a whole owes a debt of gratitude to those members that exhibited one or more plants to make the Begonia exhibit the outstanding feature of the flower show. Those that entered in the society exhibit are to be congratulated on their fine spirit of showing their plants. Their names are found largely in the prize list.

The Amateur exhibits were well worthy of all the praise that they received. The Palestine display received the lions share of the prize, and it was well deserved. First prizes for Best General Display, Best Rex Display, Best Fibrous Display, and numerous best plants. President Riedman took second prize Best General Display, 1st for Best Tuberous Display and 1st prizes for numerous Best Plants. The educational display put on by Signal Hill Agriculture under the direction of Mr. Walker took first prize in its class.

The commercial exhibitors are to be congratulated on their fine showing. Ex-President Dyckman received 3 or of 5 first ribbons. Both Mrs. Wepper and Mr. Wilson put on excellent displays of which we are all proud.

We wish to thank those persons that so generously donated plants for prizes. Among these are Mr. Berry who donated 22 fine Rex, Mr. Rinehart who furnished several especially nice plants, Mrs. Palestine, Mr. Dyckman, Mr. Freeman, Dr. Schenck, Mrs. Roque and Mr. Kelly, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Walker.

There were many offers of help that we were unable to accept because of distance or lack of time. Such offers as the one made by Mr. Alfred D. Robinson to furnish catalogues for judges and a number of his best plants, including the ones we named at Rosecroft last Spring, for prizes; and similar offers by Mrs. Rodenburg and others are deeply appreciated. --J. Paul Walker

The following exhibitors took prizes of ribbons and plants for Best Begonia plants exhibited in their class: C. C. Auge, Roy Berry, Mrs. Ruth E. Cole, Mrs. Mary Congdon, C. M. Kelly, Mrs. R. C. Roque, Dr. Nellie Schenck, Mrs. E. S. Thompson, Mrs. J. Paul Walker, J. S. Williams, and Mrs. Forrest M. Croy.

Mrs. Drake, H. D. Hinley, and C. M. Kelly took the prizes for best plants in the kindred plant class.

Mr. M. B. Dunkle of our society put on a very creditable exhibit of fuchsias at the flower show. He has one of the best collections of fuchsias in this section to supplement his begonias.

A very creditable display including Rex, Fibrous and Tuberous begonias, was put on in the subway of the Jergins Trust Bldg, on Sept. 14, 15, 16 by Messrs: Dyckman, Williams, and Walker. A great deal of favorable comment was received from the passing public.

We are especially indebted to the members of the show committee that gave so generously their time. To Dr. Schenck, Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Bell who served on the committee to arrange the society exhibit; to Mr. Hinley on the committee to check plants. To Mr. Williams and Mr. Kelly on the securing, arranging, and dispersing of plants for prizes; besides the many more that assisted, we wish to express our most sincere appreciation.

--J. Paul Walker, Chairman -
Show Committee.

FERNS Part II

All are alike in having leaf tissue but one cell thick, which explains their liking for spray and mountain fogs. They have no means of storing water. A few can live where it is merely damp, but most kinds can not let their delicate fronds dry

FERNS (cont'd)

out. The covering of hairs is commonest in species of drier or more exposed situations. It protects the fronds by harboring a thin film of water over their surfaces. With few exceptions the Filmy Ferns are plants of extreme delicacy, and their translucent, lace-like fronds are among the most beautiful of natural objects.

The largest of all ferns are the Tree Ferns. They are the glory of the Tropics. They develop erect trunks which grow from twenty to eighty feet in height. They are crowned by a palmlike crown of huge dissected fronds. The Australians call them Fern Trees, certainly an appropriate name.

It is no wonder that many persons are interested in these beautiful plants. In England the culture of ferns, both native and exotic, has progressed to an extent not appreciated in America. A recent illustrated catalogue of a British dealer lists fully two thousand species and varieties. Hundreds of the forms offered are tropical plants that must be grown under glass at temperatures ranging from forty-five to seventy-five degrees, but hundreds of others are from temperate regions and are well able to withstand an ordinary northern winter out-of-doors.

Most kinds of ferns will do well in a house for a short time. Of these the most popular is the Boston Fern. The parent form of the Boston Fern is the Sword Fern common in Florida and the Tropics, which was first introduced into cultivation in 1793, from Jamaica. Eventually it became one of the common greenhouse ferns, but was not noted for variability. However, thirty years ago, a florist near Boston found among his Sword Ferns a new sort, with softer, more graceful, and more numerous leaves. This variety, which is believed to have arisen as a sport from the Sword Fern, came to be known as the Boston Fern. It grew rapidly in public favor and at the end of a few years hundreds of thousands were being sold annually by florists throughout the United States. Since that time it has been the most common hardy fern on the market. Scientifically no less than horticulturally, the Boston Fern is of extreme importance, serving as the basis of experimental studies in evolution, the causes underlying the appearance of new forms, their significance and the possible control of their production. All in all, a remarkable performance for a single tropical fern.

In spite of the commercial importance of the Boston Fern and its numerous forms, a trade which places nearly two millions of living ferns annually in American homes, and represents a large outlay of capital, one hears sometimes the statement that ferns are of no economic value, by which is meant probably that they serve few important uses in the arts and industries. This is only partially true.

PART III

Various Polypodies were used in medicine by ancients. The rootstalks of a Polypody of the Western United States also are intensely sweet and give the plant its name, Licorice Fern. The huge stems of the Hesiian Ytrr Grtn formerly provided the native Hawaiians with food in time of need, the starchy core when baked being regarded as a fair substitute for taro and the sweet potato. In tropical America the tall columnar trunks of several kinds of Tree Ferns are occasionally used as telegraph poles and rather commonly as building timbers and upright supports. Not only are they resistant to decay, but to the attacks of Termites as well. The interior network especially is of almost glassy hardness, and is often used as inlay material by cabinet makers of South America. In Java the lone inner strands of a Vine-fern are woven into cigar cases and lightweight hats, and in Siam small closely woven covered boxes of oval form and exquisite design and workmanship are made from the strands of a native Climbing Fern.

FERNS

PART III (cont'd)

Among our northeastern ferns three species of special importance are to be mentioned, the Christmas Fern, the Common Wood-fern, and the Cinnamon Fern. The first two are exploited for their fronds by florists. The Cinnamon Fern is useful in quite a different way. Its great root-tussocks, rising well out of the moist areas where it grows, supply thick masses of wiry interwoven rootlets, which are regarded by those who cultivate tropical orchids as an ideal medium on which to grow the kinds that occur naturally on tree trunks.

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 1

November

Bulletin No. 11
Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Sec'y

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Walker, 515 West 20th St., Long Beach, Calif. at 7:30 P.M. The date---Wednesday, November 21, 1934. Mr. B. Norwood will be the speaker.

Dr. Nellie Schenck, Mrs. J. S. Williams, and Mr. Roy Berry, were appointed by the President Mr. Fred Riedman to serve on the nominating committee. Dr. N. Schenck is the chairman.

A report will be given, election of officers will be held at the next meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor also. This will be our first evening meeting so all try to come. "You" may be the next to serve as an officer for the coming year.

FUCHSIA LOVERS

The Fuchsia lovers will be interested in the notice from our member Mr. M. B. Dunkle, who has a most interesting garden, be sure to visit him. THE AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY. This Society has recently published a 59 page pamphlet on Fuchsias, with descriptions and illustrations of the more common fuchsias to be found in California.

This pamphlet will be distributed free to all members. The annual dues are \$1.00.

The main office of the Society is now at the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Local applications for membership may be sent or handed to M. B. Dunkle, 4543 Colorado, Long Beach, California.

SUGGESTIONS

We are pleased to submit the following timely suggestions by our members:

Primulas. For a winter and early Spring flower which blends well in the garden with other seasonal bloom, as Cyclamen, Cineraria and Violas, and which is lovely massed alone, do not neglect primula malacoides the Fairy Primrose.

Of all the primroses it is the easiest to grow and has the advantage of re-seeding itself each year. Plants of fair size are now for sale, for planting in the garden. For large plants of several crowns which will throw large numbers of flower stems the seed should be sown in July or August, or the volunteer plants can be lifted when large enough to handle and planted in flats. Sow seed in flats of loose loamy soil firmly pressed down, and cover if at all, with finely sifted peat. Water, cover with glass, place in semi-shady place. When plants have 2 or 3 leaves replant in flats of similar soil, two inches apart, later replant in other flats of richer soil four inches or more each way.

This method is recommended because the flats can better be protected on days when hot dry winds are blowing and pests, as cut worms and slugs can be easier controlled. By October large plants are ready to place in the garden. Ideal garden soil is one rich in humus, non-acid, and to which well rotted cow manure and bone-meal has been added. Good drainage is necessary. A little lime added to the soil is recommended for all primroses especially for the Auricula specimens of which were received as favors at Mr. Robinson's.

This baby primrose is more tolerant of the sun than others and will grow in full sun during cool weather, but is happiest in partial shade with full sun only part of the time.

SUGGESTIONS (cont'd)

The color of this primrose varies from lavender to almost white and a new variety is out, having larger flowers of an orchid shade. Also from England comes one with yellow flowers.

Note: Fibrous Rooted Begonias. This is the time of the year that fibrous rooted begonias want to take a rest and do not like to be disturbed. They should be where they will stay for the winter, but care must be taken so that they will not lose all their leaves.

Some causes for leaves dropping are getting too dry, plants that have been fed all summer must be tapered off easy or the leaves will fall off. Plants that are out in the wind when the nights are cold will lose most of their leaves, or exposed to light frosts.

Fibrous Begonias by
H. P. Dyckman

LAST MEETING

One of the outstanding meetings of the year was held at the beautiful gardens of Mrs. Stella Ross, at Newport Beach. Due to the very large attendance our President thought it best not to try to have a business meeting, but let each one enjoy the rare plants, ferns as well as the many gorgeous Orchids.

One could spend hours enjoying delicious punch and doughnuts which were so plentifully served.

We missed seeing a few of the older members and hope they will be out at the next meeting.

FERN NOTES

Due to the lengthy bulletin last month, we took the privilege of cutting the fern notes for which we make an apology to Mr. Baldwin and print it this issue.

FERNS -- Part III (cont'd)

Thus far, fern study in the United States has centered in our native species. The American Fern Society, which came into existence thirty-six years ago as the Linnaean Fern Chapter of the Agassiz Association, has now a membership of several hundred, mostly amateurs, who have published a great amount of information upon the ferns north of the Rio Grande. By correspondence and exchange of two journals devoted to ferns, this society has had a wide influence in arousing interest in the subject and in fostering close observation in every phase of fern study.

At the time the society began its work, there was little promise of the many popular volumes that now deal with ferns in an authoritative and entertaining way. The studies thus well begun should now be extended to the field of tropical America. There in the cool, wet, mountain forests is a wealth of ferns beyond imagination.

DECEMBER ISSUE

The December issue will be the last bulletin of the first volume for this year.

Criticisms of the past numbers would now be timely, we are sure that the incoming editor for 1935 would appreciate any suggestions for next year's bulletins.

The publishing of the bulletins has been and must be a co-operative effort. It is not necessary for every member to contribute long articles, but each one of us has had some favorable experience that could be passed along. Most of us have had difficulties that we have overcome, or upon which we may still need information. Your questions submitted to and answered through the Bulletin would supply interesting and instructive reading.

A statement of your successes or experiences might prove valuable to others.

NOTICE

Mr. Gilbert Arnold has asked the Begonia members to attend the Dahlia meeting this coming Tuesday evening, November 20th at the Chamber of Commerce Building at 7:30 P.M.

We wish you all a very plentiful and happy
THANKSGIVING.

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Monthly Bulletin

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Bulletin No. 12
Mrs. O. P. Palstine
Corresponding Secretary

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. B. Warren Davis, 769 Cherry Avenue, Long Beach, at 7:30 P.M. Thursday, December 13, 1934.

The President would not be able to attend a meeting on Wednesday evening, so we changed this meeting to Thursday and hope all will be able to come.

It will be a Christmas party, with a short program and refreshments. An exchange of plants, for gifts. Come and make our new members welcome and get acquainted with the old.

SPEAKER

Mr. Hans VonHofgaarden, proprietor of the Mira Mar Nursery, will give us another one of his interesting talks on his recent trip to Europe.

NOTES

Minutes were read and approved at the last meeting at the home of J. Paul Walker.

The nominating committee made a report, renominating all of the past officers to serve another year. This brought forth much discussion from the floor, the past officers declining with "Thanks" as so much good material is in the club. Each should help shoulder the responsibility.

We wish to thank all the members who have been so kind in helping with the writing of such instructive and worthwhile articles for the bulletins, which I am sure you have all enjoyed.

ARTICLE — Mr. Alfred D. Robinson

The article in this issue from our Dean of Begonia Culturists Mr. Alfred D. Robinson, of Point Loma, Calif. will be very helpful for the society.

I find in my mind these suggestions for the Bulletin: a permanent heading briefly stating the objects of the Society, how to join and above all an address that is impersonal — say a P.O. Box.

A department taking up systematically the Begonia varieties, one or two at a time, so that eventually a record will be made of the family.

I advocate constitutionally, control providing for rotating of officers. I don't think any should succeed themselves. It is vital to any organization—as the Begonia Society—that the maximum number of available members shall take active part. The organization is much more worth fostering than the individual glorification. A good president should be glad to be a better vice-president for the good of the Society. This would avoid making of ruts and failing in them and progress means looking into the future while working in the present not leaning on past achievement. Not a thing personal in this suggestion.

There should be a Nomenclature Committee, such as the Rose Society, etc. have that would receive and approve or disapprove names claimed for new things. It should start by a careful survey of old names and should start a regular official register.

In this connection I would make two changes in the Rosecroft green list:

1. On page 14 there is Houghtoni or Urophylla. They cannot be inter-changeable, the first Houghtoni is a very similar plant to Staageara, a medium stemmed and branching type. While Curtis Botanical Magazine, an authority, we must recognize, gives Urophylla as a rhizomatous type.

Rosecroft green list (cont'd)

2. Wallow, on Page 8 has distinctly pink, not white flowers when grown in good light in the lath-house.
3. Midnight Rex on Page 21 should, I feel sure be Black Knight. Thirty years ago I had Midnight and it did not even resemble this variety, now assuming the name.
4. Bailey's description of Nitida, page 10, is similar to our description of Odorata Rosea, and he is corroborated by Curtis Magazine. What our Nitida is I cannot find anywhere.

I think action on this most vital as hopeless confusion looms ahead in the absence of some control.

I have come on two significant items in the Soil Department.

1st. That any form of soil sterilization can kill the beneficial organisms in the soil as well as the injurious ones--making the difference between a "live" and "dead" soil without any apparent chemical change. This may be the action that makes Chlorine so harmful.

2nd. The application of unrotted organic matter, lithic leafmold or fabliser can actually starve plants for awhile because the bacilli that prepare plant food for consumption concentrate their energies on breaking down the added organic matter. This explains the strong need of composting our material well ahead of use.

Referring back to top paragraph. It is advised that in case of sterilization, fresh organic fertilizer be added at once to restock the soil with the live bacilli.

FERN NOTES

Stag Horn Ferns, Platyceriums

Among the 8000 varieties of ferns we find some very queer forms, some not resembling the ordinary varieties at all, but having the botanical qualifications to class them as true ferns.

The Stag Horn ferns, or sometimes called the Moose Horn ferns are in this class. There are about eight varieties of this type: all are of a grey-green, leathery texture, and shaped like the horns of deer or moose according to variety, and compare in size with the horns of the animals for which they are named.

These ferns are native of Madagascar, Western Africa, India, Malay Islands, and many other parts of the world. Some of the best varieties for California come from the Hawaiian Islands, one of these being Platycerium Alcorni, perhaps the hardiest for this vicinity as it will grow outside at all times. The latter is nick-named Elk Horn as it resembles the elk horn more than the moose.

The Platycerium Grande is one of the finest and largest of this class of plants having very broad, many pointed palmated fronds, resembling the Western moose very closely. This variety will need a little protection in our climate from the winter frosts, and if given this care will grow rapidly and make a handsome specimen.

In their native haunts they grow on dead stumps or trees and will cover large areas, as they, with the exception of Grande, grow from runners or creeping rootstocks and form new plants. Being saprophytes they require no soil, but do well on sphagnum moss, tree fern trunks or slabs of dead wood.

These plants are propagated from the small plants which form on this creeping rootstock, being taken off when quite small and attached to their own little piece of bark or dead moss. The Grande does not grow these runners and so has to be propagated from spores which form on the underside of the frond, this being a slow process and requiring sterile conditions and proper temperature. The other varieties produce spores also, but on account of the runners which they also produce, the spore process is seldom used.

In our climate the best place to grow this rare plant is hanging on trees in wall pockets filled with Sphagnum moss, or pieces of oak slabs covered with the same moss. They require very little water and can go for long periods without water at all, but will grow faster and have a greener appearance if kept moist at all times. Pests of all kinds seem to leave this alone unless there is an infestation

FERN NOTES (cont'd)

close on some other plant.

Add the platyceriums to your collections of rare plants and you will find it a very interesting and attractive addition.

Ballots

Please sign the ballot enclosed and be sure to mail as soon as possible if you can not bring them yourself to the meeting Dec. 13. We want you to bring your plant. A good time is assured.

Adios.