



THE BEGONIAN



DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDEN

Monthly Bulletin of the American Begonia Society



BEGONIA REX HYBRID

SEPTEMBER



Marion Louise — Ernest K. Logee



1939

The Largest Selection of
TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

VETTERLE & REINELT
HYBRIDIZING GARDENS
Capitola, California

**SPECIAL CULTURAL
BULLETINS**

Tuberous	15c
Rex	15c
Fibrous	15c
Pest Control	15c
New Membership List	25c

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
1732 Temple Ave. Long Beach, Calif.

GROW BETTER BEGONIAS
with HORTICULTURAL



HUMINAL is a completely balanced mineral fertilizer and organic soil conditioner. Huminal consists of over 60% organic substance which is chemically combined with NITROGEN, PHOSPHORIC ACID and POTASH.

HUMINAL feeds your plants over a long period of time and it also adds that important organic matter to your soil.

For spring planting, buy your package now from your nurseryman or dealer.

ERIC WEDEMEYER

For illustrated folder write
1300 Factory Pl. Los Angeles, Calif.

QUESTION BOX

By Alice Fackelman

Question: I have a budding fuchsia in a 5-inch pot, with roots extending several inches through bottom of pot. Should I repot it now?

Answer: Yes, at once. It should have been repotted some time ago, as it is now a little bit root-bound.

Q.: Should Rex Begonias be sprayed with water every day? What time of day is best for spraying?

A.: Yes, in the morning. If you think they are drying out too much, spray again about noon.

Q.: The leaves of my Rex Begonias start to decay around the outer edge. Is it due to spraying?

A.: The soil mixture may be too rich, repot using less barnyard manure. Sometimes, if the leaves touch something else, they may rot.

Q.: Does it harm bird's nest ferns to water them overhead?

A.: No, if the water does not stand in crown.

Q.: Is there a small leaved and large leaved *Nitidia*?

A.: Yes, it may be seedling variations.

Q.: Can manure maiden-hair fern be made to grow the year around?

A.: No, in winter it becomes dormant.

Q.: What is the secret for getting pink callas to bloom?

A.: Heat. A good soil mixture in equal parts of mountain dirt, garden loam, some sand, and a balanced fertilizer. They do not like barnyard manure. The writer has seen them growing commercially in the south end of a specially built lathhouse in this special soil mixture and they were beautiful, and also in pots near the roof in glass houses.

An appeal has been made to the Question Box Editor to locate a *Begonia Cyclophylla*. The original home of this plant is China and it is very fragrant. Anyone knowing of such a begonia will please get in touch or write to the Question Box. It will be much appreciated. Thank you.

By Mrs. Clarissa Harris

Q.: Do little white flies on Fuchsias do any harm and if so, what can be used to get rid of them?

A.: The larvae which is scale-like, sucks the juice from the leaves, thereby weakening the plant. Use Red-Arrow, Garden Volck, etc.

(Continued on Page 8)

BEGONIAS FOR THE HOUSE

By Mrs. H. H. Buxton

Begonias are natives of the warm countries—Central and South America, chiefly, although they are found also in Asia and Africa. There are four or five hundred species and thousands of varieties to which the hybridists are constantly adding. The plant was named for Michel Begon, a French promoter of botany of Santo Domingo, who lived from 1638 to 1710.

Begonia growing began in England in 1777 when *Begonia nitida* was brought from Jamaica. The Rex species was discovered in India about 1857 and the first tuberous type came from South America in 1865. The most important species ever introduced—from the florist's point of view—is *Begonia socotrana*, brought in 1880 from the island of Socotra, in the Red Sea. From this species have been developed all the pink Christmas flowering kinds, which are not so good for house culture, however, as the fibrous, shrubby kinds.

Adaptability Makes Begonias Popular

The begonia is one of our most popular house plants because it is so adaptable. It will grow in a south window, a north window or in any intermediate exposure—but not the same variety, of course. One must choose the right kind—semperflorens, or other free blooming kinds for a south window, the spotted leaf ones for the northern or eastern exposures. Begonias are summer growing plants and some sorts are almost or quite dormant in winter, so cuttings should be taken in the spring when the plants are starting to grow. Take tip cuttings from the shrubby types like the Angel Wing or Lucerna, choosing branches with a soft top and a hard base. Cut with a sharp knife just below the third or fourth leaf joint and trim off the lower leaves. Take basal shoots from the semperflorens or bedding types, because the tip cuttings would send out sickly little flowers, not roots, and the basal shoots will root more quickly. Start new plants each year, as the old plants become woody and grow slowly.

Root Rex Begonia from Leaf Cuttings

The varieties of Rex Begonia are best rooted from leaf cuttings. Select a mature leaf, make cuts on the under side at the junction of the veins, and pin the leaf down with a toothpick on sand or cinders, under glass. Roots will form at every cut, followed by a tiny plant. This method is less practical for the house, where dry air conditions prevail, and wedge-shaped

cuttings of leaves will prove better. Leaf cuttings are cut in triangular form, with the base at the junction of the veins. Set the point in sand, place a glass over the cutting, and wait patiently for the new plant. Growth is slow and the cutting should not be discarded even if it is apparently dead, for the new plant may be forming under the soil.

It is much easier to root tip cuttings. A Wardian case, an aquarium covered with a sheet of glass, or a round glass display jar with a cover may be used. Fill the container half full of moist sand, set the cuttings firmly, and shade with a white cloth tied over the glass. This admits the warmth of the sun, giving the bottom heat so necessary to start root growth, yet provides the needed shade. When moisture appears on the cover, fresh air must be admitted, but replace the cover at dusk. These cuttings will root within 17 to 21 days. Fall cuttings root more slowly and growth will be slow until spring.

Be Sure to Use Small Pots for the Small Plants

When the cuttings are well rooted, pot them in small, two and a half inch pots. This is most important. If the pot is too large, the soil holds more moisture than the little plant can absorb and it becomes sour, the roots decay and the plant dies.

A heavy soil of clay-like texture is never suitable, as begonias like an open, porous sod. A good potting mixture for them is made up of two parts sandy loam, one-half part well rotted cow manure at least two years old, one-half part sifted leaf mold and one part of clean, sharp sand. This should be mixed thoroughly. It is also beneficial to add a little fine charcoal to keep the soil sweet. Pot begonias firmly, although they will not require as much firmness as geraniums or ivies. For larger pots, put at least an inch of broken crocks or pebbles in the bottom for good drainage, and cover with sphagnum moss or leaves to prevent the soil from washing through. Leave an inch of space at the top of the pot for watering and water the plant until moisture runs through the drainage hole. In winter, use water the temperature of the room. Do not let water stand in the saucer at any time. Repotting may be done in spring or summer, but not after October 1, when begonias should be settled for the winter.

Moist Air Is Essential

Watering is very important. There is a mistaken idea existent that because of their succulent leaves and stems begonias

require much water. They enjoy moist air and absorb a great deal of their needed moisture through their leaves, but a heavy, wet soil is not at all to their liking and will cause the leaves to drop. Hot, dry air will also cause them to drop. Fresh air should be admitted to the room each morning, but a direct draught must be avoided, for it is another cause of falling leaves. The air in the room can be kept moist by setting the pots on a pan of wet gravel, or by keeping pans of water on the radiators. The best humidifying medium of all is a constantly steaming kettle on the stove—the old fashioned forerunner of the modern humidifier.

Cool, Humid Air Helps Combat Insects and Diseases

Like other plants, begonias are subject to insect pests and diseases. Eternal vigilance is the price we pay for clean, healthy plants. Dry air will result in both insects and disease, so the first step is to reduce the heat and humidify the air. Discard badly infested plants. If you find mealy bugs—soft cottony white masses usually located in the axils of the leaves—spray with lemon oil or one of the nicotine sprays. Many gardeners recommend a spray of cold water daily for a week or 10 days. Do not set the plant back in a sunny window while the leaves are wet or they will blister.

Some Specific Insect-Control Recommendations

Red spider may turn the leaves yellow if the air is hot and dry. Examine the leaves with a pocket microscope and tiny spiders will be seen on the lower surfaces. Spray daily with cold water and keep the plant in a cool room.

Sometimes a brown rust appears on the under side of the leaves. This is caused by the bite of tiny insects, thrips. A nicotine insecticide will kill these as well as aphids or plant lice.

The hardest insect to control is the mite, quite invisible to the naked eye. It causes young leaves to become puckered and brittle and checks growth. Dust the plant, especially the under side of the leaves, with powdered sulphur once a week and use nicotine spray between the dustings. If you will set all your plants in a tub and spray them once a week, the results will prove most gratifying.

Begonias for Windows of Northern Exposure

If one can judge fairly by plants seen in window gardens, *Thurstoni* is the favorite begonia. It is tall and well branched, with glossy, dark green leaves, deep red on the under side. Grow it in a

north window, for sun fades the leaves to a dingy yellow. Among other begonias which will grow well in a north or northeast window is *argenteo-guttata*, the Trout Begonia, with silver spotted leaves. Mme. de Lesseps has spotted leaves, so, too, have *albo-picta*, Orrell and many others. I would especially recommend *Medora*, a good grower, with small, serrate leaves, heavily spotted, and pink flowers. All the spotted varieties grow best in a north or northeast window.

And for Sunny Window

The best bloomers are the *semperflorens* varieties, with white, red or pink flowers. For a novelty, try *Carmen*, with dark red-bronze leaves and pink flowers. Other good bloomers are *Begonia feasti* or Beefsteak Begonia, *sunderbruchi* with large star-shaped leaves, *templini* and *manicata aureo-maculata*, their leaves mottled with yellow and white, *lucerna*, *President Carnot* and the angel wing types. All these need sunny windows and most of them bloom from February to April. A few are constant bloomers.

That Lovely But Aggravating Calla-Lily Begonia!

The most aggravating begonia, which everyone wants to grow and few succeed in raising, is the Calla-lily Begonia. Botanically it is form *variegata* of *Begonia semperflorens* variety *Vernon*. It probably originated in New England, and it is grown to perfection in northern New England and New York. Cool, moist air and fairly dry soil are what this plant needs. Water from the saucer, giving the amount the plant will absorb quickly. Or sink the pot in moist sand or peat and it will absorb sufficient moisture through the pot. It is a beautiful plant when well grown and its leaves are shaped like miniature calla-lilies. The lower leaves are spotted with white and the upper ones are pure white. The flowers are rose-red with golden stamens.

INGLEWOOD INCIDENTS

Inglewood Branch of the American Begonia Society sends a cordial invitation to ALL Begonians to attend an anniversary meeting October 6, at 8 p.m., in the Odd Fellows hall, 159½ North La Brea Avenue, Inglewood. There will be an outstanding speaker whose name will appear in the October Begonian.

A copy of proposed By-Laws will be read at the September 1 meeting. There will be several short talks on "Heating the Small Glass House," and a special feature

NEW MEMBERS

CALIFORNIA

- Mrs. Anna Haller
949 Artesia St., Bellflower
- Mrs. W. M. Ahrens
1323 Oxford St., Berkeley
- Mrs. Harriette W. Bridges
2613 Ashley Ave., Berkeley
- Mrs. Lillian Finlay
2630 Haste St., Berkeley
- Mr. Hollis R. Thompson
961 Hilledale, Berkeley
- Mr. Ray F. Wolfe
221 So. Randolph St., Brea
- Mrs. H. A. McPherson
824 E. 10th St., Burbank
- Mr. Guy E. Lewis
Camarillo
- Mr. Wm. P. Smith
Cambria Pines Lodge, Cambria
- Mrs. J. B. Lape
P. O. Box 24, Carpinteria
- Mr. Howard W. Williams
420 W. 4th Place, Downey
- Mrs. George Love
135 W. Acasia Ave., El Segundo
- Mr. Jos. W. Ashton
1419 Winchester, Glendale
- Mr. W. Bosserman
1213 Western Ave., Glendale
- Mr. Richard Davis
1306 Brand Blvd., Glendale
- Mrs. F. R. McCullough
1227 N. Spazier Ave., Glendale
- Mr. William Ross
1824 Los Encinos, Glendale
- Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Newhill
558 Ramona Ave., Hawthorne
- Miss Kate I. Smith
6116 Romaine St., Hollywood
- Mrs. Thomas A. Ruddle
5544 Bonner Ave., North Hollywood
- Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bohmfalk
5519 W. 117th St., Inglewood
- Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Diggins
1116 Forrest St., Inglewood
- Mrs. Wm. Scanlon
9218 - 8th Ave., Inglewood
- Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Howard
3736 W. 108th St., Lennox
- Mrs. W. F. Taylor
3316 Burton Ave., Lynwood
- Mrs. Lucile Correll
2158 Pacific Ave., Long Beach
- Mrs. May DeAcosta
256 Wisconsin Ave., Long Beach
- Mrs. W. W. Erlewine
4007 Elm Ave., Long Beach
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank Graves
651 Loma Ave., Long Beach
- Miss Leva M. Handy
3644 Gundry Ave., Long Beach
- Mrs. E. A. Judd
4316 East 6th St., Long Beach
- Dr. R. W. McClain
228 Roycroft Ave., Long Beach
- Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Mathews
1845 Lemon Ave., Long Beach
- Dr. and Mrs. C. N. Moore
777 St. Louis Ave., Long Beach
- Mrs. Kathleen Parsons
4308 East 6th St., Long Beach
- Mrs. M. L. Sissons
1409 Hungerford Ave., Long Beach
- Mrs. Clarence Wagner
643 Newport Ave., Long Beach
- Mrs. Sadie Weber
1855 Lewis Ave., Long Beach
- Dr. Guy S. Archer
1806 Alsace, Los Angeles
- Mrs. Thelma Daugherty
4908 So. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles
- Mrs. Nathan Hess
3016 W. 75th St., Los Angeles
- Mrs. Hazel Land
4333 Lowell Ave., Los Angeles
- Mr. and Mrs. Chas. A. Williams
433 W. 99th St., Los Angeles
- Mrs. Donana Fant
1030 Duncan Road, Manhattan Beach
- Mrs. C. W. Hall
516 Second St., Manhattan Beach
- Mrs. Arthur W. Browne
623 Palo Alto Ave., Mountain View
- Mrs. Betty F. Lee
2813 Humboldt Ave., Oakland
- Mr. C. A. Spuhn
4180 Opal St., Oakland
- Mrs. H. Weisenhaus
398 - 60th St., Oakland
- Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stewart
Route J, Box 144, Ojai
- Mrs. H. W. Simpson
Route 2, Box 57, Oroville
- Mr. Lee G. King
R.F.D. No. 1, Pacific Palisades
- Dr. Philip A. Rasori
1055 Forest Avenue, Palo Alto
- Mr. David A. Simpson
211 So. Lucia Ave., Redondo
- Frank L. Baldwin
Box 47K, Route No. 2, Whipple Road, Redwood City
- Mr. M. E. Matthews
Box 117, Selby Lane, Redwood City
- Mrs. Alex Ashen
Route 5, Box 1145, Sacramento
- Miss Helen Converse
3994 Park Boulevard, San Diego
- Mr. W. L. Butler
525 Buena Vista Ave., San Francisco
- Mr. Arthur Noonan
512 Monterey Road, San Francisco
- Mr. Harry C. Lassen
1195 Yosemite Ave., San Jose
- Mrs. Florence Weifield
526 Virginia Ave., San Mateo
- Mr. Frank Lore
1329 Cedar St., Santa Monica
- Mrs. V. A. Copeland
263 N. Palm Ave., Upland
- Mrs. Julian Curtis
15125 Sutton St., Sherman Oaks, Van Nuys
- Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Grant
4730 Fulton Ave., Van Nuys
- Mr. Chas. G. J. Read
15152 Encanto Drive, Van Nuys
- Mrs. C. J. Riddle
13956 Van Owen, Van Nuys
- Mr. and Mrs. Raymond White
937 Harding Ave., Venice
- Mrs. Merle L. Buck
301 E. Main St., Ventura
- Mrs. Marie Daugherty
873 East Santa Clara St., Ventura
- Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fitch, Jr.
70 South Hurst St., Ventura
- Mrs. E. H. Frost
Box 133, Ventura
- Miss Anna Giddings
873 East Santa Clara St., Ventura
- Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Higgenbotham
2412 Hyland Ave., Ventura
- Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Kneif
281 Howard St., Ventura
- Mrs. Geo. H. Waunch
844 E. Santa Clara St., Ventura
- Mrs. S. N. Yearout
Route 2, Box 207, Ventura

OTHER STATES

Mr. P. H. Graham
1610 Leyden St., Denver, Colo.
Mrs. Netta G. Belser
Enswold, Darien, Conn.
Mrs. C. C. Miller
1004 West Wood St., Decatur, Ill.
Mrs. John P. Beyer
1704 Brown St., Bettendorf, Iowa
Mrs. Julia E. Cleary
Rt. 3, Como Station, St. Paul, Minn.
Mrs. E. H. Webster
Box 53, Portsmouth, Ohio
Mr. James Bruce
Box 226, Oswego, Oregon
Grotto Floral Co.
N. E. 85th and Sandy Blvd., Portland,
Oregon
Mrs. Irvin W. March
501 N. Franklin St., Pattstown, Penn.
Miss Susie Abe
909 Spring St., Pullman, Wash.
Mrs. F. H. Thomas
1311 N. 10th St., Tacoma, Wash.
Mr. John C. Carter
Paauhau, Hawaii, T. H.

The GOLDEN GATE BRANCH

By Harry F. O'Donnell

The regular monthly meeting of the Golden Gate Branch was held on Wednesday evening, August 16th, at the residence of the President, Miss Paula Schoenholz, 1060 Francisco Street, San Francisco.

And what an evening. The Begonias, sent by the Long Beach group and adjacent communities, to the San Francisco World's Fair, and so kindly donated to our Branch after their period of display was over, were disposed of to the some fifty or more members present, and the Treasury of this group enriched considerably.

We, accordingly wish to offer our thanks for donating these very fine specimens to us. Many, many of your members have been so kind in offering these specimens for exhibition at our San Francisco World's Fair and as many of our Branch are happy in treasuring them now in our homes.

The next monthly meeting of the Golden Gate Branch will be held Sunday, September 17 on the grounds of the Redwood Begonia Gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Schath, at Redwood City, California. Auto caravan will bring the members from San Francisco and surrounding points. Picnic lunch has been programmed by our delightful host and hostess after which the subject of the day will be BEGONIAS—and if you have never been through the Begonia Gardens of the Schath's, well—one can do nothing else but—talk of Begonias.

FAIRYLAND BEGONIAS

If you haven't seen our garden, you should this month.

Nearly 20,000 tuberous in bloom.

New morning fragrant hybrid just like roses.

New double flowering Rex with 3-inch blooms.

Many other interesting new hybrids . . . and the best of the old standard varieties.

2000 Gloxinias, all sizes, cheap.

LESLIE WOODRIF

205 South Inglewood
Corner Manchester Blvd. and Inglewood

SCOTCH SOOT

For Begonias, Cyclamen, etc. Develops very dark foliage, intensifies color, repels insects, stimulates growth.

H. M. ARMFIELD, Importer
746 S. Lake Avenue, Pasadena

A supply of this material is on hand at:
Smith Nursery.....2650 Elm Street
L. B. Seed Co.220 E. Broadway
(Both in Long Beach, Calif.)

ORCHID PLANTS

Cattleya Orchid plants are of easy culture. See the wonderful display at our Nursery. Call and let us show you how easily these plants may be grown in your home or out of doors among other plants.

Expert advice on Orchid Culture gladly given. Descriptive folder on Orchid Culture FREE.

Visitors always welcome.
Open daily and Sundays.

RAPELLA ORCHID CO.

13518 Yukon Ave. Hawthorne, Calif.

Wholesale and Retail
Growers, Importers and Exporters of
Orchids Exclusively.

Mention the Begonian in answering our advertisements.

of future Inglewood meetings, a Plant Study Period, will also be inaugurated at this time. This should appeal to both beginning and advanced begonia growers.

Members of the American Begonia Society are always welcome to the Inglewood Branch meetings.



Rex-Tuberous Cross

By Leslie Woodriff

The plant illustrated above is one of those promising crosses that Mr. Woodriff has been talking so much about. He is to be commended for the difficult and splendid work he has been doing in his attempts to bring out new types of begonias.

This plant is nearly three feet across. It bears fantastic double flowers in clusters of three with two female flowers extending beyond the male flowers. The plant blooms the years around, and the blooms last over a month on the plant. In addition it has a slight morning fragrance of lilac.

As this is the one desirable plant out of about 10,000 seedlings of the same cross, one can well see the work there is involved in the production of new varieties. We need more enthusiasts who will undertake this fascinating but trying work of hybridizing.

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

Earle A. Sampson, Eastern Editor

"Ride a Hobby Horse of Begonias"

The summer here has been very hot and dry for us all, and to try to have our gardens and flowers look at all well, the old hose certainly had to be going.

Personally, I have never had my begonias looking so well as they do right now. Ones that are in flower and bud are of varieties that I have never had in flower before. Kulu, Cathayana, Argrostigma, Lugano, Kenzii, Palmata, and a lot of others.

I obtained a cutting of *B. chonchaefolia* last spring from our good friend, Mrs. Buxton, and personally find it a very interesting plant. Paxton's Flower Garden has quite an interesting article on this plant that is well worth quoting.

"*B. chonchaefolia* was introduced by M. Von Warczewicz from Central America about 1850. This elegant little begonia with deep-shelled leaves was introduced from Central America and is found in some gardens under the name of *B. Lindleyana*, said to have been given to it by the introducer.

"Here is, however, some mistake, for M. Von Warczewicz himself tells us his *Lindleyana* is one of the most beautiful of large flowered species, whilst the present plant has very small flowers indeed, the smallest of any begonia.

"It belongs to the perennial division, with a creeping, many headed rhizome, from which arise tufts of leaves and flower stalks, but no stem; it should consequently be placed at the end of that division. The species is characterized by its small, very elegant, shining, peltate leaves, so concave on their upper surface as to look like mussel shells. In this respect it differs from every other begonia at present known, and the specific name is given to denote this peculiarity.

"The seeds were collected by the introducer in the Province of Costa Rica, and in the Chiriqui—Cordilleras—, during his travels in Central America. The plant itself is dwarfish, perennial, evergreen, and thickly covered with leaves; it flowers in June. Its flowers are very small, but the petioles and peduncles are of a red colour. It requires to be kept in a warm house, and to be cultivated in the same way as other species."

We of the Eastern Branch are looking forward to the visit at the Logee Greenhouses in Pomfret, Conn., the 29th of August, knowing that we will see a rare treat—fine begonias of all kinds.

THE BEGONIAN

Published by the
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Long Beach, California

10 Cents a Copy \$1.00 a Year
VOL. 6 No. 9

M. B. Dunkle *Editor*
4543 Colorado St., Long Beach

Earle A. Sampson *Eastern Editor*
67 Maple Street, Waltham, Mass.

C. M. Kelly *Research Editor*
285 Park Ave., Long Beach

J. S. Williams *Business Manager*
2034 Florida St., Long Beach

OFFICERS

Dr. W. N. Caseley *President*
147 E Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

Dr. Warren B. Davis *Vice-President*
769 Cherry Ave., Long Beach

J. N. Nutter *Treasurer*
Membership Fees
1050 E. Nineteenth St., Long Beach

Burdell Bulgrin *Corresponding Secretary*
Bulletins, Information
1732 Temple Ave., Long Beach

Your editor is back from a most interesting and profitable month spent on San Nicholas, San Miguel, Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz islands. Over two hundred plants were collected and seed was brought back of many that may prove desirable plants for our gardens. This trip was part of the Channel Islands Biological Survey under the auspices of the Los Angeles Museum. Many more trips will be necessary before the survey is completed.

It is inspiring to watch the development of begonia interest, particularly as its growth is shown by the organization of new branches of this Society. The new East Bay Branch in Berkeley is a splendid undertaking as it is now possible for members in Oakland and Richmond and other East Bay communities to have an opportunity to get together and to get acquainted. The organization of new branches in Long Beach shows the strength of our interest. Our meetings were getting so large in the Parent Chapter that they were losing their easy informality, making an audience rather than a participating group of members. The organization of small additional branches is a most promising experiment.

Final Garden Tour

There will be an evening visitation, Friday evening, September 8, from 7 to 11 p.m. Meet first at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Dyckman, 141 W. 53rd St., Long Beach. Instructions for the balance

of the evening will be given here. Don't miss this visitation, as it promises to be unique.

At the last meeting of the Parent Chapter at Long Beach, the reorganization proceeded with the election of the following officers, to serve for the balance of the year.

President, Mrs. Winifred M. Young
Vice-President, O. P. Palstine
Secretary-Treasurer, Mace Taylor
National Director, Tom H. Smith.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

- September 1, Friday**—Inglewood, Odd Fellows Hall, 159½ La Brea Avenue, 8:00 p.m.
- September 5, Tuesday**—Long Beach, New Branch, with Mrs. Jessie Jenkins, 3615 Cerritos Avenue, 7:30.
- September 12, Tuesday**—Ventura, Coca Cola Hall, Thompson Blvd., 7:30.
- September 14, Thursday**—Long Beach, Parent Chapter, Community Hall, 9th and Lime, 7:30.
- September 17, Sunday**—Golden Gate Branch, at Redwood Begonia Gardens, 1105 Madison Avenue, Redwood City. Picnic Lunch.
- September 25, Monday**—East Bay Branch, Council Chambers of Berkeley City Hall, Grove and Allston Way. Frank Reinelt will be the speaker.
- September 28, Thursday**—National Board of Directors, at home of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Green, 1317 Chester St., Inglewood, 7:30 p.m.

EAST BAY CHAPTER

American Begonia Society

On July 9th a group of begonia-lovers met at the home of Mrs. H. W. Bridges in Berkeley, and organized the East Bay Chapter of the American Begonia Society.

The following officers were elected:

President, Mr. M. L. Boyd
Secretary, Mrs. R. L. Barnhart
Director, Mrs. H. W. Bridges.

Our first meeting was held in the Assembly Room of the California School for the Blind, kindly offered us by Dr. Richard S. French, Superintendent. Dr. French was our speaker for the evening and gave a most inspiring and instructive talk, illustrated with many beautiful specimens of various types of begonias. There were thirty-seven present.

Our next meeting, August 28th, will be held in the same place with Mr. Frank

Reinelt, the noted hybridizer of Vetterle & Reinelt, as speaker.

City Manager Hollis Thompson has kindly offered us the Council Chambers at the City Hall in Berkeley as a meeting place. The next meeting will be held there September 25th, the fourth Monday in 'th month having been selected for our meetings.

The City Hall is easily reached as it is on the corner of Grove Street and Allston Way, the Grove Street cars passing the door.

OUR NEW LONG BEACH BRANCH

The regular monthly meeting of the New Long Beach Chapter (no name for same has been chosen as yet) was held Tuesday, August 1, 1939, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Hough. This was the first meeting of the chapter after having been granted a charter.

Following a short business meeting, the members and guests enjoyed listening to a very interesting and instructive informal talk given by Mrs. Rodenburg on the subject: "Fuchsias—Their Culture, Habits, Types, Etc." Mrs. Rodenburg certainly held the attention of all present by her nearly unbelievable ability of picking various fuchsia blossoms from a box containing perhaps 50 or 75 different varieties and fully explaining each without the aid of notes or labels of any kind. The Lady surely knows her fuchsias "we say."

August 1st being Mrs. Rodenburg's birthday, she was presented with a birthday cake. This was a surprise to both Mr. and Mrs. Rodenburg—we hope.

The refreshments supplied by the male members of the chapter, consisted of tea, coffee and cake. The 60 or 65 hamburgers were grilled by Dr. Moore and another member. With all the trimmings. A good time was had by all and they all join in saying that they certainly enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Hough.

The following officers were elected to serve for the balance of the year:

President, Mrs. Esther L. Randall
Vice-President, Mrs. Grace Collins
Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Cora Ailman
National Director, A. G. Randall.

INDIA EXPEDITION

The American Begonia Society has an opportunity to participate in a seed collecting expedition to South Central India to be sponsored by the New York Botanical Garden, starting in December and to be under the direction of Capt. F. W. Kingdon Ward, famous English plant hunter.

The purpose of the expedition is to collect seeds of various kinds of plants, including begonias, that will be hardy in the warmer sections of this country and which are not now in cultivation.

The Board of Directors thinking this a rare chance to secure seeds of begonias and other plants suitable to be grown in our sheltered gardens favor the solicitation of sufficient funds for the purchase of at least one share in the syndicate being formed to finance the undertaking. The price per share to be \$100.00.

The plans are at present entirely tentative and the consumation of the enterprise depends upon the support given the proposal by the horticultural clubs and organizations invited to participate.

The purchaser of each share will receive his pro rata portion of the material collected. The distribution to be made by the N. Y. Botanical Garden. Should our Society buy one or more shares the seeds received will be divided as equally as possible among the contributors to this special fund. In case the quantity of seeds is too small to warrant such distribution then arrangement will be made to have the seeds grown for the sponsors under a contract similar to that now used in other instances.

It is hoped that a large number of members will support this undertaking. Those who desire to do so are asked to write immediately to C. M. Kelly, Research Dept., 285 Park Avenue, Long Beach, California, signifying the amount they are willing to contribute.

T. H. Everett, Horticulturist of the New York Botanical Garden, international authority on begonias, and an honorary director of our Society, is undertaking the organization of this expedition.

REX BEGONIAS

Wholesale — Retail

C. BRUMUND

1129 W. Chestnut

Santa Ana, Calif.

Continued from Page 2)

Q.: Would it be advisable to spray the inside of a lathhouse to stop insects from eating the leaves? If so, what is most effective to use for grasshoppers, etc.?

A.: Yes, it is advisable to spray with a poison spray being careful not to burn the foliage by an overdose or too frequent application. Also poison baits should be used for snails, slugs, sowbugs, etc.

Poison Spray: 1 oz. lead arsenate; 2 gals. water.

Poison Bait: Snarol; Bug-go.

The poison spray should get the grasshoppers, also.

Q.: Is it possible to make cuttings of Tuberous begonias?

A.: Yes. That is the way some rare ones are propagated. The best cuttings are taken from the tuber in the early spring by cutting the shoot close to the main tuber or better still, taking a small portion of the original tuber for a heel. Place in a shaded sand bed so that only the heel is covered. If a side cutting of an older plant is used, be sure one eye is beneath the sand and one or more above. Sprinkle charcoal dust over sand to prevent damping off. Bottom heat is best for propagation, but this is not essential in warm weather. For more detailed information see Special Bulletin No. 1. Tuberous Begonias, Their Propagation and Culture, is the name. It is issued by the American Begonia Society.

Q.: Are *Bractiosa* and *Rosea Gigantea* the same plant?

A.: *Bractiosa* is the begonia listed as 1773 from seed collected by Dr. Goodspeed in South America. Taller growing plant with more of an olive green leaf than *Rosea Gigantea*. The flowers are a rose pink. Back of leaf has red case. *Rosea Gigantea* has a deep rose to red flower with a less shapely leaf and a red spot in the stem joint. Back of leaf if green.

New Books

Begonias, and How to Grow Them, Bessie Raymond Buxton; Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Horticultural Hall, Boston, Mass., \$1.00. This is asserted to be a very complete revision of Mrs. Buxton's first pamphlet.

Rooting of Cuttings, George C. Warner and F. W. Went; Plant Culture Publishing Company, 876 Roxbury Drive, Pasadena, California; 26 cents. The book is the condensed work of outstanding plant physiologists and covers their work during the past two years. It deals with indole acetic acid, vitamin B-1, and other media for the stimulation of root growth.

ROSECROFT BEGONIA GARDENS

530 Silvergate Ave. Point Loma, Calif.
Established in this one location since 1902.

A most complete assortment of lathhouse subjects.

BEGONIAS and FUCHSIAS OUR SPECIALTIES

Proprietors:

Annie C. and Alfred D. Robinson

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

\$1.75 a dozen.—Special Collection.

Large tubers @ 25c.

Send for our New Catalog

Over two million have visited us.

BERNHEIMER ORIENTAL GARDENS

16980 Sunset Boulevard
Pacific Palisades, Calif.

RIVERA BEGONIA GARDENS

300 Burke St. Rivera, Calif.

1 mile north of Telegraph Rd. and 3 miles south of Whittier Blvd. on Rosemead Blvd., to Burke St.

Begonias of all kinds; also Fuchsias, Ferns and other Shade Plants.

RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

1130 N. Milpas St. Santa Barbara, Calif.

Visitors Welcome

Begonias Exclusively

Specializing in Tuberous and Rare Species

BEGONIAS AND SHADE PLANTS

Rex, Fibrous and Tuberous Begonias, Caladiums, Gloxinias, Coleus, Fuchsias, Ferns, and other shade plants reasonably priced at

WILSON'S BEGONIA GARDENS

862 W. Firestone Blvd. Box 1192 C
Downey, California

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

Good Selection

Lathhouse plants

TYSON'S BEGONIA GARDENS

Opposite Paxton's Papaya Conservatories
Encinitas, California

Mention the Begonian in replying to advertisements.