

The BOGOMIAN

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TEN CENTS



H. P. DYCKMAN
Founder and National President

Merry Christmas



The BEGONIAN

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BEGONIAS CREATE HAPPINESS

by MARY T. WALKER
Red Bank, N. J.

I am a social worker and many people in sorrow and trouble come into my office from time to time. Therefore, I like to make it as pleasant as possible. I have, as a rule, about eight or nine plants in the window, mostly begonias, of course. They are very lovely and it is surprising the amount of good that they do. People come in and when they settle back in the chair to talk to me and look up and see the plants, their faces change so often and they begin to relax. So many times people have said, "What lovely plants you have."

I have passed on slips to different people and other people have brought slips to me. I have one family of children whose mother had a very ordinary little begonia plant when she died. It was her plant. A slip of it was given to me and although that was years ago, every now and again those children come to me and say, "Miss Walker, will you give me a slip of mother's plant?" therefore, I am very careful of that plant so that I hope always to have slips of it for the boys because it was their mother's plant.

This Fall I had built a little greenhouse against the house and it gives not only myself, but all of us enormous pleasure. It is marvelous how the begonias grow there. The different ones with the colored leaves that I could not grow out of doors or even in the office, are coming along beautifully. I have about 23 different begonias, almost all of them are rather ordinary begonias, I presume, but they give me a lot of pleasure.

My sister, Mrs. Mehler, is also a member of the Begonia Society and we exchange slips. I got a package of seeds when I first joined from Mrs. Ruby Liedler of Long Beach, California, and it is marvelous the amount of plants that grew. The whole flat was covered and it is a very nice begonia, with big, soft flowers, some of them pale pink, some white and some pink and white.

I expect by Christmas these plants will be a very nice size and I expect to pass them on to different people and give a lot of pleasure. To me, that is one of the things the Begonia Society does, pass on pleasure to other people.



To faithful old friends, cherished new friends,
and those whose friendships we strive to deserve,
our hearty Christmas Greetings are tendered.

May the New Year be a joyous and prosperous
one for you.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
of the
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

"THE BEGONIAN" NOVEMBER 1941 ISSUE

I'VE wanted to do this for many moons, go through an issue from cover to cover and jot down my impressions, so here goes.

What a fine specimen of *Glabra*, the picture on the front is. Wonder if I could grow one like that, just the sight of that photograph would inspire our editor's Thanksgiving message.

What a treat to know someone who has the printed word from Belgium (or any other of the now occupied countries) before it was Nazi occupied territory. Mr. Dunkle has talked to us so often through "The Begonian" that I feel acquainted with him.

Now Mrs. Wm. Kurtz Myers, I really know her personally and her article makes it so plain as to the scientific placing of the Begonia. She has given much scientific enlightenment to folks interested in Horticulture.

The activities of the N. E. Branch inspires and encourages one to greater activity. Perusing the account of their meeting, I wonder if Geraniums are for the sheltered garden—this I will have to determine later.

The suggestions of sharing our plants (in business); Mr. Whitakers cultural suggestions about a Begonia not so well known, are instructive.

I was so glad our Branch had taken care of the 1942 dues. At our October meeting we acted on it.

And those articles on nomenclature by Helen K. Krauss, well she is surely getting some names straightened out, and each fact is backed up by a statement of her source of information.

Whenever the author of an article is Mr. A. Robinson, I know I'm in for a mental uplift.

This Margaret C. Gruenbaum must be the same person as the Eastern Reporter; wonder how long she has been interested in Begonias?

About those vines for Shade Houses, Baskets, etc. I must look into those varieties and see how many if any can be grown in the East?

Missed the Flower Show of Penna. Railroad Garden Club. Last year 1940 they had blooms of Tuberous Rooted Begonias which were shipped from Canada by airplane.

Boy—what a thrill to read the monthly notices of 24 branches of the Amer. Beg. Soc.

Wonder what the dot means on some of the articles.

Someone is getting Roscroft's Begonia Book for me. Wonder what *Nigrocans* and *Peltata* are advertised by Barrows. Think of it Rosecroft is 39 years old.

Those two specials advertised by Woodriff and Rosecroft sound interesting. And the pleasant recollections I have of Vetterle and Reinelt.

I just can't express how much enjoyment I get from "The Begonian."

Begonia Enthusiast
of the M.C.G. Branch

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OUR SPECIALTIES**

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ANNIE C. and ALFRED D. ROBINSON

THE NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

by BESSIE BUXTON
New England Reporter

NINE meetings have been held during 1941. The March meeting was held in a howling blizzard, and the few members who succeeded in getting through the drifts, spent the evening planning our exhibit for the Boston Flower Show, later in the month. Fortunately, the weather man was kind then, and balmy spring weather made it possible to carry our plants in safety. The exhibit was "Begonias in a Natural Setting" and won for us a first prize and a bronze medal.

The Hairy Begonias were discussed at the April meeting, and in May we met at Magnolia Nurseries to study the low branching group, with begonias on every side, numbered, for a naming contest. In June, we met for a picnic supper at the Essex Agricultural School greenhouses, and studied the Recumbent group. July was also a picnic supper meeting, but just as the tables were spread, a heavy thunder storm chased us into the charm-



BESSIE BUXTON
New England Reporter

ing old 1640 house, to view with green-eyed envy the many beautiful calla lily begonias in which our hostess specializes. The subject of the meeting was the Semperflorens group, and the Robinson article in the May Begonia was highly
(Continued on page 206)



Begonias in a Natural Setting

Winter and Spring Bloomers

by H. P. DYCKMAN, Nat'l Pres.

• Here are a few of winter and early spring bloomers of fibrous rooted begonias:

- B. Jessie—pink flower
- B. Templini—pink flower
- B. Paul Bruant—pink flower
- B. Washington St.—white flower
- B. Incarnata—pink flower
- B. Mrs. W. A. Wallow—white flower
- B. Vitifolia—white flower
- B. Rosea Gigantea—red flower
- B. Ulmifolia—white flower
- B. Glaucophylla Scandan — brick red flower
- B. Albia—white flower
- B. Feastii—pink flower
- B. Conchaefolia—pink flower
- B. Bunchii—pink flower
- B. Mrs. Townsend—pink flower
- B. Sunderbruchi—pink flower
- B. Manicata—pink flower
- B. Manicata Aurea—pink flower
- B. Manicata Aurea Crispa—pink
- B. Manicata Crispa—pink flower
- B. Fischer's Ricinifolia—pink flower
- B. Verschaffeltiana—pink flower
- B. Lucerna—red flower
- B. Duchartrei—pink flower
- B. Haageana—pink flower

- B. Houghtoni—pink flower
- B. Dichroa—orange flower
- B. Marjorie Daw—red flower
- B. Fanny Giron—red flower
- B. Sanguinea—white flower
- B. Gilsoni—pink flower

Germantown Shows Interest in "Rare Begonias"

by MRS. SOPHIA E. WHITAKER

• The Germantown Garden Club held their November meeting at the Green Tree Flower Gardens. After a short business session they heard a lecture on "Rare Begonias and House Plants" by Mr. Tristram Coffin Whitaker. The members showed keen interest, as many questions were asked.

Amaryllis were also included. Amaryllis bulbs especially prepared for planting in pebbles and water and how to plant them proved very interesting, also the paper white Narcissus and the type of bulbs to choose for best blooms.

Have you started a new branch in your community?



OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
of the
GLENDALE BRANCH

Glendale, California

SEND

BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES

BEGONIAS, CALIFORNIA AND THE A.B.S.

by MARGARET C. GRUENBAUM

Eastern Reporter

IN the early seventies of the 19th century, gardening in Southern California was a problem. "Water was hauled from the river and sold at two bits (twenty-five cents a barrel) . . . Theodosia Burr Shepherd, founder of the flower seed industry of California and collector of rare plants, was a Begonia enthusiast . . . In the late '70's slips of the weedy greenish pink and greenish white semperflorens were given her; and later she acquired *Hybrida multiflora* . . . She was eager to possess the other varieties which she heard were growing in Dr. Dimmock's garden at Santa Barbara . . . When on a visit to this garden she was given cuttings of *Odorata alba*, *Edmondsoni*, and *Evansiana* . . . 1884 found her in possession of a tiny greenhouse with a handful of plants, mostly Begonias, potted in tomato cans . . . Her garden was listed by Frank Wiggan, Secretary of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce as one of the "Show Places of the South." Lath houses were filled with Begonias, great bushes of them grew in shady places and semperflorens bordered paths . . . People made special trips from Los Angeles and Santa Barbara to see 'Mrs. Shepherd's famous Begonias.' . . . Great bushes of *Odorata Alba*, *Gilsoni*, *Fuchsoides Coccinea* and *Robusta* filled the gardens of Ventura and the town was known as the "Home of the Begonia . . . Mrs. Shepherd listed twenty-four varieties of fibrous begonias and many un-named Rex and tuberous rooted ones in her 1891 catalogue, *Gigantea Rosea* being her novelty for that year . . . Visitors came from all parts of the world and Mrs. Shepherd shipped plants to England, New Zealand, Australia, Algeria and Hawaii. She catalogued them in 1902 . . . again in 1906 her last catalogue. In it



MARGARET C. GRUENBAUM

Eastern Reporter

she listed 63 varieties of fibrous, 9 Rex, 9 Semperflorens, and many tuberous rooted Begonias . . . It is regrettable that only one of Mrs. Shepherd's Begonias still bears the names she gave them . . . Marjorie Daw however was so greatly publicized that no one has had the temerity to appropriate it as his own . . . Her large plant of Majorie Daw was attacked by root rot . . . the disease that in time affected all of her Begonias . . . everything possible was done to save them without success . . . In a few years the famous collection was gone and eventually all plants about town succumbed; and Ventura ceased to be the home of the Begonia." (Excerpts from an Article by Myrtle Shepherd Francis, in the Bulletin of The American Begonia Society, July 1937.)

At the beginning of the twentieth century, or 1900, Mr. Alfred D. Robinson was beginning to get intensely interested, for I have a catalogue of his which shows a picture of 'the Rosecroft Collection in 1900.' Think of it—what a joy

(Continued on page 207)



As another year draws to a close we pause to review the events and many accomplishments of the American Begonia Society. It is pleasing to note its growth, its many new branches, evidence in itself that here in America we can still enjoy our home, our gardens and our flowers. We are thankful for that peace and at this Yuletide may we unite our voices in that wish.

"Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

The members and officers of the

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY, PEACEFUL, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Inglewood, California

Gratitude Expressed by Editor

• The time has come when I should say Farewell, but I shall say Au Revoir.

My reward for having assumed the part as Editor for the past year, is the grandest reward a person can obtain. That is FRIENDS. Friends whom I have had the pleasure of visiting with and Friends whom I have found so much happiness in their encouraging letters.

At this time I wish to thank each and everyone of the kind Friends who have so loyally given me their support through the past year. Thanks to the members of the staff, officers, honorary directors and last, but not least our publisher, Frank Thorndike of Green's, Inc. printers, all of whom have been my main stay in the production of the magazine.

I want to thank the National Board for having written me a letter of confidence, extending to me the privilege of carrying on as editor, as long as desired. Since other interest demand so much time, it makes me very happy to pass on the editorship of the Begonian to a person who is far more capable for the task. Although I haven't had the pleasure of meeting our new editor I feel that the A. B. S. as a whole will be greatly benefited. So to you dear editor, may I send



GRETCHEN TAYLOR

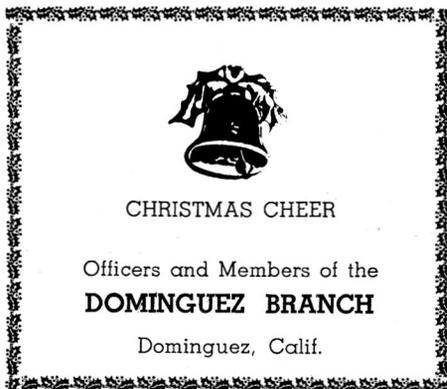
my good wishes and hope that you will receive the splendid co-operation I have had in the past.

I also wish to thank the same board for allowing me to play a small part in helping to publicize this grand organization and in helping organize new branches.

I am very grateful that we live in the good old U.S.A. where one can relax, after a hard days work, and enjoy such a grand hobby in dealing with dear old Mother Nature . . . Life . . . Plant life . . . in which I hope to gain much knowledge.

Now, I would like to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Gretchen Taylor, Editor



Parent Chapter Invites Branches

- Let all the "children" come home.
The Parent chapter extends to all of the branches an invitation to come home for a Christmas party, to be held in their new home, St. Mathews Hall, 672 Temple Ave., Long Beach.

The party will be held on December 11, 8:00 P.M.

R.S.V.P. via your branch secretaries.

But Don't Forget

"Forget the slander you have heard,
Forget the hasty unkind word,
Forget the quarrel and the cause,
Forget the whole affair, because
Forgetting is the only way.

Forget the trial you have had,
Forget the weather if it's bad,
Forget the knocker, he's a freak,
Forget the seven days a week;
You're not a millionaire.

Forget the gray lines in your hair.
Forget the coffee when it's cold,
Forget to knock, forget to scold,
Forget to even get the Blues,
But don't forget to pay your dues.

—Submitted by C. A. Hall

-
- Don't forget January 15 is deadline for 1942 dues.



A. B. S. Welcomes 25th Baby

- Our twenty-fifth baby has arrived.
Place: Bellflower, California.
Members: Twelve.
Name: Bellflower Branch.
President: Mr. Merriel B. Teaney.
Secy.-Treas.: Mrs. L. D. Thalheimer.

The American Begonia Society wishes to extend to you, New Baby, a warm and sincere welcome to the National Society.

New Branches in the Making

- From reliable sources we learn that there will soon be three new branches—Lansing, Mich.; Oskaloosa, Iowa and Corona, California.



SEASON'S
GREETINGS
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NEW BEGONIAS FROM THE PHILLIPINES

by BESSIE BUXTON
New England Reporter

ALL begonia enthusiasts know the delight which a new begonia brings, so you can well imagine how thrilled I was to receive from the Phillipine islands, a cellophane packet containing seeds, and a delicate, fernlike pressed spray of a trailing begonia. The tiny blossoms were apparent-

as yet unnamed, which were collected at Bagnio, Phillipines, this summer. No. 1 envelope contained seed, but no pressed specimen. No. 2 contained no seed, but flowers, and leaves which are shaped somewhat like *B. heracleifolia* var. *Sunderbruchi*, a native of Mexico. The leaf is deeply five parted dark green, with



Leaves of unnamed specie



BEGONIA incisa

ly pinkish white, and hairlike roots at the stem joint showed its trailing nature. It has been identified by Dr. E. D. Merrill, of the Arnold Arboretum, as *B. incisa*, discovered by Nee, in 1859. It is unknown in this country, but the seed has been distributed and it is hoped to be able to grow it.

Later, two more arrived, new species

bands of lighter color along the veins. It is smooth not hairy like *Sunderbruchi*, the stems are short and as small as those of a maple leaf, quite different from *Sunderbruchi*'s long, thick, hairy stem. The color of the small flowers could not be determined, but showed a thick bunch of golden stamens in the center.

Begonias, Saintpaulias, Nigrocans,
Peltats

Gloxinia Seed 25c

Choice pansy plants for winter planting
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"The Eastern Home of Rare Begonias"

Tuberous Begonias

Booklet describing more than 225
Varieties of rare begonias — 50 cents

The Nomenclature

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

• 1941 has brought an important acquisition to the Nomenclature Department. The plant press has been put into immediate use and as soon as facilities have been provided for storing mounted specimens, exchanges can be made with other herbariums, and specimens may be furnished, upon request, for study by branch societies.

Taking advantage of one of the services offered by this department, three members shipped leaves and flowers to the Nomenclature Director for identification. These were all identified and mailed back on the day of receipt. Members are invited to make more use of this free service in the future. In sending plants for identification, a few young and a few mature leaves, as well as both male and female flowers, should be folded up in wax paper, then folded into newspaper, and sent by parcel post to the Nomenclature Director. While the leaves will be returned, it is well to number your plants and send the number along on the leaves and flowers so the name can be applied to the proper plant; the leaves will be dry before they get back to you.

In the first numbers of the Begonian this year this department continued to discuss Begonia species, supplying the illustrations. Some criticism was expressed because the pictures were not of perfect specimens. The pictures were chosen to show essential parts of the plants, but rather than to give anyone of our beloved Begonias a bad send-off, no further articles were submitted and will not be until drawings of the essential parts of the flowers, stems, etc., can be made to illustrate the article, together with a picture of a perfect specimen of the plant.

An allotment of funds was made to this department for establishment of the herbarium of the American Begonia Society; of this, \$27.86 was expended for the plant press and herbarium supplies. There is a cash balance on hand in the department of \$4.14. There remains to the credit of the department in the treasury, \$39.13.

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PEACE ON EARTH
GOODWILL TO MEN

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Hollywood, California

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FERD P. NEELS
 1942 President of A.B.S.



MISS EDNA ZIESENHENNE
 Director for 1942

• During the past year, the National Board of The American Begonia Society have met at the homes of the various members, to discuss the problems which have come up from time to time, regarding the progress of our society.

I believe it was a very wise plan to have the directors elected, serve more than one year, for it takes about a year to become acquainted with the problems which come up. I feel that in the coming year, I will be enabled to serve the society intelligently, having had the opportunity of learning by serving on the Board this year.

Miss Edna Ziesenhenn

• Thank you folks, for your prompt response to my request that you pay your dues early. Every mail is bringing in "dollars by the dozens". We also received ninety new applications for membership during the past thirty days, which is a fair indication of the way our society is growing.

Please let me know promptly if your Begonian goes astray, as they sometimes do. Is your name spelled correctly on our mailing list? Is your street number correct? I am always sorry to learn that I have made a mistake, but just as happy to correct it. Hoping to hear from the rest of you soon, and wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, I am

Your treasurer,
 J. N. Nutter



J. N. NUTTER
 Secretary-Treasurer 1942

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

by HARRY F. O'DONNELL, Secretary

THE San Francisco Branch had a wonderful fall year. At the San Francisco Flower show held in the rotunda of the City Hall, Civic Center, San Francisco, the San Francisco Branch took first prize for Garden Clubs with an Exhibit of over 400 Tuberosus Begonias in a mass bed.

Individual awards were made to Miss Paula Schoenholz, Mr. Homer Pechar, who took first prize, and to Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Moxen who gave them a close second.

First prize in the Commercial Section was awarded to the Bungalow Nursery who almost stole the show with their exhibit of cut, potted and basket begonias.

The September meeting was one of the most outstanding meetings of the year. Dr. Mervyn Hirschfeld not only gave us one of the most educational talks we have yet had, but gave it in color. Dr. Hirschfeld not only grows some of the most gorgeous tuberous begonias in the Bay area but takes pictures in color to show you who have not been so fortunate to see them.

October meeting—Miss Sidney Stein, who puts on that wonderful show at the Conservatory at Golden Gate Park throughout the year, spoke to our group on the subject of Lath and green houses and what to grow in them.

Of course the subject of Begonia was predominant. Frequent spraying and eliminating of dead leaves and foliage is important.

The balance of the evening was devoted to exchange of ideas, and then someone suggested "eats." Was it Miss Schoenholz? It sure was.

After a visit to her lovely garden we

all wended our way home to profit by our evening and to plan for the year to come.

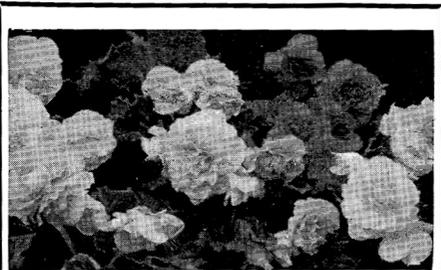
Yes, we have had a wonderful Fall season. The Begonias are still in bloom. When will they stop?

We have had some of the most outstanding speakers in the Bay Area and we are all thankful for the time given us by them.

As the Holiday Season approaches, may we, the San Francisco Branch, wish you and the other Branches of the American Begonia Society a most wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

And to you dear "Editor" the same.

-
- Why not a year's subscription to The BEGONIAN as a birthday or other gift?



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of
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BEGONIAS**

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and
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Vetterle and Reinelt

Capitola, California

Control of Red Spider (*Tetranychus Telarius*) By Phthalic Glyceryl Alkyd Resin

by P. A. ARK, C. M. TOMPKINS
University of California, Berkeley

THE common red spider (*Tetranychus telarius* L.), commonly found on greenhouse-grown plants and on many field crops, is extremely difficult to control. The ineffectiveness of many insecticides which have been recommended for control of red spiders may be ascribed to their lack of ovicidal action. Furthermore, chemicals which possess ovicidal properties are often injurious to cultivated plants, especially those grown in greenhouses.

In the course of an investigation, totally unrelated to the problem of red spider control, the writers observed that when a 2 per cent. phthalic glyceryl alkyd resin in water was applied to plants heavily infested with red spiders, the latter quickly disappeared. Microscopic examination of infested leaves showed large numbers of dead red spiders in all stages of development and masses of spiders' ova which had turned yellow and become shriveled after five days. Further examination of the ovicidal properties of phthalic glyceryl alkyd resin showed that it possesses a remarkable insecticidal efficiency. No injury was observed on plants tested experimentally under greenhouse and field conditions. Concentrations less than 2 per cent. (but not less than 1 per cent.) were effective on adults but not on ova; above 2 per cent. the margins of the leaves were burned.

The following plants were sprayed with beneficial results and without injury to the leaves: alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.), almond (*Prunus communis* Fritsch. and *P. nana* Stokes), apple (*Pyrus malus* L.), apricot (*Prunus armeniaca* L. and *P. mume* Sieb. & Zucc.), begonia (*Begonia octapetala* L'Her., *B.*

tuberhybrida Voss., *B. semperflorens* Link and Otto, *B. haageana* Wats., and *B. rex* Putz.), *Coleus blumei* Benth., florists cyclamen (*Cyclamen indicum* L.), *Gardenia veitchii* Bailey, *Pelargonium* sp., grape (*Vitis vinifera* L.), *Hydrangea hortensis* Smith, India rubber plant (*Ficus elastica* Roxb.), ivy (*Hedera helix* L.), poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima* Willd.), plum (*Prunus americana* Marsh), rose (*Rosa* sp.), snapdragon (*Antirrhinum majus* L.), strawberry (*Fragaria* sp.), and tomato (*Lycopersicum esculentum* Mill. var. *vulgare* Bailey).

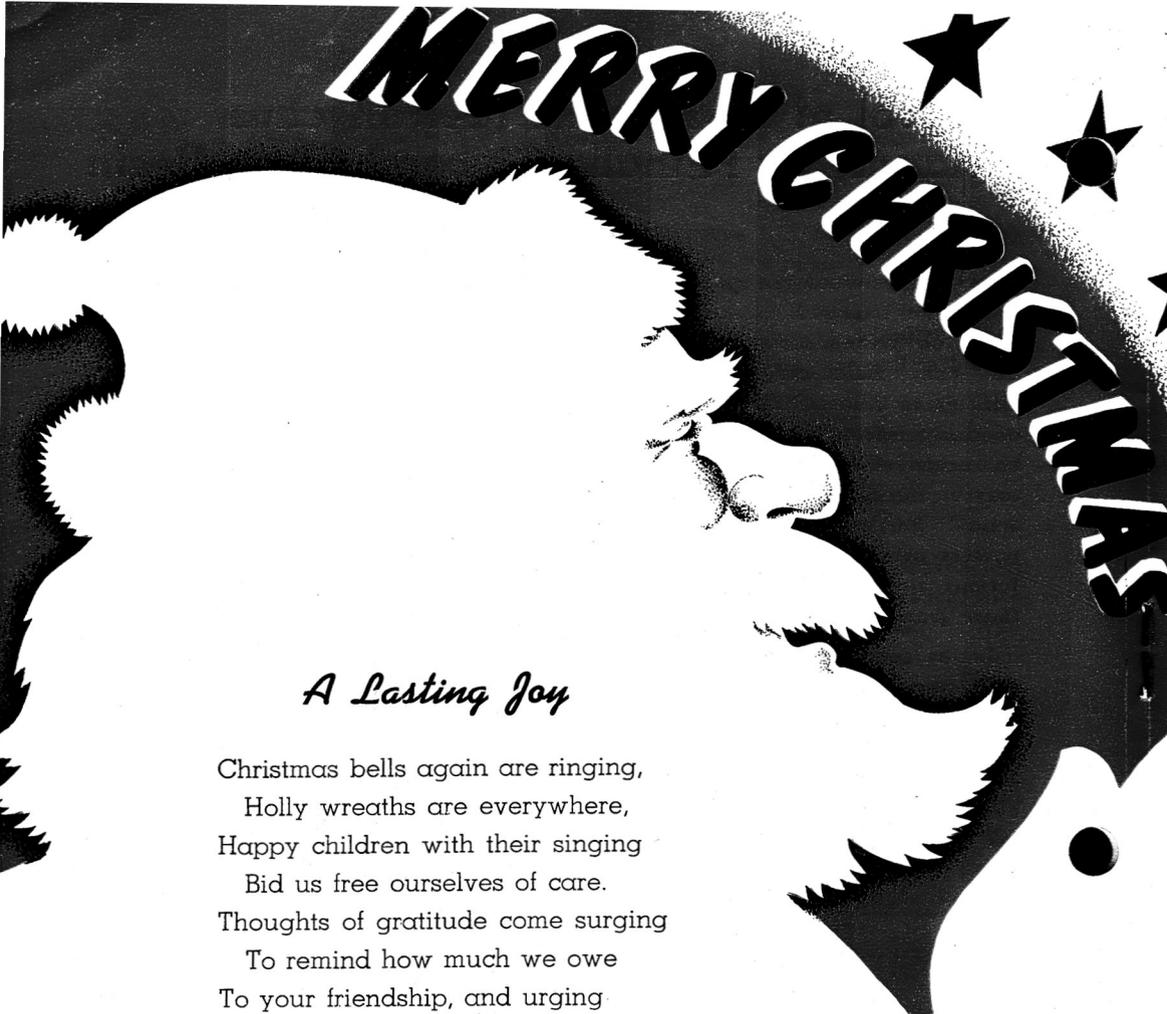
An unidentified species of a very minute, white mite occurring on ivy and China asters (*Callistephus chinensis* Nees) and a begonia mite (probably *Avrosia translucens* Nietner) were also successfully controlled by a single application of 2 per cent. solution of phthalic glyceryl alkyd resin.

Since these experiments for the control of red spiders were performed also in commercial greenhouses and in the field, it seems highly probable that this chemical may find a wide application. Additional advantages which it possesses include no disagreeable odor, lack of spray residue on the leaves, its high degree of spreading capacity and only one application is necessary for killing the adults and the ova.

Something New in Grass

• Have you noticed the ever-increasing "Unique" signs on new lawns? Yes sir, even old lawns too. These signs say "Unique Lawns with Unique Grass by the Unique Nursery." They must have something. Phone and see.

CHurchill 550, 3654 La Crescenta Ave.
La Crescenta, Calif.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

A Lasting Joy

Christmas bells again are ringing,
Holly wreaths are everywhere,
Happy children with their singing
Bid us free ourselves of care.
Thoughts of gratitude come surging
To remind how much we owe
To your friendship, and urging
Us to quickly tell you so.
We do hope this Happy Season
Will in future bring to mind,
One year that for many reasons
Was most generously kind.

1941

• *from the National Board of the*
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY



President's Message

FOR ten years I have watched the American Begonia Society grow. At first we had only a few members and met from house to house. Now we have a membership of considerably over two thousand, covering not only the entire United States, but also several other countries.

Are you still getting more knowledge about your plants from your local meetings and from the Begonian? If you are I am happy. I wish to thank all of you who have so faithfully co-operated with me this year. While we have made progress of which we may well be proud, I am sure I could not have carried on without your help. Now, let us all put our shoulders to the wheel and make 1942 the best year the American Begonian Society has ever had.

Probably the most important problem to be worked out this coming year is that of raising sufficient funds so that our Editor and Treasurer may receive some compensation for their work. So far, they as well as the other officers have given their time freely and gladly. Now the work has become so burdensome that this can no longer be asked of them. If we can take care of this matter, I am sure we are on the right track and can make our Society and its Begonian one of the "must haves" for plant lovers all over the world.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

HERBERT P. DYCKMAN



1

Y





A. A. REMMERS
Staff Photographer

It has been a real pleasure serving on the National Board during the past year.

A. A. Remmers
Staff Photographer

Parent Chapter 1942 Officers

Mr. M. S. Algeo.....President
Mr. B. C. Bulgrin.....Vice-President
Mrs. Ethel G. Arbuckle.....Secy.-Treas.
Mr. C. M. Kelly.....Nat'l Representative

Herbert Dyckman Branch

• The new officers elected for the coming year are as follows:

Mrs. Herbert Dyckman.....President
Mrs. Anna Haller.....Vice-President
Mrs. Charlotte Sisson.....Secy.-Treas.
Mrs. Ann Smith.....Nat'l Representative

The Dyckman Branch will have a Christmas party on their regular meeting night, which will be held at the home of Mrs. Anna Haller, 949 East Artesia Blvd. in the city of Bellflower.

• Mention the Begonian when visiting the nurseries.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Give your garden friends a collection of new begonias for Christmas.

- 1 Minnie Mac our new Socotrana seedling like Lady Mac, in bud and bloom,
- 1 Winter Rex, Socotrana Rex crosses,
- 1 Your choice of Midnight, Fireflush, Countess Louise Erdoedy Rex.

Either above or October collection still good packed in our new REDWOOD SHAKE POTS. \$2.00 prepaid.

LESLIE WOODRIF, Harbor, Oregon



GREETINGS

from

VENTURA

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

from the members and officers of the

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

Ventura, California

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY DUES

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE
Nomenclature Director

WITH the increasing membership in the American Begonia Society, a short discussion on the use that is made of the dues paid by each member should be in order.

The dollar dues, which entitle one to membership in the society, to attend branch meetings, and to become a member of a branch society, are used chiefly now to defray the publication costs of the *Begonian*. It has become increasingly evident that the little magazine, which is really the bond that holds together the membership of our large organization, must be allotted at least a dollar per member per year if it is to do credit to the organization and not become subsidized to advertising interests. This allotment, of course, would leave nothing to carry on the other functions of the society, such as research, the library, the herbarium, public relations, as well as the important offices of the secretary-treasurer.

The question arises whether it would be better to reduce the size of the *Begonian* or increase the annual dues. To do the first would deprive us of a means of expression and enjoyment that could not easily be recompensed; to do the latter would result in a more harmonious organization, in which the amateur hobbyists may be stimulated in their joy of growing begonias and the more advanced students of the genus *Begonia* may have the opportunity to exchange ideas and eventually contribute something outstanding to the scientific world.

To keep the American Begonia Society active, all of the officers contribute time and money without thought of compensation. Probably the most thankless and most exacting of the jobs are those of the editor and business manager of

the *Begonian*. To the former falls the task of assembling suitable material for the *Begonian*, and responsibility for its delivery to the publishers. The chief duty of the latter is to solicit and collect for the *Begonian* advertising—a job which takes a great deal of time but which has been necessary to keep the bulletin going during the last two years.

With a dollar definitely budgeted to the *Begonian*, it could be published without the necessity of soliciting advertising from non-members; thus a great deal of expense would be saved which the business manager has been meeting personally, without reimbursement by the society.

A subscription price of one dollar per year to an up and coming magazine like the *Begonian* is not out of line with the usual price for such publications. An additional charge for dues would certainly not be out of order and would help to reimburse the hard-working officers who not only have to contribute too much of their valuable time to the benefit of the members, but have to put out cash from their own pockets to carry out the duties of their offices.

Rudolf Ziesenhenné

Over 400 Species and Varieties of

BEGONIAS

Choice Rex Hybrid Seed
\$1.00 Per Packet

Begonia Cathayana \$1.00
Plus postage

1130 N. Milpas Street
Santa Barbara, Calif.

East Bay Branch

• At the October meeting of the East Bay Branch the following were elected as officers for the coming year.

President

Mr. S. S. Fletcher
6305 Morgan Avenue
Oakland, California

Vice-President

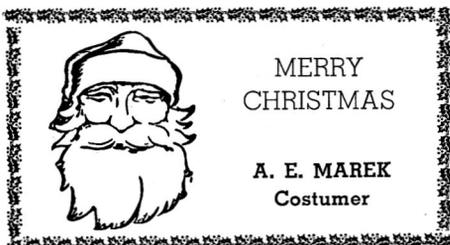
Mr. August Egli
38 Avon Road
Berkeley, California

Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. Dick G. Goodnow
2116 Derby Street
Berkeley, California

Our new President showed some color pictures of his own begonias and of some blooms that were displayed at the September meeting of the Men's Oakland Garden Club by Vetterle & Reinelt of Capitola, California.

Dick G. Goodnow
East Bay Branch
Secretary-Treasurer



Plan For Tuberosus Now

• If you intend to raise tuberous begonias next year you should have your plans well under way by this time. It will pay you to have a copy of the Society's special Bulletin No. 1, "Tuberous Begonias, their Propagation and Culture." Price, 15c. Other Bulletins at the same price are; Fibrous Begonias; Rex Begonias; Begonia Pests and Pest Control. Send to J. N. Nutter, Treasurer, 1050 East 19th St., Long Beach, Calif.

Dr. J. Burton Van Gelder

O.D., D.C.

Optometric Eye Specialist

—28 Years in Practice—

323 East Manchester Blvd.
Inglewood, Calif.



Pestless LIKWID-GRO BI

and *Pestless*
LIKWID PORDO

to control
Mildew-Black—Spot-Rust
Leaves no
objectionable residue

and *Pestless*
GREEN HOUSE
SPRAY

to control
Aphis - Beetles - Worms
That destroy foliage

and *Pestless*
SLUG and
SNAIL BAIT

The Green. Fine-texture
bait that's DIFFERENT

There is a *Pestless* Product for Your Insect Problem

—ASK YOUR DEALER—

REPORT OF THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT FOR 1941

WE were fortunate in having an unusually large quantity of seeds of begonia species to distribute to members of the "Arm Chair Explorers" this year. Nearly three thousand packets of seeds were mailed out, which included thirty-seven different varieties. While in some instances there was not enough seeds of a particular species to give to each subscriber, as equitable as possible, a division was made.

As each subscriber paid but one dollar, the packets figure less than a third of a cent each. I rather doubt that we will again be able to duplicate this.

The following is the list of species mailed out: boliviensis, froebelli, Himalaya (tuberous), 1971, Martiana, pearcei, Costa Rica No. 1, 2, 3, 4; Panama (rhizomatous), Costa Rica No. 6, scharffiana, Panama, bractiosa, davisii, coccinea, Mexico (rhizomatous), peltata, jurpia, satrapin, Mexico No. 12, Mexico No. 13, rosaeflora, Engleri, johnstonii, laciniata, sikkimensis, cathcartii, ovatifolia, Manda's Wolley Bear, semperflorens (semi-dble), semperflorens (Germany), gigantea, xanthina, griffithi, josephi.

We had some interesting varieties turn



L. E. DAY
Research Director

up amongst the seeds received from India. Some rather unusual rex formations have been reported by members from this group. Most of the seeds germinated well and while some of the species may have little commercial value, they are often prized as collector's items.

Some of the projects planned for this year have had to be either abandoned or revised and any statement at this time would be premature. A new Bulletin on Tuberous Begonias was published early in the year and a great many of them have been sold.

Last year we had planned to photograph species of begonias in conjunction with the Nomenclature Department and half of the funds donated to the Research Department by the Inglewood Branch of the Society are being used for this purpose. No doubt a report on this work will be given out at a later date.

There are more requests from our library for copies of Die Begonien than there are books, and some members

GREETINGS
from one and all, to Begoniacs
large and small.
Best Wishes, Xmas Greetings and
Stuff, to All of You, from All of Us.
Officers and Members
SAN DIEGO BRANCH

have been waiting patiently for over a year for their turn to arrive.

We now have bound copies of our Begonian from Volume I (1934) to and including Volume VIII (1941). Our first Monthly Bulletin as it was then called, consisted of but one single mimeographed sheet. The next issue contained three sheets, the next four, and with this humble beginning our Begonian is now a very sizeable Magazine.

For the benefit of new members it might be well to call to their attention the fact that thru all these years no Officer of the Society, Editor, nor any of the Staff have ever received any compensation for their services. What a glorious tribute to the lovers of flowers.

May our Society and the Begonian continue to grow and still retain its "Informal and friendly air", that has so characterized this organization from its inception. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have been included amongst its staff of officers.—L. E. Day, Research Director.

The New England Branch

(Continued from page 189)

commended. Between the Robinson article, the speaker on *Semperflorens* and our hostess' plants, we were inspired enough to agree that each one would start a cutting of this plant, to be shown, whatever its condition, at the 1942 annual meeting. This contest is open to any New England member.

In August we met in a member's greenhouse, to see and discuss *Diadema* and Rare Kinds. *Diadema*, we all agree, is difficult in New England. Our host showed us the largest and most beautiful specimens of *Peltata* we had ever seen. The soil was fifty per cent oak leaf mould, unsifted, with plenty of old cow

manure in it. *Peltata* and *Venosa* should be grown like succulents, with careful watering. *Cathayana* needs shade and warm, moist air. Three distinct types of Costa Rica No. 4 seedlings were shown, also a Mexican unnamed seedling, a rhizomatous type with a small, serrate, waxen leaf, a delicate grower. Kodachrome slides were shown of a member's cloth house, filled with tuberous begonias, and other garden slides.

The annual meeting at Durham, N. H. has been reported in the October Begonian. The last two meetings were on the Rubra group, and the concensus of opinion is that the Rubra type is too large for window sill culture. The best bloomers are Annabel and Jinnie May, which will bloom when small. We find that Jinnie May, after years as a low spreading plant, has suddenly remembered its Rubra blood, and is becoming as tall as its ancestors.

We are planning an educational exhibit for the spring flower show in Boston next March, illustrating simple methods of house culture which any one may copy, such as seeds started on a brick "grandmother," cuttings rooted in a glass bowl, small or delicate plants under a glass tumbler or in a Wardian case, home made humidifiers and so forth.

The next three months without meetings will be busy with planning this exhibit, and our new program. Our group is a small one, with membership scattered over six states, and long drives over snowy or icy roads would be difficult, so we recess for the three midwinter months.



Begonias, California and the A. B. S.

(Continued from page 191)

to have been collecting Begonias for 40 years!

In 1921 Bessie Buxton of Peabody, Mass. started the round robin Begonia Club; and the original, and I do not know how many more are still in existence.

Sometime in 1929-1930, some friends of H. P. Dyckman gave him some small plants and cuttings of Begonias. His interest in Begonias was aroused, and in a short time he had a lath house 12'x18'. Mr. Dyckman and Mr. Reidman exhibited their specimen Begonia plants at some annual Dahlia shows in 1930 and 1931, arousing much comment and interest.

In January 1932 at the home of Clayton Kelly in Long Beach, California, the American Begonia Society officially came into existence, with Mr. Dyckman as President.

The organization was first known as

NEW SHAKE POTS FROM THE REDWOODS

Knocked down—you sock'em and nail'em
5 in. equal 6 in pot. Wt. 1 lb. appr. 12c
6 in. equal 7 in pot. Wt. 1½ lb. appr. 15c
7 in. equal 7 in pot. Wt. 2 lb. appr. 20c
8 in. equal 9 in pot. Wt. 2½ lb. appr. 25c

Put them together with 16 3d fine galvanized shingle nails and 12 1" brads. Make wall boxes by using longer bottom.

Send postage for your zone. Why not a club order for 100. 10% discount and low freight rates.

Order one of our collections packed in shake pot to see what they are.

Dealer prices on application.

LESLIE WOODRIF
HARBOR, OREGON

the California Begonia Society, but through the efforts of Mr. Kelly who was writing to places all over the world to try and secure seed of the new and different varieties, others learned of the society and soon there were so many members in so many different sections of the country that it was decided to change the name to the American Begonia Society.

Bessie Buxton and Mr. A. D. Robinson are given credit for much aid in increasing the membership by giving it publicity.

Mrs. Kathryn Weitz and her husband of Ventura joined the American Begonia Society but as the trip to Long Beach was 90 miles each way, and it was always after 1 P.M. when they reached home, she decided to start a branch of The American Begonia Society which she did in May 1937 and named it Theodosia Burr Shepherd, an early resident of Ventura and one of California's first flower and seed growers.

The October issue of The Begonian mentioned the fact that the membership is way over the 2,000 mark.

So—

1932 organized with 7 members

1937 first branch

1941, October over 2,000 members.

The foregoing was part of the program of the 2nd anniversary of the M.C. G. Branch of the A.B.S.

Begonias—Fuchsias—Ferns

We invite your inspection of our beautiful display of Roseville Pottery for your flower arrangement and potted house plants.

See our collection of shrubs, Roses and other annuals.

1409 W. Chapman — Orange, Calif.

Hollywood Officers for 1942

• Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 2nd. "Camellias and Their Culture" will be the subject of a talk by Mr. John Parker an authority on the growing of these and other shade plants having had much experience here and in other countries, the Kew Gardens in particular. He is glad to answer questions.

At our last meeting Mr. Hine was re-elected president, and the other officers also were re-elected except National Representative, as Mr. Baake finds his duties make it impossible to spare time for this. We elected Mr. Edward Cook in his place who says he will try to attend the meetings in Long Beach and elsewhere as required by the A. B. S.

Sorry Mr. Baake could not do this for us this last year as I know it is important in having the information needed to carry on the work of the society successfully. Thank you for being so nice to us.

Mary A. Jenks
Program & Publicity Chairman

• When answering ads, don't forget to mention The BEGONIAN.

Annual Report of the Corresponding Secretary for 1941

• I have attended all but two National Board meetings during the year and have acted as Secretary at these meetings.

I have answered approximately ninety-five letters and cards, mailed all Charters and nearly all Flower Show Awards.

During the year I received \$5.00 for postage.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruby W. Liedler
Corres. Secty.

Begonias — Ferns — Fuchsias
Choice Tuberous Begonias
English Primroses — Cinerarias

—Closed Mondays—

ALEXANDER B. SIM
305 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach

We now have a new Begonia list and guide which we send gladly to all customers of the past two years; to others we must charge 25c which may be deducted from any order for \$1 or more.

Rosecroft Begonia Gardens
530 Silvergate Ave., Point Loma Station
San Deigo, Calif.



Officers and Members

of the

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Send

BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES

Public Relations Report For 1941

• This has been a wonderful year for the A.B.S. Over 100% increase in branches, since this time last year, and still some forming and more ready to do so. This growth is phenomenal, and makes the American Begonia Society the fastest growing garden club in the world.

The prestige of the Society has reached the position where horticulturists all over the land look to it, as the authority upon Begonias. It is as it should be, and the coming year will see the A.B.S. reaching to still more distant horizons, spreading enjoyment and untold hours of happiness to its members, and to those who partake of the feast that growing Begonias and allied shade plants offer them.

Clarence A. Hall
Public Relations Director

Attention Begonia Show Chairman

• The National Board of the American Begonia Society will issue a set of ten Certificate of Awards, to all Branch Societies who exhibit Begonias at any Flower Show. Just write to the National Corresponding Secretary and they will be mailed to your Branch Secretary.

• Have you started a branch in your community?

OAK LEAF MOLD

Best Quality - Clean - Well-Rotted
35c per Sack

50 Sacks or more at 30c per Sack

A. L. Dickenson

Phone NEwmark 17645

627 West Palmer

Compton

San Gabriel Branch to Hold Election

• The San Gabriel Valley branch at their next meeting, December 19, will hold their election for the 1942 officers.

After the business meeting they will hold their Christmas Party.

Officers for North Long Beach Branch

• Officers elected for the coming year in the North Long Beach Branch are as follows:

Mrs. Ruby Liedler.....President
Mrs. Gladys Bullard.....Vice President
Mrs. H. A. Cuyler.....Secy.-Treas.
Mr. E. A. Taylor.....Nat'l Representative

The December meeting will be devoted to a Christmas party for the members.

Dominguez Branch

• The Dominguez Branch, just 8 months old, have elected officers for 1942 and have made plans for their first Christmas party, which is to be a Christmas dinner. Officers are as follows:

Mr. Robert Hyans.....President
Mr. Clyde Reynolds.....Vice-President
Mrs. R. L. Warren.....Secy.-Treas.
Mrs. Alice Bush.....Nat'l Representative

Mr. Robert Hyans, who is an exceptional leader, has been re-elected for the second year.

Special Offering at 50c each

GOGOENSIS

IMPERIALIS SMARAGDINA

These are sturdy seedling plants ready for shift to larger pots

Rosecroft Begonia Gardens

530 Silvergate Ave.

Point Loma, Cal.

HYBRIDIZING BEGONIAS

by ROY BERRY

THERE have at various times been articles telling how to plant seeds and how to raise the plants, but nothing on how to get the seeds.

There is a real interest and kick in watching your own seed grow into large plants and find that you have something worth while.

Most begonias must be hand pollenized to set seed. To pollinize most plants the pollen is transferred from the male or pollen bearing bloom with a camel hair brush, but with begonias it is much more simple.

First be sure that you use bloom that has pollen. Tap lightly on your nail and if pollen is in the bloom pinch off the bloom and use as a brush to dust the pollen into the female bloom which will be known by the three winged seed pod at the base of the petals. Let this pod dry on the plant and do not waste time planting seed from a pod which has fallen off because they will not be fertile.

About four years ago I got the idea that it would be well worth while to put a small colored leaf on a branching plant of tall growth.

Dregii (semi tuberous) was the answer as to small leaf and branching type, Rex naturally was to supply color.

I made the cross with Dregii as the seed parent. My hope of getting something different was realized, but instead of a tall branching type I got the exact opposite, a low growing, non branching plant and so far as I can discover it is the smallest, most compact begonia of the Rex type grown. A picture of the compact growth can be visualized when

I tell you that a plant with 132 leaves in a 6 inch pot has a spread of only 10 inches and stands but 5 inches above the pot.

Another plant with 218 leaves in an 8 inch pot has a spread of 12 inches and stands but 8 inches above the pot.

It seems to be the rule that out of most plantings all plants will be close to the parent plants in shape or growing habit, but once in a blue moon one plant will show up that has something that sets it apart from the rest. That one plant is what we all strive for, "Something different."

The surprising thing about the Rex-Dregii cross is that I got about 15 plants with different colors and markings, from silver up thru the pink to the deep plum of Lucy Closson and the brown green of O'Diggins to the rich green of Emerald. The leaf is from Dregii as to size and shape, the color from the Rex, the root stock is rather semi tuberous as is Dregii and the leaf grows like Rex with the leaf stem direct from the root.

This may be the start of a direct connection between Rex and tuberous whereby a worthy bloom may be put on the Rex.

Reversing the cross with Dregii as the pollen parent, may give us color on the tall branching type.

So far I have been unable to set seed on this cross.

(Taken from Vol. 2, Number 7 of the Begonian)

• Why not a year's subscription to **The BEGONIAN** as a birthday or other gift?

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M e r r y

1941 DECEMBER 1941						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Christmas

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2, 7:30 P.M.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Bl.
Mrs. Helen Ehret, Secy.,
7507 Lexington Ave., Hollywood.
SPEAKER: Mr. John Parker
SUBJECT: Camellias and Their Care

PALOMAR BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2, 8:00 P.M.
Vista Inn, Vista, Calif.
Margaret Rutherford, Secy.-Treas.,
Route 2, Box 340, Escondido, Calif.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BR.

Tuesday, December 2, 7:30 P.M.
American Legion Hall.
North California St., Ventura.

PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2, 10:00 A.M.
Home of Mrs. James A. Tyson
519 So. Narbeth Ave., Merion, Penna.
SUBJECT: Further discussion on
November program

HERBERT DYCKMAN BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2, 7:30 P.M.
Home of Mrs. Anna Haller,
949 East Artesia Blvd., Bellflower
Mrs. Anna Smith, Secy.-Treas.,
250 Home St., Long Beach.

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2, 7:30 P.M.
Mrs. L. D. Thalheimer, Secy.-Treas.,
222 South Woodruff St., Bellflower

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2, 7:30 P.M.
Girl Scouts Headquarters
1838 San Andres St., Santa Barbara.
Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, Secy.,
246 W. Alamar Ave., Santa Barbara.

DOMINGUEZ BRANCH

Wednesday, December 3, 7:30 P.M.
Dominguez Community Church,
21503 Prospect at Adams
Mrs. Clyde Reynolds, Secy.-Treas.
2635 Jackson St., Dominguez, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, December 3, 8:00 P.M.
1060 Francisco St.,
Harry F. O'Donnell, Secy.-Treas.,
1575 31st Ave., San Francisco.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, December 4, 7:30 P.M.
College Hall, Santa Ana J. C.
917 No. Maine St., Santa Ana.
Mrs. E. W. Carrell, Secy.-Treas.
214 No. Yale, Fullerton.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Friday, December 5, 8:00 P.M.
Woman's Club, 325 No. Hillcrest Blvd.
Mrs. Rose Hescocock, Secretary,
4209 West 111th St., Inglewood.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, December 8, 7:30 P.M.
4037 39 Ave.
Mrs. Clarence Moore, Secy.-Treas.
4191 40th St., San Diego
SUBJECT: Scandens Group

Meeting Dates and Speakers (Continued)

PASADENA BRANCH

Wednesday, December 10, 7:30 P.M.

La Casita Del Arroya,
177 So. Arroya Blvd.

J. Ellsworth Youtz Jr., Secy.,
334 W Green, Pasadena.

SANTA MARIA BRANCH

Wednesday, December 10, 7:30 P.M.

Junior College Hall,
Morrison Ave., Santa Maria

Mrs. Peter Melschau, Secy.-Treas.

Nipomo, California

SPEAKER: Rudolph Ziesenhenn

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

Thursday, December 11, 8:00 P.M.

St. Mathews Hall,
672 Temple Ave., Long Beach

Mrs. Ethel G. Arbuckle, Secy.-Treas.,
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Friday, December 12, 7:30 P.M.

Harry M. Wallace, Sec'y-Treas.
3455 Spruce St., Riverside.

GLENDALE BRANCH

Monday, December 15, 8:00 P.M.

329 No. Brand Blvd.
News Press Bldg.

Mrs. M. B. Dewar, Secretary,
709 Milford Ave., Phone CItrus 17517.

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Monday, December 15, 7:30 P.M.

Mrs. Henry O. Colt, Secy.-Treas.,
7221 Olivetas, La Jolla, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Friday, December 19, 7:30 P.M.

Arcadia City Hall, Arcadia
Mrs. A. N. Hartwell, Secretary,
1719 Alamitas Ave., Monrovia.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Saturday, December 20, 7:30 P.M.

Houghton Park Clubhouse,
Atlantic Ave. and Harding, L.B.

Mrs. H. A. Cuyler, Secy.-Treas.
5676 Olive Ave., Long Beach.

EAST BAY BRANCH

Monday, December 22, 7:30 P.M.

Berkeley Council Chambers.

Geo. Pascoe, Secy.-Treas.,
2125 McGee Ave., Berkeley.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BR.

No meeting

Mrs. Wm. L. Paxson, Secretary,
Willow Grove, Pa.

SYRACUSE BRANCH

Richard C. Atwood, Secy.-Treas.,
1405 East Fayette St.,
Syracuse, N. Y.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

No meeting

Mrs. B. W. Skinner, Secretary.
54 Essex St., Lynnfield, Mass.

PHILADELPHIA & VICINITY BR.

Mrs. Sophia E. Whitaker, Secy.-Treas.
5343 Greene St., Germantown, Phila.,
Pa.

• The National Board meeting will be held at the home of Miss Edna Ziesenhenn, 3100 Theresa St., Long Beach, December 9th at 7:30 P.M. Directions: Drive East on 7th Street to Orizaba Avenue, turn right, down one block to Theresa Street, turn left on Theresa to the middle of the block.

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