

# The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens

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# The BEGONIAN

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## If You Would Get Full Benefit of All Preparations—Read

● Read July issue and this one rather thoroughly if you do not want to miss anything worth while at the THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION and SEVENTH A. B. S. BEGONIAS and OTHER SHADE PLANTS SHOW.

Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Hart have been to San Diego personally and their reports to us make us ever keener to entice those who are uncertain—to make effort to arrange matters so as to attend this year's CONVENTION at San Diego.

The special preparations being made for us are entirely too numerous and voluminous to be listed here. Let the element of surprise await you. The details given you in THE BEGONIAN are just guiding lines to help you make the best of each hour you can spend in our host city, San Diego.

Be sure to take your best plant or plants

with you to help make the show a great success.

The Southern California Horticultural Institute joint meeting with the American Begonia Society will be held on August 5th, at the RODGER YOUNG AUDITORIUM at 936 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. Please have your plants there before 7:30 o'clock so that there will be time to place them nicely before the meeting is called to order at 8 p.m.

These monthly meetings are now very well attended and it will be wise to bring your membership card for admittance before the general public. It will be much easier to bring plants to the Rodger Young Auditorium than it was at the former hall.

SEE YOU THERE. —THE EDITOR.

● *Two Dates: August 5th, 1946, and Labor Day Weekend. Mark them!*

# SAN DIEGO CONVENTION NOTES

By MRS. CLARENCE E. MOORE, Pub. Ch., San Diego, California

● We could easily wonder what Cortez, the grim conqueror, who sent Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo on that immortal voyage of 1542 which resulted in the discovery of what is now San Diego, would think of the place that is now Presidio Park. Then in 1769 Don Gaspar de Portola and Fray Junipero Serra came with the fateful expedition driving the first stakes of the white man's civilization. The walls of the old stockade are gone but our flag waves on the spot where it stood. The trees and verdant vegetation, the walks and the wonderful museum of early Spanish civilization, the massive cross built by the early Indians of brick made by them, all of these are what he would now see and wonder over.

Presidio Park is where the thirteenth annual convention of the American Begonia Society will be held, together with the Seventh Begonia Show, on the 31st of August and the 1st of September.

Driving down to San Diego in the early morning hours is a truly wonderful experience, with the deeply blue Pacific and on the left and the little towns so fresh and clean. Perhaps you will see vast flower gardens along the way, at least the late blooming flowers will make glowing color. Mrs. Sloane's Cardoza gardens are at Del Mar and she will welcome any of you.

Another incentive to stop en route is offered if you will detour to the right on the road going into La Jolla, for they have some interesting gardens for you to see. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Calloway, 1311 Torrey Pines Road, lathhouse and shade garden; Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Ploger, 7711 Lookout Drive, cymbidiums patio; Mr. and Mrs. Austin Looke, 701 Arenas, rex and tuberous begonias, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Haworth, 5548 Beaumont, lathhouse, Bird Rock. Guides will be furnished. On into San Diego through Pacific Beach, Mission Beach and on to Rosecrans Street, turn to left and watch for signs along the road to convention place. If you are interested in museums, you will find the Junipero Serra filled with old Spanish things all that you can desire. Ramona's marriage place is just a short distance away.

After you have given your plants into the hands of Mrs. Bailey and have registered, guides will be on hand to show you the gardens and lathhouse to be visited. Both the garden pilgrimage in La Jolla and San Diego will be very well worth visiting.

For those who come by train or bus, take

any street car going east on Broadway (both Santa Fe and the Greyhound bus stations are on Broadway) to 5th, getting a transfer. Change to No. 3 street car at 5th and Broadway and go to the end of the line. Shuttle buses will take you to the park at no further expense.

Garden pilgrimages will start by 9:30 a.m. Saturday in San Diego. Luncheon will be served at the park at the end of the garden pilgrimage and after the judges are through, the wonderful display we hope to have will be on show. The business meeting will be held under the trees and the banquet will be held in the Woman's Club building, 2557 3rd St., a beautiful building, with plenty of parking places and with all facilities for comfort. The banquet will be priced at \$2.00 which includes both tips and tax. Be there at 6:30 for a wonderful time. Music, flowers and a fine lecture will fill the evening with, of course, good food. All reservations must be in the hands of Mrs. Clarence E. Moore, 3664 31st St., by August 25th. The tickets are being sent to the secretaries of the several branches, and those of you affiliated with these branches can get your tickets from these secretaries. Those not affiliated send direct to Mrs. Moore with the \$2.00 for each ticket desired. We have a nice large dining room, and we want a big crowd, so each of you become a committee of one to further the convention. As Mrs. Bailey has said, we need plants, many of them, but if you will all come and bring even one plant we will have something very lovely. I hope that you have made your hotel reservations by this time, so that will be off your minds. Rates were sent to each secretary for your convenience last month.

The exhibition will remain open on Sunday for the general public to enjoy.

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From an Armchair Explorer in Minnesota.

"Dear Mrs. Carrell: By all means, let's have more kinds of seeds from the tropics. Begonias are such fun, and while we are about it, why not grow more kinds of tropical plants? Some of my friends haven't even patience to grow common hardy perennials from seeds, much less to plant the dust-like seed of Begonias. I think it is so exciting to watch the plants grow and develop and get my biggest thrill when the plants begin to bloom. My friends may think I'm "odd" with my kitchen full of pans of seeds and seedlings, but mother and grandmother always loved flowers, too. Dad just smiles, fixes me more room, made a fine big plant table this spring, complete with linoleum top, drawers for my magazines, seeds, catalogues, etc. He gets almost as excited as I do when the first seedlings appear. I can never wait for my BEGONIAN to get here, and then it is all read through too soon. I hope enough folks want more kinds of seeds to enable you to get them for us. The Seed Fund is like a good dream come true. Maxine Buckley."

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## CALLING . . .

### ALL ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS

By MRS. E. CARRELL, Fullerton, Calif.

• A call is now made to adventurous folk desiring rare Begonia seed collected from all corners of the world. Several collectors are now searching out seed for us in tropical forests where the vegetation is so thick a path must be cut as they go. Snakes lurk in the undergrowth while a thick fog descends and the road back gets lost from view. But we sit in our comfortable chairs and wait for the Begonia seed to be brought to our mail box, so we called ourselves the "Armchair Explorers." What fortunate folk! By combining our money we can buy in quantity and get many rare species that otherwise would be impossible to obtain. Those members of the A.B.S. wishing to contribute to this fund, get a share of the Begonia seeds secured. Your ticket on this armchair voyage will cost you \$2.00. If you want your name on the list, better send in right away. We fully expect to get seed from Mexico, Central America, South America, West Indies, India and East Indies.

There have been calls for seed of rare greenhouse plants other than Begonias, so we have found some choice items for you and are now offering them.

#### RARE GREENHOUSE SEEDS

Choice seeds of Gesneriaceae (Streptocarpus, Campana, Kohleria, chirita, Columnae, Besleria, Drymonia, etc.) 50c packet, or 6 for \$2.50.

Fern sporangia from Costa Rica (tree ferns, climbing ferns, etc.) Collection of 5 for \$1.00, or 12 kinds for \$2.00.

Rare seeds from Costa Rica (Fuchsia, Calceolaria, Capsicum, aroids, bromeliads, etc.) Collection of 5 for \$1.00, or 12 kinds for \$2.00.

Here is a letter just received from Java. "Unfortunately at the moment brigand bands and Japanese deserters roam free over nearly the whole island of Java, and it is not possible to make excursions in the forests. As yet it is not permitted even to visit the mountain gardens at Tjibodas. As a matter of fact the whole community at Buitenzorg is living under improved-camp conditions, and we are lucky to live in the gardens. The management of these is still under primitive conditions, and therefore, we can only offer little to the American Begonia Society. All these plants requiring much care, have been neglected during the Japanese occupation, and quite a number are lost, formerly collected in the wilds of the Archipelago. Our scientific collection has been at Hamburg, in the

## Descriptions of Begonias indigenous to Costa Rica

*Begonia cooperi*: This species belongs to the *B. alnifolia* and *B. carpinifolia* complex. It is semi-scandent, clustered white flowers. (1859, Mexico.)

*Begonia udisilvestris*: Grows to 15 inches erect, flowers small pure white. Epiphytic in wood mold on tree. (1919, Panama.)

*Begonia udisilvestris* var. *picta*: This form of the species is distinguished for robustness and late flowering. Its pods are very fleshy, 3 times size of the typical form and capsule wings basally deep carmine. Grows in damp soil or as an epiphyte enduring some sun.

*Begonia glabra* var. *coralipetiolis*: Found only in cloud forest of upper tropical zone. Resembles typical *glabra* but more robust, leaves, capsule and flowers larger. The stems near the nodes beautiful carmine. Scandent. Flowers palest green to white, leaves bright green. Stems pale to coral pink.

*Begonia valeri*: Belongs to humid tropical zone on Pacific slope to an altitude of 4,000 feet. Grows upright, two to three feet. Beautiful plushy leaves, always 10-veined; with brown pubescent and large heads of clear white flowers. New species.

*Begonia decandra* indigenous to Puerto Rico. Mrs. Buxton describes this one for us. "I have a plant which bloomed this spring. It is one of the small begonias, perhaps ten inches or a foot high. The leaves are about two inches long, sharply serrate, dark glossy green with depressed veins. The underside of the leaf is much paler, the veins a deep red. The stems are dark red, small flowers of pure white on red stems. A neat, clean-looking, little plant." (1894, Puerto Rico.)

Wanted by Seed Fund Skipper—Information about *Rigidella*, bulb plant of Mexico.

● **Get ready to join Seed Fund — remarkable what fun you can have.**

hands of Prof. Irmscher more than 20 years, but he has published hardly anything on it, and we failed to get the collection back before the war. I fear it is lost now. I am sending you four samples, and will continue to collect in the future. Two of them are unnamed as yet, one from Ambon and one from Ceram, both in the Moluccas. Quite a lot of species bear no seed at the time.

Sincerely yours,

C. van STEENIS,

Director's Lands Plantentuin."

(Other packets were *B. Sulcan*, *B. isopetera*.)

## SEVENTH ANNUAL AMERICAN BEGONIA SHOW

### Commercial Show Rules

By MRS. H. E. FOLEY

Chairman Commercial Exhibits

● We hope you read our July BEGONIAN about the National Convention and Flower Show of the American Begonia Society to be held in San Diego, August 31st and September 1st. If so, you realize the importance of the occasion from a civic standpoint and certainly you are aware of the obvious benefits to be derived by Commercial Growers of Shade Plants.

We therefore urge you to take advantage of the opportunity of displaying your collection of shade plants in a Commercial Exhibit.

The Flower Show is fortunate in having beautiful Presidio Park as its locale. The natural background will be enhanced by landscaping in keeping with the surroundings.

The following rules and regulations apply to all Commercial Growers.

1. Exhibits limited to Shade Plants only.
2. There will be no entry fee.
3. All exhibits must blend with the natural setting.
4. Plenty of shade, natural and artificial; windbrake will be provided.
5. Minimum of one hundred square feet, any shape desired.
6. Entries must be entirely in place before noon on Saturday, August 31, preferably earlier.
7. Hours of show: 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, August 31. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, September 1.

Plants not to be removed until close of show.

8. There will be bonded guards at night Friday and Saturday.
9. Each display to be installed and cared for by exhibitor.
10. Plants may be sold on premises after show Sunday.
11. No reservations for exhibits can be made after August 15.

You appreciate the necessity of advising us as to the approximate size and shape required as soon as possible, in order that each exhibit may be placed to the best possible advantage.

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# Impatiens Vavrai

By MARIA WILKES, Los Angeles, Calif.

• One fine day last May, this writer, with a select group of discriminating and skilled amateur gardeners paid a visit to the lovely hillside gardens of Mr. Stephan Vavra of Bel Air, California. The planting that immediately called for undivided attention was a mass border of a very new *IMPATIENS* of great decorative effect because of its unusually large blooms—and new color.

Beset by questions as to its availability, our host admitted it was one of his newest developments, but as might be expected, the plant causing all the flurry of excitement had

already been acquired for the commercial field by Mr. Paul Howard who has named it "*Impatiens vavrai*."

Mr. Vavra is well known for many excellent plant developments probably the most outstanding and best known of which, until now, is the beautiful double flowered golden-apricot with maroon heart hibiscus "Crown of Bohemia." We applauded the naming of this new *impatiens* because all those present quickly realized the value of his name linked with the unusual beauty of this plant.

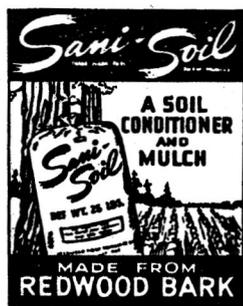
The clarity and lively lustre of the large shell-pink flowers which covered the two to three-foot high plants appealed to each one. The setting for *I. vavrai* showed that it takes quite a fair share of sunlight being bedded between tall and stately specimens of *Ptychosperma elegans* (*Seaforthia elegans* also known as the Solitairepalm) in a great round bed at the entrance to the house. The strongly contrasting background of clumps of *Bird of Paradise* (*Strelitzia reginae*) with an occasional other plant such as the begonia (Hybrid of *B. hernandifolia*) as shown in one of our pictures, made a very interesting combination. Here *I. vavrai* flourished exceedingly by blooming all over, our host assured us, from February to December.

This plant, a hybrid of *Impatiens oliveri* x *holsti* makes a rounded mound two and a half feet high with a width of two feet in the half sunny places but a little more in shadier spots. The foliage is shiny and very pronounced *oliveri* type, rich in tone and luscious of growth with individual leaves measuring about four inches in length and two and a half inches wide.

The stamina is at once apparent by the great size (two and one-eighth inches) of each blossom, this and the floriferousness make it greatly to be desired in cottage or estate shade garden, especially since the flowering season is extended over nearly the whole year with good weather conditions. So far, no insect pest has bothered this plant, and Mr. Vavra is now developing a red variety of the same cross which he hopes will be as fine an introduction.

With presenting us *Impatiens vavrai*, Mr. A. Stephen Vavra has given us another excuse for making a strong path to the wide gate of his famous gardens, and our appreciation will show itself in giving ourselves extra pleasure through the planting of this showy and beautiful namesake of his.

*Impatiens vavrai*, photo by A. T. Wilkes



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# Begonia Pink Shasta

By ALICE M. CLARK, San Diego, California

● The so-called "cane" type of begonias always reminds me of Rosecroft. No one knows my deep regret at not having started these drawings and articles while the "Dean of Begonians" could have directed them. Although I knew Mr. Robinson for more than twenty-five years, I only began to grow begonias three years before he left us. Sometimes I can feel him chuckling over my laborious fact-finding, or giving my elbow a jog to keep me going when I come to some dead end. There is a gold mine of information on begonias in the old files of California Garden, which A.D.R. founded and edited for a long time. In fact, it is a thirty-year serial of the development of begonias in San Diego, told in the inimitable Robinson style, with additions by Mrs. Waite, Mrs. Gray and Constance Bower. Some day I hope to have time to give you gleanings from them.

My begonia collecting began with the "hairy" fibrous mainly because there was such an array of "angel-wings" at Rosecroft that it overwhelmed me. They still leave me with a helpless feeling. If it were not for the kind assistance of Ella Marguerite Fewkes, I could make little progress in their study, because both the specimens and the authorities to name them, are hard to find.

One reason for selecting "Pink Shasta" for an August portrait was to depict a begonia with typical *B. coccinea* features. The synonym, *Rubra*, has been used so long for that species that it is hard to get away from it. Mrs. Gray tells of the amusing complication that arose from the use of that name. It seems that the "rubra" stock became scarce so the begonians raised it from seed. Among the seedlings was a tall, strong grower with pink flowers which they called "Pink Rubra." Later, realizing that that cognomen was an anomaly, they changed the name to "Pink Cane." That was a neat solution but it was already catalogued by its first handle so I shall continue to use it, especially as "pink coccinea" would be equally ridiculous.

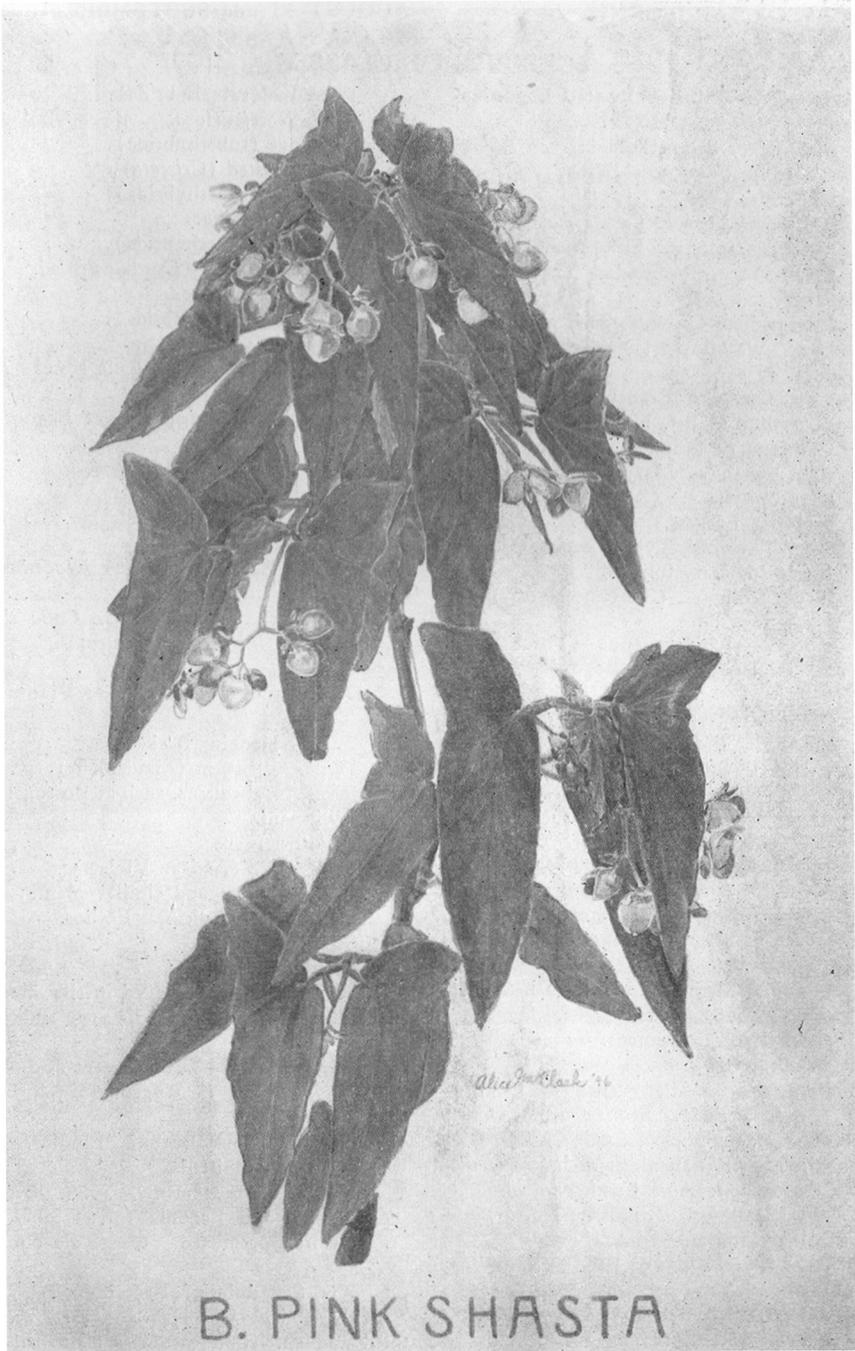
From some of those early coccinea seedlings, Mr. Robinson developed one with a good white bloom, which he fittingly tagged Shasta. He raised many Shasta progeny and one of them, No. 79, had pink blossoms. Mrs. Fewkes, who admired it, persuaded him to name it "Pink Shasta." New York Botanical Garden and Mrs. Buxton say it made its debut in 1930 but it did not appear in the Rosecroft Catalog until 1937.

I am grateful that there was a sample of Pink Rubra for me to see at Montalvo Gardens. In a pot it was rather "leggy." In the ground it is better clothed and reaches 8 feet in height. Pink Shasta is more graceful and branching and not as tall. The plant of my sketch is 24 inches high. The main stalk of both of these begonias is a smooth round green, with brown rings at the joints, making it look definitely cane-like. The nodes are about three inches apart, with few dry stipules on them.

The leaves are alternate, held on thick curving inch-long petioles, slightly flattened on one side. In both begonias the leaves are the same size, 7 inches long and 2 inches wide, but the top curve of Pink Rubra is squared off, where that of Pink Shasta sprouts a flaring, pointed wing. The texture of each is firm and smooth with inconspicuous veins. The color is light grass green on top, duller below, with Pink Shasta showing a slight flush underneath and a tiny hairline of red on the edge of some of the leaves. The scattered white spots are a bit more prominent on the last mentioned begonia. The larger markings are like smoke rings with a green dot in the middle. At an early stage, the sheath covering the young leaf is a long pinkish-green spur. It extends itself into two very pointed pale-green bracts that seem to present the young leaf they enclosed with a dramatic flourish. And rightly so, for the tender, shining, pink-flushed, trout-speckled, pleated, baby leaf is as lovely as a flower itself.

Pink Rubra is an all-over shade of bright rose from its 4-inch peduncle to its large clusters of seed pods, except for faint touches of green at the branching points. Two large petals of the male bloom are broad at the top, tapering to a rounded point. The two narrow ones in between are slender and pointed, with a sharp crease down the center. The stamens are bright and full, but flattened like a brush. The female bloom has five petals, each one-half inch wide. A bushy cluster of small twisted yellow stigma do not show their gay color against the pink background. The full-grown ovary is two-thirds of an inch wide by three-quarters of an inch long, with three even wings.

Pink Shasta has not been flowering long enough to show any female bloom, but it is to be presumed that they will follow the same pattern as Pink Rubra. While the size



# Seventh Begonia Show

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA - - - - AUGUST 31 and SEPTEMBER 1, 1946

## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

### Division A—Fibrous Rooted Begonias

Class

1. Bedding or Semperflorens; such as Gustav Lind (Westport Beauty), Carmen, Christmas Pink.
2. Tall Growing or Tree forms; such as Lucerna, Corallina Delucerna, Coccinea, (Rubra); Floribunda (Multiflora), Rosea.
3. Intermediate Growth; such as Preussen, Lady Waterlow (Digswelliana), Medora.
4. Low Growing Branching Type; such as Arthur Mallet, Nitida, Foliosa.
5. Climbing or Scandent when grown upright; such as Marjorie Daw, Glabra, Glaucophylla. (See Division E for Hanging Baskets.)
6. Semi-Tuberous Types; such as Dregei, Macbethi, Parvifolia.
7. New Seedlings. (See Rule No. 3.)

### Division B—Rhizomatous—Thick Stem or Procumbent Begonias

Class

8. "Star" types; such as *Sunderbruchi*, *nigricans*, *Riciniifolia*.
9. Helix or Spiral and Crested; such as *Bunchi*, *Feasti Helix*, *Manicata crispa*.
10. Other Rhizomatous types, such as *manicata*, *Feasti*, *manicata aureo-maculata*.
11. New Seedlings. (See Rule No. 3.)

### Division C—Rhizomatous— Rex Begonias

Class

12. Large or Medium Leaves; such as *magnifica*, *rajah*, *Black Knight*.
13. Extra Large Specimens.
14. *Miniature Rex*.
15. Helix or Spiralled; such as *Countess Louise Erdody*, *Bronze King*, *Curly Closson*.
16. Discolor or Branching; such as *Van-Ex*, *Mrs. Moon*, *Abel Carriere*.
17. New Seedlings. (See Rule No. 3.)

### Division D—Tuberous Rooted Begonias

Class

18. Species; such as *Pearcei*, *Evansiana*, *Martiana*.
19. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Giant Single*.
20. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Single Frilled*.

21. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Single Narcissiflora*.
22. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Single Crested (Cristata)*.
23. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Double Camellia*.
24. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Fimbriata Plena (Double Frilled or Carnation type)*.
25. Tuberous (tuberhybrida), *Double Rosebud*.
26. New Seedlings. (See Rule No. 3.)

### Division E—Hanging Basket Begonias

Class

27. Tuberous types.
28. All other types.
29. New Seedlings. (See Rule No. 3.)

### Division F—Odd or Rare Begonias

Class

30. All; such as *Gogoensis*, *Calla Lily*, *Dichroa*, *Imperialis*, *Illustrata*.

### Division G—Other Shade Plants

Class

31. Fuchsia Hanging Baskets.
32. Ferns, Adiantum (Maidenhair).
34. Ferns, Nephrolepis, such as Boston Fern, Whitmani.
35. All other Ferns.
36. Saintpaulia (African Violets).
37. Philodendrons and similar plants; such as *Monstera Deliciosa*, *Pothos*.
38. *Streptocarpus*.
39. Other Shade Plants.

Other classes will be added in this division if the number of entries justify such additions.

### Division H—Cut Flowers and Flower Arrangements

Class

40. Cut Tuberous Begonia Blooms. No greenery permitted.
41. Flower Arrangements, using Begonia blooms and Begonia foliage only, accessories permitted. (See Rule No. 4.)

### Schedule of Premiums

Ribbons will be given for first, second, third and special in each class; for the best Begonia in each division and in the show.

Cash awards will be awarded as follows:

\$5.00 for the best Begonia in the show,

(Continued on Page 161)

# Your Questions With Answers

By T. JOHN PARKER, Hollywood, Calif.

Q. Please advise what causes the lower leaves of my Tuberous Begonias to turn yellow and drop off, and the remedy?

A. As the question merely indicates a condition of the lower leaves, there is no information as to the general physical appearance of the whole plant, however, when nitrogen deficiencies occur, the yellowing of the tissues occurs first in the older leaves, follows the mid-rib from the leaf tip. The tip begins to dry and the whole leaf may become involved showing an effect we often refer to as firing. This symptom is often found in sandy soils in dry weather and even in heavy soils during a prolonged hot dry period the plants become definitely starved for nitrogen and such plants may be benefited by application of nitrogen fertilizers. When plants suffer from lack of water, the tissues wither and dry out without the leaves necessarily becoming yellow. Yellowish green to yellow almost invariably indicate nitrogen deficiency. In some certain cases, however, they may be due to phosphorus deficiency. Here is one way to make a test for nitrogen deficiency. Cut out a small piece of the stalk or slice a portion of a leaf into small bits. Place these pieces in a glass vial or on a clean porcelain plate and apply a few drops of concentrated sulfuric acid containing 1% of diphenylamine (this can be procured from the druggist and must be used with utmost caution as it is very corrosive). If nitrates are present in the tissues a blue color is produced immediately. If no blue color results then nitrogen deficiency is indicated.

Q. Why won't my Semperflorens bloom? They grow but do not bloom.

A. Many over-estimate the amount of shade that is good for certain plants. Semperflorens require more light than many other types of Begonias. The answer to this problem generally lies in too little light, or too low a temperature. Most Begonias need a minimum temperature of 55 degrees and a good light position but not subjected to the full blast of the hot summer sunshine. Also too much nitrogen and lack of other balancing elements as phosphorus and potash in the soil will cause this condition.

Q. What causes the leaves of my Begonias to pucker and crack at the edges?

A. This is generally indicative of potash or phosphorus starvation or both. The attendant color of the foliage would serve as a guide to which. The addition of a little

super-phosphate together with sulfate or muriate of potash might help to overcome this condition.

Q. Is the acid food advertised for Camellias and Azaleas also suitable for Begonias?

A. There is no reason why they should not be, provided that the same proportion of corrective ingredient is required in your particular soil. Each product has a label indicating the ingredients and at times aluminum sulfate is added to create an acid reaction and sometimes soil sulfur is used. Of the two, soil sulfur is to be preferred. The main thing to remember is to apply sparingly rather than in abundance, and only at a time when growth is active and the temperature and moisture correct. Remember that most growth becomes inactive under extremes of temperatures either heat or cold. Begonias generally prefer food from organic sources and dilute liquid cow manure is still the most favorable. If the plants are potted, do not feed until the pot is well filled with roots.

Q. My bulbs are growing well but the buds are falling off and the cases seem to be empty.

A. The inquiry does not state what the bulbs are, however, when the foliage of the bulbs is apparently abundant and the color satisfactory, and the flower stem produces only empty cases, a nutrient deficiency is indicated. This may be due to poor soil and insufficient pre-preparation.

The soil may be well supplied with nitrogen but low in available potash and phosphates. The bulbs could have been planted too close to one another, crowding causing too much competition for food. These bulbs were moved and transported across country and if they were moved at a time before they were fully ripened and matured, this too would have considerable effect upon their subsequent behavior.

Unless the soil is naturally rich, a thorough preparation recommended is to dig out eighteen inches and place a layer of six to eight inches of well-rotted manure together with a generous supply of bone meal. Cover this with virgin soil and plant the bulbs the recommended depth on virgin soil or clean washed sand and cover with soil free from any fertilizer. Drainage must of course be perfect.

---

● See you in San Diego on Saturday 31st and September 1st, great plans for you!

## Your Questions Answered

By T. JOHN PARKER, Hollywood, Calif.

Q. Please tell me how to grow "Cathay-ana?"

A. The answer to this question may fit most varieties if applied individually. Cathay-ana is of Chinese origin and although it originates in an altitude of about 5,000 feet the district is fairly warm and the moisture quite heavy. Many people make the error of not carrying on the cultural conditions as they existed at the location from whence the plant came. It is imperative to know the extent of the root growth in the pot and treat the application of water accordingly. This plant suffers a shock when watered with cold water the temperature of which varies much or little with the temperature of the atmosphere in which it is kept. If properly potted no feeding should be necessary until the pot is full of roots. This plant also will not tolerate the full rays of the sun but will easily scorch.

Q. Is leafmold, taken from pine forests or forests where walnut trees grow, harmful to Begonias?

A. All leafmold, no matter what the source, is good for the promotion of plant growth. It is nature giving back food material that it has taken from the soil and stored up for future use. The danger lies in it being diseased, and one should know the history of the crop from which the leaves have originated. All leafmold is acid in a greater or lesser degree depending on the progress of decomposition. It is most acid in its rawer state, the acidity diminishing as decomposition advances. Pine needles are very acid but take a longer time to decompose than the broader leaves.

Q. Why are cuttings of McBethi, Weltoniense, Dregei, Richardsiana, and the like hard to root?

A. These are of the semi-tuberous kinds and are of African origin and came from parts as far south as the Cape of Good Hope to as far north as the Island of Socotra near the Gulf of Aden in the Indian Ocean. Warmth and atmospheric moisture are necessary. I find most failures come from a lack of these two requisites combined, very definitely, with improper care as to preparation of the rooting medium. If sand is used, and it is generally considered as the best rooting medium, it should be of a grade generally known as a plaster sand, drainage is good and yet is not so coarse that it will not pack snugly around the stem when inserted. All sand should be thoroughly washed to be sure

that all dirt particles, as far as is possible, are floated free from the sand. An additional precaution would be to sterilize the washed sand in one of the prescribed ways. The next consideration is the time at which the cuttings are taken, the type of cutting taken and the condition of the plant from which the cutting is taken. Late winter and spring are generally acceded to be the best times to take cuttings. Tip cuttings with three to five leaves, and the base cut having a heel of semi-hard wood. To reduce transpiration to a minimum is most important and of course this calls for a covered container which will conserve the humidity in the surrounding air. If glass is used and the under surface shows moisture, the cover should be raised a little to refresh the air. An even temperature should be maintained and when watering becomes necessary for the rooting medium, use water at room temperature of the air in which the cuttings are being grown.

### B.s. "Christmas Cheer" From Seed

By ALICE FOSTER, Addison, Mich.

• Received THE BEGONIAN today and note the request for information from anyone having tried raising begonias from seed. I am a rank amateur but had a little luck, so will tell it.

First, the seed was from Campbell's, (notice he is one of your advertisers) fibrous type, variety "Christmas Cheer." Used a 6-inch pot; soil, one-third sand and two-thirds leaf mold, sifted, firmed in pot, thoroughly soaked from bottom, seed sprinkled on top. 'Most forgot to tell you I used Semesan on seed, then tied a waxed paper tightly over top of the pot.

It was March so put it in the warmest place the kitchen afforded. Was pretty anxious since this wasn't my first attempt and the rest had been charged on the red side of the ledger, but I didn't peek until the 15 days were up and lo! With a magnifying glass, there they were!

They grew so slowly at first but after what seemed an age they got to where I could prick them out and luckily so, for a little later the main pot came to grief and I had only the fifteen most forward ones. They are doing fine and I am so anxious to see a blossom. There must have been at least a hundred in that package of seed.

Now I am wondering if I dare try the Rex variety. Hope someone will tell his experience.

## SCHEDULE OF BEGONIA SHOW

(Continued from Page 158)

to be selected from the best Begonia in each division.

\$5.00 for the best Begonia in each division.

\$3.00 for the second best Begonia in each division.

\$2.00 for the third best Begonia in each division.

\$10.00 in cash will be given for the best new seedling (other than tuberous) in the show.

\$5.00 will be given for the second best new seedling (other than tuberous) in the show.

American Begonia Society Certificates will be awarded for meritorious plants.

The Gonda Hartwell Challenge Cup will be awarded for the best Rex Begonia in the show. This is a perpetual cup and will be retained by the winner until two weeks before the next show, at which time it will be returned to the President of the American Begonia Society.

A Sweepstakes Cup will be awarded to the individual winning the most points in the show, based on the following:

3 points for each first place.

2 points for each second place.

1 point for each third place.

A Sweepstakes Cup will be awarded to the Branch whose members win the most points in the show, based on the above point system. (San Diego Branch as host club will not be eligible.)

A Plaque will be awarded for the best Commercial exhibit.

A Plaque will be awarded for the best Non-Commercial Group exhibit.

### Rules and Regulations

1. There will be no entry fee.

2. All plants must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least three months prior to the show.

3. Entries in new seedling classes. The cross must have been made by the exhibitor, the names of both parents must be given, and the plant must not have been placed on the market.

4. Begonias used in flower arrangements (Class 41) need not be grown by the exhibitors.

5. Any person, other than those who propagate, grow or sell plants for profit, may make as many entries as desired.

6. All entries must be made according to schedule, by class.

7. All entries must be in place ready for judging by 11:00 a.m. on August 31st,

1946. Entries received after 11:00 a.m. will not be judged, but may be exhibited with the entry card marked "Not in Competition."

8. All exhibitors will report to the show headquarters and make out an entry card for each exhibit, which will be placed in a sealed envelope at the time of placing the exhibit, allowing same to remain sealed until after the judging. No other card or label will be permitted.

9. Botanical name, common name and variety of each Begonia should be given if possible. Errors in naming will not disqualify, but the judges will recognize correctness of naming as telling in favor of an exhibit in a close competition.

10. Premiums will not be awarded unless the exhibit is considered sufficiently meritorious by the judges.

11. The decision of the judges shall be final.

12. No exhibit shall be removed until the close of the show unless the exhibitor resides outside of San Diego County, in which case the exhibit may be removed (if necessary) at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 31st, 1946.

13. All entries must be removed at 6:00 p.m. on September 1st, 1946.

14. All exhibits are, from the commencement to the close of the show, in charge of the exhibition committee.

15. While the committee will exercise due caution and care in safeguarding exhibits, it cannot assume responsibility for injury or loss.

16. Each person who becomes an exhibitor thereby agrees to conform to such rules and regulations as the exhibition committee may make or authorize.

### Fibrous Begonia Specimens

	Points
Cultural perfection .....	50
Foliage .....	15
Difficulty of cultivation .....	15
Quantity and quality of flowers .....	15
Correct and suitable labeling .....	5
	<hr/>
	100

### Rex Begonia Specimens

	Points
Cultural perfection .....	50
Form .....	15
Distinctiveness .....	15
Size of plant .....	10
Rarity .....	10
	<hr/>
	100

(Continued on Next Page)

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### GARDEN TOURS ENJOYED

● *The Hollywood Branch* Summer Picnic was held at the regular meeting place which made it very enjoyable for those who could attend. Mr. Cocke and the President, Mrs. Pedgrift, arranged a very engrossing game which ought to be indulged in many times a year with benefit. Eighteen letter-size thin boards were marked with their respective numbers and on each card was scotch-taped a tip branch of a different fibrous begonia. Each member passed with a card in hand and marked against the corresponding number the name of the begonia. The winners, of course, are given first and second prizes. More can be done, if desired, in this case. Mrs. Pedgrift had potted some delightful fuchsias in three-inch pots and had some cuttings of bedding semperflorens cultorum for everyone to have one of each.

Following this everyone happily accepted the surprise invitation to see the remodelled garden of the Edward B. Flynn's not far away. This turned out to be more of a surprise than was expected, and more will have to be told about it when space permits. When in town with some time to spare, it might be possible to obtain permission to call and see this delightful tuberous begonia garden.

● *The East Bay Branch* held a picnic last Sunday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Haberland in Walnut Creek. There was a fine attendance and everyone had a good time. The display of tuberous begonias in the glass house which was written up in the June issue of THE BEGONIAN was superb. Besides these he has a beautiful moss wall of rex begonias that is inclosed on three sides under a lath covering. He also has quite a number of fibrous types he grows in his lath house. This growing of begonias is a hobby, because besides this he has a large ranch and about sixty swarms of bees he puts out over the countryside. His main work is re-finishing antique furniture for one of the best furniture stores in San Francisco, where he goes every week-day.

### Schedule of Begonia Show

(Continued from Page 161)

#### Tuberous Begonia Specimens

	Points
Number and size of blooms in proportion to size of plant.....	40
Distinctness and clearness of color.....	15
Healthy foliage .....	15
Erect flowering stem .....	15
Quality of flower .....	15

100

## NOTES FROM GLOXINIA AND SAINT PAULIA ROUND ROBINS

By FRANCES DOWNING, Calera, Ala.

• The most interesting project of these R.R. at the present is growing GLOXINIAS from seed, all are successful in a lesser or greater degree. One member has 200 thrifty, small plants of her own raising.

Different mediums are used for planting the seed, with the majority of members preferring finely sifted sphagnum moss. Some report success with half peat and half sand—while others use only finely sifted garden soil. Those who use sphagnum feel that it prevents damping off of seedlings. A Florida member uses muck with sand for her Gloxinias and Saintpaulias. This gives her a rich, porous soil so essential to these plants. All agree that leaves of *Saintpaulias* root more quickly when placed in an aquarium or in wide-mouthed jars.

In packing leaves to ship for exchange, the following method has been found successful: Wrap the stem of each leaf in wet sphagnum or cotton. Wrap this firmly in wax paper, then wrap the entire leaf in wax paper. Be sure the leaves are packed closely in the box in order that they will not bounce around and be damaged.

A Nebraska member grows 26 varieties of *Saintpaulias* with about the same care as she gives the begonias. This means using Vit. B1 once a week, always with warm rain water from the bottom of the pot. She prefers the hot water bath for ridding the plants of mites by immersing the plant in water kept at 110 degrees F. for 15 minutes. Tin cans are preferred as jardinières as they help keep the soil in the pots moist longer.

For propagating leaves: Holes are punched in the lid of a cottage cheese carton, the names of the varieties of leaves can be easily marked alongside each one and the lid can be placed over a glass of rain water.

An Oregon member supplies moisture around the pots of *Saintpaulias* by keeping the pots in pebble-filled containers with a small amount of water with the pebbles.

Some of her Findings: Direct sun after 11 o'clock in the morning burns the leaves. Browning of leaves is caused by overwatering or improper drainage. If too many leaves are removed from a plant for propagation purposes the plant is apt to suffer.

All members agree that *Gloxinias* must be fed to prevent blasting of buds and falling blossoms.

All agree on the following soil mixture for *Saintpaulias* and *Gloxinias*: 2 parts garden

## LIST OF AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY ROUND ROBINS

Organized and Directed by  
FRANCES DOWNING, Calera, Ala.

African Violets and Gloxinias.  
Basket and Trailing Plants.  
Begonias in General.  
Growing Begonias From Seed.  
Hybridizing Begonias.  
Rhyzomatous Begonias.  
2 Semperflorens Begonias.  
Small-Leaved Begonias.  
Tuberous Begonias.  
Fibrous Begonias.  
Rex Begonias.  
Epiphyllums.  
Fuchsias.  
Gesneria Family.  
Greenhouse Management.  
Herbs—Just started.  
House Plants, including all plants which thrive in the Window Garden.  
Impatiens (Sultana).  
Orchids—Just asked for.  
Pansies, Violets and Violas.  
Pelargoniums.  
Shrubs for Shade—Just asked for.  
Soils.  
Billbergias.  
Caladiums.  
Choice Ferns, with others in the making.  
Write Mrs. Downing if interested.

loam, 2 parts compost, 1 part leafmold and 1 part sand with ½ teaspoon of raw bone-meal in each pot.

Among the other members of the GERNERIACEAE grown by this group are: *Streptocarpus*, *Episcia*, *Isoloma*, *Naegelia*, *Corytholoma* and *Achimenes*. One member has 11 colors of *Achimenes*.

Lists and addresses of dealers are enclosed in the Robin letters and reports on reliability of same are given.

Articles clipped from magazines and papers are included in the Robin letters as are photographs of the member's plants. Enclosure of such pictures are always interesting and inspiring. All members were excited and pleased with the articles on Gloxinias in recent issues of THE BEGONIAN.

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# MAMMOTH BEGONIAS RAISED BY A NOVICE

By LILLIAN ASHE, Secretary, San Francisco Branch, California

• At the July meeting of the San Francisco Branch, one of the members, Mr. Paul Bassett, surprised everyone by displaying two Tuberous Begonia plants with flowers exceeding 8 inches in diameter. While the plants were of usual height, their stalks were 2½ inches across with leaves and stems considerably larger than normal size. The astonished members insisted on visiting Mr. Bassett's garden the following Sunday, while the Begonias were in full bloom, to see for themselves these extraordinary plants and to learn the secret of his success.

Mr. Bassett became interested in raising Begonias only last year, when he planted a few seedlings in the ground. This year he decided to grow Begonias in a more conventional manner. Over an indentation in his garden which he lined with cobblestones, he built a steel frame glass house with ribbed glass and a gabled roof. The sunken base of the house extends about 5 feet below the surface, the outside height being about 14 feet. Next, he built in the sunken base several stepped-up benches 14 inches wide and 14 inches apart, thus permitting sufficient room for each plant. The average temperature in the base, protected by the stone lining, is approximately 20° lower than that in the upper part; this constant difference in temperature tends to create a high humidity in the sunken pit. With the assistance of a fellow member, Mr. Bassett prepared a soil mixture consisting of Rat's Nest leafmold and

Fish Meal, with liquid manure added later. Then for the first time he planted in pots the seedlings and a few slips discarded by a friend. Evidently, the unusual high humidity prevailing in the base of the glass house combined with a rich soil mixture "forced" the flowers to attain such unusual size. Another extraordinary feature of Mr. Bassett's Begonias is the fact that besides the enormous size, some of his plants have from two to four male flowers and only one female on a stem. Several of his plants while not exceeding a foot in height still bore eight-inch blooms. In order to prevent the heavy flowers from breaking the plant, he was compelled to support them with additional stakes and wires. Even his Rosebud Begonias looked like a double Camelia type, attaining eight-inch size.

Thus, a man growing Begonias only for the second season surprised both amateur and professional growers of many years' experience with his unusual flowers. Unfortunately, it is impossible at present to submit pictures illustrating these rare specimens, but it is hoped that they will be ready for the next issue. It would be very interesting to learn if any other growers have succeeded in raising flowers of similar size and if possible, what conditions are required to attain such results.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to a discussion on Construction of Lath Houses. Among other speakers, Mr. Fred Watt of the Bungalow Nursery, who has had extensive experience in building lath houses, suggested that it is more practical and economical in the long run, to enclose the sides with glass. The top should be flat as the wind penetrates a pitched roof. The distance between the laths on the roof should be smaller than the width of a lath. If laths are used in building the walls, they should be placed horizontally and vertically, as criss-cross style prevents the sunlight from penetrating. The lath house should be at least 10 feet high and built in the center or in the back of the garden so as to secure as much benefit from the sun as possible. The benches must be built in such a manner that each plant has sufficient room. It is preferable to use brick or gravel for the floors.

All the members are looking forward to meeting Mr. Hart, who promised to accompany them on their trip to Vetterle & Reinelt's Begonia Gardens at Capitola on Sunday, July 14th. After the visit to the Gardens a picnic will be held at the Palisades.

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## Round Robin News For August

By FRANCES DOWNING, Calera, Ala.

• These Robins have been asked for by our correspondents: Orchids, Herbs, Scented Geraniums, Shrubs for Shade, House Plants, also Terrarium and Dish Garden with Miniature Plants and culture.

As the Advanced Gloxinia and African Violet Robins grow many members of the Gesneria family (including Achimenes' Naegelia, Streptocarpus, Gesneria, Episcia, Isoloma, Corytholoma, etc.), the name of this club has been changed to The Gesneria Family R.R.

Reports from the Directors of the R.R.s indicate that the clubs are running smoothly, with most members being considerate about getting the letters off in the prescribed FOUR DAYS. One Robin member writes: "I received my first Robin letters today. I never dreamed they could contain so much real plant knowledge! Each member is interesting and likeable. I must belong to more of these clubs. Is there any limit to the number one may join?"

Membership in the Robin Clubs is not limited. Join as many as you have time to do the hobby justice. A hastily written letter or one not containing valuable information has no place in the Round Robin mail.

The Small Leaved Begonia R.R. has started its first flight. This one grew quickly and I feel it will be very popular.

Is there any particular Robin THE BEGONIAN readers would like to see formed? If so, write to me about it. I shall be glad to hear from you.

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## THE DIRECTOR'S ROUND ROBIN

By BESSIE R. BUXTON, Director of D. R. R., Peabody, Massachusetts

• Propagation is always under discussion with our members. Many plants are successfully propagated from a single leaf, and a Minnesota member has propagated *B. ricinifolia* in a different way. She set the leaf in water in a half-pint bottle. In about six weeks a plant formed at the base of the stem. This was cut off and planted in soil, and the mother leaf and stem put back in the bottle. In time, another plant developed on the stem and this, too, was potted. Later a third plant was formed and the mother leaf then dried up, having produced three offspring. The first plant was very slow in developing the true leaves. At least thirty round leaves grew first, but after a long wait, the true *ricinifolia* leaves appeared. A North Carolina member rooted leaves of *B. rubella* in a gallon jar with a few inches of soil inside. Making a slight depression in the soil, she laid the leaf over it and sprinkled a little soil in the center of the leaf. In a month's time the young leaves were starting.

A tip cutting of *B. Engleri* will rarely root. Try a side shoot, in the spring, and you will have better success. *B. Lucendo* is also reported difficult to root, and we all know that *B. venosa* and *B. peltata* are difficult. As they are so much like succulents in texture, the sand should be less moist than for other varieties. The cutting is set in a glass in a small amount of water and covered with a glass. Add one teaspoonful of soil daily until the water is entirely absorbed. When the roots are well developed, slip the little plant carefully out of the glass and set in a pot of soil without root disturbance.

One of our California members disagrees vigorously with a grower who washes all sand

from the roots of her cuttings before potting, and most of us agree with him. It would be interesting to know her reasons for doing this. Perhaps the sand in her locality has qualities which are not good for young plants. In that case, why not use some other rooting medium? He tells us of trying Vermiculite, but gets no quicker results than by using a mixture of sand and peat. The Vermiculite has been used with half sand, also with one third sand and one third peat. The latter mixture is the best, but the results are no quicker.

At this time of year, many seeds are being planted in many ways. Bottom heat is the secret of good germination. One member used a tin wash boiler, laid on its side, with a two-hole tin stove-top inside. This held two small wooden seed boxes, and beneath was a 40-watt electric light. With the boiler lid in place, the small thermometer inside registered between 50° and 60° constantly. An inch of small stones covered the bottom of the seed box, which was then filled with coarse leaf mold to within an inch of the top. The top layer of soil was about one-eighth inch sifted leaf mold, well moistened in advance. It may be sprinkled lightly if not moist enough, but not soaked from the bottom as it packs the soil too much. Sprinkle the seed lightly over the soil, and cut a paper to fit over the top. Cover the box with glass, which should be turned each day. If the soil looks dry, sprinkle the sheet of paper. In little more than a week the seeds germinated, the paper was removed, also the boiler lid, to admit light. The seedlings were sprinkled daily with a fine clothes sprinkler. When they were good sized, the seed boxes were removed to the inside of a wooden box with the light beneath and a glass

(Continued on Page 167)

### FLOWER SHOW CALENDAR

#### AUGUST 5th, 1946: 7:30 P.M.

Joint Meeting S. C. Horticultural Institute staged by THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCHES. Rodger Young Auditorium, 936 W. Washington Ave., Los Angeles, California. R. "Scotty" Hudson, speaker.

#### AUGUST 10th and 11th, 1946: Open Invitation.

Floral Exhibit by the Southern Alameda County Begonia Branch. Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Hayward, California. Sponsored by Post 1882, of Hayward.

#### AUGUST 21st and 22nd, 1946:

San Francisco Flower Show, City Hall Rotunda, San Francisco. S. F. Begonia Soc., with Rose, Cactus and Succulents, Dahlia and Fuchsia Societies.

#### AUGUST 31st and SEPTEMBER 1st, 1946:

SEVENTH ANNUAL A. B. S. Begonia and Shade-Plant Show. Presidio Park, San Diego, California. (A.B.S. 13th Annual Convention.)

## SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER SHOW

• The San Francisco Flower Show will be held in the City Hall Rotunda on August 21-22.

This year the show is expected to be especially attractive as it is sponsored by five Flower Societies, i.e., The Dahlia Society of California, the S. F. Rose Society, the S. F. Branch of Cactus and Succulent Society of America, the S. F. Branch of the American Fuchsia Society and the S. F. Branch of the American Begonia Society. The members of our branch contemplate to have an outstanding exhibit as there will be eleven entries for beginners, twenty-eight for amateurs and seven for Commercial growers.

## THE DIRECTOR'S ROUND ROBIN

(Continued from Page 166)

over the top, raised a trifle at each end for ventilation. When the second leaf developed they were transplanted to a flat in similar soil to that in the seed box. They still were kept in the same place with bottom heat, but the glass was removed daily for a short time. For the next transplanting, the leaf mold was unsifted, and a little sand and peat added. The electric light was still used at night, but the glass over the top was discontinued. In three months after seed planting the plants were large enough to set outside in a muslin covered bed. (To Be Continued)

## BEGONIA PINK SHASTA

(Continued from Page 156)

is the same, its color scheme is quite different from that of the earlier begonia. The flower stem is light green, becoming a little pinker at each branching. In bud the flowers are all bright salmon-pink hearts. The central male flower of each branch has an inch-long stemlet of white. As the bloom expands the color is diluted until it is only a flesh tint at the edges, like an apple blossom. The two larger petals measure  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches from tip to tip as against  $1\frac{1}{4}$  for Pink Rubra, and have more of a flare. The two inside petals are entirely white, but otherwise the same. The stamen brush is smaller. The stipules over the flowers of Pink Shasta are longer and lighter than its pinker relative and curve back on each side.

Both grandmother and granddaughter are choice begonias of the aristocratic *B. coccinea* family. The gay color of Pink Rubra gives you the feeling of a strawberry festival on a warm summer day, while Pink Shasta has the coolness and simplicity of a picnic by a mountain stream. A time and a place for each, don't you think?

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**CONDENSED MINUTES NATIONAL BOARD, A.B.S.,  
HELD JUNE 24th, 1946, IN THE MODEL  
LIBRARY, L. A. PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Meeting called to order at 7:30, President Hart presiding.

Board members present: Hart, Lawrence, Hawkins, Nelson, Dere, Wilkes, Hartwell.

Minutes meeting May 27th, 1946, read and approved.

Reports of Business Manager and Editor Wilkes, Treasurer Hawkins, Membership Fees Chairman Dere read, and on motion approved as read and ordered filed as part of the minutes.

Bills oked and ordered paid.

Mr. Lawrence called attention to the joint meeting with the Horticultural Society to be held the first Monday in August. The Horticultural Society has found it necessary to change their meeting place, so watch your *BEGONIAN* closely for the new address; Representative Directors were also asked to inform themselves as soon as the address was available and to see that their respective branches had this information. Members were urged to get their choice plants in top shape to enter.

Committee composed of Mr. Lawrence (Chairman), Mr. Nelson and Mr. Hall, appointed to contact Honorary Directors and Honorary Vice Presidents and see if they are willing to serve again and have the report ready for the annual meeting.

President reported he had late word that Mrs. Drummond was improving but still unable to attend the meetings.

Florence Carrell, Seed Fund Chairman, sent in a very interesting report of her office and outlined further plans for obtaining new seeds, in part to wit:

"Everyone is so delighted with the seeds I have sent out; many are sending for more seed. Have had lots of requests for seed from new folks also, and I do need to get some money ahead in case the collectors in Columbia get seeds of those 57 species and 3 allied genera of begonias for us, besides the new ones they hope to find. . . . Give the Board my regards and tell them I'm doing all I can to make lots of happy begonia fans."

Librarian Mrs. Crowder unable to be present.

Editor instructed to secure new supply of letterheads as per bid submitted.

Editor reported on the splendid work Mrs. Frances Downing is doing with the *ROUND ROBINS*; offered to prepare, and submit for approval, a leaflet concerning this section. Editor instructed to keep Mrs. Downing supplied with stationery and stamps and render any assistance she could.

Editor brought up for discussion the subject of "trial begonia growing" throughout the U. S. and then publishing reports of the experiment, as a means of creating more interest in begonia growing. Due to lack of time, this was laid on the table for future consideration.

Mr. Geo. Johnson, Chairman Nominating Committee for the annual election read the following report:

For President Elect: Mr. Dewar, Mrs. Drummond.

For Treasurer: Frank E. Clark, W. E. Walton.

Director for 3 years: Mr. Coche, Mr. Hugh Hixon.

Signed: Geo. Johnson, Chairman.

George Barber.

Mrs. Jane Stocklassa.

Motion by Hawkins "That the report be accepted." Second, Mrs. Wilkes. **CARRIED.**

Nominating Committee thanked for their work, and dismissed.

Editor presented outline for the use of colored slides on a loan basis, to tie in with speaker's bureau, as several members have slides which they would be willing to use under such arrangement. This was warmly received, but for lack of time nothing definite was decided on. This to be brought up at a later date.

Motion made to purchase filing cabinet, and other office supplies for use of Membership Fees Chairman Mr. Dere.

**REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Mr. Walton (Inglewood): We had a very good meeting and a most interesting speaker—Maria

Wilkes—who gave a most informative talk on Herbs and Their Uses.

Mrs. Heth (Foothill): Nothing special to report; still getting along nicely and still new members coming in. Next meeting will be a pot-luck dinner in the Park.

Mrs. Hylton (Orange County): In Orange County we had a Flower Show so our Begonia Society put in a display; we had some competition but we won first prize; added some money to our treasury; we are getting new members; and our membership list is getting straightened out due to the efforts of Mr. Dere.

Mrs. Bayer (Glendale): We are having our meeting tomorrow night. We invite any of you to come. Interest keeping up. Our next meeting we will study Epiphyllums. We have sent \$50.00 to the Convention Fund—in San Diego, Calif.

Mr. Coche (Hollywood): Mr. Olson was our last speaker. Our annual Pot-Luck Picnic at our next meeting Thursday evening, July 11th, at Plummer Park. We hope to see most of you there.

Mr. Bailey (Pasadena): Good meeting last time. Sent \$30.00 to the San Diego Convention.

Mr. Lansdown (San Gabriel Valley): We sent \$50.00 to the S. D. Convention; have 164 members in our branch; have good speakers and interest seems good.

Library closing time made adjournment necessary. Respectfully submitted,

GONDA HARTWELL, Corres. Sec.

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# Meeting Dates and Places

The next meeting of the American Begonia Society Board will take place in San Diego, Presidio Park,

2 P.M., August 31st., 1946. Open to all.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, August 1st

Farm Bureau Hall, 353 So. Main St., Orange.  
Mrs. E. K. Burdick, Sec.-Treas., Rt. 4, Box 296,  
Anaheim, Calif.

## FOOTHILL BRANCH

Friday, August 2nd, 8 p.m.

Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa:  
Mrs. James M. Reid, Secretary  
643 No. Wabash Ave., Glendora, Calif.

## THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

Tuesday, August 6th, 7:30 p.m.

Alice Bartlett C. H. 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.  
Mrs. Harry Meyer, Secretary, 111 Leighton Dr.

## BELLFLOWER BRANCH

Wednesday, August 7th, 7:30 p.m.

V. F. W., 250 Park St., Bellflower, Calif.  
Mrs. Ardel Radle, 920 Flower St., Bellflower

## SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, August 7th, 7:45 p.m.

American Legion Hall, 1641 Taraval St.  
Secretary, Mrs. Walter Ashe, 1855 - 33rd Ave.,  
San Francisco, Calif.

## INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, August 8th, 8 p.m.

325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.  
Mrs. Mildred Dressel, Secretary  
432 W. Fairview, Inglewood, Calif.

## HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, August 8th, 7:30 p.m.

Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.,  
Mrs. Roslyn Duval, Secretary  
843 N. Sierra Bonita, Los Angeles, Calif.

## SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

Thursday, August 8th, 2-4 p.m.

Neighborhood House, 800 Santa Barbara St.,  
Santa Barbara, Calif.  
Mrs. Stanley Pateman, Sec.-Treas.  
P. O. Box 17, Goleta, Calif.

## CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS BRANCH

Friday, August 9th, 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Esther L. Randall, Sec., 3638 Cerritos Ave.  
Long Beach 7, Calif.

## SEQUOIA BRANCH

Friday, August 9th, 7:30 p.m.

Members' Homes.  
Mrs. Albert Lowery, Secretary,  
620 W. Grove St., Visalia, Calif.

## LA MESA BRANCH

Monday, Aug. 12th, 7:30 p.m.

La Mesa Grammar School, La Mesa, Calif.  
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Joseph Christofferson  
4491 Culbertson St., La Mesa, Calif.

## NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Monday, August 12th, 8 p.m.

42 East Market St., North Long Beach, Calif.  
Miss Gladys Bullard, Secretary,  
2651 Easy St., Long Beach, Calif.

## LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

Tuesday, August 13th, 7:30 p.m.

Mary Hotelling, Sec.-Treas.  
324A Temple Ave., Long Beach 4, Calif.

## PASADENA BRANCH

Tuesday, August 13th, 7:30 p.m.

Pasadena Public Library  
Lester F. Harrell, Sec.-Treas.  
668 Bellefontaine St., Pasadena, Calif.

## RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Tuesday, August 13th, 8 p.m.

Mrs. Helen Hansen, Sec.-Treas.  
9375 Magnolia, Arlington, Calif.

## SO. ALAMEDA CO. BRANCH

Thursday, August 15th, 8 p.m.

Scout Room, Markham School, Hayward, Calif.  
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss  
26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.

## PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Irregular Meetings

May T. Drew, Pres.  
Box 331, Narbeth, Pa.

## EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Tuesday, August 20th,

Tillie Genter, Sec.-Treas.  
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

## ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

Friday, August 23rd, 7:30 p.m.

Hall, Point Loma Community Church  
Udal Street at Poinsettia Dr., San Diego, Calif.  
Mrs. J. J. Howarth, Secretary,  
4319 Del Mar Ave., San Diego 7, Calif.

## SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Friday, August 23rd, 8:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall  
720 N. First Ave., Arcadia, Calif.  
Mrs. Myrtle Jones, Secretary  
132 May Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

## SANTA MARIA BRANCH

Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Peter Mehlschau  
Nipomo, Calif.

## NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Norman Hedley,  
71 Willard Terrace, Stamford, Conn.

## SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, August 26th

Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave.  
Mrs. A. P. Carlton, Sec.-Treas.  
624 Arroyo Dr., San Diego 1, Calif.

## WHITTIER BRANCH

Tuesday, August 27th, 7:30 p.m.

Union High School, Room 19,  
Lindley Ave. entrance, Whittier, Calif.  
Madeleine Hall, Secretary,  
509 Friends Ave., Whittier, Calif.

## EAST BAY BRANCH

Tuesday, August 27th, 8 p.m.

Council Chambers, Berkeley City Hall  
Dick G. Goodnow, Secretary,  
2519 Milvia St., Berkeley 4, Calif.

## MARGARET GRUENBAUM BRANCH

Mrs. W. E. Jones, Sec., Willow Grove, Pa.

## GLENDALE BRANCH

Tuesday, August 27th, 7:30 p.m.

329 No. Brand Blvd., Glendale, Calif.  
Mrs. Helen Grigsby, Secretary  
958 E. Mountain, Glendale 7, Calif.

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