

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens

FLOWER SHOWS OF INCALCULABLE IMPORTANCE . . .	130, 142
By The Editor	
THE SEVENTH BEGONIA SHOW AT THIRTEENTH A.B.S. ANNUAL CONVENTION	131
By Helen R. Bailey Flower Show Chairman	
PRE-CONVENTION NOTES	131
By Mrs. Clarence E. Moore, Publicity Chairman	
A NOTE TO THE ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS	132
By Mrs. E. Carrell	
THE A.B.S. PROGRAM AT THE SO. CALIF. HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTE	133
By George Lawrence, Pres. Elect.	
JUST A BREEZE FROM NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	133
By Roy K. Dere	
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH MEETING AT REDLANDS "DO YOU KNOW YOUR GARDEN?" PHOTO REDLANDS	134
CAMERA SHOP	135
By H. M. Washburn	
BEGONIA LOBULATA WITH SKETCH	135, 137
By Alice M. Clark	
SO. ALAMEDA FLOWER SHOW, HAYWARD, CALIF.	138
By Dorothy Bayliss	
JULY HINTS	138
By Florence Carrell	
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS	140
By T. John Parker	
FUCHSIAS AT HEIGHT OF GLORY	141
By Oliver Kehrlein	
FUCHSIA NIGHT, TRAINING OF STANDARDS	142, 143
By Lillian Ashe	
ROUND-ROBIN NEWS FOR JULY	144
By Frances Downing	
FLOWER SHOW DATES	144
SEEDS OTHER THAN BEGONIAS . . . SEED FUND SPECIAL	145
TUBEROUS BEGONIAS AS ANNUALS	145
HOLLYWOOD PIC-NIC . . . POT-LUCK INVITATION	145
A.B.S. MINUTES	146
MEETING DATES AND PLACES	147

The BEGONIAN

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FLOWER SHOWS OF INCALCULABLE IMPORTANCE

● It will be seen in this issue we have FOUR FLOWER SHOWS in the offing. We have had letters this year inquiring for addresses of other Begonia lovers and growers through the United States by those who are traveling and have the desire to meet kindred spirits. We suggest that when the suitcase is packed the last BEGONIAN be included. When reaching the home town of any advertiser or Secretary of a Branch, it will be simple to make direct contacts with these plant-loving friends.

Attending the flower shows of which we are given dates and addresses for publication is a splendid opportunity to see what others are doing and making friends of them, too.

A great number of our members are not near Branch-Societies or enough other people to enable them to create Branches of their own. Many of these are overcoming

these drawbacks by having exciting exchanges of ideas with others interested in the same type of plant growing through our widely flung ROUND ROBINS of many kinds under the managership of Frances Downing. Instead of shows, these members and friends who also soon become members, exchange pictures along with ideas, leading to good shows in better gardens and house plants of the future, by breeding and growing better plants in wider array.

The City of the Poinsettia and Beautiful Begonias calls you to see what it can do with flowers and vegetables, and incidentally, we hope you see some of the gardens when you attend this show. The Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch and the Chamber of Commerce are the exemplary leaders in this kind of public spirited activity. The So. Alameda County Floral Exhibit will be awaiting your

(Continued on Page 142)

THE SEVENTH A.B.S. BEGONIA SHOW AT 13TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

By HELEN R. BAILEY, Chairman,
Seventh Annual Begonia Show

• When the San Diego Branch of the American Begonia Society was still quite young and small, we began to say "When we have THE CONVENTION in San Diego . . ." This year it is actually coming true. The San Diego Branch is sponsoring the convention on August 31. We selected that date so that the out-of-town members may have the pleasure of the long Labor Day week-end in our city if they wish.

We have secured a very beautiful location in Presidio Park where the Flower Show and the afternoon meeting will be held. Presidio Park is accessible as well as beautiful. It is just a short distance from the point where the coast highway enters the city in Old Town. It can also be reached from the No. 3 car line. As an extra help we expect to have a shuttle bus from the car line to the bus for the convention.

By the time this July issue of THE BEGONIAN is in your hands the secretary of each branch will have received a copy of the complete rules for the Flower Show. With slight variations they are the same as those of the last Begonia Show which may be found in the August, 1944, Begonian. As our site is well adapted to it we expect to add an unclassified section of other shade plants to the show as well as our usual Begonia Show. We also hope to give you some good commercial exhibits of shade plants. And we are holding the Flower Show open on Sunday, September 1, as well as the afternoon of Saturday, August 31, for the benefit of the public. Since the Flower Show is to be held for two days, it has been decided that exhibitors who do not reside in San Diego County may remove their exhibits if necessary at the close of the show for the day on Saturday, August 31. And there will be awards in the unclassified section for outstanding exhibits as well as in the Begonia section of the show. There will be plenty of shade and wind protection for all exhibits and bonded guards will protect the plants at night.

If for some reason a copy of the Flower Show rules is not available to you or you wish a personal copy or any further information, a card to Mrs. Russel T. Bailey, 4535 50th St., San Diego 5, Calif., will bring it to you.

We are looking forward to seeing you on August 31. And we hope you are just as anxious to see us—to meet old friends with the same hobby and to make new ones. And

PRE-CONVENTION NOTES Thirteenth Annual Convention To Be Held in San Diego, Aug. 31 - Sept. 1

By MRS. CLARENCE E. MOORE
Publicity Chairman, San Diego, Calif.

• Picture if you will, misty Acacias Pendula and evergreens in a low row on a gentle slope, at the top of which is the majestic length of a colonnade at right angles to the trees. This setting is in beautiful Presidio Park, one of San Diego's nicest, just over the brow of the high hill overlooking the bay and the Junipero Serra Museum. Small arrows will point the way up this hill, and a shuttle bus will connect with No. 3 car from downtown or East San Diego on the hours that it will be needed.

Mr. R. E. Lee is general chairman of the Thirteenth annual convention and has appointed Mrs. Russel T. Bailey, chairman of the begonia show, and we hope that you will all get back of her and her splendid committee and give her all the plants she wants, and she will want a great many. Probably some of you have trailers to pack precious shade plants in.

Other members of Mr. Lee's committee are: Mrs. Ernest Adams, chairman, and Mrs. A. P. Martin, co-chairman of the decorating and corsage committee; A. E. Johnson, meeting place; J. A. Bovet and Mrs. C. E. Collins, banquet; Dr. C. E. Collins, president of the San Diego branch, will cover hospitality and the convention bureau; E. D. Brooks, advertising, program and printing; H. E. Foley, music and singing; Mrs. A. L. Stone, information bureau; Mrs. R. E. Lee, new member committee; Mrs. Clarence E. Moore and Mrs. Genevieve Bovet, publicity, and Mrs. Clarence E. Moore, banquet reservations. Before you read this, all secretaries will have price lists of hotel accommodations, and under the unusual conditions at present, it is advisable for you to make reservations just as soon as you possibly can. The three-day holiday, including Labor Day, will tax hotels this year.

We want just as many as can possibly come to visit us, and stay as long as you can. With the Eva Kenworthy Gray branch at La Jolla, Alfred D. Robinson branch at Point Loma, the La Mesa branch at La Mesa and the San Diego branch covering the city, National City and Chula Vista, we have many gardens and growers to interest you.

All secretaries will receive banquet reservation slips very soon which in turn should be sent post haste, with remittances to Mrs. Clarence E. Moore, 3664 31st St., San Diego 4, Calif.

be sure to bring some of your beautiful shade plants with you. We want to see your plants, too.

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DISTACHIA. Foliage heavily spotted cream. The tall flower spikes appear very early in the Spring. Bracts rose-pink, flowers green and blue. **50c**

EUPHEMIAE. Dark green foliage covered with bloom similar to the bloom on plums. Bracts bright pink, flowers royal purple. Ideal for hanging basket culture, as it has creeping habit and will shoot out all over the wire basket, making a lovely specimen. **\$2.00**

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A NOTE TO THE ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS

By MRS. E. CARRELL, Fullerton, Calif.

• An expedition started off in June for Colombia to gather Begonia seeds for us. We hear that Dr. Lyman B. Smith of the Gray Herbarium reports that there are 57 known species of Begonias in Colombia besides 3 begoniellas. It sounds as though Colombia should prove a very rich hunting ground for our collecting expedition.

From Bengal, India, we have ordered mixed species of Himalayan Begonias of the Rex type. These should be of great interest to many.

Thanks for the fine response to the call for Amaryllis seed—these have been forwarded to our collector in Puerto Rico who had requested them in exchange for Begonia seed.

Thanks also for the many letters and cards you have been sending us. We are very happy to know that our efforts to secure seeds have been so much appreciated.

All Armchair Explorers get ready to start off soon on another exciting adventure. Next month a call will be made for funds—so get busy and start saving your pennies.

• *The Bellflower Branch Secretary* advises us—tho late—that the club is getting so large that they have difficulty in finding homes large enough to accommodate all members. Therefore, beginning with the July 3rd meeting, they will meet at the V.F.W. Hall at 250 Park Street, Bellflower, Calif. Mark the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of the month for visiting this Branch. The time is 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Haller spoke recently on miscellaneous flowers, and the President, Mrs. Nichols, brought a collection of Fuchsias which she identified for the group. Mrs. Marcus donated a fine flower scrap-book which has inspired others to follow suit.

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**THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Program at the Southern California
Horticulture Institute**

By GEORGE LAWRENCE
Chairman of Flower Shows

• The Southern California Horticulture Institute again has invited The American Begonia Society to provide the program at their August meeting. Mr. R. B. (Scotty) Hudson, proprietor of the Huntington Beach Tuberos Begonia Gardens, will talk on tuberous begonias. Everyone who has seen his begonias at the Hollywood convention, at the Horticulture Institute meeting last August, or at his gardens in Huntington Beach recognizes that Scotty knows how to grow tuberous begonias.

All of our members and friends are invited to attend the meeting and to exhibit their best plant or plants. There will be tables for exhibiting begonia flower arrangements, begonia corsages, the various types of begonias and other shade plants. Tables will be available for any branch or individual who wants to enter an exhibit of shade plants.

The meeting will be held at the Elks Club, 6th Street and Park View Avenue, Los Angeles, at 7:30 p.m., Monday, August 5, 1946.

The plants can be brought in between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. and the meeting will be over by 10:00 p.m. at which time they can be removed.

The joint meeting of the Southern California Horticulture Institute with the American Begonia Society last August was attended by over 800 people. The exhibit was the biggest and finest plant exhibit the Institute had ever had. We are counting on your support again this year to make this meeting a success.

• Our Advertisers say is pays to "Tell It in 'The Begonian'."

**Just a Breeze From Your New
Membership Chairman and
Begonia Mailer**

By ROY K. DERE

National Membership Chairman

• "A new broom sweeps clean"—so the saying goes, but I know it takes some power at the handle, I just found it out. I do not know just where to start telling you what we are up against mailing your BEGONIAN.

I received the plates from our former Mailer then I went to work on sending out the June issue in five hours after receiving the magazines. I then received the records on Friday, June 7th, and on Monday, June 10th, sent out 61 POUNDS of mail including back issues of THE BEGONIAN, Cultural Bulletins, etc., and every day the checking goes on. Up to June 14th found over 357 who were not on the mailing lists, which means checking the membership at large and the Branches. Yesterday checked two and one today finding 51 members not on the mailing list one day and 45 today. Cards, Master List, Discards, 3-month-expired plates, junk, old letters, checks, \$436 of them . . . am having fun. I hope to have the July issue reach many more members. SECRETARIES AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN: Please print the card coming to the National Chairman, date your mail, sign your name and address on all letters—it will help me a lot.

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SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH MEETING OF MAY 19th, 1946, AT REDLANDS

By H. M. WASHBURN, Vice-President, Pasadena, California

• Mrs. Wm. A. Throop and her brother, Mr. Charles Albrecht, opened their home and garden in Redlands to members and friends of the San Gabriel Valley Branch on Sunday, May 19th. A picnic lunch was served and ample opportunity was afforded for an inspection of the gardens and greenhouse. Features of the gardens were numerous beds of Snapdragons in full bloom, each bed a different, distinct color—yellows, pinks, reds, maroons and other lovely colors—3,000 plants in all; beds of Pansies with huge blossoms; Delphiniums seven feet tall; Peonies with beautiful pink blooms seven or eight inches across, and many other beautiful flowers.

In the greenhouse Mr. Albrecht has definitely proven that Rex Begonias can be grown in the arid atmosphere of Redlands, provided proper corrective measures are taken. Over a hundred varieties of Rexes were on display, ranging from small exquisitely colored and formed plants to large specimen plants with huge leaves in many colors and types. Maiden-hair fern in several varieties gave a delicate touch overhead, while Tuberous Begonias in full bloom, Fibrous Begonias of enormous proportions and profusion of blossoms, and numerous Cattleya and Cymbidium Orchids with eight-inch blossoms created a symphony of color and an exotic atmosphere.

Mrs. Throop and Mr. Albrecht were most gracious and generous as hosts. In addition to refreshments, they donated 104 potted Rex Begonias for the plant sale.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Mr. George L. Johnson, President, and after a brief business meeting the group was given the pleasure of a talk by Mr. John T. Parker of the Hollywood Branch. Mr. Parker's presentation was very much in keeping with the surroundings and atmosphere. After an introduction to his subject by way of some poetic quotations, he gave us a most instructive and helpful talk on the subject "Do You Know Your Garden."

Following is a brief resume of some of the points covered in his talk, as remembered by the writer:

"Do You Know Your Garden?"

Most people who are gardeners wonder at this question, but it is a question well worth considering. Technicalities are avoided by many gardeners and are considered as having no part in the pleasures of gardening. Quite the contrary is true.

No life as we know it in the animal or human world, would be possible without

plant life. Plants are the medium for transforming chemical, lifeless matter and energy into living vital substances. The miracle of creating life from dead matter takes place in the chlorophyll of plant leaves. Lifeless chemical matter is there combined with the energy of the sun's rays to produce vitamins, or whatever quality it is that gives life properties to plain chemical substances.

To know and understand the technicalities of plant growth is necessary if one is to be most successful in his efforts to produce a fine garden or grow lovely flowers. Plants have circulating systems that enable them to bring these substances from the soil to the leaves. The process by which this is accomplished is known as Osmosis. When two liquids of different densities are brought together, the one of lesser density tends to flow into the one of greater density. The plant contains liquids in its circulating system, or veins. When the liquids in the soil come in contact with the liquids of the plant, through the root system, there is an exchange of liquids from the soil to the plant, if the plant is healthy and in proper condition to maintain the high density liquids necessary to this process. Elements for food building are carried along and eventually delivered to the leaves for transformation.

If, however, the liquids in the soil are so loaded with food-making material as to be denser than the liquid in the plant's system, the process is just reversed, and the plant is damaged or destroyed—due solely to the presence of too much food-making material in the soil around the roots. Therefore, it follows that a little fertilizer applied often is far superior to a lot of fertilizer applied at infrequent intervals.

In addition to breathing and taking in energy from the sun's rays through their leaves, plants also feed through their leaves directly. Many plants, including practically all shade-loving plants, demand some moisture in the air to facilitate this function. It has been definitely proven that feeding of plants directly through their leaves by spraying on food can be beneficial to the plant. A formula which was used with complete success on a huge elm tree in New England to save it from destruction when it was moved in midsummer, is here given:

Use 2 lbs. of ammonium phosphate, 2 lbs. of calcium nitrate, 1 lb. of potassium nitrate in 100 gallons of water, or in this proportion for any quantity desired.

(Cont'd Page 135)



Chas. Albrecht

Spray this solution on the leaves and also use in ground, feeding with auger holes to put the food right down near the roots. All-most immediate effects of such treatment are

Anna Throop

apparent, even to the unpracticed eye. Likwid-Gro fertilizer may be used to good advantage in the same manner. Its sticky substances cause it to cling to the leaves, with the result

the leaves are able to feed upon it, even after several waterings.

Photo by Reilands Camera Shop.
(To Be Continued)

Begonia Lobulata

By ALICE M. CLARK, San Diego, California

• This begonia is a great favorite in California where it is generally known as *B. vitifolia*. Plants raised from seed collected in Chiapas, Mexico, in 1935, by T. MacDougall were identified by the New York Botanical Garden as the species, *lobulata*. In Mrs. Buxton's new edition of *BEGONIAS*, it is described under that name. She also mentions species from Brazil and Mexico, both called *vitifolia*. The South American has white flowers and the other has tight buds of pale pink, both unlike my sketch. Curtis' Botanical Magazine shows *B. reniformis*, much like our *Dichotoma*, which Bailey seems to think is *vitifolia*. Chevalier does not list *lobulata* but describes a *vitifolia*, Schott. with velvety green leaves and flowers of four petals, which is definitely unlike the plant we are discussing. Mrs. Buxton says an entirely different *B. vitifolia* is set forth by Lindley, but does not mention in what respect it diverges, so it may correspond to this month's selection.

These begonias all have points of similarity so it is easy to see how the wrong name could have been selected. Only ten years have elapsed since *B. lobulata* has been in circulation so it should not be difficult to learn to use the correct designation.

The main stalks of *lobulata* are erect with several stems from the ground but seldom more than one branch. The new shoots are green with the nodes about 3 inches apart at the base, closer at the tip. There are such definite circles at the intersections that one is reminded of bamboo. Clear white pores are scattered all over the surface but most noticeable near the top. There they look like white threads stitching the sections together.

The leaf emerges from two of the firmest stipules I have ever noticed among begonias. The green keels feel as though reinforced with whalebone. When dried they make not unattractive light-brown, papery curls, which

soon fall off. When the young leaf begins to unfold it is as carefully pleated as if put up by an expert parachute packer. The back side of the leaf glistens with white hairs which soon turn a brownish red. They are even more conspicuous feathering the red edge of the top leaf margin.

A red fuzz dulls the 4-inch green petiole supporting the leaf of *lobulata*. A bright, smooth surface, somewhat puckered between the veins, catches many highlights. The veins are depressed, green, with some red dashes at intersections and red accents at the sinus. On the reverse side the veins are pale and raised. The whole lower part is covered by a fine red wool that becomes almost a red flush as the leaf grows older. The leaves are alternate on the stem and curved to an indented over-lapping center on the side. There are 4 to 5 irregular, shallow lobes, some more pointed than others. The largest leaf of my sketch is 4x5 inches. It tends to assume a horizontal position. This plant is 20 inches high, but it may be taller.

As is usual with some varieties of begonias, the foliage of *lobulata* is not as plentiful when it is blooming. The sketch was made in May, almost at the end of its flowering season, and now, in June, new leaves are beginning to break out at each bare node so it will be more completely clothed in summer.

The flowers are supported on 4-inch red peduncles that are much branched, in short sections, giving the full flower cluster a round head, quite different from most begonias. The male bloom is small, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. It is composed of 2 pale pink petals, oval in shape, with a full golden stamen center. These soon fall, leaving the female blossoms. They have 2, sometimes a tiny third petal, also blush pink, and 3 pairs of simple untwisted stigma. The ovary is small and thick but one large rounded wing extends the size to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. As the seed-pods grow they turn from light pink to green, recalling the same habit in a round hydrangea cluster. The seed seems to develop well so it should be good for hybridizing.

The attractive, shining green leaves of *Lobulata* resemble *Odorata alba* in color but not in pattern. It makes a good companion plant for the latter as the distinctive globular flower heads bloom much earlier. If you want a new but hardy begonia, try this interesting, easy-to-care-for Mexican species.

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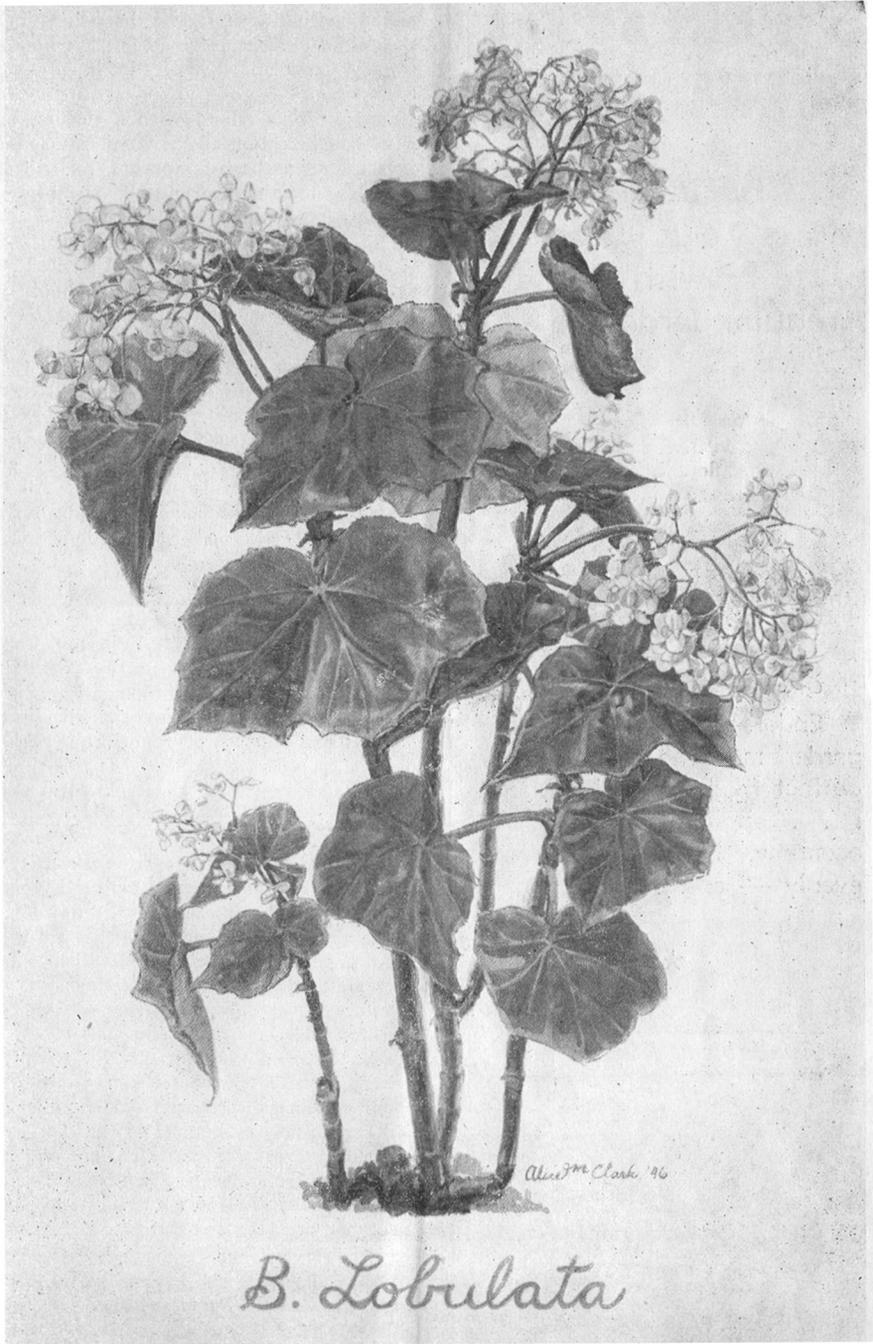
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Southern Alameda County Branch

By DOROTHY BAYLISS, Hayward, Calif.

● At the April meeting the membership accepted, with sincere regret, the resignation of the Vice-President, Mr. Joseph W. Stephenson. A landscape designer, he is enrolled in San Francisco for a special architectural seminar. This, along with a rushing business, will keep him absent from regular meetings for a number of months. He will continue his membership and the members will be most happy when he can be with us again. At the May meeting Mr. A. L. Parrish was elected to fill the vacancy of Vice-President.

This new branch is going ahead with plans for a non-competitive Floral Exhibit to be held in Hayward, Calif., on Aug. 3rd and 4th. Several garden clubs have been invited to join in the display and with the interest being shown it is sure to be a success.

Dr. R. S. French of the Calif. Blind School in Berkeley, Calif., will be guest speaker at the July 18th meeting. All persons interested in hearing this tuberous begonia expert talk on his pet hobby are invited to visit the meeting.

JULY HINTS

By FLORENCE CARRELL, Fullerton, Calif.

● A good time to commence feeding Tuberous Begonias is when the blossoms are showing, being careful not to over fertilize.

Start new cuttings of your fibrous begonias now, they will grow quickly at this time of season, and soon make as large a plant as the parent.

Rex begonias should all be repotted by now, make leaf cuttings from those leaves trimmed off. Try Atlas Fertilizer Emulsion to bring out color in your Rex Begonias. Keep roots moist at all times, a good mulch of peat-moss on the top of the ground will help hold moisture. More frequent waterings are now necessary as the days are getting lots warmer, morning waterings are best at most times, but when we have a very hot dry day the plants will appreciate some water in the late afternoon. Wash the leaves off, our Begonias like to have clean faces, too. Remove excess seed pods but leave a few to ripen seed and perpetuate the types you like best.

Keep putting out bait for slugs and snails, and spray regularly for thrips.

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JULY 26, 27, 28



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Questions and Answers

By T. J. PARKER

Q. What to do with lanky, soft-stemmed
Begonias?

A. A lanky, soft-stemmed Begonia, or any herbaceous perennial is an indication of one or several factors, viz., too little light or too much nitrogen or both. Prevention is always preferable to a cure. The cure is of course to give strict attention to location. A little more filtered light is of more importance than too much shade. Drafts must be avoided or corrected. Cut your plant back and when new growth starts and has advanced to reasonable height, start pinching out the center not only of the main stem but also of the laterals forcing each branch to throw out more laterals.

If excess nitrogen is indicated stouter stems may be encouraged by the application of a little superphosphate and muriate or sulphate of potash.

Q. Do different Begonias excepting semi-tuberos have different periods of dormancy?

A. Yes. Some South Africans and Socotrana types rest during the summer. A good many require partial rest following the period of bloom and some continue growth the year round. It must be remembered that Begonias originate from many quarters of the globe and their native state may have the exact reverse of seasons to the seasons into which they have been transported. Consequently a little research into the origin of your plant will repay dividends.

Q. Is there any particular type of tuberos Begonia (not semi-tuberos) easier to grow than another type?

A. No, I do not think so. All tubers require certain conditions. Immediately the tuber shows indications of new growth, they should be so placed that top growth is discouraged while root growth is encouraged, this is achieved by placing the tubers in a growing medium and away from strong light and in a cool temperature.

Q. Is tobacco dust harmful to Begonias when mixed with the soil for potting?

A. No. Unless used in excessive quantities. Remember a little less is always better than a little too much. Plants when in pots must be treated with more consideration to the effects of accumulated salts after each watering especially after re-potting when the pot is not filled with plant roots. Tobacco dust is a good disinfectant and pest repellent, it also contains some nitrogen and potash.

● *Because of lack of space we have to hold over good material. Get that New Member.*

FUCHSIAS AT HEIGHT OF THEIR GLORY

By OLIVER KEHRLEIN, Author of
Fuchsia, Ballerina of the Garden

• With fuchsias now at the peak of their glorious display, our job is to help them maintain the fullness and richness of their crown of foliage and blooms. The plants are producing heavily and drawing on their reserve of stored-up starches, hormones and tissue-building minerals. They need our help and will respond lavishly to everything we do for them.

Hot weather and drying winds are desiccating their soft leaves and tender petals, so we must keep up our regular irrigations and syringings without letup. On hot days, sprinkle the bushes morning and evening, wet down the beds, paths and surrounding structures. Soak the mulch around their bases thoroughly, to keep the roots cool and to provide that necessary halo of humid atmosphere around their crowns. One hot wind, or one day of neglect, will set them back badly, causing the leaves to wilt and the flowers to drop. With pot-plants and hangers, excessive evaporation demands even more frequent and thorough waterings. Moss forming on the top of the soil indicates hyperacidity or poor drainage and both must be corrected.

This is the time when we give our fuchsias their second mulching of rotted manure. Work it in lightly, but do not cultivate deeply, lest you damage the surface feeding rootlets. Continue weekly feedings of liquid fertilizer. Most experts no longer rely on manure water, as the plant needs the other nutrient elements, which are lacking in this form of food. End-tip growth is no longer active and the hormone production has been reduced, so we should feed them, now more than ever, with a plant food which contains all of the soil elements and the stimulating hormones.

Pick as many blossoms as possible, for the more that are picked the more flowers will form. And above all prevent seed pods from forming by removing all wilting flowers, as this natural process will drain heavily on the plant's dwindling resources. Rotate pots and tubs frequently to keep the growth even all around and blossoming on all sides. Those specimens which are exposed to the mid-day sun, should be shaded or shifted to a shady location.

Prune and pinch where necessary to maintain the shape of the shrub and to prevent it encroaching on the adjacent paths or the neighboring plants. Prevent overcrowding by spreading or shifting potted plants, or by breaking off overlapping branches. Fuchsias

(Continued on Page 142)

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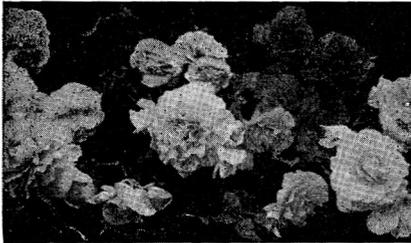
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"FUCHSIA NIGHT"

Training Standard Fuchsias

By LILLIAN ASHE, Secretary,
San Francisco Branch, Calif.

• The last meeting of the S. F. Branch held on Wednesday, June 5th, was devoted to fellow members of the S. F. Branch of the American Fuchsia Society. "Fuchsia Night" turned out to be a huge success as many of their members were present, including Mr. Victor Reiter and Mr. Gus Niederholzer, the well-known fuchsia hybridizers.

A lively discussion on various aspects of successful growing of Standard Fuchsias was held between Mr. Ted Paskesen, past-president, and Mr. Arthur Mann, vice-president. Mr. Mann prefers to take cuttings in February and March so as to promote earlier growth of plants, thus enabling the standards to reach the height of 5 to 6 ft.; however, this is possible because his garden is in a better protected locale. Mr. Paskesen prefers taking his cuttings in May as his garden is in a

FLOWER SHOW IMPORTANCE

(Continued from Page 130)

praise as you go through Hayward in Northern California.

The So. Calif. Horticultural Institute has become the mecca of all flower lovers of all kinds on the first Monday of the month, but on August 5th, it will be another gala night as it was last year, really worth while coming miles to see the show put on by Us Begonians and hear "Scotty" tell how he raises his prize-winning Tuberous Begonias.

And last, but not least, the Seventh Annual Convention Begonia Show. Everyone who can possibly do so, will, of course, bring at least ONE PLANT to exhibit. We cannot all stage shows of the excellence maintained by the Oakland Spring Flower Show and the beautiful shows staged in New York, Chicago and other cities and larger towns, but a show does not have to be large to be attractive, artistic, interesting, educational, and worth while. The rays of beauty sent out and the returns therefrom are of inestimable value. YOUR EDITOR.

• *Members will be pleased to know we are planning an increase in pages of "The Begonian." We are growing. Thanks to you.*

Fuchsias at Height of Glory

(Continued from Page 141)

need plenty of fresh air during warm weather.

Visit other fuchsia gardens and compare your results with those of other experts. Compare for size, color and floriferousness. Check with local authorities to see if you have all of your plants properly labelled.

"FUCHSIA NIGHT"

cooler situation and his plants throw out shoots later in the season. Both agreed that the best cuttings are made from tips of new shoots; these should be planted in No. 2 grade Olympia Beach sand. While Mr. M. dips his cuttings in Hormodin No. 1 and plants them in flats being careful to place a name stick behind each cutting, Mr. P. plants his cuttings, which by the way must be cut at an angle, in small individual pots. If there are any buds they must be nipped off leaving only the terminal bud and two sets of leaves. about one-half of cutting should be inserted in the sand. Care must be taken in planting immediately after cutting and the sand must be continuously moist, never permitting it to become dry. It usually takes about one month for the cutting to be properly rooted. For replanting Mr. M. uses a begonia soil mixture, cutting it down about 50% with sand and adding a small amount of fish meal. He uses pipe cleaners for tying the standards to the stakes while Mr. P. prefers using moistened raffia, being careful in not tying them too tight; the objection to Mr. M.'s method being that it requires constant attention.

In growing standards, side shoots must be taken off leaving only the individual leaves on until the desired height is reached; this procedure promotes better growth and a heavier main stalk. The top should be nipped off leaving three sets of side branches and all new shoots should be pinched out in order to aid forming a well-shaped crown. The plant should be turned at frequent intervals in order to assure a symmetrical shape. In conclusion, Mr. M. showed his experimental espaliered fuchsia and told how he staked and trained it.

Mr. Clement Schnabel, the President of the S. F. Fuchsia Society; Mrs. Wm. Roth, well-known in local circles for her floral arrangements, and Mrs. Henry Werle, of the Bungalow Nursery in Colma, demonstrated in minute details the art of making corsages.

Mrs. Roth used Begonia fuchsioides with Patty Evans Fuchsia, which she skillfully combined into a very attractive corsage and added ribbons to enhance its beauty. Mr. Schnabel, the talented pupil of Mrs. Roth, made a beautiful corsage using the Anna Fuchsia. Mrs. Werle used Tuberous Begonias exclusively, adding maiden-hair and ribbon bows, thus attaining striking and exquisite results. Mrs. Roth said that in making corsages, the flowers must be dropped in cold water immediately after picking and then placed in an avocado crate for drying.

This first attempt to bring together members of two different flower societies resulted in a very interesting and instructive evening.

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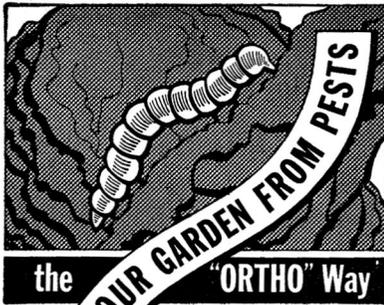
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Round Robin News For July

By FRANCES DOWNING, Calera, Ala.

• During the past months most of the Round Robin members have gardened indoors. "Window Gardens" was the topic most discussed in R.R. letters.

Now, over all the States, our members are out of doors working in their borders and keeping watch over begonias on the north side of homes, in lathhouses and beneath wide-spreading trees and protecting shrubs. The R.R. letters now are living, vivid, pictures of gardening effort.

Our Greenhouse Management R.R. No. 1 has gotten off to a good start with room for a few more members.

The R.R. "Soils" is one which every reader of THE BEGONIAN would find interesting—and of real value.

A PELARGONIUM or Martha Washington R.R. has been asked for . . . also "Violets, Violas and Pansies." This would be an interesting Robin. This is the month when seed of pansies and violas can be planted for flowering next Spring.

A "Houseplant" R.R. is desired by several members. We need a few more Robins to start this one flying.

The advanced GLOXINIA AND AFRICAN VIOLET R.R. has changed its name to the GESNERIA FAMILY ROUND ROBIN as the personnel of this group grow many members of the Gesneriaceae family including Naegelia, Gesneria, Achimenes, Isoloma and others.

• PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS •

FLOWER SHOW DATES

VENTURA FLOWER SHOW—Sponsored by Theodosia Burr Shepherd Begonia Society and Ventura Chamber of Commerce. Open Friday 1 p.m., July 26th, through July 27th and 28th, 1946. Admission FREE. Everybody welcome.

SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH FLORAL EXHIBIT—Hayward, Calif., Hayward, Calif., August 10th and 11th, 1946. Other clubs invited.

SO. CALIF. HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTE AND THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY EXHIBITIONAL MEETING with R. G. "Scotty" Hudson, speaker, on Tuberous Begonias. Los Angeles, Calif., August 5th, 1946, 7:30 p.m. Admission free. (See back cover.)

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION BEGONIA SHOW, San Diego, Calif., August 31st and Sept. 1st, 1946.

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By FLORENCE CARRELL, Fullerton, Calif.

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- G. Faramea eurycarpa
- H. Solanum wendlandi var. albescens
- I. Kohleria strigosa
- J. Besleria solanoides
- K. Drymonia rubra
- L. Chirita lavandulacea
- M. Alloplectus sanguineus
- N. Gesneria umbellata
- O. Gesneria cardinalis
- P. Streptocarpus nobilis
- Q. Streptocarpus pusillus
- R. Streptocarpus rexi
- S. Streptocarpus near rexi
- T. Streptocarpus rexi white
- U. Streptocarpus merton giant
- V. Streptocarpus wendlandi
- W. Streptocarpus grandis
- X. Columnea gloriosa
- Y. Chirita hamosa
- Z. Ramondia myconi
- 1A. Bertlonia maculata
- 1B. Aristolochia elegans
- 1C. Aristolochia trilobata
- 1D. Aristolochia brasiliensis
- 1E. Asystasia bella

● "The Begonian" for a Happy Birthday!

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS AS ANNUALS

● Our speaker was Dr. R. S. French who recently spoke to the East Bay Branch on the use of Tuberous Begonias as annuals to get the best results. He grows a couple of thousand plants every year and finds they do better than to save the tubers. He brought one of his seedling plants that had a couple of blooms on it which he gave to our branch President.

Hollywood Branch Annual Picnic (Pot-luck and own service), Plummer Park. Thursday, July 11th, 5:30 o'clock. Everyone invited near and far Branch members and friends.

The Drummonds desire to thank everyone who has written them. Both are much better.

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**CONDENSED MINUTES NATIONAL BOARD, A.B.S.,
HELD MAY 27th, 1946, IN THE MODEL
LIBRARY, L. A. PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 with President Hart presiding. Board members present: Messrs. Hart, Hawkins, Nelson, Lawrence, Dere; Mesdames Wilkes, Hartwell, Crowder.

Minutes Special Board meeting held May 14th, in conjunction with the meeting of the Parent Branch, A.B.S., in Long Beach, read and formally ratified by this Board.

Reports of Treasurer and Editor read, accepted as read and ordered filed as part of the minutes.

Membership Fees Chairman Mrs. Clark unable to be present.

Ways and Means: I have some bills which I present for payment. (Bills oked and ordered paid.) I also wish to state that I have received a letter from Mr. Lee, Chairman San Diego Convention, A.B.S., in which he stated the Flower Show would be open Saturday and Sunday; that thus far he had been unable to interest anyone in putting on the banquet at less than \$2.00 per plate and from that to \$4.00 per plate. Summation of discussion, to wit; San Diego will have to make the main decision themselves; however, we will discuss this matter later on. Hollywood reported they had sent \$90.00, balance of Convention Fund, to the San Diego Convention Committee; Inglewood, \$35.00; San Gabriel Valley, \$50.00; Parent Branch, \$25.00; North Long Beach, \$50.00; Foothill, \$20.00, and other branches are planning to send in checks.

Mr. Lawrence called attention to the meeting with the Horticultural Society to be held the first Monday evening in August—along similar lines as the joint meeting held in 1945. In commenting, Mr. Hart said it was a beautiful exhibit last year but this year I want to see that we have enough volunteers on hand, who do not bring plants, to help in getting the plants in and arranged on the tables. Representative Directors were asked to take word back to their branches that we want members to bring in their more or less specimen plants and rare plants and there will be some publicity in the next issue of THE BEGONIAN concerning this meeting.

Public Relations Director Mrs. Drummond: Due to a recent auto accident, the Drummonds were unable to attend. Dr. Drummond on the phone said Mrs. Drummond was getting along nicely, and he had entirely recovered. He expressed the high appreciation of both for the many letters and cards, potted plants and bouquets sent to them by members of the Society, and wished to sincerely thank everyone for their concern.

Seed Fund Chairman Mrs. Carrell: Mrs. Carrell was unable to be present but sent reports of her activities, summary of which will appear in the July BEGONIAN. She also reported two new seed contacts she was working on and hoped to secure new supplies of seeds. She can still supply some seeds, list of which will appear in THE BEGONIAN.

Librarian Mrs. Crowder: Nothing special to report.

President spoke of the new Chairman of Questions and Answers, Mr. John Parker, and suggested members sending in their begonia and shade plant problems which Mr. Parker agreed to answer to the best of his ability.

BRANCH REPORTS

Mrs. Bayer (Glendale): Mr. Beake is to be our next speaker and we want to invite those who can to come. We have a special table for plants

and are attempting to name all the begonias brought in. We are having the different members bring in their rare plants—anything in the shade plant line—have the Chairman of that particular committee find out what plants are to be brought in and then this one person names the plants. We find it very educational and a really worth while effort. One person watches over the plants from the time they are placed on the table until picked up by the owner . . . no chance of the plants being damaged.

Mr. Bailey (Pasadena): Our last meeting we had Mr. Thompson as speaker. I was not able to be present but understand they had a very good meeting.

Mr. Cocke (Hollywood): We had eight members of the National Board at our last meeting and each one gave a little limited talk on his or her favorite begonia. We feel that this was one of the best meetings of the year and we got a lot of good information on the different plants.

Mr. Walton (Inglewood): Our last meeting given over to Cactus Pete they showed about 20 varieties of epiphyllums and really gave us a very interesting evening. We all enjoyed this very much. Good attendance.

Mrs. Hilton (Orange Co. Branch President): We are all very busy trying to build up our Society and at our last meeting had Mr. Hudson as speaker on Tuberous Begonias. He is always very interesting and we got a lot of information from his talk. We are planning to start our own Branch library and have several plans on which we are working. We invite all of you to visit us whenever possible.

Mrs. Heth (Foothill): We are still growing; have 60 paid members; 100 people at our last meeting. We sent \$20.00 to the San Diego Convention. Mr. Vosburg was our last speaker and we are going ahead in fine shape. Good interest.

Mr. Knecht (Ventura): We have some interesting news. On the 10th and 11th of August we are going to have our Flower Show at the Junior College Gym with Mrs. Marion Walker as Chairman. Don't forget the date. Sunday a week ago we had a picnic attended by 60 members and guests, at Forest Park. Mr. Hart will be our next speaker and we would like to have as many of you as possible attend this meeting. Our Society would like some information on the San Diego Convention and whether or not there will be a begonia exhibit.

Mr. Knecht was advised to watch the BEGONIAN for details of the Convention and Flower Show at San Diego.

Capt. Dere (San Gabriel Valley): We had our first Sunday picnic meeting for the year at Mrs. Throop's in Redlands. Had 127 people there; wonderful plant sale; fine dinner; plenty of plants for the sale.

Capt. Dere explained he was taking over the duties of his new job—Membership Fees Chairman, and the mailing and addressing of THE BEGONIAN; was very busy checking the membership lists and segregating the BEGONIANS on hand; anyone who is not receiving his BEGONIAN regularly please write me sending all information you can to enable me to check up. Hope to get all the complaints checked up and corrections made, but be as patient as you can as there is a long list to check.

President announced he had appointed George Johnson (San Gabriel Valley Branch President) as Chairman Nominating Committee; ballots to appear in the August issue.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

GONDA HARTWELL, Corres. Sec.

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

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Meeting Dates and Places

The next meeting of the American Begonia Society Board will take place in the Los Angeles Public Library, Children's Library Room, Grand Street Entrance, Monday, July 22nd, at 7:30 p.m.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

Tuesday, July 2nd, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett C. H. 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Harry Meyer, Secretary, 111 Leighton Dr.

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

Wednesday, July 3rd, 7:30 p.m.
V. F. W., 250 Park St., Bellflower, Calif.
Mrs. Ardel Radle, 920 Flower St., Bellflower

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, July 3rd, 7:45 p.m.
American Legion Hall, 1641 Taraval St.
Secretary, Mrs. Walter Ashe, 1855 - 33rd Ave.,
San Francisco, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

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

FOOTHILL BRANCH

Friday, July 5th, 8 p.m.
Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa:
Mrs. James M. Reid, Secretary
643 No. Wabash Ave., Glendora, Calif.

LA MESA BRANCH

Monday, July 8th, 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, July 8th, 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, July 9th, 7:30 p.m.
Mary Hotalling, Sec.-Treas.
324A Temple Ave., Long Beach 4, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

Tuesday, July 9th, 7:30 p.m.
Pasadena Public Library
Lester F. Harrell, Sec.-Treas.
668 Bellefontaine St., Pasadena, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Tuesday, July 9th, 8 p.m.
Mrs. Helen Hansen, Sec.-Treas.
9757 Magnolia, Arlington, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, July 11th, 8 p.m.
325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Mildred Dressel, Secretary
432 W. Fairview, Inglewood, Calif.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, July 11th, 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, July 11th, 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, July 12th, 7:30 p.m.
Home of Chalmer Bower, 1020 Belmont Ave.
Long Beach.
Mrs. Esther L. Randall, Sec., 3638 Cerritos Ave.
Long Beach 7, Calif.

SEQUOIA BRANCH

Friday, July 12th, 7:30 p.m.
Members' Homes.
Mrs. Albert Lowery, Secretary,
620 W. Grove St., Visalia, Calif.

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Tuesday, July 16th
Tillie Genter, Sec.-Treas.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

SO. ALAMEDA CO. BRANCH

Thursday, July 18th, 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.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, July 22nd
Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave.
Mrs. A. P. Carlton, Sec.-Treas.
624 Arroyo Dr., San Diego 1, Calif.

WHITTIER BRANCH

Tuesday, July 23rd, 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, July 23rd, 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, July 23rd, 7:30 p.m.
329 No. Brand Blvd., Glendale, Calif.
Mrs. Helen Grigsby, Secretary
958 E. Mountain, Glendale 7, Calif.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

Friday, July 26th, 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, July 26th, 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

W. C. Atherton, Treasurer,
60 Chestnut St., Wakefield, Mass.

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