

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens

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The BEGONIAN

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Another Milestone Passed By A. B. S.

• This marks another milestone in the history of THE BEGONIAN. Another four pages are being added. It means that if you all decide to keep up the standard we are endeavoring to set and maintain by sending in your articles and pictures we might even make headway in improving this publication of ours. It was interesting to hear from South Africa, right from Johannesburg, inquiring about some plants discussed in our BEGONIAN. Many others will be making themselves heard now that mail lines are free.

With the allure of farther fields, we must not lose sight of the fact that we have a large territory to cover on this continent and to make THE BEGONIAN ever more interesting we must draw from experiences

from all quarters, that we may be of more service to our members.

Can you visualize what a very splendid time we are going to have in SAN DIEGO for the ANNUAL MEETING? We wish it were possible for all members to be with us. We know that things of great interest will be seen that will be impossible to describe to our absent ones, but we shall try to bring you pictures and stories of the gardens we shall visit. In that way you will not miss out entirely.

For all contributions sent to us this year with pictures and other material for THE BEGONIAN, this Editor is truly and sincerely grateful. Nothing can be done without the

(Continued on Page 184)



Campanula isophylla alba low on rocks — Tuberous Begonias at right just elevated with tall Begonias as background and baskets overhead — coleus and various begonias at left.

SAN DIEGO HERE WE COME!

By HAROLD W. HART, Glendale, Calif.

• There are many reasons why we hope a large number of members will be able to attend this meeting. The get-together-spirit is a vital part of any society; Meeting with the members of the HOST Branches of the San Diego District will be an experience not soon forgotten. The two days will be crowded with interesting and valuable activities and a shuffling of most of the officers will lead to a renewed interest in the Society generally. It is very well that you know these officers so that you will have a feeling of working together for the interests of the Society generally.

San Diego has always suggested Alfred D. Robinson and Mrs. Robinson to all begonia lovers. We are happy that Mrs. Robinson will be with us and in your enjoyment of the entertainment and beauties prepared for you, remember the Dean of all Begonia Lovers who popularized these plants all over the world in a few short years. Let us try to follow his lead.

I am grateful for the privilege of serving one year as President-elect, this past year as President and now one year as Past-President. It will be a fine year with George Lawrence in the Presidential chair. Those of us who have known him and worked with him for years, look for fine leadership.

Thank you also for the greatly appreciated support extended to me from all sides.

• See Gardens enroute to San Diego.

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Re-Evoked by a New Years Message of Alfred D. Robinson

Conclusion by BESSIE B. BUXTON PEABODY

In May, 1935, I went to California with the National Council of State Garden Clubs, and it was a red letter day when I visited Mr. and Mrs. Robinson at Rosecroft. To one used to seeing begonias only in small flower pots, the luxuriant growth at Rosecroft was bewildering. (I thought of the farmer, seeing the giraffe for the first time, and saying stubbornly, "T'aint so!") I remember especially, a section with tall, shrubby plants with leaves so dark they might almost be called black. These were Mr. Robinson's new *Corallina de Lucerna* seedlings, *Alzasco*, *Interlaken* and others which he had not yet named.

After my return, I commented on the similarity between *Elithe* and *Audrée*. In reply he wrote: "B. *Elithe* and *Audrée* are not identical. The descriptions in the list are misleading, I admit, but they were made with Ridgeway's list, in a hurry. Growing together, they differ very much. *Audrée* is shades darker, in both leaf and bloom. It has a wave in the leaf that *Elithe* lacks, and is a much better bloomer, being perhaps the best in that respect of any of the *Rubra* family. Mrs. Schinkle should have a definitely orchid-colored bloom, unlike any other *Rubra*, but some of the *Diadema x Corallina de Lucerna* seedlings are colored the same, although the leaf, size of bloom and habit of growth are quite unlike."

1941 was a most successful year for growth, he reported, although the war made serious

inroads on his business. *B. gracilis* var. *Martiana* was especially lovely. "I had a bed of 100, averaging four to five feet tall. They were planted in the ground and began to bloom when a foot high. This variety must be in a clump for effect. Single specimens make one think of 'a reed shaken by the wind.' This new single orange flowered tuberous (No. 1041), which the University of California brought from South America, promises to be a big factor in the future of the Begonia, and I think may possibly bridge the gulf between the tuberous and fibrous. It has undoubtedly been on a pollinating spree at Rosecroft, crossing with *Scharstar* and *Ricinifolia*, and I have one plant from *Martiana* seed that must call it Papa. Some of these are distinctly scented, like No. 1041. It bothered me for some time as to why this outcropping of cross pollination, and then I realized that the sweet scented bloom might be attractive to insects, and watching showed this to be true."

On Jan. 18, 1942, he wrote the last letter. "I have grown an interesting plant from *Martiana* seed gathered from a plant blooming among No. 1041 plants. It grew some 30 inches high, and had a bunch of orange blooms like No. 1041. *Scharstar* seed unmistakably gave away its alliance with No. 1041, but the outstanding mixture was in seedlings of *Ricinifolia*, which had wonderful pink to orange-red blooms, much larger than those of *Ricinifolia*, some having very double centers of small petals. I receive gardening magazines from England and I notice they have a definite program to save flower gardens and nurseries. Here is a quotation from the speech of Lord Aberconway at the annual meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society. "The disaster of the war overshadows all minor matters, but we must recognize at the same time as practical people that when we have done our utmost for the national effort, it is both our right and our duty to try to preserve for the peace that is to come, the amenities which we have enjoyed during the peace that has gone. I make, therefore, no apology for saying to you that in my opinion the gardens and the nurseries that serve the gardens should not be allowed to go derelict in this crisis. And now, to close. Don't worry about us. Rosecroft and its folks are normal but alert. Whatever comes we shall take as sanely and with as good grace as possible. Yours sincerely, Alfred D. Robinson."

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SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS IN SHOW PLANTS

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

• The speaker for the July meeting of the San Diego branch was Mrs. John G. Clark, who writes such interesting articles, so beautifully illustrated, for *THE BEGONIAN*. She talked to us on the selection and grooming of plants for the begonia show.

The difficulty chairmen and judges of flower or plant shows had was stressed, because the plants to be judged are so poorly prepared or unnamed. To do a good job, plants should be fed just long enough before the show to have plants at best; don't leave this important job until the day before.

Groom your show plants, don't leave damaged leaves, old flower stalks, on them. Remove them right now, and keep them from harm if humanly possible. Damaged leaves do not make points in the flower or plant show. Do everything as far in advance of the show as is possible.

If it is a hanging basket that you want to show, be sure that the edge is even and nice. Do it far enough in advance that the plant will cover up the wounds with new growth.

The correct label means so much and does much to calm that harassed judge. The begonias are most decorative and ornamental plants. Show your shade plants, anything you have that is nice. Groom it and label it with its correct name and it stands a fair chance of getting a blue ribbon. Always use clay or glazed pots for competitive shows.

• *Keep Tuberous Begonias fed with weak liquid fertilizer as long as buds are developing. Dust ground with tobacco dust.*

ALL ABOARD, ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS!

By MRS. E. CARRELL, Fullerton, Calif.

• We are leaving early this year on our begonia seed collecting trip. Are you ready? Your ticket is \$2 for a share of the begonia seeds collected. Getting started earlier will enable your Skipper to purchase seeds this fall, package them during the winter and have them all ready for mailing in the early spring. This will lighten the work for your Skipper and give you a much earlier start with your seedlings. If you will be wanting seed, better get your name on the list.

Word comes from our collectors in Columbia, the Mulford B. Fosters, that they have been slowed up because their equipment has been detained along the way, but they fully expect to soon have begonia seeds for us. From Dominica, West Indies, we have just received seeds of some wild unnamed begonias, called by the collector, red and pink bamboo begonia.

We have written letters to our A.B.S. members living in tropical countries asking for their assistance in our search for begonia seeds, and inquiring what begonias they grow in their gardens and all about them, we will let you know what we hear.

Only a few kinds of begonia seeds still left, these are *B. carpinifolia* var. *rubra* involucreta, *B. heracleifolia*, *B. alnifolia*, *B. involucreta*, *B. red double semperflorens* and *B. pink calla*. These may be had for 10c per packet. (Send stamped envelope.)

All aboard!

The most complete and reliable chart that it has been my good fortune to read is that of The Destruxol Corporation and I know that they will be glad to mail you a copy if you will drop them a card of request. Their address is Pasadena 2, Calif.



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TOUR TO THE BEGONIA GARDENS

By LILLIAN ASHE, Secretary

San Francisco Branch

● On Sunday, July 14th, the members of the San Francisco Branch made a trip to Capitola, near Santa Cruz, to inspect the renowned Begonia Gardens of Vetterle & Reinelt. Over 150 persons, representing members and their families, participated.

The gardens cover several acres presenting a beautiful picture of a multi-colored carpet

which stretches as far as the eye can see. However, the main attractions are the green-houses where Mr. Reinelt keeps his selected specimens used for hybridizing. The potted flowers are grouped in long rows according to their colors, which range from snowy white through delicate cream and pink, to deep red, with enormous baskets of infinite varieties suspended from the roof. It is impossible to describe the exquisite beauty, the profusion of colors presented by this picture; one must see it for himself. As beautiful and as enormous as these flowers are, Mr. Reinelt told us he selects out of a thousand plants maybe 50 specimens which he uses for hybridizing, discarding the rest; in the course of 3 or 4 years, he finally develops maybe 2 or 3 varieties which he placed on the market. He told us of his experiences and tribulations in raising tubers which he sells practically all over the world and also answered quite a few questions of a technical nature propounded by the members. Everyone was impressed by the tenderness and deep affection which Mr. Reinelt has for his "beloved" Begonias.

On this trip the members of the San Francisco Branch had the pleasure of meeting personally Mr. and Mrs. Hart, who came especially from the South for this purpose. At a picnic held in the afternoon in the beautiful Sea Cliff Park, Mr. Hart told us of the activities of the Parent Chapter and other Southern Branches. We learned with great interest that in the South the Rex and Fibrous types are raised in preference to the Tuberous which are more popular in the Bay Region. In fact, Mr. Reinelt, in the course of his talk, emphasized that the coastal region from north of San Francisco down to Monterey Bay offer the best climatic condition and soil for the Tuberous type. Mr. Hart talked at great length about the arrangements for the impending San Diego Convention, inviting our members to attend.

It is the first time that our Branch had the opportunity of meeting personally the National President, thus, establishing a more intimate relationship with the Parent Branch. The visit of the San Francisco delegation to the San Diego Convention will undoubtedly increase the mutual interest and establish a closer tie between the Northern and Southern Branches.

● Send your best pictures of gardens and shade plants to the Editor, *The Begonian*.

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PALO ALTO

CALIFORNIA

Round Robin News

By FRANCES DOWNING, Calera, Ala.

Advanced *semperflorens cultorum* R.R. First Flight:

Mass: Soil mixture found very satisfactory for *semperflorens* is one containing two-thirds leaf mold, the other third divided between soil and shredded cow manure. The slips should be rooted in wet sand using the "small pot of water in a large pot of sand with the cuttings" method.

Mo: To rid soil of *Nematodes*: place cuts of raw potato in soil and leave in same position for a week—then remove them and burn them, the ashes, at least, can be of benefit to the soil or used in the compost.* Replace new cuts of potato to keep drawing what *nematodes* might be there and to prevent another infestation when the soil is clean. Another Mo. member is crossing B. lucerne with B. Carmen in an attempt to obtain larger flowers.

This is the month to join Round Robin Clubs. Winter is not far off and most of us have to depend upon our window gardens if we are to have green plants and a bit of earth to scratch in during these coming months.

If begonias and other house plants just will not grow and bloom for you indoors, join a R.R. Club and let the members help you with your plant problems.

And to you, who are gifted with the "green thumb" which means one who has a complete understanding of plants and their needs—won't you join us and share your knowledge with us all? The IMPATIENS R.R. hopes to secure seed of rare and lovelier impatiens through the A.B.S. sponsored seed fund. Many members were surprised to learn of the rose and gold flowered impatiens, one with red stripes and the white blossomed one with red spots!

HYBRIDIZING ROUND ROBINS

- The members of this club are all amateurs but are very interested and enthusiastic. Some are using colchicine and X-ray. The Director feels, however, they should master the simpler ways of pollenizing and study the laws of genetics before attempting this.

Several members are using the square fruit jars for germinating fine seeds successfully.

One member blows fresh air into the jar every day and when the seedlings have their first true leaves, she punches holes in the lid to admit fresh air. She lets the plants get

quite large before transplanting. After this operation she keeps them covered with glass until they start good growth.

The Nebraska member has seeds coming up nicely of a Pruessen X Carmen. All members are awaiting results with interest. The Maine member is having success with crossing Saintpaulia Violets. She pinches the stamens with tweezers to get the pollen from the club stamens.

The Massachusetts member finds gloxinias easy to pollinate, when stamens appear "dusty" she slits corolla to the stem, which she carefully removes so as not to have the stamens touch the stigma, then she does the same to the seed bearer. Then using first corolla, she gently rubs the stamen over stigma of seed bearer. This is repeated as long as any pollen remains on stigma.

THE HOUSE-PLANT R.R. needs more members to start flying. If you grow many kinds of plants, then this kind of Robin is for you. The EPIPHYLLUM R. grows slowly. Who will direct this group? The advanced *semperflorens* R. has room for more members. This class of begonia increases in interest with the creation of many new and improved varieties.

Do you lose many of your *begonia tubers* in winter storage? Then join a TUBEROUS BEGONIA R.R. now and learn several methods of storing which reduces losses. Learn too, how to grow your own tubers from seed.

To the Directors of the A.B.S. Round Robins, I wish to say: "Thank you for the fine cooperation and help given me in conducting these Clubs."

*There is now a very fine and thoroughly efficient nematode exterminator on the market which was primarily created to be effective against wireworms but it means that plant life is killed within a radius of three feet of the application.—THE EDITOR.

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Department B

Begonias in Augusta, Georgia

By THERESA HARLEY RYAN
Augusta, Georgia

• I would like to tell about myself and my begonias. I live in Augusta, the eastern central part of Georgia where the summers are hot and the winters are mild and pleasant. I work in a stationery store from nine until six o'clock. Then in the evening, I look after my begonias, in fact, my hobby is growing begonias. It takes lots of patience and time, but it is worth it all to watch them root and grow. Some of the plants which I have are: *Argentea guttata*, *Decorus*, *Zebrina*, *Riciniifolia*, *Thurstoni*, *Haageana*, *Labato variegata*, *Immense*, *Feasti*, *sunderbruchi*, *Pruessen*, and many others including some *sempervirens*. You can see some in the picture I am sending.

From October to the last of February, I keep my plants in my husband's grocery store window. Then I bring them home and put them on the south side until Easter, at which time I put them on the north side where they remain for the summer months.

The formula I use for soil is as follows: 1/3 coarse sand, 2/3 leaf mold, a small portion of bone meal, sheep compost, and a sprinkling of tobacco dust.

I am a member of The Round Robin Begonian Club and I have exchanged cuttings with some of the members in the club. I have very good luck with the cuttings by rooting them in sand.

I want you to know all the plants I set out on Good Friday before Easter take root nicely and *never* fail to bloom.

Q. What, if any, is the value of rabbit manure?

A. Rabbit manure is known to have a high nitrogen content. It should not be applied fresh nor alone, but should be mixed with straw or peat moss and allowed to lie exposed for several weeks and then applied at the rate of 10 lbs. to one hundred square feet.

• Mrs. Roy G. Ryan had to be coaxed to write these few words about her nice begonia collection. We feel that this kind of hobby gardener receives more all around benefit from her past-time with her plants than can be told in a few words. There are the Begoniaites she starts on the high seas of adventure through the exhibition of her plants in the store window and who knows how many passing pedestrians become customers? . . . There are the extra-ordinary friends she makes through the Round Robin club, the relaxation and satisfaction of the creative and artistic urge and so on—ad infinitum.

As we study the picture on the next page we are bound to admire Mrs. Ryans' achievement with the difficulties she has to surmount.

THE EDITOR

Part of Mrs. Ryan's Collection of Begonias.

Q. What causes the stems of some of my tuberous begonias to fall over at the bulb from seeming rot.

A. This is due to a stem rot to which some bulbs are more susceptible than others. The disease is favored by too high temperatures together with high humidity. As it attacks the cells within the plant it is impossible to do any good by spray treatment and it would be better to eliminate any plant so affected.

A.B.S.—S.C. Hort. Institute Meeting

The Officers of The American Begonia Society desire to thank everyone who brought plants for the exhibit at the August meeting of the So. Calif. Horticultural Institute.

President Elect, George Lawrence, Ch.
Exhibits and Flower Shows.

Hollywood Shade Plants on View

You are all INVITED to the HOLLYWOOD BEGONIA AND SHADE PLANT EXHIBIT, September 12th, Plummer Park, 7:30 p.m.

FLOWER SHOW CALENDAR

AUGUST 31st and SEPTEMBER 1st: AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AND SHADE GARDEN SHOW, Presidio Park.

SEPTEMBER 12th:

Hollywood Begonia Society and Shade Garden Show.

Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

SEPTEMBER 24th, 1 to 5 p.m. Admission 50 cents.

Los Angeles Garden Club Flower Show and Tea. West Ebell Club House, 1717 W. 47th Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

OCTOBER 5th:

Glendale Begonia Society. Begonia Show and Dinner Meeting.



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SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH FLOWER SHOW RATES AS HUGE SUCCESS

By DOROTHY BAYLISS, Secretary

● After months of preparation and planning, our first annual floral exhibit proved a grand success. It was estimated by some that 2,500 individuals visited our show, and from all we hear they were more than delighted.

The beautiful Veterans' Memorial Building made available to us by the local VFW Post, proved to be the ideal spot for our flower shows. With its many high windows and walls of pale green and silver, nowhere else within miles, could we have found a more suitable location.

The entrance itself was a lovely scene with a Wishing Well set up by one of our most active members. She covered it with variegated ivy, out from which peeped bright blossoms to add color, and around the entire well one viewed maidenhair fern, coleus and cinerarias. As they made a wish and dropped a coin, they passed through the doors and came upon a beautifully arranged party table, covered with a hand-made cloth and set with the best of china and silverware. Beautiful begonia blossoms in many shades of pink was the center-piece with ribbon streamers of yellow and pink ribbon leading to a tiny corsage made of begonias in shades of yellow and pink placed at each plate.

One entire side of the auditorium was given over to the display of potted tuberous begonias, a good 250 plants in such gorgeous colors and size of blossom, that it might easily have put an expert to shame.

Beautiful corsages in cellophane boxes and many flower arrangements featuring tuberous begonias were displayed in another section. Fuchsia blossoms in colors and in numbers not imaginable, were another grand display. Here corsages and arrangements of fuchsias were also exhibited.

A large display of the best in fibrous begonias, a table given over entirely to rex, among which were many hybrids, also violets, ferns, coleus, and other exhibits and arrangements, was a surprise to the people of our city, who have not had the opportunity of attending a show such as this for a good many years.

The doors were hardly opened to the public before members were heard talking about plans for our show next year. This was a grand success due to the cooperation of all who participated, but we expect to hold one even more beautiful next year.

BEGONIA REX

PREDOMINATELY HOLDS ITS GLAMOUR

By GEORGE B. FURNISS, Oakland, California

● "The King's Begonia from which a Legion of Majestic Subjects Sprang" is the title of an interesting and informative brief history by Mrs. Helen K. Krauss in the Gardeners' Chronicle, June, 1944. It shows the possible reward from simply touching the finger to one flower and transferring the yellow pollen to the sticky center of a flower on another plant and thereby produce seed for a prospective progeny.

That "no other ornamental plant has captured the imagination of horticulturists and fanciers for almost a century like B. Rex and its countless progeny," is made evident by a photograph of mixed plants. The Rex-leaves catch the eye and all others fade into background at first glance. That the Rex (*B. Griffithi*) was discovered first in Assam, India (1856), seems to be well authenticated. But just where found, in what surroundings, manner and conditions of growth, etc., are the details we growers want to know but these are absent.

I was happy to come across five volumes of "Flora of Assam" but delight came to disappointment by not finding any mention of Rex or *B. Griffithi*. Could it be that it is now extinct in the wild? Recalling that the Rex had been lost from commerce several times brought a thought: Perhaps it was scattered in a limited area, hard to find and finally became depleted. So here was a mystery to solve.

Volume 2 listed begonias as in five species: *B. roxburghii* A. DC.; *B. laciniata*; *B. josephi*; *B. picta*; *B. thomsoni* A. DC. The Flora does not appear to be an official issue of the Department of Agriculture yet apparently it was in close collaboration by the six co-authors (U. N. Kanjilal, etc.). All six authors have native names, Hindu sounding, and which latter caste largely represent the student and scholarly class. This attainment is shown by the care and botanical knowledge in compiling the Flora . . . and the length of time devoted for completion: 1934-1940.

It is commonly understood that the Rex is a native of the rain forests of the tropics. E. H. Wilson, the plant explorer, describes them as dank forests. Such would indicate a leafmold soil, protection from direct sun, moist air, and abundance of water. From our experience in growing the Rex outdoors, here in the San Francisco Bay area where it luxuriates, the Rex endures cold down into

the 20's F. as occasionally occurs. This would indicate an altitude of habitat between 3,000-5,000 feet. Because altitudes in the tropics may have temperatures similar to certain northern latitudes does not mean that plants will grow equally as well. At the equator days and nights are equal in length and many other factors enter.

Most of Assam's altitudes are in the Himalayas and as *B. roxburghii* is registered from there, we can assume the Flora includes that region. These authors are botanists and we can hardly conceive of them just overlooking and failing to list so phenomenal and historic a plant if it were there.

"*Picta*" in the list, I associated with the tuberous begonia from Nepal and also with the two fibrous ones *albo picta* and *rosea picta*—all definitely not rhizomatous to be a Rex. Consulting Bailey's Cyclopaedia there appeared "*Griffithi* (*B. picta* Hort.). Then turning to the pages of "English Equivalents of Latin Names and Species" were these: "PICTURA-TUS; painted leaved, variegated. PICTUS: painted."

These authors, given to technical training, had held strictly to the latin. Their oriental minds had no Chamber of Commerce flare but discarded all the fame, credit and publicity associated with the names of Rex and Griffithi. The mystery solves itself and this detour, or excursion to find the facts, brings out the pleasure and profit from research. Also learning the meaning of the species or specific name adds to the enjoyment of plants . . . and, aids the memory as one helps to recall the other.

Regarding the rain forests the trees probably are not very dense because here the Rex thrives in strong light, protected from direct sun rays in midday. We grow them under evergreen oak trees in the natural soil and also in lathhouses, the year around, in a mild and moist atmosphere. There is an absence of hot winds which trouble some parts of Southern California. Soil used for pots or prepared beds is pure oak leafmold, or addition $\frac{1}{8}$ part sand, or $\frac{1}{4}$ soil, depending upon porosity of the compost desired. Liquid fertilizers are applied such as used for begonias. Early morning spraying with a fine hose spray is done frequently during summer. The lathhouse is kept wetted down.

(Continued on Page 184)

B. UNDEMILLE

By ALICE M. CLARK, San Diego, Calif.

● It is a relief to be back on home grounds again with a San Diego hybrid. This time we present B. Undemille, a Scharffiana seedling raised by Mr. Robinson. It was first listed in the Rosecroft Catalogue in 1937, though it is supposed to have originated in 1935. Stock has been rather scarce so it has taken three years to obtain a good sample for this portrait. The old and new bloom together make a fine ensemble for the begonia enthusiast but a great chore for the artist. Luckily, interest overcomes inertia in my case. While being sketched, Undemille lost at least twenty flowers, which took a great weight off both our shoulders.

It is amazing to note how a plant grows and changes during the three or more days it is under observation. When I started the lower flower cluster it was drooping over the leaf, as shown. The next day it must have become self-conscious for it stiffened up so it was an inch higher. The leaves as well as flowers expand and turn, noticeably, probably following the sun.

The stalks of Undemille are a rich red, thick and succulent, with short internodes and some white flecks on the thicker stems. The ever-present stipules at the joints are crinkled and brown but are nicely hidden under the leaves. This begonia branches well even at the base, besides having extra shoots from the ground, so it makes a nice bushy plant. The petioles are red, thick with white hairs and rarely over two inches long.

The leaves of Undemille, Mrs. Wallow and Chiala are very similar. If you look at the drawing you will note that where the leaf is cut in to the sinus it almost overlaps, whereas, in the other two plants, the curve is slashed off. Undemille is broader in proportion to its length and much more ruffled than either of the others. The largest leaf on my plant is eight by four inches. The top surface is dark green with a satin sheen and hairs that are easier to feel than see. On the underside the light-red veins are raised in clear relief and thickly set with white hairs. The spaces in between are a dark claret red.

The leaf edge has everything—scallops, dentation, ruffles and a fine hairy finish ending in a crisp point. Every flounce and flirt of the leaf exposes its gay lining. It is the frisky child of a sedate Scharffiana. The young stipules are a pale reddish green, about an inch long with hairs on the sharp keel.

The peduncles are light red and almost smooth. Starting low on the plant at alternate nodes they extend seven inches before bisecting into two three-inch stems, which in turn go on dividing evenly to make an arched cluster rather than a lop-sided one.

In a young inflorescence the male flowers develop first. The general color effect is a brownish-pink due to the red hairs on the outside of the petals, the small brownish stipules and thin cases that cover the tiny female buds. The staminate flower has two half-inch oval petals, pink-tinged. When open it discloses a pair of very narrow white petals that end in short points. The stamen is in the form of a small, short, light-yellow brush.

The female bloom, with four equal pale pink petals, plus a fifth irregular one, is much more showy. The stigma has six thrice-twisted horns of bright orange which give a sparkle to the whole upright panicle. The ovary and wings are a strong pink at first, changing to a sun-tan after the petals fall. When fully developed it is half-an-inch long. One ala is larger than the others, with red hairs on its jagged tip and a few on the ovary as well.

As sketched, Undemille is only thirteen inches to the top of the leaves. I know it grows to at least three feet but do not have access to any taller specimens. The much-ruffled leaves give the plant a chunky look, quite different from the sleek elegance of B. Mrs. Wallow. The last-named begonia blooms later so I cannot compare the flowers but hope to do so at another time when I can make a drawing of it also. Both are lovely begonias; fine against light walls or in a position where the sun can shine through the leaves. I am sure no one can say that the name of this month's begonia is difficult. It must have been the only variation among many seedlings, or else A. D. Robinson was rightfully proud of it when he named it "One in a Thousand."

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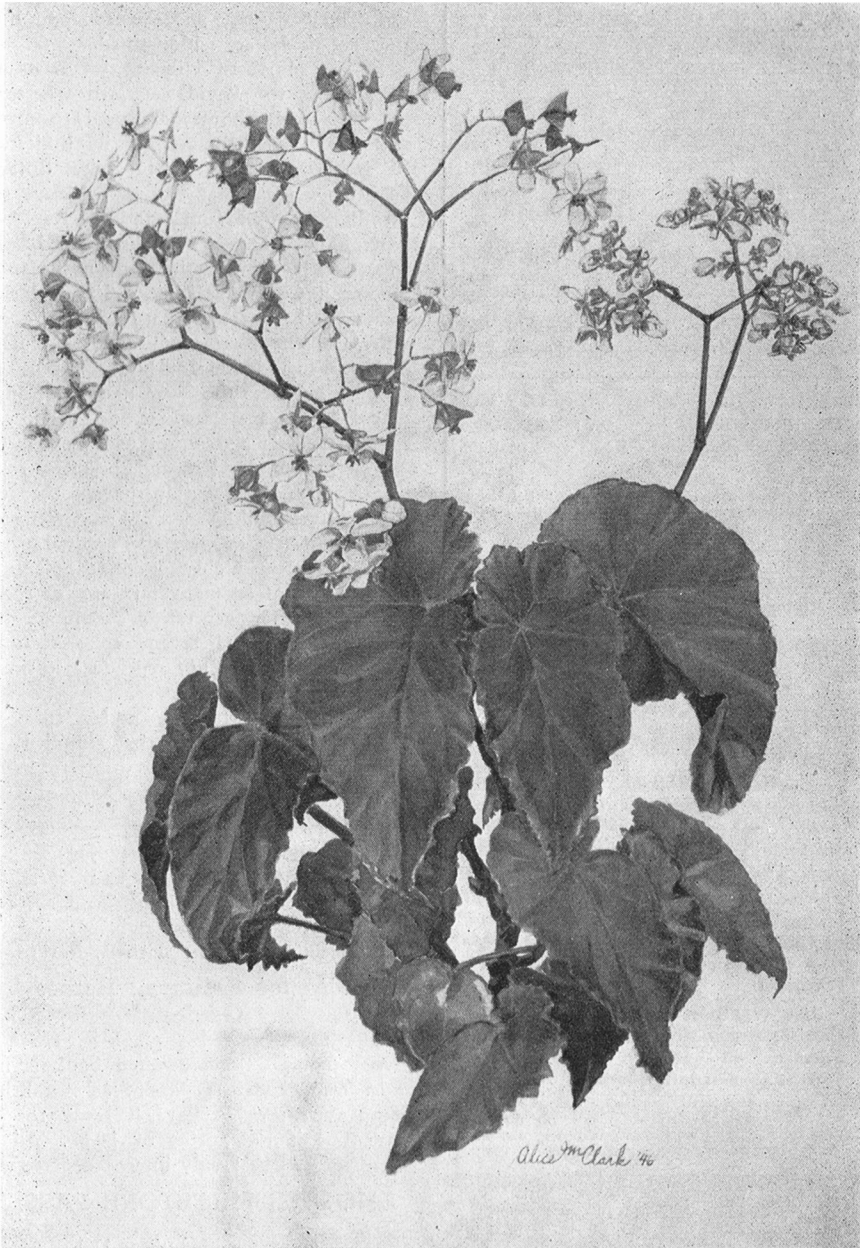
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FERTILIZERS

BEGONIA REX

(Continued from Page 181)

Like the Fuchsia the Rex thrive in a free circulation of air, even quite strong wind, and thereby become more sturdy and husky and insecticides are seldom used.

In our northern climates we have glass greenhouses to provide warmth whereas in the tropics, lathhouses are used to provide coolness. Every climate has its limitations. In lathhouses at the Singapore Botanical Gardens we saw many types of ferns, some orchids, various begonias and the Rex. The latter looked languid and discouraged. This was at sea level but at the Peradeniya Gardens, in central Ceylon at some 1,500 feet elevation, whether or not that little made some difference, the Rexes looked better but not thrifty. The orchids at both Gardens were sluggish as these too were natives of higher ranges. So no matter where one tries to grow exotics there is a question of absent factors.

The present day Rex and the many foliage plant classed as Rex-cultorum is the result of intensive breeding, crossing and re-crossing. Some eight species were the original parents but the present highly developed plants are the progeny of so many mixtures of species, generation after generation, seedlings from seedlings, that seed reverts to a scrambled ancestry and does not reproduce its immediate parentage.

It is easy to transfer pollen from one plant to another and in that simplicity lies the possibility of most anything to happen . . . even to the capture of a King of Kings.

(Mrs. Helen K. Krauss very graciously supplies the following to the foregoing: B. Griffithi was known erroneously as B. picta (the tuberous species) in the long ago past. Griffithi is a species in its own right. This species was used in hybridizing with B. Rex.)

Begonias for American Homes and Gardens

● Late news arrived from Mrs. Helen K. Krauss that the long awaited book is now under way and the Macmillan Publishing Company expect to have it ready for sale some time in the Spring of 1947. All begoniaists will be keenly interested.

ANOTHER MILESTONE PASSED BY A.B.S.

(Continued from Page 172)

fine, tireless, regular writers we have been presenting to you, and the occasional short subject is just as valuable. Write and tell our contributors your opinion of their subject matter and let them know how they are appreciated.

Your interested Editor, MARIA WILKES.

MIAMI, FLA., BRANCH SOCIETY

By MARY HAZEL DRUMMOND, Director of Public Relations, Los Angeles, Calif.

• One of our fondest hopes and dreams have come true. A new Branch Society in Miami, Fla., was organized July 22, 1946, at the home of Mrs. Nina Nickolson. Mrs. Lucille Kendrick was appointed temporary chairman and Mrs. Nickolson as secretary. On August 20th they will conduct their second meeting, and at that time will mail us a list of their officers and a set of By-Laws and Constitution.

Mrs. Kendrick tells us that the members are very enthusiastic about this branch society. She reminds us that their climate and soil conditions are very different from our western states.

Here is a branch project for one of the Southern California Branches. Select five or ten members to carry on an active, earnest correspondence with the Miami members assisting them with soil, climate, seeds and general culture questions of begonias and shade plants. This project could run for one year, and those who participated could compile the data and publish it in THE BEGONIAN. Many of our members would welcome the exchange of ideas and culture.

With all good wishes to our new Miami Branch. Be seeing you at San Diego.

• Do not overlook the list of Round Robins in August issue. Might mean much to you.

INVITATION

Howdy Neighbor:

The Inglewood Branch of the A.B.S. is a-going to have a real old-fashioned country store on Thursday night, Sept. 12, at 8 p.m.

The head store keeper, Capt. Roy K. Dere, is a-coming from clear up San Gabriel Valley way.

We'd sure like to have you and your friends come and join in the fun. Now Minnie, don't get out your Sunday silks 'cause our lady folks will be in cottons and the men folks will be a-wearing their jeans and overalls; so tell Joe he needn't spruce up a bit.

It'd be fine if you'd each bring something you'd find in a country store and, of course, a little o' that egg money from up in the teapot.

Mark the date and hitch up the wagon as soon as the chores are done. Remember, it's Thursday, 8 p.m., Sept. 12, Inglewood Woman's Club, 324 N. Hillcrest.

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HYDRANGEA MACROPHYLLA
Culture and Care

By W. C. DRUMMOND, Los Angeles

PART II

• There are many kinds of hydrangea grown, but the one commonly grown in California out of doors is *H. Macrophylla*, sometimes called *H. Hortensis*, *H. opuloides*, or *H. japonica*. Hydrangeas belong to the SAXIFRAGE Family. The florist grown varieties are mostly *H. Macrophylla* var *Europa* and *La Victoria*, the French Hybrids.

In the Eastern United States *H. paniculata grandiflora* or the Peegee Hydrangea are the most popular for outside planting. Yet Hills of Snow, a hybrid of our native American *H. arborescens*, and also the Oak-Leaf Hydrangea, *H. quercifolia*, are sometimes planted. Also for the East is the lovely Climbing Hydrangea, *H. petiolaris*, large white heads of flowers. Quite similar, yet often confused with it is *Schizophragma Hydrangeoides* the Japanese hydrangea, but the form of flower is different.

These French hybrids, along with the *Hortensis*, can be grown outside in California as readily as in a greenhouse. They produce symmetrical heads, mostly sterile pink, white, or blue flowers. The normal blooming time outside in California is June to September. They are best grown in part shade, east side of house, or lath house conditions. Away from the coast give more shade, about 50% light. They like a rich, moist, open soil. Where grown in pots, do not let them become pot bound before repotting. A soil mixture of 1/3 peat, 1/3 leaf, 1/3 loamy soil, with some well rotted manure added, suits them fine. The soil reaction should be between 6 and 6.5 PH. When mixing the soil, either for pot work or open soil planting, use a 4 inch of 4-12-4 commercial fertilizer to a wheelbarrow of soil mixture, and where the water or soil is alkaline, add a 4 inch pot of agricultural sulphur to a wheelbarrow of soil.

Hydrangeas are of easy culture and are seldom attacked by disease or insects. Sometimes when Hydrangeas of various varieties are grown outside, in the East especially, Rose-chaffer or the Tarnished plant bug may feed on the plants. When grown under glass, watch for Red spider, Thrips and Aphids. Syringing helps a lot, or use a Rotenone or Nicotine spray.

For propagation, use hardwood cuttings in the spring, and in the summer use soft wood cuttings. Bottom heat of 65° helps a lot. Do not keep too close or too wet, as they are subject to rot, and do not over water until well rooted, or again they may rot.

Often when they flag or wilt due to high temperature and low humidity, a good syringing will revive them. They are quite susceptible to root rot and the soil should therefore be well checked before adding more water. Good drainage is a must with Hydrangeas.

The Hydrangea macrophylla is tender to severe frost. They are native to the warmer parts of China and Japan, where they have been grown for centuries. Grown in pots they lend themselves well to greenhouse forcing. They are partly deciduous in California. They normally grow three to four feet tall and with a spread of three feet. But sometimes 8 or 10 feet.

When Hydrangeas are grown outside or in pots, they may go blind, that is they fail to flower. This is thought to be caused by a deficiency of potash and phosphorus in the soil. When plants are trimmed too late in the summer, they may also be blind. They set their buds in the fall to bloom in the early summer. Trim out all wood that has bloomed leaving two or 3 eyes, and avoid cutting any new wood that has not bloomed, as it will produce your blooms the following year.

Hydrangeas should be well fertilized during the summer and early fall, using a 4-12-4 commercial fertilizer, applying 2 lbs. to the 100 square feet. Or you can alternate with ammonium sulfate using 1/2 oz. to one gallon water. Steer manure or cotton seed meal are also good. They are hungry plants. Growing Hydrangeas in pots, just as growing gardenias and azaleas in pots, is the work of a specialist.

EXCERPT FROM LETTER

• "We are looking forward with much pleasure to having many of you here and are working diligently to see that your visit shall be a memorable one. We are most appreciative of the generous donations sent to our Convention Fund by many of the Branches and the contributions shall be used in a good cause we assure you."

Sincerely yours,

CLARISSE M. CARLTON, Sec.

The San Diego Convention, A.B.S.

• *A Larger Begonian means we need more articles of interest — preferably with pictures.*

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9-inch \$1.50 ea.	3 for \$3.75	\$12.00 doz.

Write for prices in 100 lots, also price of planting stock

* * *

LESLIE WOODRUFF

Fairyland Begonia and Lily Garden
Harbor, Oregon

About D D T

By LEE G. KING, Pacific Palisades, Calif.

• There has been quite a lot of excitement created by the long awaited advent of DDT on the market and like many other curealls that have appeared in the past to alleviate the troubles of mankind, it may prove to be just another brainstorm or boomerang.

Ninety-nine per cent of the information given out by The United States Department of Agriculture consists of experiments and research on fruit trees, vegetables, grains and grasses.

DDT is not a mass killer and will not do away with all of your plant pests but will kill all of the parasites that destroy our garden enemies and in some cases damage the plants.

The article that is so plentiful on the market just now and is so much advertised is diluted with a volatile oil and is excellent only for that which the label states, sure death to flies, mosquitoes, ants, bedbugs, silverfish and roaches. Only a few are safe on plants. Read the labels carefully and follow directions explicitly as this mixture can cause you some distress if handled carelessly. If inhaled can cause stomach upset and distress to the nervous system.

DDT also is prepared as a dust and in an emulsion for spraying plants but this, at present is not so easily available to the amateur until more research has been conducted. Whatever form you use DO NOT inhale the fumes or dust and thoroughly wash your hands and exposed portions of your skin with soap and water after handling it as a precaution.

When buying the insect spray get the 5% solution which will cost a few pennies more than the weaker solutions but will prove more effective and kill quicker. DDT does

not kill instantly but slowly paralyzes the legs of the insect after it has come in contact with the poisonous residue left after the volatile oils have evaporated and generally from 3 to 30 minutes afterward the insect is dead depending on the contact made and the size of the insect.

As I see it, at the present time, the pests in your garden will be more thoroughly controlled if you will continue to use the sprays and poisons as you have in the past. Each one of these have been made and found effective for the purpose which has been claimed for it and so far there has not been one panacea found for all of our troubles. Select the brand which has succeeded best with you and which you have used confidently, get a spray chart from the manufacturer and follow it closely.

• The Science News Letter of August 10th, 1946, announces "An Insecticide" that takes over where DDT stops in killing the insects that ravage the gardens and orchards is now being produced from a formula discovered by German chemists. . . . Hexaethyl tetraphosphate was uncovered by U. S. scientific field teams in Germany.

Aphids, or "plant lice," and mites can both survive DDT but the new insecticide is particularly effective against them. . . . DDT kills the natural enemies of the two pests but the imported formula promises to restore a better balance when used with DDT.

Experiments conducted so far indicate that the brown liquid hexaethyl tetraphosphate will be superior to nicotine sulphate in some respects, according to chemists' report."

LILIES

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Begonia Literature and Notes Bequeathed to Library

(Courtesy *The New York Botanical Garden Journal*, May, 1946)

• Forty-five notebooks containing a wealth of material on begonias have become the property of the Library of the New York Botanical Garden through the will of Mrs. Albert H. Gere of Merion, Pa. The collection, which assembles much widely scattered material on the subject, is looked upon as one of immeasurable value for reference work on begonias.

Of the notebooks, 42 quarto-size volumes contain photographic and photostatic copies of literature and illustrations of *Begonia* species and varieties, including hand-painted reproductions of 83 plates from Curtis's *Botanical Magazine* and of six from *Addisonia*; also descriptions of begonias as contained in the Transactions of the Linnean Society, the Proceedings of the American Academy of Science, the Philippine Journal of Science, *Botanical Cabinet*, Paxton's *Magazine of Botany*, and other publications; photographic reproductions of begonias listed in trade catalogs; typed descriptions of begonias from *The Gardeners' Chronicle* and other periodicals; photographic reproductions of "Les Begonias" by Charles Chevalier, of "Die Begonien" by Karl Albert Fotsch, and of "Begoniaceen-Gattungen und Arten" by H. Klotzsch.

In addition, one leather-covered notebook provides an index to all the material contained in the 42 quarto-size books, giving the contents of each book and an alphabetical index to the literature on begonias that is reproduced. The two other notebooks contain citations to the literature on begonias, arranged alphabetically according to species or variety.

MEMBERS PRIVILEGED

• All members of The American Begonia Society are eligible to receive The National Horticultural Magazine Quarterly, which is the Journal of The American Horticultural Society, for the sum of only \$2.00 per calendar year instead of the usual \$3.00. This is possible by virtue of our Society affiliation. Another of the advantages of belonging to a Society like ours.

See the magazine through our A.B.S. Library and then order your own membership. It will benefit you and both our Societies. Address: The American Horticultural Society, 821 Washington Loan and Trust Bldg., Washington, D. C.

LOBELIAS — STANDBYS

• For delightful cascades of blue from your larger potted plants or hanging baskets, plant trailing lobelia just within the edge of the pot or top of wall in part shade. The plants will not be long in blooming and while the flowering period lasts quite awhile, it is natural that the blooms should finally reach a point of decadence. When this happens, shear the spent branches back to 6" from the root and others will quickly replace the old ones.

A PAT ON THE BACK

"We have just received our third copy of THE BEGONIAN. We want you to know what a wonderful little magazine we find it to be. It has helped us 'no end' already, particularly in raising seeds. We wish the Society all success and the same to your grand magazine. Sincerely,

(Signed) O. G. Redwood, Calif."

We bow our thanks and hope to keep on pleasing you.—*The Editor*.

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THE DIRECTOR'S ROUND ROBIN

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

PART II

● An Oregon member used an electric cable beneath her seed flat, which was filled with fine gravel to within an inch of the top. The top layer was three-quarters sifted peat and one-quarter leafmold. This was sterilized by baking in the oven. A small potato was put in the center of the soil and when the potato was done the soil was done also. The flat was cooled for 24 hours, then soaked from the bottom and drained well before sowing the seed, which was covered with a wet newspaper. The top soil was dusted with fine charcoal to prevent damping-off, and a crystal of permanganate of potash added when watering. Down in Maine an enthusiast is growing seeds in an old oil-stove oven with an electric light for heat. Seed has also been planted in small glass dishes set inside a glass jar. Across the continent, in California, seedlings are being grown over a chicken brooder, and in a glass grocer's case, with a 75-watt light wired to a thermostat, keeping the temperature at 70°. Another good way is to put an inch of damp garden soil in a square glass fruit jar, sprinkle the seed on the soil, seal the jar and forget it for eight or ten days, when the seedlings will appear. Seed planted the last of January was transplanted in early April. This member has 26 kinds of begonia seed growing in fruit jars.

Some members complain that apparently healthy, vigorous plants—Haageana, for instance—never bloom. This shows the need

of fertilizer, or perhaps more heat or light. A push is needed somewhere, as there is not enough vigor to produce blooms. It should be remembered that occasionally plant stock is barren, as humans are, and will never bloom. Sometimes this is caused by too many cuttings taken from the parent plant, until the vigor is exhausted. Try some new stock. A California member is having trouble with Washington Street. The plant grows well all summer, but soon after it is brought inside, it develops spots, turns yellow and drops leaves and branches. It has never bloomed. Has anyone else had this experience? Why not try another plant of this variety, from different stock, and see how that will behave. If the results are the same, then local conditions must be blamed, and a change of soil, water and general care is indicated. We have very contradictory reports on Tea Rose. Such widely separated growers as Florida, northern California and Massachusetts report that it will not bloom, indoors or out, and southern California and Connecticut grow fine large plants, full of blooms, without any trouble. Ruby Jewel, a double flowered calla begonia, we find much hardier and easier to grow than the original temperamental beauty.

On the other hand, some varieties, the double semperflorens, for instance, will almost bloom themselves to death. When the plant shows exhaustion by producing smaller flowers and leaves pick off nearly all buds and flowers, let the plant rest for a short time, then fertilize.

(Part III, Next Month)

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BEGONIA EVANSIANA IN SOUTHERN MAINE

● Having tried this begonia outside for five years with no success as to wintering, I have come to the conclusion that *B. evansiana* is not sufficiently hardy to withstand our winters the temperature of which averages about 10 degrees below zero in West Harpswell and the snow coverage varies from nothing to several feet. I have, however, been able to winter *B. evansiana* in the following manners. First: The tubers and the bulbils were collected as soon as they ripened off. Three ten-inch bulb pans were used, two tubers and twelve bulbils planted in each. Second: The first pan was placed on a shelf in back of the greenhouse, allowed to remain dry but watered about once a month. The temperature varied about 80 degrees on sunny days to 40 degrees on very cold nights, this being a cool plant-house. Pan planted on October first started to grow on the 25th of March.

Third: The second pan was set on a high shelf in the kitchen and watered only once around Feb. 1st. The daily temperature may have reached 70 degrees a few times with an average of 60 degrees while night temperatures varied from 60 to 35 degrees but largely around 45-degree average. The first growth appeared on April 16th, after the pot had been placed in the greenhouse on March 1st and watered regularly. This one also was planted on October 1st.

Fourth: The third pan was placed in the cellar on October 1st and watered thoroughly but not again during the winter. This pan was brought into the greenhouse March 1st and watered regularly. No growth had as yet appeared on April 27th, but the contents appeared to be sound. The average temperature of the cellar is 42 degrees. The cellar is light enough so that the geraniums grow nicely therein all the winter.

From these experiments, I have arrived at the conclusion that *B. evansiana* should be treated as a pot plant in southern Maine.

Send Questions To Mr. Parker

Q. Can you recommend a good mixture for growing Rex Begonias?

A. A mixture found favorable by many growers consists of one part good loam, two parts good leaf mold not screened too fine, one part sand, one-half to one-third well rotted cow manure and some fine broken charcoal. It should be remembered that a good loamy soil is essential and if you do not feel sure of your soil it would be better to procure some from a reliable nursery supply house.

Excerpt From Letter re Caladiums and "Robins"

"I have the Caladiums you mentioned—Marie Moire, candidum, O. V. Zanghrin. Mr. Zanghrin formerly had his nursery near here, so they tell me. I have nearly 200 varieties of Caladiums and so I'm constantly on the lookout for new varieties. However, the more one gets, the harder it is to find new and interesting varieties.

"Please let me know more about how the Begonia Society functions, and particularly the Round Robin.

M. O. K. Okeechobee, Fla."

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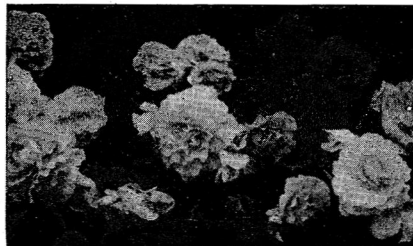
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**CONDENSED MINUTES NATIONAL BOARD, A.B.S.,
HELD JULY 22nd, 1946, IN L. A. PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Meeting called to order with President Hart presiding.

Board members present: Messrs. Hart, Hawkins, Lawrence, Nelson, Dere, Mesdames McRae, Wilkes, Hartwell, Crowder.

Minutes meeting June 24th read, and after correction duly noted, approved.

Reports of Editor, Membership Fees Chairman, and Treasurer, read; approved as read and filed as part of the Minutes.

President Hart reported on his recent visit to Capitola where he met with the San Francisco Branch and judging by his report, a very enthusiastic meeting was held and very much enjoyed by all attending. San Francisco Branch sent 25 dollars to San Diego for Convention Fund.

Bills oked and ordered paid by the Treasurer.

Mr. Lawrence called attention to the joint meeting with the Horticultural Society to be held August 5th and urged members to attend and to bring in their choice plants; asked Representative Directors to take this word back to their branches and get all the support possible to make it a successful meet. Mr. Lawrence also spoke briefly on the Annual Convention and Flower Show at San Diego August 31st, and explained the plan for the flower show and the different classifications—for full particulars see the August *BEGONIAN*. Banquet will be held at the Woman's Club House; important to make reservations early; many garden tours planned; banquet, \$2.00 per plate; make your hotel reservations direct and Secretaries of Branches will have lists of hotels and rates. Try to take some plants to enter in the show.

Public Relations Director Mrs. Drummond and Seed Fund Chairman Mrs. Carrell unable to be present.

Librarian Mrs. Crowder stated she had sold all the Bessie Buxton books and had sent in an order for 50 more; would have a complete report on the Library at the Annual meeting and also have some of the Buxton books on hand for anyone wishing same.

Treasurer Hawkins moved "That the Treasurer be given permission to pay bills during August, checking with Mr. Lawrence." Second, Mrs. Wilkes. CARRIED.

REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTORS

Mrs. Bayer (Glendale): We are having our meeting tomorrow night; round table discussion; questions to be answered and plants named. We are having a Begonia Show and dinner on Oct. 5th.

Mrs. McRae (Glendale): We did have a garden tour a week ago last Sunday; they were all very nice and I appreciated all the guests I had that day.

Mr. Cocke (Hollywood): At our last meeting we had our picnic; very successful; awarded a number of plants and had a guessing contest. I might mention that at our September meeting we are having a flower show—second Thursday in September. Invite everyone to come.

Mr. Hixon, Parent Branch, Long Beach: Mr. Christiansen is our new President and we are going ahead. The North Long Beach Branch had a big visitation tour and had a dinner, also plant sale, etc., which was a success. Sending 100 dollars to Convention Fund.

Mr. Bailey (Pasadena): Mrs. Wilkes our last speaker; good meeting and everyone enjoyed the talk.

Mr. Walton (Inglewood): I was not at the last meeting so I cannot report on it.

Mrs. Heth (Foothill Branch): Last meeting was a picnic, with about 60 people attending, including several guests. On August 11th we will have our Garden Visitation; starts in the morning and then at 1 o'clock we will meet at the Park for lunch. We are hoping to have Mr. Hart as our guest speaker in August.

President Hart reported ballots for the officers for next year will be in the August issue of *THE BEGONIAN* and asked Representative Directors to take the message back to their branches to send in ballots promptly so they can be tabulated.

Introduction of three candidates present: Mr. Walton, Mr. Cocke and Mr. Hixon.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Will you tell me how to care for my African Violets, how can I make them bloom as they did when I got them?

A. The question indicates that the plants probably came from a florist or nursery and consequently were grown under the conditions most favorable to them. The change from those conditions to the home would cause a check in the growth and behavior of the plants. Heat and humidity are needed for good growth. They should not be exposed to a temperature of less than 60 to 65 degrees night temperature; the regular clay pot is preferable to the glazed pot. The pot should be allowed to stand on pebbles or gravel which should be kept moist at all times but the pot should not be permitted to stand in actual water for any time longer than necessary to thoroughly moisten the soil. This plant seems to bloom better when overpotted, which is the exception to the general rule, and while the soil should be kept moist it should never be kept at the point of saturation.

Watering should be done with lukewarm water and care should be exercised not to allow water to remain on the foliage, especially if the water is cold as this will result in spots or white rings. When blossoms drop before opening generally too low temperature or humidity or both will be the cause. When the blossoms reach full size but soon slide off. This is natural in this plant as they pollinate very easily and immediately following pollination the blossom will of course slide off. Propagation is done by division or more preferably by leaf cuttings in the spring. For growing medium, use well-rotted leaf mold that is not too acid, a little loam and coarse sand and cow manure well rotted, a teaspoon of bone meal to a five-inch pot and about a quarter of a teaspoon of muriate of potash will prove very satisfactory.

Q. Several of my Tuberous Begonias have brown spots on the leaves. What might be the cause?

A. More than one thing can cause such a condition. If the plants are in the ground one might suppose that they are exposed to too hot a blast of the noon-day sun. If they are in pots—too much or too strong a fertilizer or irregular watering and allowing the pots to become dry. Never allow the plants to become prematurely pot bound.

Closing time for the Library made it imperative that the meeting adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

GONDA HARTWELL, Corres. Sec.

Meeting Dates and Places

The next meeting of the American Begonia Society Board will take place in Model Room, 7:30 p.m.,

Los Angeles, California

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, 7:30 p.m.

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

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

Wednesday, Sept. 4th, 6 p.m., "Pot Luck"

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

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, Sept. 4th, 7:45 p.m.

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

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, Sept. 5th,

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

FOOTHILL BRANCH

Friday, Sept. 6th, 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, Sept. 9th, 7:30 p.m.

La Mesa Grammar School, La Mesa, Calif.
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. J. Porter Hock
5881 Vale Way, San Diego 5

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Monday, Sept. 9th, 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, Sept. 10th, 7:30 p.m.

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

PASADENA BRANCH

Tuesday, Sept. 10th, 7:30 p.m.

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

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Tuesday, Sept. 10th, 8 p.m.

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

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, Sept. 12th, 8 p.m.

325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Mildred Dressel, Secretary
432 W. Fairview, Inglewood, Calif.
"Country Store," Capt. Roy Dere.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, Sept. 12th, 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, Sept. 12th, 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, Sept. 13th, 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Esther L. Randall, Sec., 3638 Cerritos Ave.
Long Beach 7, Calif.
Home of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Aillon,
4404 Greenbrier Rd., Lakewood Village.

SEQUOIA BRANCH

Friday, Sept. 13th, 7:30 p.m.

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

PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Irregular Meetings

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

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Tuesday, Sept. 17th

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

SO. ALAMEDA CO. BRANCH

Thursday, Sept. 19th, 8 p.m.

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

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, Sept. 23rd

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

WHITTIER BRANCH

Tuesday, Sept. 24th, 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, Sept. 24th, 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, Sept. 24th, 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, Sept. 27th, 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, Sept. 27th, 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

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