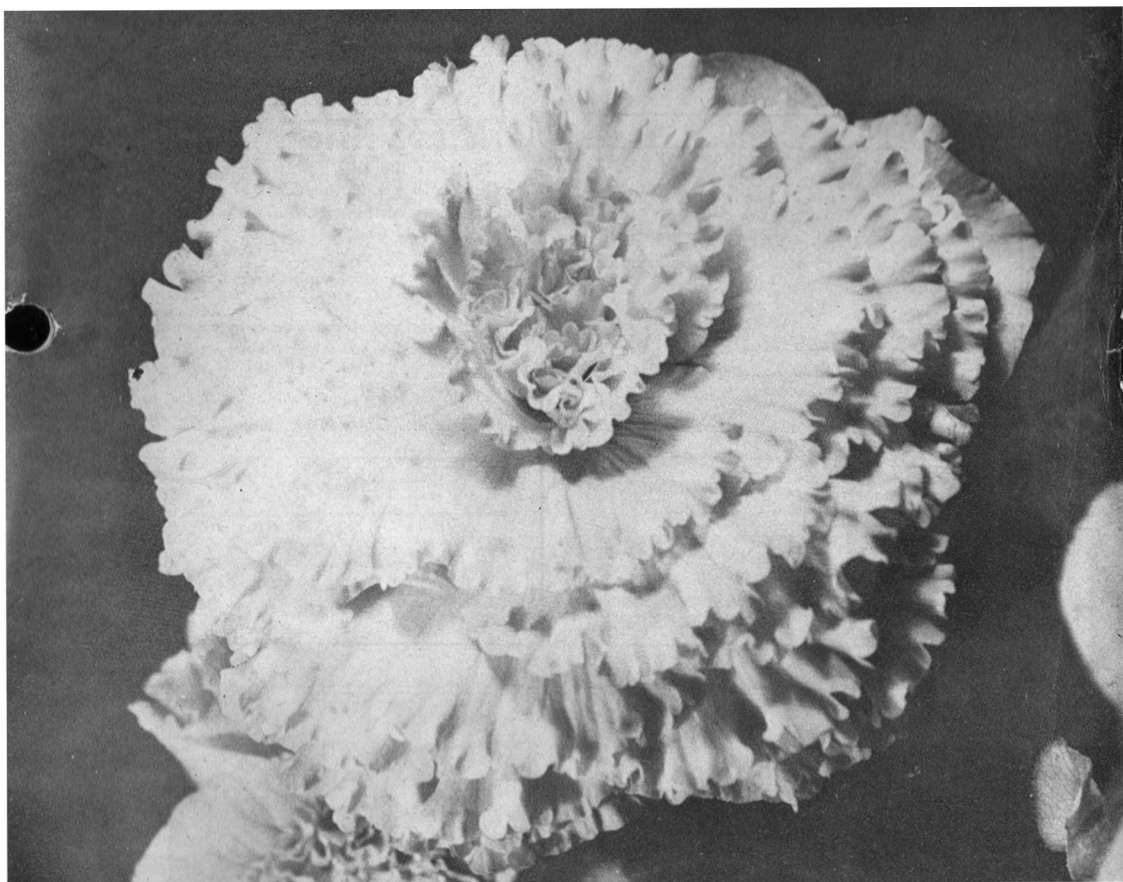


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VOL. XV — No. 6

JUNE, 1948

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Monthly Publication of the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

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The next meeting of the American Begonia Society board will be held in the Los Angeles City Hall, Room 55, 7:30 p.m., Monday, June 28th, 1948. Park Lower Garage South Entrance on Main.

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CONTENTS

Begonia Tuberhybrida Fimbriata Plena crispa.....	126
(Front page)	
WE HONOR OUR FOUNDERS.....	122-123
FERNS — with photos.....	124-125
Annual Convention — and Flower Show.....	126
Flower Show Dedicated to Founders' Month.....	126
Are Begonias People?.....	127-128
Colored Slide Library.....	128
Try a Cloth House for Your Rexes.....	129
About Our Begonia Editor.....	129
Begonia CRESTABRUCHI with Sketch.....	130-131
The A.B.S. Committee on Rewards.....	132

A Visit to Oakland, California in Show Time.....	133
Seed Fund News for June.....	134
Humidity in The Garden.....	135
Branch News.....	136-138-139
Questions and Answers.....	135
Flower Show Announcements.....	136
Round Robin News for June.....	137
Begonia Quiz Program.....	137 & 139
Propagation Box or Seed Incubator.....	137
Board Minutes.....	138
Hollywood Begonia Day.....	139
Calendar.....	140

We Honor Our Founders . . .

Mrs. Rose Hixon, Long Beach, California

American Begonia Society members, may be found in every State of the Union, in Canada, in the countries south of our border, in Europe, Africa, far off Australia, in the islands of the sea to the mountains and jungles of the Orient. Horticulturists, seed distributors, nurserymen, Round Robin writers, Seed collectors have given Our Society world-wide recognition. Now that the membership in The American Begonia Society has become International in scope, we pause to do honor to the few men who formed the nucleus of our society. Begonia growing and collecting is still a hobby just as it was in 1931. A hobby in which flower lovers everywhere and under various weather conditions, find an added thrill and zest for living. Hobbies are as numerous as the people who pursue them, but no one had selected Begonias as a collectors' item until Herbert P. Dyckman displayed some of the choice specimens of his collection at the Long Beach Dahlia Show in the fall of 1931. The exhibit was so unique that it attracted the attention of flower lovers in Southern California. Those who attended the Show that year were so impressed that Mr. Dyckman was besieged with inquiries. Having collected some thousand Begonias with possibly one hundred and twenty-five varieties, he was well qualified to answer the many questions showered upon him. He talked and corresponded with many flower enthusiasts, giving and gaining information on Begonia nomenclature and culture. Ultimately a small local group was formed to study the plant family that had won their hearts. The group became known as The California Begonia Society. They met once a month at the homes of their members and Mr. Dyckman, their founder was chosen as their first president. The men who were

interested with him in this unique hobby and who contributed a great deal toward the success of the Society were: the late Roy Berry, L. G. Wylie, R. S. Hunt, the late C. M. Kelly, Fred Riedman, Roy McGaughery, J. Paul Walker and Carl Fisher. To quote from a local news item of the time "Eventually, it is hoped the organization will become state-wide, it being the only one of its kind in existence. The membership will be open to all begonia growers and the meetings will be programmed by talks on the culture of the plant, propagation from seed, soil preparation, feeding, etc."

The enthusiasm of these men was so infectious and their ladies provided the congenial setting for the meetings that the Society grew by leaps and bounds. Questions were asked or sent in by mail and the need for information was great. Only one book on Begonias was available, so the members pooled their experiences, compared notes and plants and wrote down their findings, which were later published as Cultural Bulletins. Needed information on Nomenclature and Classification was supplied by The New York Botanical Journal, the Horticultural Society and the late A. D. Robinson of Rosecroft Begonia Gardens, Point Loma, San Diego. Compiling this information and using their old standby, Bailey's Encyclopedia the group had their first official material to work with.

Due to the wonderful response on the part of the general public, the interest of friends in flower and garden clubs and encouraged by newspaper write-ups, Begonia exhibits were soon held annually, resulting in greater enthusiasm and an increase in membership. Small lath-houses sprang up in every part of the city of Long Beach, porches were glassed

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... Of the American Begonia Society

in and all available spaces between buildings or under trees were sheltered and utilized, for it was apparent that the Begonia needed some protection.

With many of the members, Begonias were a most fascinating hobby, with some it became a life work, for they expanded raising all kinds of garden and shade plants and they became commercial growers and distributors. The begonia hobbyist remained in the majority and tourists from all over the continent who attended the Society's meetings and their Begonia Shows, joined with the local group and so spread the gospel of the Begonia.

It became a necessity to give the members not connected with any local group, some idea of the progress made. A complete record of the Society's activities, the monthly meetings, Garden Tours, Begonia Shows and the inspirational and educational talks given by members, was typewritten and distributed, thus giving everyone a working knowledge on soil preparation, fertilization and propagation. Since many of the members had tried propagation by seed, leaves and cuttings and some had tried their hand at hybridization and been more successful, these typewritten items of interest to the general membership proved most helpful. Members became acquainted not only with the gardens in the Los Angeles area but visitations were made to various gardens up and down the coast, which imparted new ideas and knowledge of new varieties of Begonias and other shade plants and furnished inspiration and interest to old and new members alike.

Upon the advice of the late A. D. Robinson, the name of the Society was changed to The American Begonia Society so as to include our out-of-state members. In 1932 the number of members had increased from nine to twenty-

five, and when Mr. Dyckman was again elected President in 1933, there were forty-seven names on the membership list. "Begonia Notes"—was sent out in mimeographed form. By 1934 the Society boasted of one hundred and five members and the first Begonia Flower Show was the big event of the year. In 1935 the famous "Begonia Song" was written and introduced by Tom Smith. In 1936 there were one hundred and sixty-five members and the mimeographed "Begonia Notes" became "The Monthly Bulletin." The Bulletin contained many pages filled with accounts of the Society's activities and helpful information, appreciated to this day by those who patronized the Parent Chapter Library.

1937 stands out as a banner year for The American Begonia Society, for in May of that year Mrs. Kathryn Weitz of Ventura organized the Society's first Branch and named it Theodosia Burr Shepherd in honor of an early resident of Ventura and one of California's first flower and seed growers. In spite of the big freeze the Begonia Show held in the fall of 1937 was the usual success.

The foundation for The American Begonia Society was firmly laid by the nine original members. At no time has the foundation of the Society been threatened although it has suffered growing pains with small internal dissensions and waves of indifference.

As a National Society, with approximately three thousand members and thirty-eight active Branches, we The American Begonia Society are proud to devote the month of July 10 to August 10, to our Founders, honoring these men two of whom have passed on. Our slogan is "Flowers for Our Founders." A SALUTE TO THEM as we give them the plaudits they so richly deserve.

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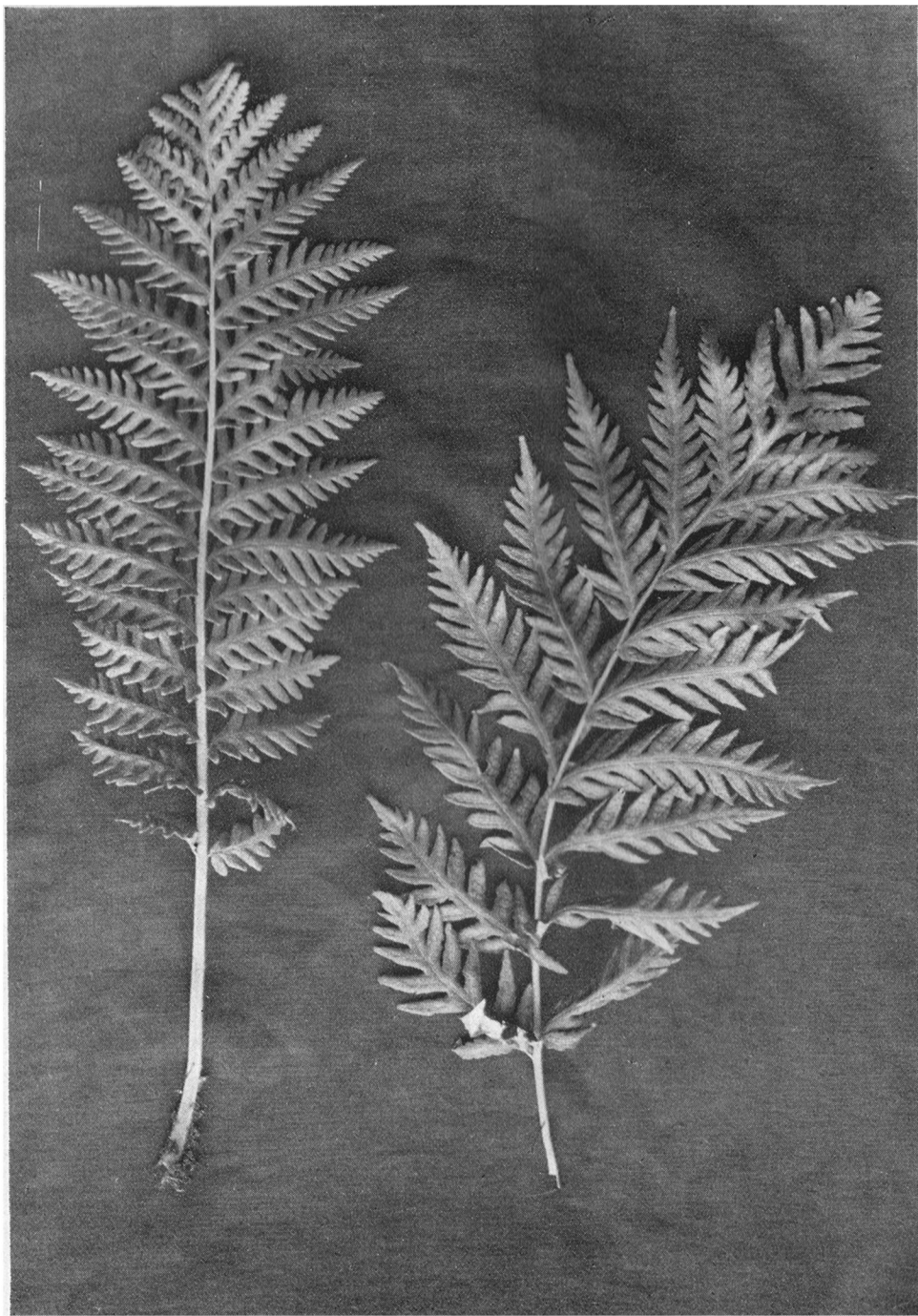
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Photos by Ernest Williams, So. Pasadena, Calif.

WOODWARDIA RADICANS

Leatherman's Gardens

Opposite: **STENOCHLAENA PALUSTRIS (Scandens)**

FERNS

By Sylvia B. Leatherman, El Monte, California

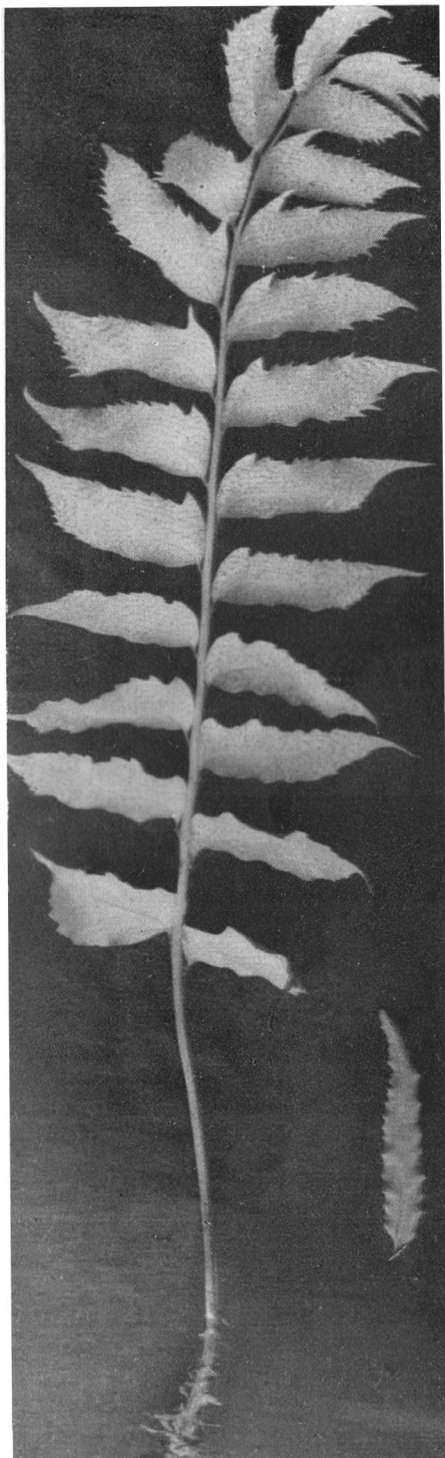
Ferns for our gardens and for naturalizing! Many a person has bemoaned the fact that he cannot find ferns for this purpose. There is a wealth of material in our American Native Ferns. Provide them with good drainage, woodsy soil and ample moisture and they will readily adapt themselves to your gardens. For companion plants for begonias, fuchsias and camellias one could not find anything lovelier than ferns. From time to time I will try and tell you of some of these ferns that will grow in your gardens.

One of our eastern native ferns seen quite often in California is the *Woodwardia radicans*. It is a bold plant and ideal for a background planting. It is often called Chain Fern, the parallel rows of linear fruit-dots (spore cases) spaced in a chain form suggests the name. The three to seven foot arching fronds are once-pinnate, the lower pinnae partly again pinnate. The tips of these fronds often produce bulbils and from these new plants grow. It is an evergreen fern. In winter the fronds become quite dark. In spring the new fronds uncurl and are of a pleasing medium shade of green. It is a heavy textured fern. It can be grown on the north or east side of a wall or building or under lath or where it will get filtered sunlight.

For our second fern we will jump to the other extreme. *Stenochlaena palustris* (scandens) is an ideal fern for a wire hanging basket. It is a tropical climbing epiphytic fern. This fern has shining leathery leaves and is a lovely light green. The leaves are once pinnate. In their native haunts this plant will grow fronds four feet long. My fern has never reached this size and the fronds are from twelve to sixteen inches long. Each plant is rather a slow grower but after it reaches a fair size it grows quite fast. Due to the fact it is a climbing fern it will grow over the side of the basket and creep around the moss and make a lovely green ball. This fern originally came from India, South China and Australia. Being tropical it will not tolerate temperatures that drop below freezing. If you are fortunate to live where you can grow other tropical plants outside, this fern will do nicely under lath. Otherwise it must be grown in a hot house or a house where it can be given humidity.

Many people make a mistake by planting a small plant in a large basket. It is always wise to grow plants lowered into a four inch pot and then shift it to a basket. They will then have a good root system and the plant will then take hold and grow much better.

(See FERNS: page 126)



STENOCHLAENA PALUSTRIS
(Scandens)

Annual National Convention and Flower Show, Glendale, Calif. September 11th and 12th, 1948

The Super Colossal event of the year which we all await so keenly is taking shape. Mark these dates on your calendar NOW, and make it a *must* to attend this Convention.

Groom your best plants and have them ready to bring to the show which will be held in The Civic Auditorium, with plenty of room and facilities. There will be many prizes and ribbons for the lucky ones, if you need any extra incentive.

Plans are being made for extensive and interesting garden visitations, entertainment, and a BARBECUE DINNER, along with many other worth while activities.

Watch for further announcements in the July issue of The Begonian. Shortly, letters will be mailed to all of the branches detailing our complete program.

Come to Glendale, California, in September. You will enjoy a pleasant week-end and we shall be happy to renew old acquaintances as well as make new friends, and so will you.—Harold Hart, Chairman of Publicity, 1314 Dorothy Drive, Glendale, California.

Don't tell us at the show you have a better one at home! If you have only one, bring it to the exhibit and let us enjoy it with you! However, the more the better.

FERNS: from page 5

To plant a wire basket use green sphagnum if you possibly can get it. Brown sphagnum is used in cases where the green moss can not be obtained. The brown sphagnum deteriorates too soon. When working with the moss have it wet as it is much easier to work. Line your form being very liberal with the moss. An ideal way is to then place an empty pot in your basket and fill in with your soil, gently packing it in place. Water this and keep it moist. If spots sink in fill in with more soil. After this has set a week or two twist the empty pot out and you then have the cavity to receive your plant.

When watering a basket do it with a fine spray of water so the soil will not be washed out. A certain amount of the soil leeches out and this should be replaced. Each spring we give a top dressing to all our basket plants. We use one half oak leaf mold and one half well rotted steer manure. This replaces the soil lost in watering and is also beneficial to the plants.

Third Annual Show Dedicated to Founders' Month

*By Dorothy Bayliss
Southern Alameda County Branch*

It is with pleasure that the Southern Alameda County Branch announces its Third Annual Begonia and Shade Plant Show set for the dates of July 24 and 25 at the Botany Gardens at the Hayward Union High school grounds.

In a little over one month's time flower lovers will again enjoy one of the most beautiful events slated for the Hayward area when our members stage their out-door show. A suggested theme is "Begonia Paradise," but the exact wording has not been decided upon at this writing.

The Botany Gardens provide an ideal background with its well arranged plantings of shrubs and trees. There will be a number of guest participants in the show this year, neighboring garden clubs will be invited to display.

Members will again compete for prizes for the best in individual displays. The favorite subject again will be miniature shade gardens, either informal, formal or natural gardens. The major prize awarded to the winner will be the "DeBernardi Trophy" presented to the Branch last year by a civic minded citizen of Hayward, and won by our branch secretary. The trophy must be won three times by an amateur before that person becomes permanent owner.

Flower arrangements, guest speakers, refreshments, and other activities will be housed in the Botany building which is located on the grounds.

Furthered plans will be made available through the next issue. Our first president, Chas. Perry is the show chairman and hopes with cooperation from all members to present an outstanding floral display. Our members will dedicate the show to FOUNDERS MONTH and will present a short program acquainting the public with the "Royal Hobby of Growing Begonias."

Begonia Tuberhybrida Fimbriata Plena Crispa

By Charlotte M. Hoak, South Pasadena

The picture on our cover this month is one of Vetterle & Reinelt's exquisite creations, the last word in color, form and intricate petalage resembling a huge carnation. To better enjoy this picture turn the magazine to the right sidewise.

ARE BEGONIAS PEOPLE?

By Robert Fontaine, Springfield, Mass.

Several years ago, when I moved into an apartment without sun, and frequently without heat, my friends had a rash of giving me pink *semperflorens* begonias at the drop of a birthday or anniversary. These flowers were usually in air-and-water-tight containers and they died promptly, in the mid-winter dryness of a New England apartment.

At first I was just annoyed. Then I was irked. Ultimately I began to read and ask questions. Sheer stubbornness, that's all. I wasn't interested in begonias. I was interested in music, painting, hockey, chess and my wife and two children. I had enough trouble.

But no begonia can rear up and plain die on me without I know the reason why. So I began making auto trips to nearby greenhouses, reading botany, horticulture, chemistry of the soil, nutrition in plants and human beings and so on . . . You know, you could go on forever like that.

So I bought some more *semperflorens* and this time they didn't die. I put them in clay pots, watered them from the bottom, sprayed the leaves and gave them plenty of electric light.

Next thing you know I was reading lists and sending to North Street Greenhouse and Leatherman's Gardens and who-not, for this begonia or that begonia until the apartment got full of them. So I painted up an old chest with flat black and made a few Mexican designs on it. Stood all the plants on the chest . . . put the chest in front of the window and placed the whole thing in my study.

The results were gratifying. Nothing died all winter. Everything that's supposed to bloom, bloomed. Scarcely a wilted leaf . . . and this with about forty varieties including several double and semi-double.

Well, it made my study something of a thing of beauty and it cured my bronchitis. The high incidence of respiratory infections during dry winter indoor weather is well-known. The number of cases ties with the drop in relative humidity almost precisely.

However, with forty plants, sprayed regularly, in the room, the relative humidity has gone up from a normal 18 to 20 to around 40 which is close to perfect for comfort, health and begonias. (Presuming a temperature of 68-70). Anyway I didn't have a cough all winter.

The object of this little piece is not to cure bronchitis, however, but to offer what small notions an amateur has for growing begonias

under bad, indoor, Northern conditions . . . mostly with very little sunlight at any time of the year.

I think twice-a-day spraying of leaves is probably as important as anything. I use a laundry spray when I can get it away from my wife. It's a small bottle with a spray nozzle and sends out a very light stream which doesn't harm wall paper or rugs.

I think the accident of very cold (as low at 45 sometimes) rooms helped harden my begonias.

I think the use of a clear 75 watt bulb in a reflector will keep most winter-blooming begonias blooming, if it supplements normal north light. I have a photographer's reflector with a 75 watt bulb in. This is enough, apparently to take care of thirty or forty banked plants. We take them from the light for a few days and scatter them around the house and on the dinner table . . . alternating them so that they get back to the light and spray every few days.

I use prepared begonia soil which I bought from Leatherman's Gardens. I don't believe they sell this regularly. I mention it because it is ideal soil and may account for some success.

I water all the plants by immersing them in water from the tap at room temperature, sometimes warmer. I feed them a complete plant food about once every two weeks. Not a fertilizer. This is a complete food for hydroponic culture.

I have more success, so help me, slipping begonias in water than in sand or soil. Even leaves of *aureo maculata*, or whatever it is . . . with the big yellow splotches . . . rooted from a leaf stem in water!

I have picked up a lot of chance seedlings, (apparently) by roaming around greenhouses and looking under benches, etc. I just picked up a new one to me . . . a *semperflorens* type with white flowers, scarlet centers . . . light green leaves with bright red veins . . . and very, very ruffled leaves. I refer to greenhouses who do not specialize in begonias. Begonia growers, of course, hang on to any strange mutations.

I have begun an experiment of spraying leaves with a ten per cent sugar solution. Botanists have recently decided that this sort of spray takes the place, frequently, of the sunlight. I don't recommend this. I am trying it on some old plants. I think something will have to be added to keep the sugary water from causing mold.

(See next page)

Incidentally, in the winter, I spray all types of leaves, hairy or not. Nothing seems to happen.

Recently I have come to using a therapeutic steam vaporizer in the room when the humidity is below thirty. This is the usual drug store vaporizer for coughs, etc. Mine is particularly nice since it is plastic and runs about eight hours when filled. It makes a difference of about ten degrees in the humidity, causing the begonias to grow and me to feel fine, thank you. It costs about 75 cents a month because it burns 300 watts.

Well, that is only the first year . . . next year maybe something new will happen. I am thinking seriously of adding traces of iodine to the water and see what happens. All animals and people need it . . . maybe begonias do too. I'll let you know.

So that brings us to the conclusion . . . (sure it does) . . . that begonias *are* people. If you feel terrible and dry and ill in a desert-like apartment . . . sad because of the lack of light, so do begonias. Keep them moist, keep them bright, keep them well fed and they'll be beautiful. Well, who won't?

Composts are much in limelight just now—what are your convictions on the subject?

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COLORED SLIDE LIBRARY

By Grace L. Bayer.

Some time ago, I made an appeal to the branches and the members to give support to our new project, a colored slide Library. To date, I have 184 slides, almost enough to make four groups and I will be most happy to accept requests for them in the order that they are received, but I would advise your sending a choice of a second date. Slides will be available to all the branches, the only requirement being postage and insurance. The branch requesting these slides should have a projector and a screen.

I understand some of the branches are planning to pay for a roll of film and have one of their members visit the members' gardens to take pictures of their choice plants in color or black and white. Others are planning some activity, the proceeds of which will be presented to the library, while still others are having duplicates made of member's private collections. I have been informed that this work is being done very successfully, but it may take a little time.

As it will take a great number of slides to make this library really worth while, the contributions of the branches will be greatly appreciated. The branches which participate in this activity will receive full credit when the pictures are sent out.

I wish at this time to thank the following donors for their most welcome support to this worthy project. Mrs. Helen K. Krauss, Nomenclature Director, 89; Anonymous, 10; Mr. Frank E. Horton, Hayward, Calif., 22; Ventura Branch, 20; Mrs. G. W. W. Barton, Flint, Mich., 1; Mrs. J. C. Jenks, Hollywood, Calif.; Mrs. R. Holberg, Glendale, Calif., 1; and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hixon, Long Beach for use of slides.

GROUPS AVAILABLE

Selection No. 1 consisting of Rex, Fibrous, Rare types, and Tuberous.

Selection No. 2, Rex, Fibrous, Rare types, and Tuberous, but different from the above.

Selection No. 3, miscellaneous Shade plants.

Selection No. 4, the spring hat parade of the Ventura Branch, and the balance miscellaneous.

For further information, please contact your chairman.

Mrs. Grace L. Bayer, 907 N. Pass Ave., Burbank, California.

Pictures for reproduction are best with plain or neutral backgrounds.

TRY A CLOTH HOUSE FOR YOUR REXES

By Mrs. Dorothy Behrends, Los Angeles, California

The average amateur shade plant gardener may grow beautiful rex begonias, having lush foliage, by growing them in a cloth house.

The benefits derived from a cloth house are numerous. They are used to raise the humidity (moisture in the air), reduce the intensity of sunlight, protect the plants from wind injury

PLEASE NOTE! BEGONIA DAY

We erred in presenting June 22nd instead of JUNE 15th, as Begonia Day Garden Conference to be held by The American Begonia Society and sponsored by The Los Angeles Garden Center with Mr. Gordon Baker Lloyd in charge. The whole day session will be productive of much BEGONIA information and all members and friends are invited to come and hear the group of speakers and see the exhibits. A small registration fee of 25c is charged. Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, Calif.

ABOUT OUR "BEGONIAN"

"Say Au Revoir - - Not Goodbye"

With this issue—I shall terminate my activities as editor of The Begonian. My successor, Mrs. Dorothy Behrends, Los Angeles, Calif., will probably do better by this favorite magazine of mine and I look forward to the enjoyment of it every month as you have looked to me. She has my sincerest good wishes for all success and happiness.

To one and all, everywhere, I send forth my personal thanks and heartfelt appreciation for the splendid cooperation I have been given so generously through the years of my association with THE BEGONIAN.

In my forthcoming association with Alfred Carl Hottes, in the publication to be issued by The Pacific Long Beach Flower Shows, Inc., it will still be my pleasure and constant effort to try to be of service in any capacity at my command. With my "Adieu"—I shall also say "Au-revoir" at the Annual Convention of the American Begonia Society in Glendale, but before that, at the MID-SUMMER Flower Show at Long Beach, August 5, 6, 7 and 8, with BEGONIAS as one of the major groups of lovely flowering plants.

With renewed expressions of gratitude for all kindnesses from everyone who has helped me to make The Begonian a fine little magazine WITH A FUTURE.

Very sincerely yours,
Maria Wilkes

and make insect pests negligible. Many acres of cloth houses are used in California by commercial growers, but the home grower may follow the same principles. These may be as inexpensive or expensive as the individual desires, as they may be built on a small scale as portable houses, 4x4x6 feet for growing purposes only, or the houses may be built on a larger scale. The larger houses afford more opportunity to arrange attractive plantings.

Even those living near the coast may find it advisable to construct a cloth house, or place muslin over their lath houses in spring and summer, to further protect their plants from too great a movement of air. It has been suggested that rather than stretch cloth outside a lath house, it should be stretched and fastened inside (using thumb tacks) as the cloth will not be damaged by the wind so easily.

The lighter weight cloth is preferable as it will allow enough sunlight to filter through, making the colors in the leaves more pronounced, yet keeping the plant in an atmosphere where relative humidity may be partially controlled.

There are preservative preparations on the market, to waterproof canvas and tents, that may be used on the cloth to prolong its life and discourage attacks of fungi. Paraffine is not recommended or any paint containing linseed oil or other drying oils. Linseed oil has a tendency to become brittle when it dries, therefore the cloth will crack when folded, to store away at the end of the season. Be sure the cloth is dry before folding, to store.

Ventilation must also be considered and the new plastic screening is well recommended for this purpose. This will keep out insects carrying injurious diseases.

A damp crushed gravel rock path and a fogger nozzle (which may be attached to a garden hose) are splendid methods of creating humidity in the cloth house.

Our rexes make their most luxuriant growth during July and August in California and Florida. The months of August and September are the months of lush growth in the midwest and east. Previous to and during this time, if grown in surroundings of high relative humidity, little wind and indirect light, one will get the most out of these colorful plants.

It is to be remembered, there are other shade loving plants that respond beautifully, when grown in a cloth house.

With the Flower Show Season in full swing, all possible specimen rex begonia plants should be entered in these shows, as they always bring so many favorable comments.

B. CRESTABRUCHI

By Alice M. Clark, San Diego, California

Sometimes we find a begonia so amazing that it causes even a layman to stop and exclaim. Such is *B. crestabruchi*, introduced about 1938 by the Lewis Begonia Gardens in Rivera, California. It is a happy crossing of *B. manicata crispata* with *B. Sunderbruchi*, giving size and hardness to the first parent, which is usually a bit difficult to propagate. In California it is often grown in a basket where it makes a solid mass of rhizomes. One prize-winning specimen here was so thick with ruffled leaves that it looked like the neck ruffing of an Elizabethan court attendant.

Because of its lush growth, I never expected to sketch it. Mrs. Hunter drew my attention to it in March, and as I was seeking a model at Rosecroft Gardens I could not resist the rare combination of perfect flowers with fine foliage. The leaves were in good condition because it was in the glasshouse. Those outdoors at this season are bedraggled at blooming time, but in summer they are so heavily frilled that it is difficult to see the centers. Bear this in mind if your specimen differs from the illustration.

Like its two parents, *B. crestabruchi* has a thick rhizome but it is inclined to grow low like the Star family. The color is reddish-green, sprinkled with round white dots. A wide, pale-green stipule is at the base of each leaf stalk, its end twisted to a long point, with coarse white hairs on the incurved sides.

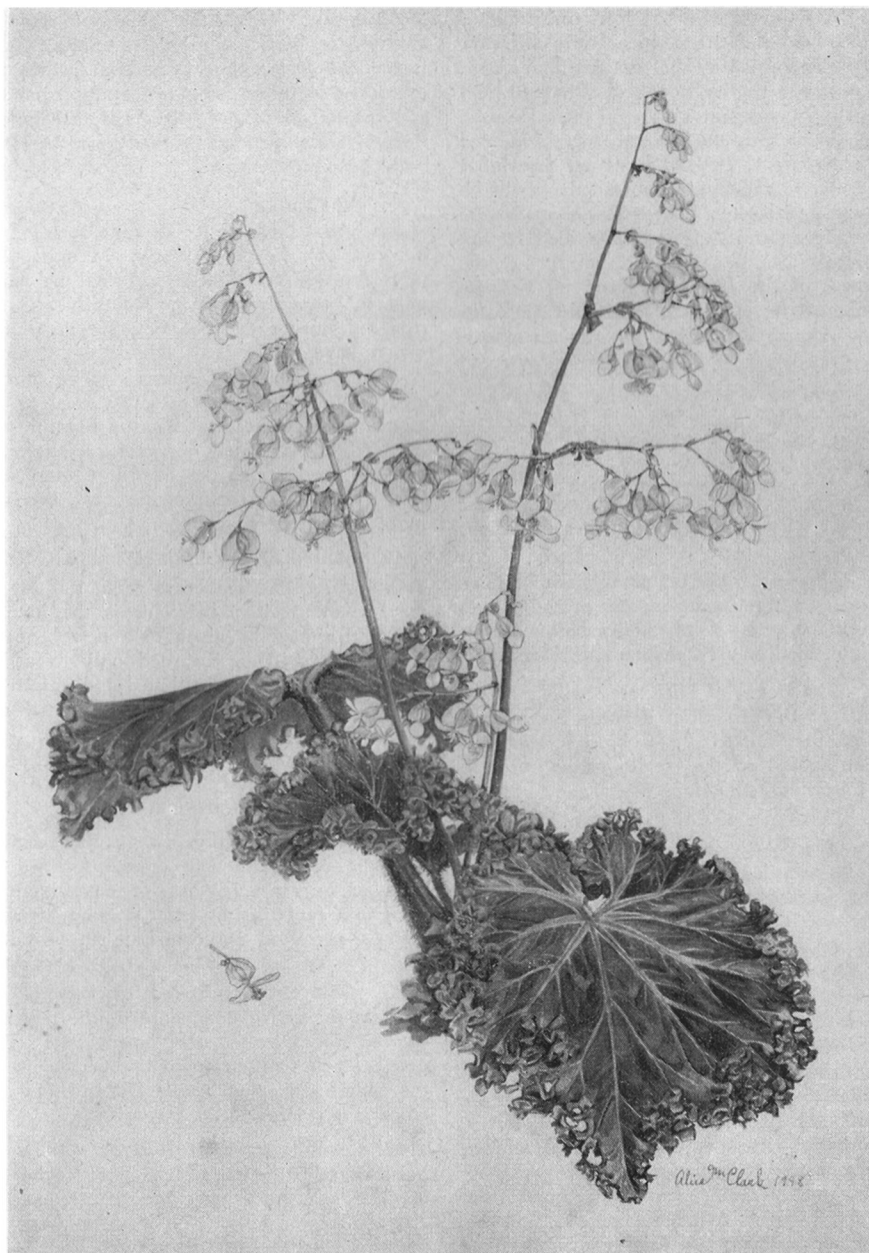
The new leaf appears as a tiny pink spear among thick hairs. It grows rapidly; light silky hairs showing against its dark surface, while longer stiffer ones make a collar at the neck of the pink twist even before it unfolds into a leaf. At maturity the petiole is six or more inches long and at least ½ inch wide, slightly flattened on each side. A watery, brownish-green in color, it is flecked with fine white streaks and red dots that mark the base of many white hairs.

Young or old, the crisp surface of the shining leaves gives the feeling of new grass. It is much duller beneath. The front leaf of my sketch measured 9 inches across. The ruffled edge is tinted with red or pink, like the curly lettuce we used to grow, the main veins of which there are eight or nine, are very conspicuous. The two upper ones form the top edge of the leaf, spreading an inch or more before breaking out into green ruffles. Each vein is the center of a full flounce, madly slashed and scalloped on the margin, which turns back to show the lighter lining and red

edge, tufted with fine white hairs. The lime-colored ribs have a tendon of pink running down each middle, which is quite red in some plants. On the reverse side, the veins are roundly elevated, punctuated with red-rooted hairs, and additional clusters of red bristles, reminiscent of *B. manicata*. *B. crestabruchi* looks more like its Star parent in form, (if the lobes were filled in,) as it has the single ring of coarse hairs at the base of the leaf and the strongly marked ribs. In color and curly margin, it favors the mother plant, except that the surface between the veins is fuller, giving the leaf a swish like the skirts of a colonial belle.

The longest flower stem in the drawing is 11 inches to the first intersection, 20 inches in all and a bit more than ¼ inch wide. It is a pale tone of reddish-green, striated with white, with a few fine hairs. There is a pair of bracts at each joint, thin membranes that turn brown as they persist. The main branches on the peduncle are one-sided, like *B. Sunderbruchi*. The male blooms were tiny round things that fell away long before they opened, but the pistillate flowers develop beautifully on their red-jointed pedicels that are about ½ inch long. Three pair of light yellow, untwisted stigma form the center of two, sometimes three, irregular rounded petals about half an inch long. Two wings of the ovary are alike, with the third more extended. A small bract tries to protect one side while a more slender one mounts guard over the keel of the other. The blooms I have painted are tinted pink, except for a touch of green over the seed-pod, but those on a plant in the lathouse, with overhead sunshine, are a bright rose.

Remember, when you view my sketch, that it is a small sample of *B. crestabruchi*, with only one rhizome that has not started to increase. In the month since it was painted, two more leaves have grown up into full view. If they had developed earlier this illustration would never have been finished. As it was, it took so long that it missed the deadline. It was weary work winding in and out of *B. crestabruchi*'s curlicues, often getting lost in the maze, so I may be pardoned for a lack of enthusiasm for Mrs. Lewis's remarkable creation. It does not need my sponsorship. When you see it you immediately strive to conjure up a new descriptive word to add to our exclamatory begonia vocabulary. It is simpler both for the artist and the grower to buy this begonia and relax while listening to the fervent and envious remarks of their visitors.



B. CRESTABRUCHI

By ALICE M. CLARK

The American Begonia Society Committee on Awards

1. A Committee on Awards, consisting of six members and the Nomenclature Director, shall be appointed by the president, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. On the original committee two of the members' terms shall expire on September 1, 1948, two on September 1, 1949 and two on September 1, 1950. In the future two members will be appointed yearly for a three year term. In the event of a vacancy, it shall be filled by appointment by the president, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, for the balance of the unexpired term. The Committee on Awards shall select its own chairman.

2. The Committee on Awards shall study each year the system of ratings and awards and make its recommendations of general policy to the Board of Directors.

3. The Committee on Awards shall submit yearly to the Board of Directors for their approval a list of accredited judges in various parts of the country.

4. The Committee on Awards shall receive and study carefully the reports of the Judges and on the basis of this study shall make its recommendations to the Board of Directors.

5. The Board of Directors shall grant the awards of the American Begonia Society, including the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal, subject to the conditions set forth in the following regulations.

6. Certificate of Commendation.

An award "Certificate of Commendation" may be awarded to begonias not introduced at the time of judging which are exhibited in shows and which in the opinion of the majority of the accredited judges present merit such an award. A report of this action is to be forwarded promptly to the chairman of the Committee on Awards.

7. Highly Commended.

An award "Highly Commended" may be awarded to promising begonias growing in the garden, lath house or green house and lot introduced at time of judging. The Board of Directors may make this award to begonias receiving three or more recommendations from accredited judges. A judge should consider his recommendations for Highly Commended equivalent to recommending the begonia as worthy of introduction. Judges shall not make more than ten recommendations yearly for the Highly Commended Award.

8. Honorable Mention.

Check our show calendar and exhibit whenever possible.

An award "Honorable Mention" may be awarded to begonias registered officially and introduced at the time of judging which receive five or more recommendations from accredited judges. Judges shall not make more than 10 recommendations yearly for the Honorable Mention Award.

9. Award of Merit.

An "Award of Merit" may be awarded to not over ten begonias yearly. Recommendations for an Award of Merit shall be made only to begonias registered officially and introduced during the previous five years and which have received an Honorable Mention Award. The Award of Merit is to be considered as a national rather than a local or regional award indicating that the begonia was outstanding in widely separate regions. No begonia may receive the Award of Merit unless it has been recommended by seven or more accredited judges.

10. Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal.

One Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal may be awarded yearly. This is the highest award that may be given to a new begonia. The medal will be awarded only to a begonia that is widely distributed and judged in widely scattered regions. To be considered for the award the begonia must have been recommended for the award by ten or more accredited judges and have received an Award of Merit during the previous years.

11. The introduction date is the calendar year the begonia is first offered for general sales in a catalogue, list, or advertisement. Sales in a garden or by letter without advertising elsewhere do not constitute an introduction.

12. The term registered officially is defined as the act of acceptance of the registration by the Director of Nomenclature. The date of such registration to be effective when the name is accepted by the Director and not when it is printed in the Begonian.

13. Awards granted to newly developed horticultural varieties will be sent to the originator and not the exhibitor or grower. Awards granted to a newly introduced species will be sent to the person who the Board of Directors determines should be given credit for introducing it.

14. Best Begonia in Show, First, Second and Third Prize Certificates may be given in any begonia show or flower show having a separate division for begonias, provided the show is officially recognized by the American Begonia Society.

A VISIT TO OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA IN SHOW TIME

It is said that a garden always yields its harvest and its greatest harvest is food and uppermost, beauty for contemplation and tranquility of the soul. I only wish that every one could have visited the Flower Show at Oakland for there one would have found everything to bear out this statement. I consider myself more than fortunate for having been able to make this trip. On the same train with Dr. Drummond and myself, were Mrs. Bess Ashenbrenner, a member of the Foothill Branch and Mr. Charles Gibbs Adams, both renowned for their lectures on landscaping and other horticultural activities, and their company made the journey most enjoyable. The inclemency of the weather was more than offset by the fine welcome given to us by our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Ahrens, members of the East Bay Branch of Berkeley, and we wish to express our sincere gratitude for all the courtesies extended to us. It would be difficult to express and words fail to describe the beauty of the woodland setting of the flower show. There were rockery settings with waterfalls and large woodland trees to create a natural scene for the theme of the show. Outstanding, of course, in effect were the rhododendrons and azaleas. The flowering dogwoods in color of red and pinks, and also the red-bud or Judas tree (*Cercis Occidentalis*) were beatifully displayed and the bleeding hearts could not fail to interest any one. The display of fancy leaf caladiums was wonderful. No show, of course, is complete without an orchid display and again this class left nothing to be desired. There was a beautiful arrangement of Begonia multi-flora (a dwarf tuberous type). This exhibit was carried out in a striking effect of rockery in colors of yellow, orange, and red orange.

In keeping with the Woodland Theme of the show, Mr. Harry L. Swager, member of the East Bay Branch, arranged Rex and fibrous begonias in a naturalistic setting using many logs and rocks to carry out the design of the show's theme that caused the people to stop and exclaim "Oh! Begonias . . . how lovely!"

During our stay we were privileged to visit some nice begonia gardens in the Bay district. A meeting was held of the East Bay Branch, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Carlson in Berkeley and members from the Southern Alameda County, San Francisco, East Bay and Santa Barbara Branches, were present at this meeting. The meeting was conducted by the President, Mr. John Paul Edwards, of the East Bay Branch. Informal talks were given by some of the members from the different branches, including Mr. Arthur C. Bossissier,

President of the San Francisco Branch, Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss, Secretary, and Mr. Chas. Perry, National Branch Representative, both from Southern Alameda County Branch.

Colored slides were shown by the past president of the East Bay Branch, Mr. Charles Jensen. Members of the National Board present at this meeting included Louise Schwerdtfeger, Director of Public Relations, Mrs. Lillian Ashe, Sub-Chairman Tuberous Begonia Section, Dr. W. C. Drummond, Chairman of the Editorial Staff for the Begonian, and Honorary Vice-President, Mrs. Emma M. Carleton. Refreshments were served at eleven and those who could remain longer made a tour of the lovely garden of Mr. and Mrs. Carlson.

Calvin Coolidge once said that he never got hurt by anything he didn't say, which is a thought I like to keep in mind, especially when reminded of limited magazine space. Gardening is a fascinating game that never comes to an end and there are always problems to challenge the grower's skill, new opportunities to stimulate his imagination and ingenuity, a garden, even if you want it to be so, is never exactly the same two years in succession. New plants come along and demand a trial. Old favorites fight for survival. New techniques and materials offer the opportunity to succeed where formerly failure existed. It is for such things as this that shows are produced. If you seek assurance against the possibility of being bored . . . have a garden.

I would like to bring to your notice a few worth-while bulletins which are available for the asking: Hints on Growing Begonias; Popular Potting Mixtures; Hints on Constructing a Small Greenhouse and Lath House in California by H. M. Butterfield. These bulletins can be obtained by writing to the Office of the Director of the College of Agriculture, Berkeley 4, California. A bulletin Tuberous Rooted Begonias, by W. R. Beattie, should be applied for through the United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C. The information contained in these articles is almost priceless, and well-worth the small trouble of writing for.

Mrs. Hazel Drummond,
National President.

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SEED FUND NEWS FOR JUNE

Your skipper is busy trying to locate new sources for Begonia seed, if you have any ideas on the subject do write and tell us. Small lots of Begonia seed are coming in regularly from Colombia, the collector sends them as they ripen. We now have eleven kinds, there will be more seed of each of these kinds and by spring we hope for enough for our Seed Fund. The only new item we can offer is some wild Fuchsia seed from Colombia, and we expect to soon have more of this and of other species as well. The collectors in both Mexico and Colombia write that they can soon send seeds of Amaryllis, Bromeliads, Gesnerias, Fuchsias and fern spores, many will be glad to hear this. We have asked for Sinningia seed from Colombia, but it seems there is no seed now, only the rhizomes. Scales off the rhizomes have been received and are planted with the hopes that they will grow. If we find that we can get them to grow we can get more. Your skipper never knowingly sends out seed that will not grow, but it is often true that the seed will not germinate even under the best of conditions. What we really need is a testing department in our Seed Fund as well as the department of hybridizing as suggested last month by Mr. Furniss.

The India firm of Ghose & Co., from whom we have purchased seed since 1935 recently mailed some drawings of ten India Begonias, we hope these can be published soon for you. We had asked for photographs but as they were unable to procure films, the drawings were the next best. Ghose lists many kinds of flower seed and bulbs as well as orchid plants, it is possible that such items could be ordered thru your Seed Fund and you could be sure of getting either the items you order or your money refunded. Send your want list to your skipper and we will do our best to run them down for you.

From Mrs. Minter comes an excerpt from a letter of her Armchair Correspondence Club members, Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Wimmer, Manhattan, Kansas.

"We place our seed in small aluminum drawers, that had fit six in an aluminum cabinet. Each drawer is six inches long, three inches wide and two inches high. We only plant a few seeds of each variety at a time. This permits replanting if the first attempt meets with some misfortune. Small (one inch by one and a quarter inch) aluminum markers with key numbers scratched on by a "vibra-

tool" mark the rows of begonias. We can get fourteen to fifteen kinds in a box. Each row is, about a quarter inch wide by one and a half inches long. The rows are placed about one half inch to three quarters inches apart. We keep these boxes or drawers in square glass battery jars (Delco light units). Depending on the size of the jar, two to four of the trays can be accommodated. This is from 28 to 50 kinds of begonias in a space seven by seven by twelve. The end of the jar is closed by a sheet of cellophane and as soon as the plants emerge, the jar is placed in a lighter position. Fussy seedlings are transplanted into separate drawers and kept in the jars until well established.

For a medium we use sphagnum moss. Coarsely screened moss is used in the bottom layer and moss screened through window screening is used for the top layer. This year we placed a layer of "terralite" under the fine surface of sphagnum. Boiling water is poured over the moss and the seeds planted when the moss is cool. Seeds are mixed with the tip of a toothpick full of rootone or hormodin and about the same amount of Fermate or Spergon to prevent damping off. A pinch of the fine sphagnum is ground between the fingers and added to the seed in order to disperse it better.

We only transplant a few plants at a time. The others are left in sphagnum moss. Often they grow so thickly together that they form a solid mass. They continue to grow but at a much slower rate. When they are transplanted they immediately start new growth. You can't—to our knowledge—do this with any other medium.

When the seedlings have germinated we use a dilute solution of hyponex for watering. For transplanting, we use forceps with curved tips, such as is used in dissecting sets used in College Biology courses. They can be obtained at any Biological Supply House. With them, we find that the smallest plants can be handled easily."

SEED FOR JUNE

Mixed fibrous Begonia seed 25c pkt.

Collection 12 named packets of fibrous seed, \$1.00.

Fern spores, 1 packet each from Colombia, Mexico, New Zealand for 50c.

Colombia wild Fuchsia seed, 25c.

Cheerio until next month, your skipper,

Florence Carrell,
214 No. Yale St.,
Fullerton, Calif.

A 'flowering calendar' is very valuable when you desire to plan color effects. Make your own to apply to your locality.

HUMIDITY IN THE GARDEN

By Dr. W. C. Drummond, Los Angeles, California

Low relative humidity is often a very limiting factor in the growing of begonias in the garden. The rational thing to do would be to grow those plants best suited to the prevailing climate. Nevertheless, where careful attention is given to culture, many exotics, including begonias, can be successfully grown. The question of raising the relative humidity is an all important one. The worst offender to raising and maintaining the humidity is wind. So to raise the humidity it will be necessary to control the air circulation. The strong wind is bad, but the soft, continuous, every day wind is the greatest offender. Temperature is probably next in affecting relative humidity. With the same atmospheric moisture the higher the temperature, the lower the relative humidity. It therefore behooves us to try to keep the garden cool.

Remember that where the relative humidity is low, the begonia leaf will be smaller, the internodes shorter, the flowers smaller (if any at all), the plant will be woodier and with an occasional leaf burn.

If there is a choice in locating the garden, select one among large trees, giving protection from wind, reducing temperature and sunlight, for the shade garden. If in a mountainous subtropical country, as Southern California, and in a canyon, the north side should be chosen. The south wall or side of a hill may prove very trying for begonias. In the average home garden we may have no choice of location and must arrange to do the best with what we have. In this case, wall up the garden with a tight board fence. A short roof extending into the garden on the side of prevailing winds will help guide the wind over the garden.

Humidity easily escapes from the garden where the air can freely enter and leave. Take advantage of the protection afforded by buildings already on the property. The broken shade of trees is probably best. The north side of the house with no sunlight will do well for ferns, but begonias need more sun to bloom well. Use as much shade as the plants grown will permit, especially from the heat of the noon day sun. Use a mulch of leaves, sawdust, sani-soil or some such material which will not hold heat as sand, but will help evaporate the water, thereby lowering the temperature. Do not use a mulch too close to the plant stem. Keep everything moist, but not so wet as to cause plant disease, as stem or root rot. Properly moistened soil should contain 20 per cent moisture. When the soil moisture is squeezed out by hand pressure, the soil will

contain the correct amount of water. Moistening walks several times a day. Where much water is used, be sure of good drainage. Install misty sprayers. When these are properly placed, outside or in the greenhouse, they will assist in raising the relative humidity. For outside plants, spray the foliage several times a day lightly. Again in spraying, care should be exercised not to keep plants too wet, as to cause bacterial rot. Sun scald may result from wetting the foliage of plants grown in full sun where the temperature is above 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

Try to picture the north side of the mountain with cool shade and the soil heavy with moist leaf mold. Then look around at the south side of the hill or mountain and notice the vegetation. This will tell you what humidity means to plant growth.

Summary: avoid windy situations; try to keep soil moist; use as much shade as plants permit; keep mulched; use misty sprayers.

Branch secretaries can render extra benefits by writing condensed reports of lectures for *The Begonian*.—M.W.

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Flower Show Announcements

Southern Alameda County Branch, Inc.,
announces

THIRD ANNUAL BEGONIA AND SHADE PLANT SHOW

July 24 and 25 at Hayward Union High School botany gardens. (Members will dedicate their show to Founders Month.)

SECOND ANNUAL SHADE LOVING PLANT SHOW: Sponsored by the Pomona Valley Branch of the National Fuchsia Society of America. (Of which many are also members of The American Begonia Society, hence the lovely Begonias displayed last year.)

Gladiolus Show—Brookside Park, Pasadena, June 12th and 13th.

June 25-26 and 27 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) in The Olive Grove South of The Theatre at Padua Hills.

THE SECOND ANNUAL LONG BEACH FLOWER SHOW—Long Beach Municipal Auditorium, August 5, 6, 7, and 8th, 1948. All classes.

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION AND SHOW OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY — at GLENDALE, California September 11th and 12th, 1948. (See this issue).

Fuchsia show "Jewels In The Shade," Brookside Park, Pasadena, California, June 19th and 20th, 1948.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH NEWS: Hollywood Branch plans to celebrate Founders' Month while attending the Ventura Picnic at Foster Park, in July. They plan chartering a bus and making a memorable occasion of the affair.

This month will find "Jack, the Famous Fuchsia Man," talking on fuchsias and Miss Charlotte Hoak giving a lesson on begonias.

OUR REX Chairman has changed his address. Please address him as follows on matters pertaining to the Begonia rex cultorum: Mr. H. L. Swager, 3872 35th Ave., Oakland 2, Calif.

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PETALUMA BRANCH: This group now numbers 56 members and the meetings are enthusiastic gatherings with good speakers who inspire them to better gardening. In April Mr. Arthur C. Navlet, Nurseryman, writer, told as much about the uses of Terralite as time would permit, and showed slides of a trip through the New England States glorifying the Autumnal season's colorings.

In February Mr. Arthur C. Mann, Mrs. Walter D. Ashe and Mrs. Beth Sachman were special guests from San Francisco—to whom this Branch membership feels much credit is due for their splendid start and continued success.

EAST BAY BRANCH: Mr. Navlet also extolled the virtues of Vermiculite to this Branch in April and seems to have made quite an impression. For the Begonia portion of the program Mrs. Walter Nessler of The Bungalow Nursery, Colma, conducted a Questions and Answer period on the care of all kinds of begonias.

Various members of this group bring in plants and flower arrangements for the display table at each meeting. A good idea.

MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH: A very successful Begonia meeting was held recently with Mr. Bob Wilson demonstrating the propagation of B. REX cultorum and some fibrous varieties. Mr. Ray Rosengren demonstrated the rooting of both soft and hardwood cuttings of the fibrous begonias with the use of Microgro. It is another product in the same category as SOIL-Lite, Terralite, and other similar rooting substances which may be used over again with the precaution of sterilization in between cutting crops. The Members voted to buy six rare begonias to be propagated by six members and sold for the benefit of the treasury.

1948 OFFICERS OF THE MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

Mr. Ray Rosengren, 5530 N.W. 21st Ave., President; Mrs. A. E. Sackett, 5822 N.W. 23rd Ave., Vice-President; Mrs. W. A. Rathbone, 1531 N.W. 16th Ave., Miami, Treasurer; Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, 2572 Trapp Ave., Miami, Fla., Secretary; Mr. R. G. Wilson, R. 2, Box 594, Director; Mr. F. Michelson, Director to National, R. 3, Box 217 B, Miami, Fla.

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ROUND ROBIN NEWS FOR JUNE

By Frances Downing, Calera, Ala.

The majority of our R.R. Clubs are functioning smoothly and splendidly serving their purpose. (Those Robin members who keep the Robin letters several weeks simply because they are "too busy" to send them on or "too busy" to write more than a note — round after round — will be dropped from the Round Robin Clubs.)

Each Robin member should select a member of the family or a friend who will assume the responsibility of sending on the robin letters to the next member . . . in case of illness or unexpected absence from home. This will eliminate one of the most important causes of delayed or lost Robin mail. Consideration of the fellow Robin-members should prompt each Robin to attend to this AT ONCE.

NEW BEGONIA ROBINS: In both for advanced and beginners there are calls for new begonia robins. The Beginners' group is complete and a new one is in the process of being formed. Several advanced growers have evidenced interest in this particular Begonia Robin and the Director has agreed to conduct an **ADVANCED GROUP** Robin.

The following Robins have open places for those interested. Lilies; Lathouse; Herbs; Fuchsias; Apartment Dwellers; Hemerocallis; Amaryllis; Primrose; Flowering Shrubs; Soils; (We also need a **DIRECTOR** for the Soil Robin), Annual Flowers; Pansies, Violas and Violets; Caladiums for the Southwest; Rose; Cyclamen; Billbergia; Fern and Basket and Trailing Plants.

New CLUBS ARE READY TO BE FORMED OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

Garden Gossip; Hemerocallis for New England; Perennials, Garden Photography, Orchids—for which we need a Director for No. 2; Caladiums for the Northeast; Geraniums, Scented and variegated; Geranium, zonale; Iris; House Plants; General Hybridizing; Gesneriaceae; Advanced African Violets; Greenhouse management; Epiphyllum and Impatiens. Unlike the California members—most of us find that our neighbors do NOT grow begonias, therefore we cannot compare begonia notes with anyone but through the means of the **ROUND ROBIN CLUBS** and the personal correspondence resulting from them. We thus find ourselves discussing begonias with interested members not only in the United States but also in Foreign Countries. How grateful we are to the American Begonia Society for sponsoring our **ROUND ROBIN CLUBS**.

BEGONIA QUIZ PROGRAM

By Charlotte M. Hoak, So. Pasadena, Calif.

1. What is the real name of Begonia Feasts and why was the name changed?
2. Name three summer blooming fibrous rooted begonias.
3. What two books on begonias should be owned by every begonia lover?
4. Name three begonias which have been in California for 75 years or over.
5. Where did *Begonia socotrana* come from and of what value has it been to begonia hybridizers?
6. Name three fine begonias originated by Alfred D. Robinson.
7. How do you propagate rex begonias?
8. When was the first rex begonia discovered and where?
9. What begonia answers to the following description: Tall, shrubby, fibrous begonia, grows to great size. Stems, leaves and flowers are thickly set with red hairs. Profuse winter bloomer. Flowers in large heavy clusters, white or pale pink set with many red hairs and always remain in bud form. It is counted one of the six best shrubby begonias.
10. What very hardy begonia comes from China?
11. What is the origin of the double flowered begonia?
12. Name the striped leaved begonias.

(See answers: page 139)

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CLOSED WEDNESDAYS — FREE CATALOG

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH: Mr. Wayne R. Sherwood of The Specialty Gardens at Menlo Park was one of the speakers greatly enjoyed last year and for the benefit of the new members he was invited again recently, but even the old timers seemed to learn some new pointers on the culture of the *Begonia TUBERHYBRIDA*. It seems that the more one learns the more one finds different aspects to be investigated for improvement. In April, as promised, Mr. Arthur Boissier transplanted the begonia tuber he demonstrated at the February meeting demonstrating at the same time the method of making cuttings.

The membership is increasing at every meeting and attendance is very gratifying.

The entire Board with others of the San Francisco Branch attended the Petaluma Branch to give the program of the month, also proudly to see how their "baby" was getting along.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH: Though organized only last February this Branch already boasts of 49 members and average an attendance of 70! The speaker for May was Mr. Wm. S. March, Propagator for Lagomarsino Bros. Nursery. For June they are looking forward to hearing Mrs. A. E. Morrison, County Agricultural Commissioner.

INVITATION:

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERB BRANCH: This group will celebrate **FOUNDERS DAY** on July 25th, at Foster Park, Ventura, Calif., with a picnic luncheon and program. Coffee, cream, and sugar will be furnished by this Branch. Dora E. Hodgins, Pres., Rt. 2, Box 552, Ojai, Calif., 'phone Ventura 26315. Members and friends of other groups invited.

What about a Branch in your community?
Information from Director of Public Relations.

A generous mulch of coarse leaf mold and shredded redwood bark three inches thick on the surface and kept moist will assist in supplying atmospheric moisture and also supply the roots with a certain amount of necessary food materials.

Your pictures and stories welcomed by The Editor. You might win a prize.

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GOOD WISHES TO THE NEW SOUTHGATE BRANCH

South Gate, California, is the home of our newest A.B.S. Branch and we are indeed happy to welcome this enthusiastic and friendly group to our midst.

Organized under leadership of Mrs. Della Snook, who has been elected their first president, this new Branch has already gained considerable publicity by the energetic work they have done. They have more than thirty members eager and desirous of studying begonias. Their meetings have been interesting and well attended.

Their Constitution and By-Laws were submitted by President-elect George L. Johnson, to the National Board at its regular meeting in Los Angeles, the evening of April 26th, and the Branch was officially accepted by The American Begonia Society.

Best wishes and success to President Snook, her supporting officials and members of the South Gate Branch—we will be watching for your interesting reports.—Director of Public Relations, Louise Schwerdtfeger.

Answers to Begonia Quiz Program

1. *Begonia Feasti* is the cross between *B. manicata* and *B. hydrocotylifolia*, two Mexican species made by K. G. Newman in 1847 and named *B. erythrophylla*. In 1880, John Feast, of Baltimore decided that a shorter name would be better so he named it *B. Feasti*.
2. *B. corallina*, Robinson's *B. Pink Shasta* and *B. coccinea*.
3. *Begonias and How to Grow Them* by Bes-sie Buxton and *Begonias for American Homes and Gardens* by Helen K. Krauss.
4. *B. metallica*, *B. manicata* and *B. Thurstoni*.
5. *B. socotrana* comes from the hot, sandy island of Socotra in the Indian Ocean and it is considered the most valuable begonia plant ever introduced commercially. Because it blooms at Christmas time, it became one of the parents of the popular Christmas-blooming begonias. *Lady Mac* is one of these very popular hybrids.
6. *B. shasta*, *B. Bennett rubra* and *B. undemille*.
7. Usually by leaf cuttings.
8. The first rex begonia was discovered in Asam, India, in 1856.
9. *B. Scharffi* (*B. Haageana*).
10. *B. Evansiana*.
11. The first really double flowered begonia was originated in Stockholm, Sweden, and was named *B. semperflorens*, *Gustav Lund*. After it was brought to America it was named *Westport Beauty*.
12. *B. compta*, *B. angularis* and *B. acutangula* (*B. acutangularis*).

HOLLYWOOD BEGONIA DAY

Plummer Park, June 15th, 1948.

Plans for a Begonia Day at Plummer Park at 737 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, are shaping into a splendid program that all of us will want to hear. Exhibits are being organized that we will all want to see.

Bring your picnic luncheon, with your friends. Registration fee 25 cents.

PROGRAM

10 a.m.—Mrs. Sylvia Leatherman, "The Ornamental Use of Begonias in Patio, Home and Garden."

11 a.m.—Reginald "Scotty" Hudson, "Tuberous Begonias, Prima Donnas of Summer Garden."

12 noon—Luncheon. Inspection of exhibits.
1:30 p.m.—Mary Hazel Drummond, "The Styling of Tuberous Begonias for Corsages."

2:15 p.m.—Herbert P. Dyckman, "Rex Begonias and Rex Hybrids."

3 p.m.—Adjournment.

This program is sponsored by The Los Angeles Garden Center at the monthly conference meeting conducted by Gordon Baker Lloyd.

The exhibits are non-competitive and will show begonias as we grow them at this time of year. All questions on their culture will be considered and you will find the day well-worth your while. Among the exhibits there will be a small greenhouse that almost any garden can house. Come, you will enjoy a happy day.

Etta Pinnell,

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ATTENTION BEGONIA MEMBERS

The contest for the best articles received on shade plants will end June 30th, 1948.

We want your experiences in raising **BEGONIAS** and various **SHADE PLANTS**. The stories will be judged for content only. Special prizes and awards for the **BEST FIVE**. Mail to Editor.

Meeting Dates and Places

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

1st Tuesday, June 1st, 7:30 p. m.
 Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
 Mrs. Carolyn Peyton, Secretary
 335A So. Evergreen Dr., Ventura, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

1st Tuesday, June 1st, 7:30 p. m.
 2031 E. Villa Street
 Mrs. Frank Clark, Sec.-Treas.
 2168 Cooley Place, Pasadena 7, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, June 2nd, 7:30 p. m.
 American Legion Hall, 1641 Taraval St.
 Sec.: Mrs. Walter Ashe, 1855 33rd Ave.
 San Francisco, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, June 3rd, 7:30 p. m.
 Farm Bureau Hall, 353 So. Main St., Orange.
 Sec.-Treas., Mrs. Ethelyn Morgan, 250 N. Center
 Orange, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

1st Friday, June 4th, 8 p. m.
 Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa
 Mrs. Phyllis Heth, Secretary
 228 Bonita Ave., Azusa, Calif.

DOROTHY PIERSON BARTON BRANCH

1st Friday, June 4th,
 1016 Frost Street, Flint 4, Mich.
 Mrs. S. V. Clark, Rec.-Sec.
 1919 Zimmerman St., Flint 3, Mich.

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

1st Monday, June 7th, 7:30 p. m.
 Washington Street School Cafeteria
 Sec.: Mrs. Edna Leistner, 610 Nichols Street
 Bellflower, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, June 8th, 8 p. m.
 Mrs. Wm. Allen, Sec.-Treas.
 7904 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, June 9th, 7:30 p. m.
 University High School, Room 232
 11800 Texas Ave., West Los Angeles
 Mrs. Denman Bemus, Sec.-Treas.
 845 So. Anita Ave., Los Angeles 24, Calif.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, June 10th, 7:30 p. m.
 Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
 Mrs. Dorothy Behrends, Rec. Sec.
 1633 Golden Gate Ave., Los Angeles 26, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, June 10th, 7:30 p. m.
 Rm. 5, Com. Center, 914 Santa Barbara St.
 Santa Barbara, California
 Martha Ayersman, Secretary
 1120 Olive Street, Santa Barbara, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, June 10th, 8 p. m.
 325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
 Harry B. Fasmer, Secretary
 5129 So. Manhattan, Los Angeles 43, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

2nd Friday, June 11th, 7:30 p. m.
 Congr. Church Fireside Room, 5th & B Sts.
 Mrs. Cuma Wakefield, Secy.
 47 Fifth St., Petaluma, Calif.

NEW YORK SUBURBAN BRANCH

Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Norman Hedley
 71 Willard Terrace, Stamford, Conn.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 14th, 7:30 p. m.
 Pierce Jr. College, 6201 Winnetka Ave.
 Canoga Park, Mrs. Frank Ecker, Secretary
 21003 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, Calif.

LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 14th, 8 p. m.
 La Mesa Grammar School, La Mesa, Calif.
 Sec.-Treas.: Dr. Constance Holmes
 133 Prescott, El Cajon, Calif.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 14th, 7:30 p. m.
 Houghton Park Club House
 Harding & Atlantic, No. Long Beach
 Miss Evelyn Peterson
 1414 E. 68th St., Long Beach, Calif.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 14th, 8 p. m.
 Lanes Memorial Hall, 1st Christian Church
 Sec.-Treas., Margaret Smith, Fortuna, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

Third Tuesday, June 15th, 7:30 p. m.
 Robert Louis Stevenson School, 5th & Atlantic
 Cafeteria, Lime St. Entrance, Long Beach, Calif.
 Mrs. Rose C. Hixon, Sec.-Treas., Long Beach Cal.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, June 15th, 8 p. m.
 McKinley Park, Mrs. A. Boyd Collier, Sec.
 2777 Harkness Way, Sacramento, Calif.

EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, June 17th, 7:30 p. m.
 Willard School, Ward Street
 Mrs. E. Carlson, Sec.-Treas.
 2130 McGee Ave., Berkeley 3, Calif.

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3rd Thursday, June 17th, 8 p. m.
 Scout Room, Markham School, Hayward, Calif.
 Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss, Corr.-Sec.
 26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

3rd Monday, June 21st
 Community House, LaJolla
 Tillie Center, Sec.-Treas.
 7356 Eads St., LaJolla, Calif.

HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Monday, June 21st, 7:30 p. m.
 Roosevelt Hi Sch. Cafe., 1200 E. Olive, Compton
 Mrs. Eloise Scheller, Sec.-Treas.
 3586 Imperial, Lynwood, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 22nd, 8 p. m.
 Girls Scout Clubhouse, Southgate Park,
 Tweedy and Orange Blvds.
 Mrs. Mary Casey, Sec'y-Treas.
 4085 Tweedy Blvd., Southgate, Calif.

MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 22, 2 p. m.
 Mrs. Bruce Dill, Secretary
 3715 Harrison, Kansas City, Mo.

MIAMI, FLORIDA, BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 22, 8 p. m.
 Simpson Memorial Garden Center
 Mrs. Elizabeth S. Hall, Sec.
 2592 Trapp Ave. Miami 35, Fla.

WHITTIER BRANCH

th Tuesday, June 22, 8 p. m.
 Union High School, Room 19
 Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.
 Madeleine Hall, Secretary
 509 Friends Ave., Whittier, Calif.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BRANCH

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

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 22, 8 p. m.
 329 No. Brand Blvd., Glendale, Calif.
 Mrs. Joyce Lorenz, Secretary
 5227 El Rio Ave., Los Angeles 41, Calif.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 22nd, 8 p.m.
 Loma Portal School
 3341 Browning St., San Diego, Calif.
 Louise Gardener, Secretary
 3212 James Street, San Diego 6, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, June 22nd, 8 p. m.
 Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
 Mrs. Myrtle Jones, Secretary
 132 May Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.

4th Wednesday, Mimonthly, June 23rd, 8 p. m.
 Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St., Cleveland, O.
 Phil Meyer, Pres., 2153 Lakeland, Lakewood, O.

SANTA PAULA BRANCH

4th Thursday, June 24th, 6:30 p. m.
 Steckel Park
 Margaret Richardson, Rt. 2, Box 242A
 Santa Paula, California

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, June 28th
 Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave.
 Mrs. L. J. Elliott, Sec.-Treas.
 3794 Grim Ave., San Diego 4, Calif.

SANTA MARIA BRANCH

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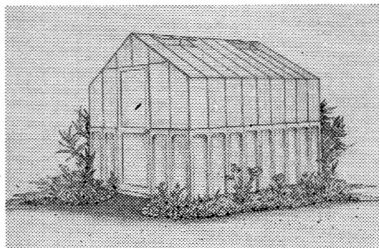
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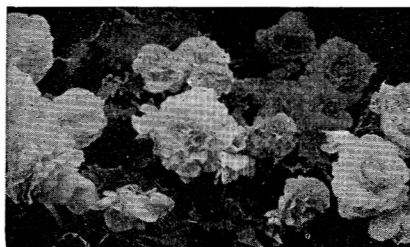
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