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ALbany 2206

★ Annual Subscription - One Dollar Fifty Cents.

★ Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Los Angeles, California, under the act of March 3rd, 1879.

★ Business Office - 5110 Monte Benito Drive, Los Angeles 41, Calif.

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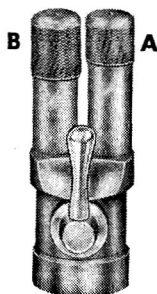
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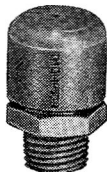


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"Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens"

by Stanley Spaulding, Editor

The creation of a sheltered garden is the expression of knowledge and art. It involves the use of various materials. Lumber, cement, soil, rock, water, and plants are used to create a beautiful garden picture. The sheer joy in the actual use of these materials to create the picture is good. But the final pleasure is in being able to see the completed garden. This is the place to rest, read a good book, enjoy a gathering of friends, listen to the trickling water, watch the birds in the trees, or just go to sleep on a warm afternoon. The sheltered garden is not only a place of beauty but a place in which to live.

The photograph on the cover appears to be a natural scene in a woodland area. On the contrary, the stream, rock work, bridge, and planting are all hand made. The two adjoining photos are areas in the same garden. It is evident that the builder used the materials to resemble a spot in the wild. The situation is truly a sheltered garden, restful and inspirational. The distribution between rocks and plants is in good taste. There is no geological display, and yet there are not too many plants. If an A.B.S. member owned the garden, it would have begonias and be far more beautiful. You who have trees on your property have the beginning of a wild garden. A little stream of water is the finishing touch but not necessary. Rocks and plants can be used to create a very natural situation.

Where there are no trees architects and builders today are attempting to use the trend of the outdoor living room. In most cases their efforts are weak. The modern idea is usable but not beautiful. The area is exposed to cement walls resembling a prison yard except for the lawn and a flower border.

We, as lovers of begonias and other shade plants, have a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate that an outdoor living room could be a sheltered garden.

The area can be within a glasshouse but is more usable in the summer if it is within a lath house. Leave the center open for a cement or other fairly smooth floor of at least 9 feet by 12 feet. This is a small room size, but it could be larger to accommodate more

visitors at one time. An irregular shape is more pleasing than an ordinary square or circle. The planting beds around the outside can vary in width from 2 feet to 6 feet. In order to insure adequate drainage, cover the bottom of the planting beds with a six-inch layer of crushed rock. This should be laid on the existing ground level rather than digging down, which creates a water sump. Surround the planting area with natural rock, building the corners high and the center lower. There is more interest in uneven contours.



Garden built by Kenneth Kreigh

The actual laying of the rock requires mostly hard work combined with an artistic feeling for the natural. Set the length of a stone on the horizontal and tilt the back of the rock downwards about 20 degrees. This causes the weight of the stone to fall into the soil behind it. Therefore the ledge does not slip out of

Turn to next page

place. Also, the water is shed back into the planting rather than washing out into the open. Each succeeding ledge of rock is moved further back until the final height is attained at the rear of the bed. Use a regular compost mixture for begonias to fill between the layers of rock. Do not cement the rock together, but rather fill with the compost, so that plants and moss can grow in the crevices.

A small pool can be built in one corner. This provides humidity for the plants, and the sound and sight of water is good for humans.

Where rock is hard to obtain and overly expensive there is broken concrete from construction jobs sometimes. Concrete building blocks can be used to surround the area with a retaining wall to bench height. Or the wall can also be concrete poured into forms. To relieve the monotony of the cold cement wall plant vines to drape over the surface.

In order to lend both height and depth to one side of the garden a moss wall may be installed almost to the roof of the enclosure. Possibly on the windward side the wall may be solid. Cedar, redwood, brick or cement blocks are stable materials against which to rest the moist moss and compost. 2"x 6" posts placed vertically at four foot intervals support a sheeting of two-inch chicken wire. Fill the wire mesh with either sphagnum moss or shredded redwood bark. Between the back wall and the moss covered wire is the rooting space for plants which should be filled with a regular begonia compost. Many types of ferns, begonias, and other shade plants grow easily in the wall. It is watered simply. One way is to lay a canvas soil soaker on top of the moss wall. Moisture percolates slowly down through moss and compost to thoroughly saturate the plant roots. This is a simple but little used manner in which to display plants. Also, it is good design because your structure will have a third dimension of interest.

This sheltered garden living room is of course more usable in the summer, when our plants are at their best. They can be repotted and taken into their winter quarters in areas where the danger of frost exists. Where it is desired to keep your plants in pots, use them by burying the pots. The plants then appear to be actually growing in the garden.

The idea of growing the plants in the sheltered garden among rocks is a natural one. The gorgeous foliage look more at home in the leaf mold and rock. Many kinds of begonias grow on rock ledges in their native habitats. Very little depth of compost is required, as they are shallow rooters. The plant stays warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Now you might ask, "What are the kinds and names of begonias and other plants I

should use?" At first it is simpler to propagate new plants from your existing stock. Because the shapes and sizes of the existing specimens are evident, the combining of different types into artistic effects can be a whole new hobby. After a while, as the plants grow into full size, you can see places to change and add certain ones not in your present collection. The appearance of this garden will never be the same from month to month: they grow — go dormant — old ones are removed as the new take over. Change is the theme of plant life.



Garden built by Kenneth Kreigh

In this type of garden the object is not to grow perfect individual plants as specimens. Rather they are all contributing in interesting arrangements to create a beautiful setting. The individual is sacrificed for the sake of the whole. Our present lath and glass houses are necessary as assistants to the sheltered garden. The latter is a place for display and personal enjoyment. The former equipment is necessary for growing and propagating activities all year round.

This is a good time of year to start your sheltered garden living room. The plants do not take as much care as in the summer so that, if you get the urge, the project is feasible. Possibly it will be too big an undertaking to complete this year. However, you can build the lath house, pour the cement floor, or be gathering rock on week-end trips, until some day it is finished.

An Enumeration of Begonias of Southwestern China

by Te-Tsun Yu

Section 2. BEGONIASTRUM A. DC.

BEGONIA AUGUSTINII Hemsl. in Gar. Chron. 3. 28:286 (1900).

SE. Yunnan: Ping-pien, Ta-mu-ka-chien, alt. 1600 m., border of woods, moist place, leaf margin, red, with white hairs on petioles, capsule brown, seeds collected, Dec. 14, 1939, C. W. Wang no. 83071. Foo-ning, lung-mai, alt. 1000 m., under dense woods, fl. pink, fr. purplish red, April 26, 1940, C. W. Wang no. 88908.

BEGONIA LABORDEI Lévl. in Bull. Soc. Agr. Sci. et arts Sarthe, 59:323, (1904), etc.

C. Yunnan: Kunming, He-lung-tan, alt. 2100 m., under woods, shady and moist place, fl. pink, lf. green beneath, Aug. 1941, F. T. Wang no. 2527. Kunming, Hsi-shan, San-tsin-ko, under shady rocks, fl. pink, Sept. 15, 1941, C. Y. Wu no. 75.

W. Yunnan: Chu siung, Ta-tzu, Ta-lin-kueing, alt. 1950 m., in valley, under forest, herb. 5-1 ft. high, fl. pink, abundant, Sept. 21, 1939, Y. Liu no. 174. Chu-siung, Kan-mo, alt. 2500 m., on rock surface, herb 5-1 ft. high, fl. white, frequent, Sept. 25, 1939, Y. Liu no. 206. Tali, Tien-sheng-chiao, Yu-eh-feng and San-tar tse, moist place, fl. pinkish red, Sept. 1938, C. Y. Wu nos. 11048, 11687, 11838 and 12486. Feng-yi, Tse-shi-li-chiao, 1700 m., upon rock, herb 3-5 in., in fruit, Oct. 22, 1940, R. C. Ching no. 25170. Lung-ling, Chiao-kua-tang, 2400 m., under dense wood, fl. pink, Aug. 1941, C. W. Wang no. 90210. Yang-pi, Hua-zen-Chuang, under mixed forest, in fruit, Nov. 1, 1940, R. C. Ching no. 25411.

NW. Yunnan: Lichiang Snow Range, Ngu-luku, alt. 3000 m., herb 6-16 in. high, fl. light pink, Aug. 19, 1937, T. T. Yu no. 15459. In same locality, Sept. 15, 1940, R. C. Ching no. 31039. NW. Lichiang, Ah-schi, on open rock, plant 1 ft., in fruit, Oct. 12, 1939, R. C. Ching no. 22039. Ho-chin, Lien-ping, Ma-erh-shan, alt. 3300 m., upon rocks, 3-4 in. high, fl. pinkish white, Aug. 23, 1940, R. C. Ching no. 23987. . . .

Distribution: Kweichow.

The very variable and widely distributed Begonia matches the original description and type photos of Lévlé in all respects except the placentas are bipartite which was diagnosed as solitary in each cell by Gagnepain in Fl. Gen. L'Indo-chine.

BEGONIA FIMBRISTIPULA Hance in Journ. Bot. 21:202 (1883), etc.

SW. Yunnan: Chengkang, Snow Range, alt. 2900 m., in ravine, on shady rocks, fl. pink, common, July 31, 1938, T. T. Yu no. 17126. Mien-ning, Po-shang, alt. 2500 m., under forest on rock surface, herb perennial, 5-1 ft. high, fl. pink, common, Oct. 4, 1938, T. T. Yu no. 17871. In same locality, Oct. 8, 1938, T. T. Yu no. 17943.

Distribution: Kwangtung, Hainan, Kwangsi, Fukien; new to Yunnan.

BEGONIA SUMMOGLABRA sp. nov.

(Ed. note: Latin description omitted)

SE. Yunnan: Ping-pien, Shu-pan-po, alt. 1400 m., on rock surface, moist place, 2-5 in. high, fl. pink, Sept. 24, 1939, C. W. Wang no. 82099. (Type in Yun. Bot. Inst.) Same locality, seeds collected, Dec. 2, 1939, C. W. Wang no. 82910.

A remarkable species is characterized by the whole plant entirely without indumentum, by the tepals of both male and female flowers usually two in number and by the three free styles with broad lunate stigmas. Its nearest ally probably is *B. Labordei* Lev., but distinguished from the latter by many characters.

We have raised this succulent herb from seeds in the green house. It blossoms freely in the second year, flowering season from the middle of September to the end of November. It is surely an elegant pot-plant with bright green leaves and rosy pink flowers.

Begonia asperifolia Irms. in Mitt. Inst. Bot. Hamburg, 5:359 (1927).

SW. Yunnan: Chengkang, Snow range, alt. 2800 m., upon rock surface, shady and moist place, herb 1 ft. high, fl. pink, common, July 27, 1938, T. T. Yu no. 17023.

NW. Yunnan: Likiang-Yanktze valley, plant 1 ft. high, fl. rose-lavendar, Aug. 28, 1939, R. C. Ching no. 21370. Mekong-salween Divide, Londjrela, alt. 3400 m., under forest, side of stream, rocky place, herb 1-2 ft. high, fl. pinkish white, capsule red, rare, Sept. 28, 1938, T. T. Yu no. 23155. Mekong-salween Divide, Doyonlumba, 29-3200 m., fl. pink or white, under woods, upon rock surface, common, Aug. 25, 1940, M. K. Feng no. 6893.

* * *

BEGONIA ASPERIFOLIA Irms. var. *tomentosa* var. nov.

(Ed. note: Latin description omitted)

N.W. Yunnan: Kiukiang valley (Taron), Lungzung, alt. 1800 m., under woods, herb

perennial, 8-20 in. high, lf. purplish green, fl. pink, rare, Aug. 19, 1938, *T. T. Yu no.* 19908. (Type in Yun. Bot. Inst.)

This new variety differs from the type in its yellow tomentose leaves and in its much smaller flowers. Very are in this locality.

BEGONIA MULIENSIS sp. nov.

(Ed. note: Latin description omitted)

S. Sikang: Muli, Woosi, alt. 2600 m., side of mt. stream, grassland, herb with tubers, 1 ft. high, fl. pink, common, Aug. 19, 1937, *T. T. Yu no.* 14024. (Type in the Yun. Bot. Inst.).

NW. Yunnan: E. Chungtien, on the way to Lochi-ho, alt. 2200 m., moist shady rocks plant 6-12 in., fl. rosy pink, Aug. 20, 1939, *K. M. Feng no.* 2715.

This new species is closely related to *B. asperifolia* Irms., differing in its triangular-ovate and nearly glabrous leaves, in its stamens with unproduced connectives and in its free styles with lyre-shaped stigmas.

BEGONIA MORIFOLIA sp. nov.

(Ed. note: Latin description omitted.)

SE. Yunnan: Si-chou-hsien, Fardoe, alt. 1300 m., forest floor, moist situation, fl. pink, delicate, rare, Dec. 4, 1939, *C. W. Wang no.* 85333. (Type in Yun. Bot. Inst.)

This new species is probably near *B. yunnanensis* Lévl., but differs from which in the distinct indumentum on the stem, petioles, veins and inflorescences. The leaves look like those of wild mulberry in shape, hence the species named.

BEGONIA SINENSIS DC. in *Ann. Sc. Nat.* 41:125 et *Prodr.* 15:313; Forbes and Hemsley in *Journ. Linn. Soc.* 23:323 (1886), etc.

C. Yunnan: Kunming, He-lung-tan, alt. 1950 m., fl. rosy pink, lf. purple beneath cultivated in the rock garden of the park, Aug. 1940, *F. T. Wang no.* 2433.

This is the old chinense garden species and is one of the hardy species in the genus. Its distribution extends north from Hopei and south to Kwangtung.

BEGONIA YUNNANENSIS Lévl. in *Fedde, Rep. Nov. Sp.* 6:20 (1909).

C. Yunnan: Kunming, Hsi-shan, fl. pink, Sept. 1939, *C. Y. Wu no.* 106. Hsun-tien, Kuokai, alt. 2500 m., near by stream, herb 1 ft. high, fl. pink, rare, Nov. 8, 1941, *Y. P. Chang no.* 727. Hsun-tien, Chi-kai, alt. 3000 m., under dense woods, herb tuberous, fl. light purple, rare, Nov. 10, 1941, *Y. P. Chang no.* 774.

W. Yunnan: Tali, from Wa-so to Chishan, erect stoloniferous herb with tubers and tubercles, fl. red, Sept. 8, 1938, *C. Y. Wu no.* 11955.

NW. Yunnan: Chungtien, Lomahua, alt. 2400 m., under forest, rocky place, 1.5 ft. high, capsule grayish brown, seeds collected Nov. 11, 1937, *T. T. Yu no.* 10928. Chungtien,

Haba, alt. 3800 m., under shady rocks, herb perennial, 1 ft. high, fl. pink, common, Sept. 20, 1938, *T. T. Yu no.* 13575. Chungtien, north flank of Haba snow range on shady moist situation in forest, Aug. 29, 1939, *K. M. Feng no.* 2338. Tuchi of west Lichiang, in mixed forest, plant 1-2 ft., fl. rose-crimson, Aug. 19, 1939, *R. C. Ching no.* 21428. Tze-yun-tze, south Lichiang snow range, on open pasture, 1-2 ft. high, fl. rose, Aug. 23, 1939, *R. C. Ching no.* 21362. Ho-chin, Lian-ping, Kan-hai-tze, 2900 m., under thickets, herb 1-1.5 ft. high, fl. red, common, Aug. 23, 1940, *R. C. Ching no.* 24033. Ho-chin, San-chang, Pai-ho-kou, in valley, rocky place, herb, fl. in bud, July 27, 1940, *R. C. Ching no.* 23380.

S. Sikang: Muli, Lilang, Konting, alt. 2400 m., under woods, grassland, herb 1 ft. high, fl. pink, common, July 30, 1938, *T. T. Yu no.* 7457. Muli, Wohsi, alt. 2600 m., near by stream, grassland, herb with tubers, 5-1.5 ft. high, fl. light pink, common, Aug. 19, 1938, *T. T. Yu no.* 14028. Muli, Consinliang near Ngerya, on the border of Chungtien, alt. 2300 m., moist shady situations, in mixed forest, inside valley, plant 10-20 in. high, fl. pink rose, Aug. 23, 1939, *K. M. Feng no.* 2752.

Begonia alveolata sp. nov.

(Ed. note: Latin description omitted)

SE. Yunnan: Pingpien, Timi, alt. 1500 m., under woods, moist place, lf. dark green above, pale purplish beneath, fl. pink, hairy, Nov. 13, 1939, *C. W. Wang no.* 82780. Type in Yun. Bot. Inst.). Ma-li-po, Gwan-gao, alt. 1000 m., under woods on rocks, fl. pink, fr. green, Feb. 10, 1940, *C. W. Wang no.* 86714.

The present new species is characterized by the leaves being densely lepidote beneath, which look like a honeycomb under the lens, and the inflorescence being axillary with 1-2 flowers. Its nearest ally probably is *B. yunnanensis* Lévl.; from the latter it differs in the characters of the leaves, stipules, stigmas and inflorescences.

(Editor's note: This is the second installment of this pamphlet; the balance will appear in the following month. We have found it interesting to trace the locations of these species on a good map of China (in our case one published by the National Geographic Magazine in June, 1945). Some of the smaller districts mentioned do not appear, but most of the main towns do. Bearing in mind that the altitudes are expressed in meters, and a meter is equivalent to 3 feet, 3.37 inches, the hardiness of this branch of the begonia family is evident.)

Spring is almost here! Check your index for reminders on composting, soil mixes, growing and pest control tips—tuberous begonia lore.

Sheltered Garden — Australian Style

14th Oct. 1949

Pakenham Upper
Victoria
Australia

The Editor:

I have read so much about lath houses in *The Begonian* — they appear to play an important part in the successful culture of many of the more delicate plants and shrubs that beautify such a number of homes — that I have been tempted to build one myself, and it has occurred to me that other members may be interested to see how I have approached the matter.

This is not a hot part of Australia; it is in the temperate area with a 40 to 50 inch rainfall fairly evenly distributed over the year. I have no frost worth mentioning to combat; the little we do get does not seem to have any sting, and it is very unusual for a plant or shrub to receive damage from this source sufficient to cause injury. But! At Midsummer (January - February) an occasional destructive hot wind is likely to arise, coming from the North, off the great centre of Australia.

The duration of this wind varies from 12 to 48 hours, during which time the sun gets very hot and atmosphere very dry. Quite a lot of damage is done to young shoots and leaf points, and the garden seems to receive a general set-back, and as I have no artificial water, I have no means of helping things to recover. Fortunately, when the wind changes, it is always followed by a cool fresher from the South or South-West, which arrives within a few minutes after the North wind dies away and is often accompanied by a shower of rain, but the damage has been done.

I have therefore built my shade house as a protection, I hope, against this combination of hot wind and sun. The specifications are as follows: 50 feet long, 8 feet deep, 7 feet high at the front, sloping to 6 feet at the back.



Courtesy of P. Hoyles, Australia

I have not covered it with sawn laths as same are difficult to obtain but have fastened ti-tree brush on the top and back with an espalier Jessamine (*Jasminum primulinum*)

at the North end and climbing *Wisteria* at the South end. It is completely open along the whole of the East side as very little rough weather of any kind comes from this quarter, and it also looks out onto a large new lawn I have just put down. I think it will be very nice when I have it stocked with all the things I have in mind.

I have an underground tank built of brick concrete lined, with a capacity of about 10,000 gallons. All the rain water from the West side of the house is directed into this reservoir, which at present is nearly full. I read from time to time in *The Begonian* where mention is made of watering through the leaves by means of a fine mist, which can be produced by a fogger nozzle. I like the idea; it seems common sense, and I am contemplating raising the water from this tank to a gravitation tank built on stilts high enough to give me the required fall to apply necessary pressure to create a good mist. This is in my mind for the future, and should it be installed, I shall run a pipe into the shade house and hope for the success I believe will follow . . .

Good luck to the Society, and I will write again if my scheme proceeds satisfactorily.

P. Hoyles

(The Society wishes you the best of luck and thanks you for your interesting letter on a problem which harrasses many other districts. We will be waiting to hear your further experiences.)

February Round Robin News

An interesting new Round Robin has been requested — of course we will need a Director and members. This Robin will be known as the "What's New?" group. It will seek to keep its members informed of the latest developments in horticulture: the newest pest and disease eradicators; the newest fertilizers; the most modern cultural methods; the newest garden gadgets, etc., etc. The Robin should prove most interesting and valuable for its members. Are you interested?? If so, hurry and drop me a card that you may be in time for it first flight.

All of the African Violet Robins are filled. We are now ready to start new Clubs and will be in need of competent Directors. Who will volunteer to guide a *Saintpaulia* Robin???

The "*Begonia* Robin for Beginners" is in need of new members in order to have more groups complete and start flying.

An *Oxalis* Robin has been asked for, and if someone will offer to direct it and a few more members sign up, we shall have it on its way.

Turn to next page

Notice to All Directors

May I suggest that you send me a report about every two months regarding the Robin Clubs that you direct? Let's start now. Make out your report so that it will reach me before the middle of the month.

Tell me if your Robins are flying on time, if you have added any new members other than the ones I send in, names of members that have resigned from your group, and any other news of special interest. I would like all especially outstanding cultural notes from the Robin letters.

I need this co-operation from you to keep up with the progress of our groups and thereby maintain smoother functioning of all our Round Robins. Thanks.

I'll — be blowing your way — come March.

Sincerely yours,

Frances Downing,
Round Robins Chairman.

Research Department

Marie Minter, Encinitas, California

Question: I seem to have a *superba* without a name and which does not fit any descriptions I can find. Are there others?

Answer: Yes. Mrs. Gobin released *superba silver dust*. Mr. Ziesenhenné has *superba Astrida* in his collection, and Mr. Robinson's catalogs show that he sold a begonia under the name of *superba* or *superba specie*. We are trying to locate some seedling plants from the original cross of Mrs. Grey's, which she distributed prior to naming her *superbas*. Will anyone having any knowledge of the location of any of these plants get in touch with me? The information will be greatly appreciated. The address is Route 1, Box 512.

Question and Answer: Several people have written in about the confusion resulting in raising unknown species, keeping these plants in their collections without any name, then finding that later on they buy the same plant with a name. During the war years the Seed Fund was unable to import many foreign seeds, but now that markets again have been opened to us, we find that each year our collections have quite a few unnamed begonias in them. In order to keep down as much confusion as we can in nomenclature, some method of numbering will have to be devised that will not conflict with other growers and will be our exclusive property. I am working on this now and hope to have some news about it soon. Then when our unnamed begonias are identified, we'll have a record and can match numbers with names. It will also make it much easier to keep records for reference.

Question: Have any of the 1949 seeds been identified as yet.

Answer: Tentatively. E-8 may be *B. aquadita*. E-15 is *Tovarensis*. Guatemala P-1 was *Kellermanii* and Guatemala P-2 was *scandens cordifolia*.

Library Notes

This month marks the first anniversary of service of your present librarian and certainly calls for an expression of appreciation and gratitude from the undersigned for the splendid co-operation and consideration from the membership. Your patience in awaiting your turn for recent acquisitions, your promptness in returning books on loan, enclosing the necessary postage, and your wonderful letters have made the past year more than a pleasure and have me very proud to be a part of the administrative staff of the American Begonia Society.

May I take this opportunity to thank the many thoughtful members who have donated books and their used copies of the Begonian to the library. This generosity has made it possible to assemble a complete file of the Begonian for several past years (many being scarce copies no longer available) and has added sufficient funds to the library to permit the purchase of several fine books for the use of the membership as a whole. Please continue this good work as it is wasteful to burn or destroy copies of this fine publication when others might have the use of it. Remember your librarian is willing to reimburse you for the postage and any expense incurred in shipping back numbers to the library. Write to me for further information.

I would appreciate suggestions and requests from interested members for the addition of any new or old books containing Begonia information which would prove of value as reference material. The library is for your use and should contain informative subject matter on Begonias and Shade plants and any suggestions would be welcomed. Library lists are for your use and may be obtained by sending in a stamped, self-address envelope.

Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.

GLENDALÉ BRANCH: Cordially invites all Begonians and friends to hear Mr. Julius Nuccio of Nuccio Nursery, Altadena, speak on the culture of Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Gardenias — Feb. 28th.

Violet A. Moore, Publicity.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH: The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mr. Chas. G. Read, president; Mrs. William Ketchum, treasurer; Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, secretary.

Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.

Glancing Back

In April, 1939, Mr. C. M. Kelly compiled the following pertinent information on rock-loving begonias —

"We have been impressed by the comment in infrequent articles on the growth habits and environment of the native begonias, that certain species are found growing on or among rocks, preferring such a location to one more in the open. Perhaps it is there, under a sheltering, shelving rock, that the roots find that degree of temperature and the unvarying amount of soil moisture that is to their liking, and only those plants that, in this case, 'fall among stones' survive.

"On the subject of rock-loving plants, Dr. C. A. Purpus, of Vera Cruz, Mexico, writes:

"About eight different species of begonias are found in the State of Vera Cruz. There is *B. hydrocotylifolia*, *B. ricinifolia*, *B. heracleifolia*, and others growing about here in our so-called 'Tierra Caliente.' *B. hydrocotylifolia* is a fine species with pale colored flowers. It grows on rocks, quite often on steep rocks, in the lower regions.

"One of the most noteworthy of all begonias is *B. incana*, a succulent species, with thick fleshy lobes and greyish leaves. The flower is white, tinged with rose, not at all showy like flowers of *B. hydrocotylifolia*.

"All begonias are rock-loving plants, especially *B. incana*, which is found only on rocks, rocky cliffs and on walls, in very sparse soil, in the Tierra Caliente."

"Dr. Purpus sent us roots of the above mentioned begonias, besides seeds of them and of others, and these roots or rhizomes are sprouting now. *B. incana* is similar to our *B. peltata*, having less of the white fuzz on the foliage.

* * *

"Another Mexican begonia found only in rocky situations is the rare tuberous species having only one leaf, *B. unifolia*. Mr. Eric Walther, of Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, reports seeing this begonia in the Canon de la Mano, State of Guerrero. There it grows abundantly on the vertical marble or limestone walls of the canyon, the large, round leaves held so slightly above the ground that they often lie upon it.

"Here must be the exception that proves the rule that begonias like an acid soil, for the soil formed by disintegrating limestone must be alkaline rather than acid.

"Mr. Hoeffer, a member of the San Francisco group, directs our attention to an article in the National Geographic Magazine (September, 1938) from which we quote:

"Atop of the 'Smoking Mountain' (on the island of Hainan in the China Sea) great blocks of stone rose out of the jungle—cliffs hundreds of feet high, covered with vines, ferns, lianas, orchids and wild jasmine. By using this tangle of vines we were able to scramble high up above the orchid topped jungle. Thousands of red begonias grew on the summit in crevices between the huge boulders.' This was at an altitude of 4850 ft., only a few degrees north of the equator.

". . . Some of the species of India and the Philippines are said to prefer the protection of rocky situations."

(Editor's note—In the area where the begonias grow on limestones, there are torrential rains which help keep poisonous alkalines from accumulating, just as heavy thorough waterings help our Southern California begonias.)

Seed Fund Achimenes

by Kenneth H. Mosher, Seattle

Two varieties listed as *Robusta* and one with red and yellow flowers, name unknown, were distributed by the Fund in the Spring of 1948.

Robusta proved to be a very beautiful and distinct plant with strong, sturdy stems and well marked foliage, much like the variety Harry Williams. The flowers are large, flat, and of a rich velvety reddish-purple color with lighter and darker shadings near the eye. We have not been able to find any record of its first discovery or whether it was ever introduced into cultivation before 1947 or 1948. If anyone knows of a record describing it, we should appreciate hearing of it.

The other variety upon blooming, proved to be the species *A. pedunculata*. The plant is tall growing, with large well marked leaves much like *Robusta*. The flowers are produced late in the season on relatively long peduncles from the axils of the upper leaves. Normally only a few flowers are produced each season. The flowers are long, tubular, and of a beautiful cardinal red with a yellow throat variously spotted with brick red. The plant in growth resembles a *Nagelia* to some extent. This species was first discovered and sent to England in 1840 by Mr. Theodore Hartweg, who found it growing in the mountains of Mexico.

Both these species are very choice additions to the list of Achimenes now available in this country.

Buy from our Advertisers.

1950 SEED FUND LIST

Advanced Begonia Seed Collection

1. PHILIPPINE ISLE SPECIES—*B. Hirtella* is an annual type, light green leaves. Both stems and leaves are white-hairy. Flowers white, small. Sets seed freely.
2. RUBRO-VENIA—Small rhizomatous type with variable shaped and colored leaves. India.
3. KELLERMANII—A species from Guatemala. Leaves thickly felted, decidedly cupped. Makes a good basket plant.
4. INDIA SPOTTED—Leaves lobed into four or five deep points, silver spotted. Probably of hybrid origin as there have been reported instances of a plain brownish-green leaved plant coming from these seeds. Originally imported from India.
5. MEGAPTERA—Probably *rubro-venia*. There are on record six different varieties of *rubro-venia* so some variation should show up in these seeds. India.
6. ULMIFOLIA—India and Venezuela. Resembles a young elm tree rather than a begonia. Stems succulent, square, covered with thin hairy brown scurf. Leaves rough, bright green, rough-hairy on both sides, flowers white.
7. RICINIFOLIA—Hybrid rhizomatous introduced in England about 1847. Leaves bronzy green, flowers pink.
8. SUNDERBRUCKI—Hybrid rhizomatous introduced in California in 1895. More brightly colored than *B. nigricans* and bronzy-green. Leaves cut into lobes with a stripe of light green through the center.
9. RICHARDSIANA—Semi-tuberous. Deeply cleft leaves with red spots at the leaf angles. Leaves small, flowers white.
10. DREGEI VAR. MACBETHI—Semi-tuberous type. Leaves smaller than *dregei*, lobes more deeply cut, green. Flowers white.
11. SCHULZIANA—Haiti 1930. Syn. Mexican Rockery. Rhizomatous, leaves small, pointed 5-7 lobed, white scurfy. Flowers pink. Goes completely dormant in the winter.
12. C-42—Rhizomatous type, light green leaves. Introduced by Mr. Ziesenhenne.
13. ROTUNDIFOLIA—Rhizomatous, low growing, leaves small, dark green, crenately lobed. Flowers pink. Haiti.
14. COLUMBIA SPECIES E18—unnamed as yet.
15. COLUMBIA SPECIES E20—unnamed as yet.
16. NELUMBIFOLIA—Mexico 1830. Leaves large, peltate, bronzy green. Flowers white. *nelumbifolia globra* has smaller leaves, green and more pointed.
17. GRACILIS SPECIES—Similar to *B. Mariana*, leaves green and brown, taller and more bushy than *gracilis* var. *diversifolia*, flowers pink. Mexico.

18. GRACILIS VAR. DIVERSIFOLIA—see above description, more slender growing and less brown in the leaves. Flowers pink. Mexico. Forms bulbils in axils of leaves.
19. MRS. W. S. KIMBALL—syn. *dipetala*. Grows to two feet tall, stems brown, rarely branched. Leaves green with scattered red hairs, pink flowers.
20. PHILIPPINE ISLE MIXED—mixed species, unknown as yet.
21. B. SOUVENIR DE FRANCOIS GAULIN—Sometimes called *B. pink Carnot* or *President Gaulin*. A cane type developed in France in 1890. Bright pink flowers.
22. HUGELI—Brazil 1855. Hairy fibrous. Leaves medium, shallowly lobed and toothed, green above, rose red beneath. Flowers large white and whitebearded outside.
23. *Calla lily begonia*—A white leaved mutant semperflorens.
24. ANDERSONI—India species.
25. GIGANTEA—Leaves light green, thickened at nodes. Few branched. Flowers white or pale pink in clusters. India.
26. WELTONIENSIS ALBA—Semi-tuberous A variety of *B. weltoniensis* with white flowers, leaves lighter green and lacking the purple veins.
27. AMEANA—India species.

Beginner's Begonia Seed Collection

1. ULMIFOLIA—description in Advanced collection.
2. RICINIFOLIA—description in Advanced collection.
3. RICHARDSIANA—Semi-tuberous. Deeply cleft leaves with red spots at the leaf angles, leaves small, flowers pink.
4. MANDA'S WOOLLY BEAR—A low grower, leaves glossy dark green with brown tomentum beneath as well as on stems and branches, flowers white.
5. SCHULZIANA—description in Advanced collection.
6. NELUMBIFOLIA—description in Advanced collection.
7. GRACILIS VAR. DIVERSIFOLIA—description in Advanced collection.
8. IMMENSE—similar to *B. ricinifolia* of which it is a seedling. Is shorter-petioled, leaves greener and flatter. Rhizomatous.
9. RUBRA—Cane type, deep pink flowers.
10. SCHMIDTIANA—Low growing, bushy hairy, small olive-green leaves, pink flowers.
11. COLUMBIA SPECIES E7—Will be identified as soon as possible.
12. COLUMBIA SPECIES E11—Will be identified as soon as possible.

See page 38

More About African Violets

by Mrs. Lillian Ashe, San Francisco, Calif.

Fads in plants come and go, and right now there is a growing interest in African Violets the country over. This fad has affected the members of the San Francisco Branch as well. In order to learn more about this attractive plant, we invited Constance Hansen of the Hansen-Hill Nursery in Lafayette, California, to tell us about the culture and habits of *Saintpaulia ionantha* at a recent meeting. Mrs. Hansen evidently has made a thorough study of her hobby as she not only gave a detailed historical sketch of the origin, but the reasons for its increased popularity.

"California plant lovers were among the most recent to become infected with the collecting fever," said Mrs. Hansen. "This seems strange when it is a known fact that some of the early popular varieties were originated here in the first place."

The first African Violet, which by the way is not a violet, but a member of the Gesneriaceae, to which family belong also the Gloxina, Streptocarpus and many other greenhouse plants, was discovered in 1889 growing wild in East Africa near Tanga by Baron Walter von Saint Paul. The new plant was first exhibited at the International Horticultural Exhibit in Ghent in 1893, was received enthusiastically by nurserymen and the public. These plants were brought to this country the following year. While seeds were offered at that time by Continental nurseries, it is puzzling why the plants were so little known here until recently. In the 1930's, Armacost and Royston of Southern California, released some of the varieties they had developed from seeds imported from Europe, as *Saintpaulia ionantha*.

About the same time, Mrs. W. K. duPont of Delaware purchased seeds from Sutton's of England and from the seedlings selected one which was the start of the now well known duPont strain. This is characterized by thicker foliage and very large blossoms. Gradually more people became interested in these plants and they soon saw the remarkable possibility for variation, both by growing them from seed and by chance mutations. It became evident that here was a collector's plant "par excellence" and the race was on. Some tried to collect as many varieties as they could acquire by country-wide correspondence. Others preferred to add to their collection by growing their own from seeds, or trying to induce mutations by various means, since African Violets sport comparatively often when grown in large

quantities, as well as being very variable from seeds.

Many correspondence groups were started which dealt exclusively with the subject of African Violets. Through these the African Violet Society of America was formed following the first African Violet show held in Atlanta, Georgia in 1946. The third show was held in Cincinnati this Spring and the next will be in Philadelphia next May.

African Violets as a hobby have a real therapeutic value for hospital patients and other shut-ins, as in a single window one can have plants in all stages of development and watch them grow from seeds or leaves to blooming plants. A number of African Violet clubs have been started in Veteran's hospitals, with outside organizations acting as sponsors, providing instructions, plants, literature, and necessary material.

It is impossible to keep up with the named varieties any longer, with so many hobbyists growing them from seeds. It is hoped that the public will become educated to asking, when confronted with a strange plant, if it has a name, rather than which one it is. Of course, there is great similarity between many varieties and one could eliminate a lot of them and still have a representative collection; however there would be quite a number left, each of which is quite distinct. So far the variations have been in flowers and foliage. The habit is fairly constant, all of the plants having a central, thickened, fleshy stem and the color range of the flowers is somewhat limited. The next variations will probably be in the habit of the plants as new creeping species are now in process of development. As this new blood is introduced into breeding lines, there will be some new and different violets.

Mrs. Hansen prepares her mixture from four parts oak leaf mold and one part each coarse sandy soil and fully decomposed cow manure. the soil must be porous as the plant has a very fine root system. It should be sterilized and put through a half inch screen. She adds a small quantity bone meal or superphosphate as well as bits of charcoal. The seeds are developed best in a mixture of fine soil and vermiculite. The size of the pots depends upon the size of the plants, the 4" azalea pot being the largest she uses as it takes less space. However, if the roots have plenty room it will produce more flowers. The plants are rather slow growers. African Violets are very sensitive to light. The lack or excess of it will prevent blooming; the

See next page

northeast exposure being the best as they can stand a little sun in the morning. The best temperature is between 60 to 70° F, but the plant can stand a range of 35° without ill effects. She waters every three days as heavy watering is detrimental. Water at room temperature should always be used. They may be watered both from the top or bottom. Mrs. Hansen prefers the first method. Small amounts of weak manure water or Atlas Fish Emulsion are adequate fertilizers applied 3 or 4 times a year.

"Grow a single crown," added Mrs. Hansen; "if several crowns develop, better remove them, starting new plants. Humidity and ventilation are very important factors in the well being of the plant, low humidity resulting in smaller blooms or even in falling of the buds. Get rid of old stems and flowers to prevent rot. New plants may be easily started from leaves. Nip off leaves 1" from crown. Roots form within a couple of weeks spreading laterally. Watch for Cyclamen mite; pyrethrum is the best cure for it, also for mealy bugs and thrips, NNOR which is 100% active, was found to be the best cure. The African Violet is a cheerful plant which blooms about 9 months in a year and requires very little care. Let it rest after it stops blooming; do not fertilize it at that time."

"If any of you desire to learn more about Saintpaulias," concluded Mrs. Hansen, "there are several good books available. Articles on African Violets appear from time to time in every home and garden magazine. The African Violet Society puts out a quarterly bulletin which contains very interesting and helpful information. Of the better books on the subject I recommend one by Helen Van Pelt Wilson and another by Mary Margaret Odom of De-Witt, Iowa; in these, one will find complete lists of many popular varieties, their names, color of blooms and other general characteristics."

Mrs. Hansen brought along a large variety of African Violets and described in the course of her talk the culture, origin, and habits of each specimen. The audience was keenly interested in her talk which proved her great knowledge and love for her hobby.

MIAMI BRANCH: Reports its December meeting was called to order by Pres. Rosengren and election of officers held, naming the following: president, Mr. G. E. Ramer; vice-president, Mrs. Frank C. Palmer; secretary, Miss Elizabeth S. Hall; Treasurer, Mrs. Chas. F. Ross; national director and membership chairman, Mrs. A. E. Sackett; and local director, Mrs. Bessie M. Bell.

Mr. George Wagner showed about a hun-

dred slides of pictures he had taken in Ecuador and Peru, mostly in the interior, showing natives and native towns and many plants he has discovered there that are entirely new to the United States.

Mrs. A. E. Sackett, Natl. Director

INGLEWOOD BRANCH NEWS: Maria Wilkes will be guest speaker at Inglewood for our February 9th meeting.

We feel quite pleased to have Mrs. Wilkes talk to us, as she is considered one of the top garden consultants in the southland area. Her topic is to be, **FEBRUARY, THE KEY MONTH FOR SHADE GARDEN PREPARATION.** This should prove to be quite an interesting topic, inasmuch as we are all more or less interested in the shade garden.

Come on over and join us; the welcome mat is out more than ever this year as we prepare for the National Convention.

Cal Trowbridge, Publicity

Seed Fund, cont. from page 36

13. **COLUMBIA SPECIES E16**—Will be identified as soon as possible.
14. **SEMPERFLORENS**—Bedding begonias—these are the dark foliage type.
15. **MIXED BEGONIA SEEDS.**

Tuberous Begonia Seed Collection

1. **PEDATA**—Leaves shaped somewhat on the order of ivy leaves, unusual specie.
2. **MICRANTHERA VAR. VENTURA**—One of the *micranthera* group.
3. **MICRANTHERA FIMBRIATA**—syn. No. 1041. Flowers bright orange-red.
4. **TUBEROUS HYBRIDS.**
5. **SUTHERLANDI MAJOR**—Semi-tuberous variety having large leaves and flowers.
6. **CLARKEI**—Flowers rose-pink, a species.
7. **BOLIVIENSIS**—Leaves long narrow and tapering to a slender point, flowers orange-red. A species.
8. **DAFFODIL**—*Tuberhybrida* variety resembling narcissus. Sometimes grown under the name of narcissiflora variety.
9. **SUTHERLANDI**—Semi-tuberous species from South Africa. Flowers yellow to orange.
10. **WILD ROSE**—A Leslie Woodriff introduction of some years back. Deep pink flowers, scented especially in the morning.
11. **BAUMANII**—From Bolivia, a species. Leaves medium large, green. Flowers large, rose-red.
12. **PICTA**—From India, low growing, leaves pointed green, mottled with lighter green and bronze. Flowers pink.



Armchair Explorers

February Newsletter

The begonia seed collections are being mailed to you this month. I hope you will be well pleased with the fine assortment. New members may still obtain these collections as long as the seed holds out. \$2 for the Advanced Collection, \$1 for the Beginner's collection, \$1.50 for the Tuberous Collection. See the key to the numbers written on the small packets elsewhere in this issue, keep this list as none will come with the seeds.

For February I have several items of interest. There are bulbs of *B. Martiana*, *B. Evansiana* at 25c per packet, Red Concolor lily seed, choice coleus seed—10c, and Achimenes tubers from Mexico and Guatemala at 10c. These species are *A. Robusta*, *A. Carmine*, *A. Longiflora*. Order right away for they should soon be planted.

What do you do in your greenhouse during February? Well you can begin to start those tuberous begonias. Plant the bulb about half way in moist leafmold and peatmoss—keep damp. When they are well sprouted is time enough to plant in pots. Pruning of fibrous begonias should be done now. Put the cuttings of these and of rex in your heated propagating frame. By all means get busy and plant lots of seeds. It is such fun to grow your own plants.

Many members write me that they have never before had so much pleasure from such a small outlay of money. Better hurry and write your Skipper if you want begonia seeds to plant this spring.

Cheerio until next month,

Your Skipper, Florence Carrell.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH: James N. Giridlian, grower of rare plants and teacher on Tuesday evening at Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte High School (also Pasadena City College on Thursdays) spoke to us December 28th on "The Living Soil". Mr. Giridlian owns Oakhurst Gardens in Arcadia.

Use the products advertised in The Begonian. If we support these loyal business men, they will continue to support our magazine.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH: At the November meeting the following officers were elected for 1950 — Art Mann, President; Dr. Paul Gilbert, Vice-President; Mrs. Wm. Meyer, Secretary; Robert Gromm, Treasurer; Ira Allyn, National Representative; Walter Bass, Director, (two year term); Lillian Ashe continues as a member of the Board of Directors for the second year of her term.

Irvin Kramer, one of our Past Presidents, pioneered the construction of lath and glass houses in our area from discarded fluorescent tubes. Quite a few of our members followed his example. At this meeting, Mr. Kramer showed us his excellent collection of kodachrome pictures of gardens where these tubes were used. A variety of structures were erected such a lath and glass houses, pergolas, sun and windbreaks. The pictures were taken when Tuberous Begonias were in full bloom. He also showed slides of Vetterle & Reinelt and Antonelli Bros. Begonia Gardens. Mr. Kramer prefers fluorescent tubes to laths, because they present a clean and neat appearance and the colors of the Tuberous Begonias show up better against the white background.

We had our annual Christmas party in December which was attended not only by our members, but their children and grandchildren as well. Outside entertainers participated in the program. Dean Bidwell acted as Santa Claus. Ira Allyn, the out-going President, was presented with a gift from the Branch. There was the usual exchange of gifts among the members and Christmas stockings filled with toys, etc., were given to the children.

So ended 1949. Now we are looking forward to the new year with hopes that our dream for a Garden Center in San Francisco will be fulfilled in 1950.

Mrs. Lillian Ashe, Director

Members Please Note

Send all remittances for renewals and new memberships to P. O. Box 2544, Los Angeles 54, California, if you are *not* a Branch member. Branch members should pay their branch Membership Secretary, so the branch records may include their names, and they will then receive all announcements pertaining to their branch.

DO NOT send remittances and requests to El Monte, as this address has been changed to Los Angeles and such misdirected mail may become lost.

CORRECTION—Title of photo on page 268, December, 1949, issue should have been *Adiantum gracillimum*.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH: The following were elected officers at our November meeting: Mr. H. E. Foley, president; Mr. W. W. Easton, vice-president; Mrs. D. M. McDaniel, secretary; Mrs. B. A. Carlson, treasurer; Mr. J. A. Bovet, Mrs. A. B. Roat, Mrs. A. F. Owens, board members; and Captain E. F. Barker, national representative.

Held a Christmas party December 26th, with a gift exchange and the singing of carols. Retiring president, Mr. Barker, opened the meeting with a Salute to the Flag and surrendered the gavel to the new president, Mr. H. E. Foley.

Mrs. Fisher played the piano and a nice social hour was enjoyed. Mrs. Barker and her co-hostesses served ice cream, cake, and coffee.

Mrs. D. M. McDaniel, Secy.

SANTA MONICA BRANCH: With the Santa Monica Bay Garden Club, held their Christmas party on December 16th at the Auditorium of the Brentwood County Mart, 26th and San Vicente Blvd., Santa Monica.

Mrs. John Harris furnished the entertainment. Gifts were distributed by Santa Claus to all members and their guests. Refreshments were served.

Mrs. R. J. Hall, Secretary

EAST BAY BRANCH: Held a Christmas potluck dinner and party at their December 15th meeting at which sixty-five members and friends were seated at tables for eight, each with a host and hostess — each hostess having decorated her table.

In place of the usual gift exchange, wishing well donations were made to purchase three "Care" packages for needy families of France and England.

John Hastings, a young harpist who studied in France and California at Berkeley, entertained. His rendition of "Silent Night" will long be remembered. Mr. A. F. Munson, one of our members, showed a sound film of "Christmas Carols". Each one present received a choice tuberous begonia bulb secured by John Paul Edwards from Antonelli Brothers, Santa Cruz.

In conclusion the following officers were elected for 1950: president, Mr. Dick Goodnow; vice-president, Mr. Evan Berg; secretary, Mr. C. Floyd Jensen; treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Ahrens; representative director, Mrs. Walter S. Stockinger.

Much of the success of our party was contributed by the expert leadership of our Program Chairmen, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. LeHew, for the month of December.

C. F. Jensen, Secretary

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH: Held its annual Christmas party and turkey dinner Monday evening, December 5th, at the Eel River Grange, Ferndale. The ladies of the grange prepared and served the delicious dinner to 43 members and guests. Colorful decorations included miniature Christmas trees in bright red apples for standards, holly sprays, and bright paper on the tables. Garden gifts were exchanged around a real Christmas tree.

Mrs. Mildred Grinsell and her group presented a hilariously amusing skit of old one-room schoolhouse days with members costumed as old-fashioned children—from the boy with the sore toe to the movie-struck girl.

Special awards were presented by the club to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Wooden, and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Papke for their outstanding work on the prize winning Begonia Society exhibit at this year's county fair.

The new officers were installed by Mrs. R. J. Minnie and the meeting closed.

Violet Wooden, Historian

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH: Held its last meeting of the year on December 12th, at which officers for the following year were installed. They are: Messrs. Charles Wiley, president; Carl Holm, vice-president; F. J. Nachbor, secretary; Harry Swimley, treasurer; Herbert Dyckman, national representative.

Miss Evelyn Peterson, of Peterson's Nursery, gave a most interesting talk on Christmas decorations and dish gardens. Ardis and Beverly Mapes and Opal Martinson, of St. John's Lutheran Choir, gave an amusing skit in black-face pantomime. Mr. Arlen Rethwisch provided his electric amplifier to accompany them. Mrs. Peter Hamel accompanied them on the piano for the singing of Christmas carols.

Beatrice White, Publicity Ch.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH: The following officers for 1950 have been elected: Mr. Andrew S. Gulas, president; Mr. Leo Lackamp, vice-president; Mr. M. W. Pearson, treasurer and recording secretary; Mrs. Edward Lobser, corresponding secretary; Mr. Phil Meyer, junior past president; and Mr. R. F. Lauer, national director.

Mrs. E. Lobser, Cor. Secy.

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President Bert Slatter and the Inglewood Branch members are working diligently to stage the finest Convention and Begonia Show ever held. They are already formulating many innovations for a better convention. All of this costs money, and the square dances are put on each month to promote the necessary funds.

Come to the square dance and have fun. At the same time you are helping to build a wonderful Convention.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH: Our national president, Mr. W. E. Walton, gave a very beautiful and impressive installation service at our December meeting. The following are our new officers: Mrs. J. L. Green, president; Mrs. Horace Wood, vice-president; Mrs. W. L. Everett, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Muriel Hylton, national representative. A Christmas party was then held, with jolly old Santa, a Christmas tree, and gifts and refreshments for all.

Mrs. Ann Peterson, Secretary

Despite the frigid weather there were 40 members and friends at our Jan. 5 meeting at Orange County Farm Bureau Hall, to hear Mr. Harold Botts, nurseryman from Anaheim, speak on several new products for gardeners: "Black Magic", "Leaf Lustre", "Castor Bean Meal", and "Acidex". Many questions on these were answered by the speaker, and then the group asked general questions on the care of gardens at this time of the year. A sample package of "Black Magic" was given each person at the close of the discussion period . . . Plant sale, door prize drawing and refreshments concluded a fine meeting.

Helen Meyer, Publicity

PASADENA BRANCH: Held its annual election of officers in November. The following were named: Fred Willard, president; W. O. Bell, president-elect; J. F. Thompson, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Alva Graham, national representative. We have a very fine, active group and so are hopeful of a fine 1950.

J. F. Thompson, secy.-treas.

Have you your Membership display card?

FOOTHILL BRANCH: Held its installation of officers for 1950 at the Azusa Women's Club. Mr. Max Goheen, past president, installed the officers reported elected last month with the exception that Mr. Rufus Ogilvie was installed as vice-president instead of Mr. Dan White.

The speaker for the evening was Mr. Jimmy Giridlian from Oakhurst Gardens in Arcadia. His topic was "The Living Soil". He explained that life is in the top six inches of soil from which plants derive their nutrients. The most important cultivators in this layer of soil are the earthworms. They, along with the bacteria and fungus, help keep the soil fertile. It is heartily recommended that other Branches take advantage of hearing this intellectual speaker, for Jimmy Giridlian is good.

Many guests were present, among them being Mrs. Gonda Hartwell, National Secretary.

Edwin O. Williams, Publicity.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH: Held our January meeting in the Garden Center, McKinley Park, with the new president, Mrs. L. M. Flannigan, presiding.

Mrs. Flannigan gave us a resume of plans for the coming year, which were: to have an even better exhibit at the State Fair than we had last year; to have more interesting meetings for our members and more speakers; to increase our membership; to continue the plant contest so that our members will be better able to identify all types of begonias; and to do all that is asked of us to help our National Society. A dinner and program are being planned to celebrate our third anniversary in February, with Mrs. Byron Davis and Mr. Melville Newfield as co-chairmen.

The speaker for the evening was Mr. Arthur Navlet of San Francisco. His subject was "New Methods of Propagation". He also showed colored slides of "Autumn in the New England States" and a trip through Montreal, Quebec, and the shrine in Ste. Anne de Beaupre, Canada.

About seventy-five members and guests gathered around the refreshment table at the close of the meeting.

Mrs. John R. Williams, Publicity

PETALUMA BRANCH: Mr. Jay Gould, past-president, installed the following officers for 1950 at its December meeting: Al Schlener, president; Henry Ross, vice-president; Earl Wilson, secretary; James Cornelius, treasurer; Sam Houser, director—2 yr.; Mrs. Martha Phillips, national representative. A round table question and answer period followed, concluding with the usual social session of coffee and cake.

Branch Meeting Dates and Places

BARTON, DOROTHY PIERSON BRANCH

Regular Meetings 1st Mondays in February, May, August and November. Two annual exhibits, May and September, 1:30 p.m., Dessert Mrs. George W. W. Barton, Director 929 East 7th St., Flint 3, Michigan.

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

1st Monday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.
I.O.O.F. Hall, Ardmore and Palm Sts.
Mrs. Mildred Marshall, Secretary
8733 East Flower St., Bellflower, Calif.

EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Willard School, Ward Street
C. F. Jensen, Sec.
3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Feb. 16, 8:00 p.m.
Columbia Grammar School, Rm. 60
Mrs. Mary Bradley, Cor. Sec.
701 Asher St., El Monte, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

1st Friday, Feb. 3, 8:00 p.m.
Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa
Mrs. Mabel Goheen, Secretary
360 W. Sierra Madre Ave., Glendora, Calif.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m.
206 West Cypress
Mrs. D. H. Bradley, Secretary
1432 E. Wilson, Glendale 6, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Genter, Corres. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m.
Home of Members
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following
Mrs. Frank H. Mather, Cor. Sec.
515 Windover Rd., Hathboro, Pa.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Mrs. Alberta King, Sec.
939 So. 3rd Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Feb. 20
Roosevelt High School Cafe
1200 E. Olive, Compton, Calif.
Mrs. Mildred Ogden, Secy.
114 East Olive St., Compton 3, Calif.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m.
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.
Miss Margaret Smith
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 9, 8:00 p.m.
325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Dorothea McBride, Secretary
3665 Mountain View Ave., Los Angeles 34, Calif.

LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m.
La Mesa Grammar School, La Mesa, Calif.
Mrs. Ida M. Barker, Secy.
7591 Central Ave., Lemon Grove, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.
Robert Louis Stevenson School, 5th & Atlantic
Cafeteria, Lime St. Entrance, Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Mary Congdon, Treas.
1506 East 4th St., Long Beach, Calif.

MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Sec.
2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2 p.m.
Member's Residence
Mrs. Bruce Dill, Sec.
3715 Harrison, Kansas City, Mo.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. H. H. Buxton, Sec.
114 Central St., Peabody, Mass.

NEW YORK SUBURBAN BRANCH

Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Dorothy F. Michaelson
P. O. Box 818, Denville, N. J.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Houghton Park Club House
Harding & Atlantic, No. Long Beach
F. John Nachbor, Secy.
6217 Butler Ave., Long Beach 5, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m.
Farm Bureau Hall, 353 So. Main St., Orange
Sec.-Treas., Mrs. W. L. Everett, R. 2, Box 146
Orange, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

3rd Monday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.
208 Social Hall, Pasadena
City College, Colorado Blvd.
J. F. Thompson
739 No. Wilson, Pasadena 6, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Danish Hall, 19 Main St.
J. Earl Wilson, Secretary
111 Hill Blvd., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Mrs. Lillian Watts, Sec.
405 Cotswald Lane, Wynnwood, Pa.

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, Feb. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Community Hall, 1620 Pier Avenue
Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Arline Stoddard, Sec.
522 So. Guadalupe Ave. Redondo Beach, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Feb. 8, 8 p.m.
Member's Residence
Mrs. Zena L. Twomley, Sec.
7154 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m.
3030 Homer Street, San Diego 6, Calif.
Mrs. R. K. Whitney, Secretary
4661 Brighton Avenue, San Diego 7, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m.
Garden Center, McKinley Park
Mr. J. C. Roberts, Secretary
293 40th St., Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

1st Thursday, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m.
Salem Y.M.C.A.
Mrs. Dan Scharf, Secretary
2750 Lancaster Dr., Salem, Oregon

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Feb. 27
Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave.
Mrs. D. M. McDaniel, Sec.
1059 Meade Ave., San Diego 3, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Encino Park, 17103 Ventura Blvd., Encino, Calif.
Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secretary
20047 Arminta, Canoga Park, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m.
American Legion Hall, 1641 Taraval St.
Sec., Mrs. Wm. Meyer
1422 27th Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
Mrs. Calvin T. Adams, Sec.
911 No. 2nd Ave., Arcadia, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Rm. 5, Com. Center, 914 Santa Barbara St.
Santa Barbara, California
Roy G. Pierce, Secy.
914 Olive St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SANTA MARIA BRANCH

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

SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.
225 - 26th St. (upstairs), Santa Monica, Calif.
Mrs. R. J. Hall, Secretary
933 17th St., Santa Monica, Calif.

See next page

SANTA PAULA BRANCH

4th Thursday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m.
Steckel Park
Mrs. Shirley Friedrich, P. O. Box 888
Santa Paula, California

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 21
Member's Homes
Mrs. W. A. Walker, Secy.
4727-34 N. E., Seattle, Washington

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mr. Robert Renshaw
560 So. Coronado, Ventura, Calif.

SO. ALAMEDA CO. BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Feb. 16, 8 p.m.
Faculty Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
Mrs. R. Clark, Cor. Secy.
1687 Grand Ave., Piedmont, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m.
Girls Scout Clubhouse, Southgate Park
Mr. Ray Venable
8624 Garden View Ave., Southgate, Calif.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.

4th Wednesday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.
Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St.
Cleveland, Ohio
Mrs. Edward Lobser, Cor. Sec.
25912 Westlake Rd., Bay Village, Ohio

WHITTIER BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Union High School, Room 19
Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.
Mrs. Dorothy Hovanec, Secy.
630 Palm Avenue, Whittier, Calif.

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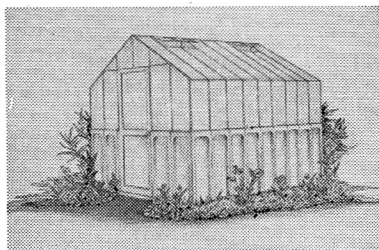


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