

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens

BEGONIA
r. c.
CURLY
SILVERSWEET
(Woodriff)



Photo by
Ken Garrison Clarke



Plant of
Mrs. Verna Johnson
San Gabriel
Valley Branch



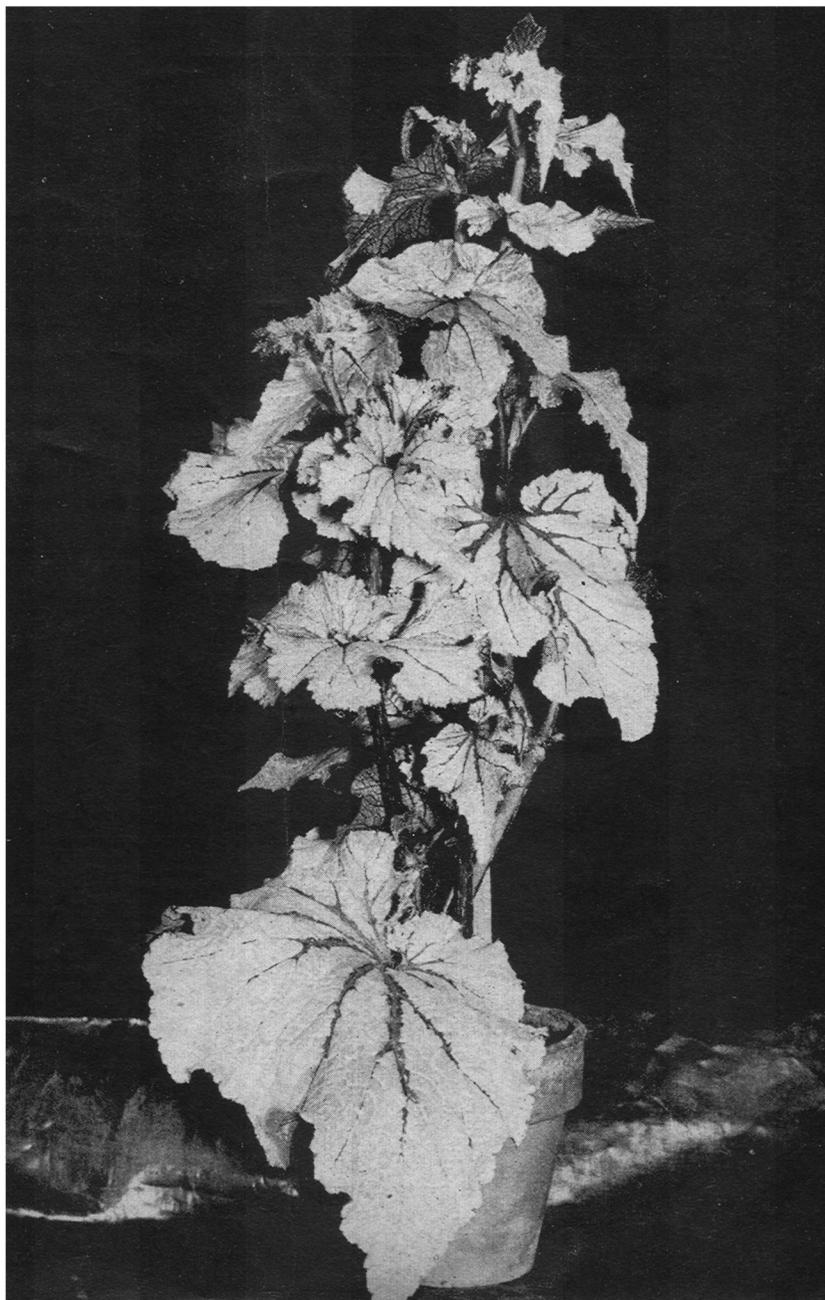
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The next Board meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held in the Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1305, 7:30 p. m., April 23, 1951. Use Main St. elevator. Park lower garage, south entrance on Main Street.

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Photo by Ken Garrison Clarke, Inglewood

Begonia Mme. Lionnet (syn. B. Tingley Mallet)
— as arranged in the Pasadena Branch exhibit, A.B.S. Show, Inglewood

Begonia Mme. Lionnet

(syn. *Begonia* Tingley Mallet)

By Marie Minter, Encinitas, Calif.

In the colorful leaved class of begonias, *B. Mme. Lionnet* is outstanding. Rumor has it that many years ago this particular begonia was re-discovered in this country in the gardens of Mrs. Tingley. The discoverer, knowing it belonged to the Mallet group, put the Tingley in front of the name, until such time as the true name should be uncovered. Hence we have been growing this begonia under the synonym for many years and more people are familiar with the synonym than they are with the true name.

According to the records, *Mme. Lionnet* and *Arthur Mallet* were of the same cross. *B. r. c. eldorado* x *B. incarnata purpurea*. *B. gloire de jوى*, which is associated with this group, had a different parentage. *B. rex* hybrid x *B. incarnata*. *B. Margaritacea* is the offspring of *B. Arthur Mallet* x *B. coccinea*. There is a marked similarity between all these begonias.

Mme. Lionnet is the least difficult to grow and is very popular. While it is usually described as being rather shrubby, growing to a foot and a half tall, the particular plant shown in the picture far outstripped this. It was an exceptionally well-grown specimen.

The leaves are medium in size, covered on the surface with metallic-red small dots, which run together. Each dot on the leaf has a short red hair protruding and in the light this gives the leaves a very red appearance. The veins are depressed and quite dull in color, giving the leaf a nice contrast in shading. The back of the leaf is bright red, with only a few scattered hairs on the veins and there is an uneven collar of hairs around the joining of leaf and stem.

The plant is an upright grower with medium green stems, turning woody with age. Inheriting some of the *rex* characteristics, it is inclined to drop its leaves in winter but it does not seem to have as long a dormant pe-

riod as the average *rex*. While the plant does seem to do much better during the dormant period by keeping it where it is warm, one of the best plants I have seen was grown outdoors all year round. The nurseryman complained that he had to hide it during the winter because it looked so bare, but the rest of the year it made a nice colorful plant. Incidentally, he didn't know that it was a begonia at all.

The plant has large, clear pink flowers and it blooms off and on all year. Only once or twice have I seen the male flowers open and that has been in the middle of winter at that, when no pollen seems to develop. However, the female flowers do open and are a nice contrast to the foliage. From my own personal experience, I have seen only one cross using this plant as a parent. I have had reports that the female flowers are infertile but there is always the possibility that there is enough life in one of the flowers to insure a few seeds. It has definite possibilities for hybridizers.

SUGGESTED USES

Begonia Mme. Lionnet is colorful of leaf, of medium height, upright. Here then is a good plant for contrast—as it was used by the Pasadena Branch at the 1951 Inglewood A.B.S. Show, nestled in fallen leaves, lichen rock, decaying wood, silvered *rex* leaves and the greens of ferns. Rich, red contrast to focus the eye. Here, too, is a good plant for massing in formal color schemes, as it was used at the International Show, fronted by borders of lighter leaved *semperflorens*. And again, as “filler,” how useful it is between the lower growing rhizomes and the great cane types, making an admirable “drapery” to conceal the legginess of the big *superbas* and *rubras* and *lucernas*. A plant of many graces.

Hillebrandia Tubers Obtained for A. B. S.

By Stanley Spaulding

Stirred by Mr. Otto Degener's material on the fascinating *Hillebrandia sandwicensis*, which is one of the four genera contained in the plant family *Begoniaceae*, (the others being *Begonia*—to which all our familiar plants belong, *Symbegonia*—one little known plant in New Guinea, and *Begoniella*—which has 3 species in Colombia) your editors contacted their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Weber in Kauai, near the hillsides at Kokee where many of these plants are found.

From the Webers it was learned that they are under government protection as native flora—as are our lovely California wildflowers—and special permission of the Government Rangers must be obtained to secure any tubers. The Webers kindly contacted Mr. Al Duvel, Chief Ranger, his assistant, Mr. Sousa, and also the Plant Inspector, Stephen Au, on Kauai, obtained the needed permission and made all arrangements for shipment to the A.B.S. of a supply of these rare tubers. Mr. Duvel collected a number of fine tubers and packed and shipped them on February 7th. A short time later they were released by the local inspector to the Editors in fine condition.

They have now been distributed to various Southland growers connected with the Research Department and a small balance through the Seed Fund to persons having standing orders—the object being to try to solve their cultivation in this climate and successfully flower some with the hope of obtaining seed for wider distribution and acclimatization.

Mr. and Mrs. Weber are not begonia growers but are highly enthusiastic about their homeland plants. Mr. Weber came to Kauai in 1883 and has seen many changes. Even now, Mr. Degener writes in *The Garden Journal of the New York Botanical Garden*, Vol. 1, No. 1, page 4, that the common blackberry and nasturtium have been introduced into the endemic forest, which contains many plants found nowhere else, and threatens the existence of *Hillebrandia* and other rare plants. It is to be hoped that control measures can be exercised before it is too late.

Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenné sends the following quotation from W. F. Hillebrand's "Flora of the Hawaiian Islands" (1888), page 141:

"Kauai: Hanalei and Waimea; Oahu: a single plant found in a gulch of the west slope of Kaala; Molokai: pali (cliff) of Pelekunii (3000 ft.); Maui: gulches of Lahaina, Kanapali, Wailuku, Waiehu, Hamakua, generally in deep ravines or near waterfalls. Native

names: "Puamakanui" (the big-eyed or showy flower) (pronounced *Poo-a-ma-ka-NOO-ee*) and "Akaakaawa" (*A-ka-a-ka-a-wa, with a soft 'a'*) in Kauai. The plant when well developed, as on the pali of Pelekunu, is exceedingly showy and would attract attention if cultivated." (Italics are the editor's insertions).

As you probably know, Kauai, Maui, and Molokai are islands in the Hawaiian chain, and it would seem that today the range of this rare plant is practically confined to the one island of Kauai. 'Incidentally, the Webers told a little of the climate where they and the *Hillebrandias* live. The rainfall is terrific, running to 500 or 600 inches in the highlands where these plants thrive. Last August a single rain-storm of about four days' duration deposited some 70 inches of water, flooding the rivers for a time. Summers have a humid warmth seldom over 100 degrees and winters (the elevation there is about 3000 to 3500 feet) are cold enough to form ice on exposed water and produce light frosts from time to time. The soil, of volcanic rock base with layers of leafmold rotting into it, is very acid, turning hydrangeas purple-blue. Their hydrangeas are magnificent, growing huge plants each year after pruning back. Another point of interest was the fact that certain mainland fruits, such as plums, have been successfully raised by their neighbors, with good crops of excellent fruit.

The Society is deeply indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Weber and Mr. Duvel and his associates for the *Hillebrandia* tubers.

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ROY K. DERE

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Long Live the King!

By Fred Schultz, Inglewood, California

(Fred Schultz was raised on a plantsman's knee and in the great greenhouses of the East, becoming a greenhouse manager when only 17. When he came to California, he became more interested in begonias and has been growing them as his chief hobby since about 1932.)

Rex, you know, means "king" in Latin. When the first *rexes* were brought out of India, it was the most fitting name the botanists could find for them, so far above the common types were the beautiful leaves. Soon other tropical species with interesting leaves were introduced and immediately crossed with the favorites—the *rex*. Most of these plants came from lands of heavy rainfall and thickly overgrown forests with deep mats of leafmold through which the begonias spread their shallow roots. However, other blood-lines began to be mixed in, (such as *cathayana* from a moist but somewhat cooler area in China) so that today's rex crosses are for the most part hardier in Temperate regions than the original species and furthermore they have been acclimated here for so many generations that they now stand far more dry air than the originals.

Most rex crosses can be treated the same with great success but yet each plant will be found to have one situation in your garden or glasshouse which it prefers to all others and in which it will out-do itself. If you find a plant doing exceptionally well, don't move it! If you have some which are not performing up to standard, by all means shift them around until by their growth they tell you they are at home.

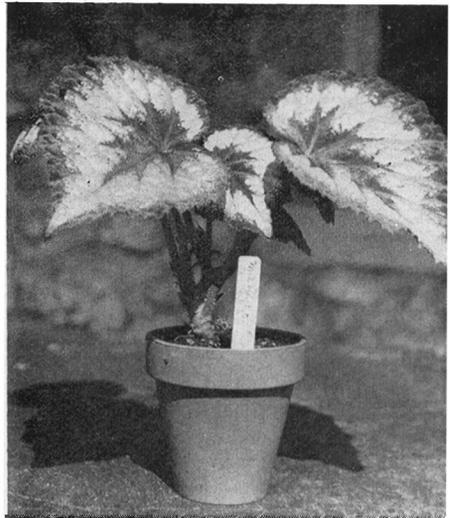
During the winter I have saved many rexes by setting them under the benches of my lath house, thus avoiding over-watering from rainfall.

During the summer I water my plants well each morning with a hose including the lath and walks and under the benches and they sel-

dom dry out too much during the day when I am away at work. However, if you have to water at night, do so regularly all the time. Don't change back and forth.

Many people give rexes too much shade. Filtered shade is fine, but the higher the lath-house roof the better. You can space the

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Begonia r. c. Midnight

— Plant of Mrs. McLeod, Miami, Fla.

Photo by Ruth Stewart Allen,
Publ. of Tropical Gardening

The medium sized leaves are basically that dark green glow that shines out of shrubbery on a moon-lit midnight and are banded with silver-white. An old favorite (Mrs. Helen Krauss says it was originated in 1916), we have often admired it on the West Coast and we are sure Mrs. McLeod's plant has received many compliments in Florida.



Photo by Ken Garrison Clarke, Inglewood

Begonia r. c. Ville de Paris

**Gonda Hartwell Trophy Winner, 1951 A.B.S. Show, Inglewood
Plant of Mrs. Lewis Reese of Bellflower, Calif.**

This lovely plant seemed to have a sort of old pewter luster overlaid delicately with a haunting lavender shadow. It came originally from a leaf cutting made by Mrs. Jensen of Bellflower from a plant purchased by her from Mrs. Helen Lewis of Rivera, California. Mrs. Reese grew it into the perfect plant shown

here. It takes the same humid conditions as Glory of St. Albans and is quite difficult to grow and especially to hold through winter dormancy. It must be allowed to go dormant at that time in order to rest it for another season's growth. It is a challenge to the expert grower.

lath farther apart if you have a crown roof. Some of the modern lath houses here are being built with roofs having a very slight pitch and with the laths laid on a slant instead of in a straight line, so that raindrops and drip tend to splash from lath to lath and follow the lath slant down to the wall line, where gutters carry away the excess without drip damage on the plants below.

PROPAGATION

I have used several ways of propagation but have one basic rule:

Keep it up! Never stop propagating! And don't hesitate to cut a leaf off your prize plant—that may be the one you lose next winter and a little plant growing snugly under the bench will be the only way you can have it again next summer.

You never know when a leaf will strike a cutting. The air conditions have to be just right. You are working under extreme conditions when you try to grow them in the lath house in the winter ordinarily, but it can be done. If you root them over heat you must be so very careful to acclimatize the tiny plants that I prefer to start them in the conditions in which I am going to grow them. Take your leaves to root at any time of the year, but probably for the amateur the best time of the year in Southern California is September to December. Young tip leaves, if kept from wilting, will root faster than old leaves. Be continually putting in leaves and you will get a certain percentage of strikes at all times. Don't wait to find out if the first ones have rooted. Put more in every week—every time you can



Begonia r. c. Lila

Silver green over dark green with red hairy stems and backs of leaves. An old and popular variety.

— Plant of Mrs. Mary Choate, Inglewood Branch

Photo by Ken Garrison Clarke, Inglewood

find a leaf to spare. That way you may some day have too many (which you no doubt can find a way to dispose of), but you will never have too few.

You have many little "growing spots" throughout your lath house which you may not have noticed and which are going to waste. Experiment with your cuttings until you find these spots where almost everything will root. Some spots are good in summer and poor in winter due to the change in the sun and light. Experiment. Under some of my benches I can simply throw old leaves down on the damp sandy soil and they will root without attention. Protect your "growing spot" under the bench from overhead drip by slanting a piece of glass over it from one side with nothing to cut the air circulation from the other three sides.

If you use a "cold frame" keep it cold. Don't shut it up tight and let it get hot in-

side. First put 6 or 8 inches of heavy gravel below the ground level. Throw all your old leaves and garden compost on that. I use about 50-50 sand and leafmold.

Or you can start the cuttings in single pots—4-inch size—if you have just a few cuttings. (Smaller pots are too hard to keep evenly moist.) Use the same starting mix and keep them in the pots for a full growing season. Keep the cuttings damp at all times but be sure the drainage in the pots or propagating beds is very fast.

For amateurs it would probably be best to use a whole leaf for each cutting or to split a large one in half. Leave about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stem and insert it that deep in the mixture at about 45 degree angle, slightly covering the sinus of the leaf (where the leaf and stem join). First it might be wise to soak the cuttings in Transplantone and dip the stem ends in

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Rootone, especially if your leaves are valuable. The Transplantone treatment is especially good if you have taken cuttings and had to let them wilt before you could plant them.

Don't feed cuttings until you repot them. Grow them for one season before repotting in larger pots. In April repot in leafmold and peat with a 5-inch pot of Humisite added to a wheelbarrow load of the mix. Thereafter, about every 10 days I fertilize my plants with a liquid fertilizer at one-third the regular strength. Sometimes I use a little fishmeal.

Report whenever the rhizome tends to climb over the edge of the pot. If I have to use a deep pot I put in about 3 inches of gravel first. The best to use commonly obtainable are fern pans. Any broad, 3-inch-deep container with good drainage is fine for the creeping rhizomes as the roots are shallow and the rhizomes will keep sending out new roots if they can lie on damp soil.

Old plants will come out of a winter dormancy easier if you keep a little dirt over the rhizomes while they are growing. Then in

spring knock off the old dirt gently and cut off all old rhizomes underneath cleanly, dust the cut surfaces on the young rhizomes with a fungicide and Rootone, and repot each separately as described. The young rhizomes that you kept dirt-covered will have strong fresh roots and the new plants will be off to a quick start.

PESTS

Of your rex pests, use a good bait for snails; for mealy bugs, pick them off by hand or swab gently with alcohol on cotton; for mealy bugs try a night-time expedition with a flashlight and you can easily pick them off. Black-leaf-"40" will slow down the aphids and red spider; however, I don't find that my plants need much spraying when I use the hose on them thoroughly and consistently. For ants the Chlordane sprays haven't been surpassed to date.

Remember: Be faithful—in your watering, fertilizing, insect inspection, and, above all, in your propagation, and rexes will live long in your garden.

Our Cover Picture

r. c. Curly Silversweet:

Mrs. Verna Johnson's plant was chosen for a photographer's model at the 1950 A.B.S. Show because of its exceptional artistic value. It is Mr. Leslie Woodriff's spiral form of his popular *Silver Sweet*.

Mrs. Johnson's plant was eight months old from a leaf cutting at the time the picture was taken but she reports it is more easily

propagated by a stem cutting of two joints, one buried under the rooting medium and the other above it. It is a naturally symmetrical grower and flowers from the tip above the foliage.

Here is a silver rex that is easy to grow. In fact Mrs. Johnson says it is one of the easiest of the rexes to propagate and grows rapidly in pure leafmold. The silver sheen is enhanced by good light. It is recommended to beginners.

Library Notes

It is always good news to announce a new book on some plant in which we are all interested and I especially want to call to your attention *HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS* by Carolyn K. Rector, which is reviewed elsewhere in this issue. This will be for sale thru your library and orders will be promptly filled—\$1.35 post paid. (Calif. members kindly include 3% sales tax).

I would like to call attention to the fine *ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF BOTANICAL TERMS* by John Lindley, a reprint from Lindley's Introduction to Botany (1848), which has been donated to the Library by our Editor.

A complete file of the *JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY* for

1950, donated by Mrs. Dorothy Sandstrom of the Pasadena Branch, has been bound for circulation and may be obtained on loan in the usual manner.

GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, Vol. LXVII, 1950, one of the oldest gardening magazines published in England and one of the fine publications received by the A.B.S. in exchange for the *Begonian*, is also available to the membership on loan.

Bound copies of *THE BEGONIAN*—Volume XVII, 1950, are also ready for circulation. New members will always find the publication of the A.B.S. of interest and complete bound back files are available for the use of all members. Make use of any of this material at your leisure.—Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.

Personalities in the Begonia World - - -

Helen K. Krauss

(One of the big stars in our world of begonias in the last decade has arisen in the person of Mrs. Helen K. Krauss of Wynnewood, Pennsylvania. Last year we asked Mrs. Krauss if she would have someone write us an article suitable for our series and she kindly directed us to the one printed in November, 1947, by the then "Gardeners' Chronicle of America,"

now "Garden." We thereupon obtained permission to reprint it and Mrs. Krauss went to extra trouble to send us her photograph to replace "Garden's" lost cut; she is temporarily in Florida because of the ill health of Mr. Lee Krauss. Thank you, Mrs. Krauss and "Garden.")



All who read Mrs. Krauss' book "Begonias for American Homes and Gardens" must realize the necessity of intense study and time demanded for such an accomplishment.

Such a book could not be written simply by being a keen gardener and a successful cultivator of begonias. It requires research and painstaking care as well as a keen eye in observing the characteristics and distinguishing marks and factors that taxonomically analyze and record each individual. This entails methodical thinking. Few without scientific training and years of practice can acquire or command such ability. In short these must be underlying qualities in the type one will recognize in Mrs. Krauss.

Gifted with a mind that enjoys participation in a discussion on plant material, this amateur gardener will converse intelligently and fluently about many other kinds of plants besides begonias. Her knowledge is broad, and an easy understanding has carried her interest to other realms in the horticultural field. Con-

versing with Mrs. Krauss one will soon recognize her exceptional knowledge of trees and shrubs.

For a number of years this lady has been an active officer of the American Begonia Society.

At her home at Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, located to the south of Philadelphia, Mrs. Krauss made her debut as a gardener. There she has grown many of the species mentioned in her book.

As a means to refreshment and healthgiving exercise she has become deeply engrossed in navigation and skippering and during summer may be found enjoying the delights of Chesapeake Bay.

If you have not read the many articles by Mrs. Helen K. Krauss on Begonias published in the Gardeners' Chronicle of America, you may wish to look them up at your Public Library in the following issues: 1942—Nov.; 1943—Feb., July, Nov., Dec.; 1944—Feb., Apr., June, Sept.; 1945—June; 1946—June; and 1948—November.

LOGEE MEMORIAL CUP

New England Branch reports the purchase of the Logee Memorial Cup to be awarded each year, for one year, to a New England member for the outstanding Begonia of the year in memory of Ernest Kimball Logee, who was a branch member.

—*Winifred A. Harding, Publ.*

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Vaya Con Dios!

A Journey Into Mexico

With Mr. William Brooks

Reported by Marie Haskell, Publicity Chairman, Santa Monica Branch

At the March meeting, the Santa Monica Branch was host to Mr. and Mrs. William Brooks of Redondo Beach. Mr. Brooks, a plant collector, was our speaker for the evening and took us on a journey into Mexico. These are some notes from his lecture, as I took them down at the time, and any mistakes are mine, not his.

* * *

As we travel down through the northern part of Mexico, we find it mostly desert country with many beautiful cactus plants covered with red fruit, and feasting on these fruits are myriads of parrots—tiny little fellows in a riot of colors—that rise in such droves they nearly cover the sky.

Then as we go down through the Tropic of Cancer, in the western and southern part, off the beaten track of the tourist, we come to steep canyons, flanked by high mountains covered with timber.

The beautiful country is below the Tropic of Cancer, where the beautiful begonias and orchids grow. The higher parts of the mountains are covered with hardwood and are the habitat of turkeys. Here we also find the *Laelia anceps*.

Down in the depths of a steep canyon we see a path covered with the tracks of a huge cat, and hanging over the path on both sides are luxuriant ferns four feet high, resembling our maidenhair; and here again we find the *Laelia anceps*, both light and dark in color. Bromeliads also are growing thickly among the rocks.

Up a little higher are cacti, resembling our "Century Plant," that turn blood red during the blooming season. Out of this country, near Vayas, you will find more cacti, with huge prickly stems, and on these prickly needles are orchids growing and hanging in full blossom. On the sides and tops of the hills here you will find a land of destitution or desert country; while around a bend in the road in Zopilota Canyon you could fill several greenhouses with the bromeliads and orchids hanging in the bur oak trees and the anthuriums and philodendrons growing on the

mossy banks. Now we see a log by the side of the road protecting begonia plants. Upon investigating we find that the canes are thick and long, the leaves similar to our kale. Above our heads large leaved begonias grow luxuriantly in leafmold heaped up in the cracks of huge rocks, and over the flat rocks, cascading down in lovely shining lustre, where the leaves can catch the gleams of sunlight, are more and more begonias.

Above our heads the towering mountains are covered with snow and far below we can see small cabins, with thatched roofs, while wandering down the valley floor a tiny stream of water flows. What a beautiful sight from a distance, but upon closer observance we would know that the thatch-roofed dwellings offer refuge to piglets; the stream below is full of brackish, tepid water; and underneath the manteling snow are bare brown rocks.

Frangipani trees grow wild in Mexico mountains, and the oak trees are covered with the purple blossoms of the *Laelia* orchids, so numerous that the peons decorate their hats with them on the way to their village fiestas.

In the hills back of Mitla grow the beautiful "Cola-de-quetzal" ferns (resembling our Boston fern) with fronds from 8 to 10 feet long. This is during the rainy season; in the dry season it is again a desert country.

Going out from a small village one evening, almost at twilight, in search of a cool spring of clear water, we came to some old cypress trees, with twisted limbs, and hanging from their gnarled branches, like golden stars against the turquoise blue of the evening sky, hang blossoms of the *Cattleya citrina* orchids, and high upon the cliffs above our heads, caressed by breezes from the Gulf Stream, we see more little begonias covering the rocks.

With all its exotic beauty, Mexico is still a land of "Manana," and transportation a thing of destiny. After going many times to the little station to inquire about a ride for himself and baggage to the coast, Mr. Brooks got the consent of the station agent to wait for him. He hurried back, loaded with baggage, only to find the train had left. In desper-

tion, he finally persuaded a peon with a questionable car to carry him to the coast. After going some miles up and down the mountains, what was his surprise to see, hanging precariously from rugged cliffs, the tiny engine and all the little cars. So does man propose and GOD dispose.

This was just a small part of his story, but it was so lovely that I wanted to share it with others.

(Thank you very much, Mrs. Haskell, for taking the time to do so. We enjoyed it and know our readers will thank you, too.—Editor.)

Your Editor

African Violet fanciers: Mr. Evan Roberts, introducer of *Saintpaulia grottei*, writes that future distribution of this plant will be made through Lakeview Gardens, Box 20, Fenton, Michigan.

Capt. Roy K. Dere, 1742 North Leafdale Ave., El Monte, California, sends in an interesting pamphlet entitled "How to Grow Small Seeds and Fern Spores" containing detailed methods for raising delicate seeds and advertising his seed kits, with the use of the popular "Sponge-rok." It contains many good ideas and can be had free-of-charge by writing Capt. Dere.

Write New York Botanical Garden for the Spring Program, Bronx Park, New York 58, N. Y., if you are close enough to visit. Excellent!

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REPUBLICANS OR DEMOCRATS MAINE AND VERMONT

—And all other New England Branch members who find it impossible to attend our branch meetings: If you have a begonia problem, please drop a line to your New England Branch Public Relations Director, Mrs. Winifred A. Harding, Box 74, East Derry, New Hampshire. I will do my best to find an answer to it. We see too little of our Vermont and Maine members.

—Winifred A. Harding

OL. 0154

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HORTICULTURAL ADVISOR

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MORE ABOUT BEGONIA RICKY MINTER

By Marie Minter

This new introduction by Mrs. Marie Turner is a worthy addition to the rhizomatous class. With only a very few other begonias having crested leaves, we still needed one that was not only crested but one that was lobed too. And this particular begonia fills that vacancy.

The rhizome may be either grown upright or creeping, but if allowed to grow upright you would notice that there are red bands spaced about an inch apart around the rhizome and this redness extends along the entire back of the rhizome. It is very succulent, light green and spotted with white.

The leaf measures about 7" x 10", is very dark green with a dark red back. The coloring will be somewhat lighter if the plant is given a good deal of light. The sinus and veins are greenish white, lightly tinged with red near the center of the leaf.

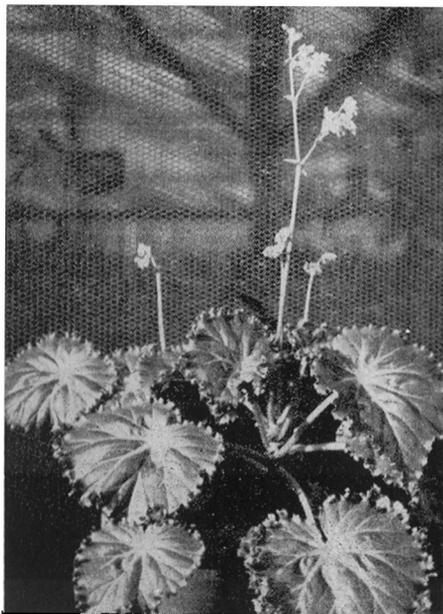
The shape of the leaf is rather round, unequally divided, ending in a sharp point. There are three well defined pointed lobes on each side of the leaf. The lobes cut into the leaf about a quarter of the depth. The entire leaf has a ruffled appearance.

The edge of the leaf is crested and tufted with fine white hairs. The petioles are about 10" long, light green, streaked with both red and white splashes. These splashes continue in a lesser degree up the main veins on the under side of the leaf, and appear only occasionally on the upper surface of the veins. There are scattered white hairs along the petioles..

The stipules are light green, rather fleshy, liberally dotted with white dots. They stand upright for a time, then as they age, they curl rather tightly.

This is one plant that does not like over-watering. In fact, to have good success with it, one must definitely keep it on the dry side. The dryer the better.

My plant has not bloomed as yet, but it is reported to be a winter bloomer. It makes a good house plant as it withstands a good deal of neglect.



Begonia Ricky Minter

Just commencing bloom at Mrs. Marie Turner's in mid-February.

Mrs. Turner's blooming plants in a protected lath house had two-foot bloom stalks of pale green blending at the sepal and wings of the pods into a most delicate pink; a similar plant but in a sunny south window had the green deepen to a brighter tone and the pink flush out to a regular "shocking" pink with pink "measles" on the green portions. As the latter aged the stems dulled to a light pinkish brown and the pink flush covered most of the flower. The strings of blossoms hanging on the little bracted stems are very graceful. The female flowers opened readily but not the male. Highly decorative. —Editor

Begonia Rex Cultorum AVILA
Mrs. Frey's new, beautiful, sturdy, curly-leaved hybrid. Leaf has black center veins and border, while remainder is silver-zoned and spotted, the whole entirely overlaid with magenta rose. The plant is sturdy and vigorous, its thick leaves well suited to house conditions.

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Beginners' Corner

SEMPERFLORENS

As difficulties in culture and growing of rare varieties of begonias arise and discouragement reigns, more and more prevalent is the tendency to revert to propagating the 'always-flowering' old stand-bys—which is what 'semperflorens' means.

If you start the study of this one variety of begonia, you will find vast material easily acquired and very pleasantly put to usage. It will be far less damaging to nerves acquired by overwhelming frustration when you attempt to assimilate the ponderous knowledge written about the sixteen hundred known species and variations of begonias in general. Even trying to wade through such a deluge of material seems to inundate one until you are apt to surrender to its inevitable force and, feeling bogged down, resort to the idea—"Oh! What is the use!"

This is where amateurs fail. It is so easy to become discouraged. So this is my advice.—Choose one type of begonia. Semperflorens are the easiest to grow. Learn all you can about just this one. Then put your acquired knowledge to work. Start by raising some from seed. Whenever you are out, locally or on a long trip, get the habit of seeking out greenhouses and leisurely search for entirely different specimens of semperflorens which you have not as yet collected. Sometimes, tucked away among the masses of lovely blooming plants, one catches your eye with a slight variation of leaf or flower.

The uses for semperflorens are many and interesting. Truly no kitchen window-sill should be without attractive pots of semperflorens to blend with the color scheme. In my breakfast room are soft delft blue three-inch jardinieres in which are set the smaller clay pots of red and white flowered begonias. Another person might use red or yellow jardinieres.

Out-of-doors, in beautiful borders for the yard, flower beds, or among the evergreens bordering the house foundation, different colors in leaves and flowers can be grouped. At the Detroit Flower Show last year the Chrysler garden used a solid bed of semperflorens, low, compact plants set close together. Three thousand pink begonias in the center were bordered by a single outline border of a thousand white begonias, which drew acclaim from everyone as one of the most attractive displays.

Why don't you try your hand at these kaleidoscopic lovelies first and graduate to the harder-to-grow species?

—Dorothy Pierson Barton

HOW I START MY TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

It is best to start your bulbs when they show a little pink growth. If you don't have tuberous bulbs, you can obtain them from a great many nurseries and seed houses.

To start your bulbs, fill a flat with prepared soil. You can use peat or a mixture of peat and leaf mold.

A good mixture is 2 parts coarse leaf mold, 1 part peat, and 1 part of half-and-half well decayed manure and garden soil. This latter is to give body to the mixture.

Make nest-like indentations in the soil and cover the bulbs with a half-inch of soil. It will depend on the size of the bulb as to how many you can place in a flat. You must allow room for roots to become 1 or 1½ inches long, at which time they will be ready to pot up.

Keep soil moderately moist inclining to the dry side until the young growths appear through the soil; then you can give them more water.

Some people start their bulbs in pots instead of boxes. This method has certain advantages, as when they are started they can be potted into their flowering pots without any intermediate transplanting. Against this method is the possibility that, should the bulbs be slow in coming into growth, the soil in the bottom of the pots might become soured and might cause you to lose your bulbs, so I prefer the box method.

No matter what the size of the plant growth, the bulbs should be well rooted. The roots should be grown to at least 1½ inches in length before you pot the bulbs. Large bulbs should be put into 8 inch pots and medium sizes into 6 inch pots and smaller bulbs into 4 inch pots. The ones you place in 4 inch pots will have to be put into 6 inch pots later.

Hanging basket begonia bulbs should be started in flats also, and when well-rooted, placed in 4 inch pots until of a size to place in the hanging containers.

By Elsie Frey, Santa Barbara, Calif.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Charles Haddrell of Marblehead, Mass., was paid tribute by the New England Branch at the February meeting. Her sudden death in January left us bereft of one of our dearest and most enthusiastic members. Following the silent tribute a motion was unanimously carried that those doing hybridizing work develop one worthy to bear the name of Begonia Beatrice Haddrell.

—Winifred A. Harding, New England Branch



(Photo courtesy of Cecil Houdysbell)

Cymbidium BODWIN MOOR var. Kathleen

Cymbidium Orchids

By Ferd P. Neels, El Segundo, Calif.

You pride yourself on growing begonias, but are appalled at the idea of growing Cymbidium Orchids. Put your fears behind you and join the other enthusiasts who have found them as easy to cultivate as any garden plant.

Without a doubt the cymbidium is one of the finest, most satisfactory and useful of all orchids both for cutting and the decorative value among the shade garden plants. The long upright arching spikes with their many flowers having probably the greatest color range of any of the Orchid Family. Their ease of growing makes it possible for anyone who grows begonias to grow cymbidiums successfully. An added feature is the long lasting qualities of their flowers. On the plant the flowers will last for well over two months. As a cut flower it is not uncommon for a spike to last a month to six weeks. For the shade gardener who enjoys growing his own flowers for corsages the cymbidium is tops.

Cymbidiums are terrestrial orchids. They grow on the ground and derive their nourishment from it. In California the ideal place to grow cymbidiums is the lath-house. They will grow well where begonias, camellias, ferns, etc., grow. They have withstood 28 de-

grees of temperature without damage. In areas where freezing conditions are encountered during the winter months, cymbidiums can be grown by a combination glass-house and out-of-door culture. In this case it is better to grow your plants in pots.

If you grow cymbidiums in pots or in the ground, the main soil requirement is a compost that will drain well. I have found 2 parts coarse leaf mold, 1 part sod and 1 part Ceres Sponge Rok a satisfactory medium. There are plants in size and quality to fit any pocket-book. From the "common garden variety" to the "show type," you will derive a great deal of pleasure from growing cymbidiums.

Why not visit one of the Cymbidium Shows? Santa Barbara holds a famous one April 5th through 8th, and San Diego will have another very fine one April 21-22 at Convention Hall, Balboa Park.

(Mr. Neels has a very fine lath covered garden terraced down the sandy hillside back of his home containing bed after bed of selected, interesting cymbidium hybrids—many from English seedlings now blooming for the first time—not to mention rhododendrons!)



Q + A = Success

by Research Dept.

Question: Does *B. Popenoei* need special soil or just what does it need to make it retain its leaves during the winter? I keep my plants in the house.

Answer: It does not need any special soil that I know of. It has the habit of going very dormant during the winter and usually loses all its leaves. You might try an experiment this coming year with your plant and see if it helps. I have two plants. The large one is kept in the lath house where it gets all the benefits of our winter rains. This plant always loses its leaves during our colder weather. It is not watered from November to March unless we have a prolonged dry spell. The other plant I have was raised from seed and has never been off the hot bed. It has kept its leaves for the past two winters but the plant is kept nearly bone dry all winter. Plants absorb water through their leaves. When there is an excess of water, such as during our rainy season, the plant will drop its leaves because they no longer need them to supply water to the rhizome, to keep it from drying up. In the case of the plant on the hot bed, it apparently keeps its leaves because the watering is done only on the bed itself and not the plant. The plant has to get moisture out of the air. I have no heat in my small glass house outside of cables in the beds. The pots are kept warm but the soil is definitely on the dry side at all times. You might try withholding water and gradually drying your plant out when you bring it in the house in the fall and see if that will help it retain its leaves. Setting the pot on a bed of wet pebbles will supply enough moisture to the leaves and perhaps your plant will do as my small one has.

Question: I cannot find *B. picta alba* or *B. picta rosea* in either begonia book.

Answer: *B. picta* is a tuberous species and is listed as such. The plant you are referring to is listed under the title of *B. albo-picta* and *B. albo-picta, rosea*. That is the small leaved cane variety.

Question: When is the best time to plant *rex* seed? I have better luck with the fibrous seed by planting in the fall, but I can't get the *rex* to germinate.

Answer: One of the most prominent idiosyncrasies of the *rex* is their habit of going dormant and this dormancy period has us all guessing at times. They will not germinate their seed until the right time regardless of when they are planted. The best general rule that I can give you is to plant when your other

KODA-SLIDE LIBRARY NOTES

For those that like to take colored slide pictures, here are a few tips: use some type of backdrop that has a complimentary color—with pink or rose colored blooms use a pale blue; for silver and green use a brown (as a moss wall); don't use reds and greens in the background. A low priced backing is colored poster board from the art supplier.

Colored film at best is rather costly and therefore one cannot waste many frames, so USE a light meter. Your pictures will be better. If you have to use flash bulbs get PRESS No. 25, they are the smallest, and for taking slides of those fine begonias over in the next county you can have good results, day or night. I find that a lens setting of f-16 and the distance of 6 ft. gives fine results, using a 5" reflector.

Now in the library are some fine slides. Program Committees: You can get these slides for your branch at a very small cost, just the postage.

I have rearranged the slides and they are numbered from No. 1 up, and will be sent out in groups of fifty, No. 1 to 50—all *Rexes* and leaves; 51-100—fibrous, cane, and a few fuchsias and camellias; 101-150 — tuberous with a very few others; 151-200—Mixed begonias with some orchids, lily, epiphyllum; 201-250—Ventura Spring Hat Parade and a good mixture; 301-350—Rose Parade in Pasadena 1951 (showing 42 floats) and some new slides to fill out the case. Loaned to us until August. 401-450—Fibrous, cane and rhizomatous.

If you have some problem pertaining to your pictures, let me know; I may be able to help you.

I still need slides of many of the rarer types and if you know someone that has some, see if they will let us copy them. The slides will come back within thirty days.

I want to thank Dr. R. M. Stewart of Yreka, Calif., for the loan of his slides of tuberous begonias. They are very beautiful.

More next month.

—Charles Wiley, Kodaslide Library.
118 W. 52nd, Long Beach 5, Calif.

plants show that spring is definitely here. If you have a *rex* plant to watch, then by all means plant seed when your plant shows that it is awake and beginning to grow again. *Rexes* stay dormant much longer than the fibrous if the weather doesn't suit them.



Mary Wood, Independence, Missouri.—Has another idea for making a miniature green house. She writes: "Sow seeds in baby-food cans that have been punctured and had gravel placed in the bottom for drainage, and been filled with prepared soil. (Water from the bottom). Place these small cans inside a large mouthed glass jar, four or five cans will fit in, screw down the lid. Presto—a wee green house. When the seedlings are large enough the cans can be removed for transplanting. Use new cans and place them in other jars or containers which will give them the "greenhouse" humidity of their former home. After the small plants have become established they can be gradually hardened off and brought tinto the open."

Mrs. Frances Hougardy, San Jose, California.—"I have rooted tuberous begonias by taking a small section and placing it in the soil out where the begonias are growing. It seems that they do better out there for me than in the greenhouse."

Compiled by Louise Schwerdtfeger.

ROUND ROBIN NEWS

Many Robin members suffered complete loss of large begonia collections this past winter. I have received numerous requests for sources of begonia cuttings from these unfortunate growers. They can create new collections more quickly with cuttings than through growing from seed and the cuttings are less expensive than having to buy new plants. You fortunate begonia growers with large and lovely collections please open your hearts and help these folks surround themselves with begonias once more.

Our Round Robins have been slowed down this past winter, due to illness among the members, bad weather, rail strikes and personal problems of the individual members. However let us hope that Spring comes early this year and that we will resume our garden activities and Robin interest with new hope and enthusiasm.

If you wish to share your "gardening know how" with others and find yourself in need of information too, do join our Round Robins. Just drop me a card telling which shade plants interest you and I shall place your name on the Robin list. Good luck—

Frances Downing, Round Robin Chairman

SECOND CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW

The A.B.S. exhibit won Second Prize for Floral Societies' entries, the Herb Society taking first with a charmingly designed 'island' of herbs.

Most of the plants came from Mrs. Marie Turner's garden and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Small, Mrs. Etta Morant, Mr. Frank Rich and the MacLanahans and Olmsteds worked under Mr. Trowbridge's direction for many days to produce the display. Special trips for rocks and tree trunks were made and the result was especially creditable, considering that this time of year many of our loveliest begonias are more or less dormant.

Fine blooms on many hairy fibrous and such rhizomatous as Ricky Minter, Verschaffelti and erythrophylla belie the fact that, "Brother, it's cold outside!"

The show as a whole was a tribute to the ingenuity of thousands of plant-lovers. Wilcox' sea of caladiums; the Holland Bulb Growers' thousands of tulips and fragrant hyacinths, row on row around a windmill; Germain's English country house and garden with primulas, azaleas, real ducklings in the pool and bird music floating on the trees; McClellans' mountain of orchids of every type from gorgeous hybrid little epidendrums to giant cattleya hybrids; Huntington Gardens' desert of succulents; Coolidge's azalea glories; Evans & Reeves well-designed garden of rare plants; on-and-on we go. One must see to appreciate the florists' fantasies of flower arrangement from the absurd pink poodles carousing at the Cafe des Fleurs to the practical table and gift arrangements of every type.

A day might be spent in study at the various educational exhibits such as the 2 year old collection of various rare eucalypti, entered by the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum; the rare plants from the gardens of the University of California at Los Angeles; the natives from the Santa Barbara and Santa Ana Botanic Gardens; the plant growth studies arranged by the California Institute of Technology; the books on display by the Los Angeles City Library—such as Volume I, No. 1 of Curtis Botanical Magazine.

One Begonia *nota bene*: This month's feature begonia, *B. Mme. Lionnet* (syn. *B. Tingley Mallet*) found favor in many unexpected places throughout the show, in the Los Angeles Country Club's all-begonia display, in the 20th Century-Fox Studio's very fine Japanese Garden, and many other lesser spots.

R Begonia Therapy

By *Manson E. Hume*

With war and corruption paramount in every paper you read, it is a joy to our hearts to know that we can find peace and contentment among our begonias.

I spend many wonderful hours away from the noise of the day within the solitude of my begonia house (Rainbow House). It is like a fairyland in a dream, where troubled hours are forgotten and peace and quiet place a veil of sweet thoughts in your heart. We all cannot have a Rainbow House, even if we only have but a few begonias; it is not the house that counts—it is the wonder of growing begonias with their many colors and shapes that acts as a brake to the on-rushing world of today. Our disability and troubles are secondary when we stop to realize that if it were not for our interest in growing begonias, many little seeds would return to the earth never to add peace and beauty to our homes and gardens.

Each of us who is disabled should feel lucky, yes, lucky, when he or she has been given the task of helping to bring forth sunshine by bringing another begonia into the world. There are not enough beautiful things in this world today to out-shine the ugly. Maybe some day this country will see the beauty of love and faith through the medium of begonias with the help of GOD.

When I am with my begonias it is like being in another world, where each day I find more beauty to fill my heart and eyes. Some little begonia that I had not noticed before suddenly becomes of age and its beauty holds me in a spell which only the song of birds can break.

No matter what your disability you can grow begonias. If you know about Paraplegics then you have heard that we are in continuous pain and it never leaves us unless we take drugs. But since I have been growing begonias have I been able to do without the aid of drugs, and it is over one year now.

When I am with my begonias the pleasure and work involved somehow makes the pain disappear. People tell me that I am the most able disabled person they know, and you can have the same said about you when you start growing begonias.

Some of us do not care to talk about our disability, but, believe me, the more you talk about it the easier it becomes to bear; the load becomes lighter. I look at my disability this way; I had a job to do in this world but could not do it until I was confined to a wheelchair. I am doing that job now and each day that goes by brings me nearer to completing it. Then and only then will I realize my usefulness in this world. Growing begonias has helped me to do that job. Why not become an apprentice with me and let us grow begonias together? Send for your free mixed begonia seed and see if what I say is not the truth.

People do not feel pity for me, they envy me. One man told me that he wished he could change places with me, growing the beautiful plants that I have. You see his confinement is an office, while mine is only a wheelchair.

If you wish to write me for the free seeds, my address is Interlaken Road, Orlando, Florida. But please write if you have a problem with begonias because of your disability. So long until we meet again.

M. E. H.

Sheltered Garden Book Reviews

HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS

By *Carolyn K. Rector, Lane Publ., San Francisco, 1951. \$1.35*

It is with pleasure we welcome the fine book written by a woman who not only loves Saintpaulias, but enjoys all the phases of growing them. Mrs. Rector has written of her own experiences and quoted other authorities, when they differed from her own.

She does not claim there is only one way to grow African Violets. She gives you a choice of many ways.

The book is well illustrated and condensed, which makes good reading, whether you have been tempted to hybridize and grow seedlings from your own crosses or are content to buy your plants when in bloom.

Mrs. Rector has been a generous contributor,

in the past, with many articles for the *BEGONIAN*. The friends she has made through these pages, will be glad to hear of her published manual on the successful growing of this splendid house plant. This is one of the popular *SUNSET* books.

—*Dorothy S. Bebrends.*

Lane Publishing Co. has kindly sent the Society a copy of this useful item and it will be placed in your A.B.S. Library. The illustrations by Robert Blanchard, who is a trained botanist, add great clarity to each detailed operation. All Violet fans will surely want their own copies for constant reference.



Armchair Explorers

News Letter

Feb. 1. I worked almost all day in the yard and greenhouse spreading 12 sacks of ground steer fertilizer, possibly a little early, but such a pleasant day makes me want to get my plants hustling along. My lath house plants are growing right in the ground, hoyas on the back wall with Mexican orchids hung in baskets from the wall, and they received large handfuls of the fertilizer and a good soaking as well. A huge caladium from Guatemala is trying hard to reach the lath house roof and it may succeed.

Feb. 14. A surprise by special delivery this morning—it is a lovely corsage of 3 exquisite *Sanderiana* orchids from Hawaii. Of course from my friend Virginia Gillespie! Just in time for the Elks Valentine Dance tonight! I'll feel so grand and won't mind in the least not having a new dress to wear.

Feb. 16. A letter in the mail today from Virginia telling me that she will gather woodrose seeds again for our Seed Fund. I remember the large box of woodrose clusters she sent us for the Flower Show two years ago and how the members took them almost as fast as Maud and I unpacked them, also the beautiful *Vanda* corsages she sent us to wear. I have been trying to get Virginia to send some pictures of her plants and to write us a story on growing exotic plants in Hawaii; maybe someday I shall succeed. I know she has some wonderful plants for she has sent many to me as well as to some other members of our Society; the outstanding Peruvianum adiantum fern, the lovely soft Hawaiian tree fern, anthuriums in all colors and several kinds of aroids and many kinds of orchids; prices are very reasonable and they arrive so perfectly by airmail. Her address is Mrs. Virginia Gillespie, P. O. Box 2234, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Feb. 24. Our A.B.S. Treasurer and wife called on me today, brought me two of their very choicest *Saintpaulia* seedlings and I am going to do my best with them, altho I had given up these plants sometime back as a very bad job, but am willing to try again.

Feb. 26. In the mail today came a catalogue from our Seed Fund member Al Clark who runs the D-Vista Gardens, 3225 D Street,

Salem, Oregon. He has a nice catalogue and he gives good descriptions of his plants. I see a good many which have come from our Seed Fund. I hope he has plenty of these catalogues for I know at least all the Seed Fund members will want a copy.

Feb. 28. Several letters in the mail today from members wanting information on *gesneriads*. I had to write and tell them that I have no new *gesneria* seed, but do have some on order. I suggested that they write to our member R. G. Wilson, Route 2, Box 594, Miami, Florida. The name of his place is Fantastic Gardens and from a picture he sent me once of a corner of his garden I would say the name was rightly chosen. Mr. Wilson has a fine collection of *gesneriads*, *philodendrons* and foliage plants. I have had several boxes of plants from him, one came during those very dark days for me in October last, some of those attractive *Bertolonias*, *Episcias*, *Aeschynanthus*, ferns. He sends a price list.

New seeds this month are *B. sikkimensis gigantea*, and *B. Josephii* small leaved type, *B. Philippine* Sp. mixed, *B. Panama species* mixed, Spores of *Giant Maidenhair fern*, of the Philippines. Above are 25c per packet.

All begonia seed collections have now been discontinued, and the remaining seed is now 25c per packet each. Send a stamped envelope for latest seed list or choose what you want from the October Begonian in separate packets.

Cheerio until next month,

Your Skipper, Florence Carrell

NEW OFFICERS

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH: President, Walter Butt; Vice-president, Mrs. W. C. Drummond; Representative Director, Dr. Harry Goodman; Treasurer, Miss Ada Sullwald; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Walter Butt; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Alberta King; Librarian, Mrs. Irma Spears.

PETALUMA BRANCH: President, J. Earl Wilson; Vice-president, Douglas Foot; Secretary, Hazel Chappell; Treasurer, Jim Cornelius; 1-year director, Harry Via Grana; 2-year director, Mrs. Walter Galbraith.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH: President, Mrs. L. M. Westcott; Vice-president, Mrs. H. K. Sherwood; Secretary, Mrs. J. J. Howarth; Treasurer, Mrs. J. O. Crocker; National Representative, Mr. H. K. Sherwood.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH: President, Mr. Roland Wilson; Vice-president, Mr. J. W. Phillips; Secretary, Mrs. Thomas Hofmann; Treasurer, Mrs. Helen Bailey; National Representative, Mrs. J. W. Phillips.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH: President, Mr. E. Weaver; Vice-president, Mrs. R. J. Wilson, Jr.; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Fred M. Owens; National Representative, Mrs. H. F. Sikes.

★ ★ ★ ★
Calendar of Coming Events

April 5th thru 8th
 Santa Barbara, Calif., Cymbidium Show.

April 12th
 Inglewood Branch: Annual Branch Presidents' Banquet—reservations necessary. Come and hear the Southland's noted horticultural author, Alfred C. Hottes of La Jolla.

Hollywood Branch: Wilbur G. Woods of Glendale, authority on hobbyist greenhouses, will give an illustrated talk on "Orchid Corsage Making." Visitors welcome.

April 14th
 New England Branch: Colored slides taken by members will be featured at the 2:30 meeting in Horticultural Hall, Boston.

April 21-22
 San Diego County Orchid Show: Convention Hall, Balboa Park, San Diego.

April 24th
 South Gate Branch: Mrs. Hamilton, speaker. Welcome strangers!

April 25th
 Glendale Branch: Mr. Franz Mangold of Ivanhoe Nursery will lecture and show Kodachrome slides featuring Delphiniums. This program is furnished by the American Delphinium Society, organized in 1932, of which Mr. Mangold is a charter member. The entire series of the Delphinium Society yearbooks will be on display for your inspection. Mrs. Gladys Nolan will give timely Begonia tips. Won't you visit us?

San Gabriel Valley Branch: A Jitney Potluck Supper! Welcome!

May 10th
 Hollywood Branch: Mrs. Judith Packard, well known for her success with Epiphyllums, will tell you how to grow these exotic blooms.

May 24th to June 2nd
 New Jersey Exposition at Camden, N. J.—See the Elsa Fort Branch's Begonia display.

★ ★ ★ ★

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Begonia Gardens

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Branch Meeting Dates and Places

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

1st Monday, Apr. 2, May 7, 7:30 p.m.
I.O.O.F. Hall, Ardmore and Palm Sts.
Audrey Adams, Secy.
6139 Graywood Ave., Bellflower, Calif.

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Apr. 12, 7:45 p.m.
Willard School, Ward St.
C. F. Jensen, Secy.
3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Apr. 19, 8:00 p.m.
Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 304 E. Valley
Mrs. Gladys Adams, Cor. Secy.
11215 E. Elliott Ave., El Monte, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

1st Friday, Apr. 6, May 4, 8:00 p.m.
Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa
Gertrude M. Cooper, Cor. Secy.
340 W. Electric, Glendora, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Apr. 7, May 5
Mrs. Marion R. Thompson, Secy.
129 White Horse Pike, Magnolia, N. J.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Apr. 25, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central Ave.
Mrs. D. H. Bradley, Cor. Secy.
1301 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 8, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Apr. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Genter, Cor. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Apr. 24, 10:30 a.m.
Home of Members
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following
Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.
R.F.D., Willow Grove, Pa.

HEART OF AMERICA

2nd Tuesday, Apr. 10, 7:30 p.m.
Members' Residences
Mr. Homer Meek, Secy.-Treas.
1306 N. 28th, Kansas City, Kans.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Apr. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Mrs. Walter J. Butt, Cor. Secy.
861 S. Harvard, Los Angeles 5, Calif.

HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Apr. 16, 7:30 p.m.
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, Apr. 9, 8:00 p.m.
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.
Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Apr. 12, 8:00 p.m.
325 N. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Virginia Smith, Secy.
1419 W. 104th St. Los Angeles 47, Calif.

LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, Apr. 9, 8:00 p.m.
Porter Park
Mrs. G. W. McManus, Secy.
Rt. 1, Box 1070, La Mesa, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Apr. 17, 7:30 p.m.
2255 Elm St., Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. W. Cox, Secy.
3592 Lewis Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Apr. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.
2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Apr. 17, 12:30 p.m.
Members' Residences
Mrs. Mona Ayers, Secy.
6655 Bellfontaine, Kansas City, Mo.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

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

NEW YORK SUBURBAN BRANCH

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

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, Apr. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Houghton Park Club House
Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach
Mrs. Alberta Logue, Secy.
6050 Atlantic, Long Beach 5, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Apr. 5, May 3, 7:30 p.m.
Farm Bureau Hall, 353 S. Main St., Orange
Mrs. W. L. Everett, Secy.-Treas.
Rt. 2, Box 146, Orange, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

3rd Monday, Apr. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Casita del Arroyo, 177 S. Arroya Blvd., Pasadena
Mrs. Harold Benson, Secy.-Treas.
360 N. Fair Oaks, Pasadena 3, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Apr. 20, 8:00 p.m.
McKinley Rec. Center, Washington & Vallejo Sts.
Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.
222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

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

PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Apr. 27, 8:00 p.m.
Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.
Mrs. George Venner, Secy.
7604 S. E. Tolman, Portland 6, Oregon

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, Apr. 27, 8:00 p.m.
Community Hall, 1620 Pier Avenue
Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Lucy A. Sault, Secy.
309 E. 220th St., Torrance, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Apr. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Members' Residences
Mrs. Zena L. Twomley, Secy.
7154 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Apr. 27, 10:00 a.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. J. J. Howarth, Secy.
4319 Del Mar Ave., San Diego 7, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Apr. 17, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, McKinley Park
Mrs. W. J. Holley, Secy.
2914 V St., Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

1st Thursday, Apr. 5, May 3, 7:30 p.m.
Salem Y.M.C.A.
Miss Ellen Quail, Secy.
202 E. Rural Ave., Salem, Ore.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Apr. 24
Congregational Church, 2700 blk. University
Mrs. Thomas Hofmann, Secy.
2327 33rd St., San Diego 4, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Apr. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Center, 11134 Weddington, N. Hollywood
Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.
7961 Balboa Blvd., Van Nuys, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Apr. 4, May 2, 7:30 p.m.
1641 Taraval St.
Mrs. William Meyer, Secy.
1422 27th Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Apr. 25, 8:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia
Mrs. Hazel Snowden, Secy.
519 N. Encinita Ave., Temple City, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Apr. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Rm. 5, Com. Center, 914 Santa Barbara St.
Santa Barbara, Calif.
Mrs. A. M. Manly
P. P. Box 1319, Santa Barbara, Calif.

See next page

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Apr. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Miss Hazelle E. Oxley, Secy.
428 Davis St., Santa Cruz, Calif.

SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Apr. 4, May 2, 7:30 p.m.
225 26th St. (upstairs), Santa Monica, Calif.
Mrs. S. S. Gross, Fin. Secy.
1116 S. Carmelina, Los Angeles, Calif.

SANTA PAULA BRANCH

4th Thursday, Apr. 26, 6:30 p.m.
Steckel Park
Mrs. Beryl Ernsberger, Secy.
621 Santa Paula St., Santa Paula, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Apr. 17
Members' Homes
Mrs. Thomas Myers, Secy.
6057-81, N. E., Seattle 5, Washington

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Apr. 3, May 1, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mr. Orville A. Rogers, Secy.
126 S. Pacific Ave., Ventura, Calif.

SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Apr. 19, 8:00 p.m.
Faculty Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
Esther Krabach, Cor. Secy.
8438 Fairview Lane, Hayward, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Apr. 24, 7:30 p.m.
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern
Mrs. Juanita Pritchard, Secy.
11150 Duncan Ave., Lynwood, Calif.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Friday, Apr. 27, 7:30 p.m.
Members' Homes
Mrs. Fred M. Owens, Secy.-Treas.
1312 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Apr. 11, 11:00 a.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. John C. Schmucker, Secy.-Treas.
Box 233, Brownsville, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.

4th Wednesday, May 23, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St.
Cleveland, Ohio
Mrs. Edward Lobser, Cor. Secy.
25912 Westlake Rd., Bay Village, Ohio

WHITTIER BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Apr. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Union High School, Room 19
Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.
Mrs. Gretchen Bauchop, Secy.
9741 S. Santa Fe Springs Rd., Whittier, Calif.

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CONDENSED MINUTES meeting National Board held in the City Hall, Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 26th, 1951, President Moore in the Chair. Meeting called to order at 8 p. m. Present for the meeting Messrs. Moore, Walton, Trowbridge, Sherer, Spaulding, Small, Mesdames MacLanahan, Korts, Nolan, Schwerdtfeger, Spaulding, Hartwell.

Branches represented Santa Monica, Inglewood, Glendale, San Gabriel Valley, Hollywood, El Monte, Bellflower, Pasadena, South Gate, Santa Barbara, Robinson Branch.

Salute to the Flag, and Statement of Aims and Purposes of the Society. Reading of minutes dispensed with; published in the March issue of the Begonian.

Silent tribute observed to the memory of Mr. Jack Bailey and Mr. H. G. Flaitz.

Reports of Treasurer, Business Manager, and Editor read and accepted as read; placed on the table for perusal by members so desiring.

Public Relations presented revised Constitution and By-laws for the Santa Monica Branch. Stated she found them in order and moved their acceptance by the Board. **SO ORDERED.** Presented tentative draft for change in the Ventura Branch; approved by Board and sent back to the Branch for their official action. Also announced several very promising leads for new Branches elsewhere.

Librarian Gladys Nolan gave her report which indicated considerable activity in the purchase of new books for sale to members; additional books for circulation, and many yearly files bound. See the Begonian for more details.

President announced the appointment of Mr. Chas. Wiley of Long Beach as the Slide Librarian and following the introduction, Mr. Wiley outlined some of his plans for handling this work. See the March Begonian for his statement. President urged that the Branches make use of this feature as it will provide very interesting programs for Branch meetings.

As Flowers Show Chairman, Cal Trowbridge spoke on the work being done for the exhibit to be placed in the International Flower Show.

Mr. Sherwood for the Robinson Branch: We are designating Sun, August 5th as Begonia Day locally and are planning a special program; plan to take a begonia blossom to each patient, in each hospital in San Diego but we will have further information later which will be given to the Begonian. The branch has prepared a very complete printed program for each month, also containing a roster of the membership—a very helpful booklet.

Mr. Adams for Bellflower: Said they were working diligently to interest people from the Lakewood district to become begonaiates—asked for suggestions. Said they had passed out leaflets, some nurserymen were cooperative, personal invitations to attend meetings; thought of putting in an exhibit in a store window; plenty of publicity on the branch meetings. Wanted information on available speakers. President stated he hoped soon to have a list prepared and placed with Mr. Wiley of speakers for branch meetings.

Glendale—Mr. Richardson: Good speakers; Mrs. Nolan will present the Begonia lesson.

Inglewood Branch—Mrs. Schwerdtfeger our last speaker and was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed. On April 12th, their 3rd annual President's dinner with Mr. Alfred Hottes as speaker. Special 75c dinner and everyone invited.

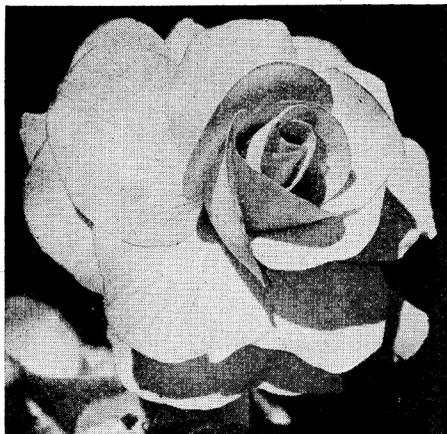
Col. Gale, Pasadena Branch—Mr. Frank Rich our last speaker and was enjoyed very much. Introduced Mr. Wm. M. Bell, President of Pasadena Branch who told of their coming garden visitation and invited everyone to participate.

San Gabriel Valley—Clarence Johnston: We stress "visiting around" in our branch, and hope to attend many of the meetings announced here to-night; also come visit us.

Respectfully submitted,

Gonda Hartwell, Sec.

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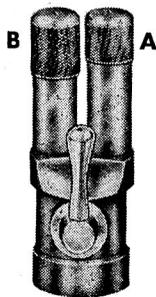
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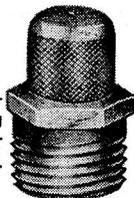


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