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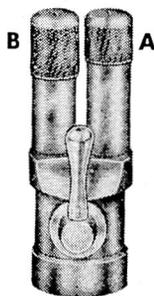


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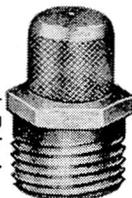


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C O N T E N T S

Feature Articles—

ACHIMENES FROM EUROPE — BY ALEXANDER SIM	30
AZALEAS FOR SPRINGTIME — BY ALICE M. CLARK	23
GROWING A BEGONIA ON THE "DRY" SIDE — BY LAMBERT DAY	29
HOW I GROW BEGONIAS IN VERMONT — BY MRS. H. C. SANBORN	26
MY EXPERIENCES WITH MAIDENHAIR FERN — BY GEORGE B. FURNISS	28
OLD FAVORITES OF EAST AND WEST — BY THE EDITOR	21

Departments—

ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS	25	CORRESPONDENCE COURTESY	31
BEGINNERS' CORNER	25	COVER PICTURE — B. FUSCOMACULATA	22
BEGONIA THERAPY	24	LETTER TO THE BRANCHES	32
BRANCH MEETING DATES & PLACES	34	LIBRARY NOTES	27
BRANCH NEWS	32	QUESTION-ANSWER COLUMN	31
CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS	28	ROUND ROBIN NOTES	22
CALIFORNIA INTNTL. FLOWER SHOW	27	YOUR EDITOR	30



Photo by Ruth Stewart Allen, Courtesy Miami Branch

Begonia erythrophylla helix — plant of Mrs. R. G. Wilson



Old Favorites of East and West

Over a hundred years ago Warscewicz crossed *Begonia manicata* and *Begonia hydrocotylifolia* and named the result *Begonia erythrophylla* and many years later Dr. Feast of Baltimore introduced it to America as "*Feasti*." Through the years many variations have appeared and become famous as some of our most prized houseplants.

It is no wonder, then, that during the shows of the past year two of them at opposite shores of this continent received awards and posed for their portraits.

Let us pay tribute first to the ruffled and curled glory of *Begonia Bunchi*, a mutant originating with Lloyd C. Bunch of Fredonia, Kansas, about fifty years ago.

Mrs. Terry Olmsted of the Inglewood Branch won a first award with her plant at the 1950 National Show in Inglewood and writes of its personal history:

"This plant was started from a leaf in a mixture of half sand and half leaf mold. As it outgrew all the containers I had, I put it in a half nail keg.

"My soil mixture is made by adding a cup of bonemeal and three four-inch pots of steer manure to a bushel of leaf mold.

"At this time of year *Bunchi* tends to go into a half-dormant stage and looks rather sad, so I put it in a dark, dry corner. Next spring I will replot it into a larger redwood tub in the same soil mixture and set it out where it will get sun until noon and from 2:30 on to evening. It wants lots of water and loves a little "cow tea" now and then. With lots of love and loads of luck, I hope to have *Bunchi* ready for the show again next year.

"One special hint—it must be turned constantly, as the rhizomes tend to grow in one direction." *Turn to next page*

Begonia Bunchi — plant of Mrs. Terry Olmsted, Inglewood Branch

Photo by Ken Garrison Clarke, Inglewood



And at the Miami, Florida, Branch's show Mrs. R. G. Wilson won honors with the shell-like spiralled and fluted *Begonia erythrophylla helix*, whose portrait by Ruth Stewart Allen, publisher of "Tropical Gardening" magazine, appears at the bottom of the previous page. This is the begonia that was once known as "conchaefolia" because of its shell-spiral leaves. As has previously been explained, a species begonia of miniature size from Costa Rica had already been named *conchaefolia*; therefore, this plant was renamed after the parent, *erythrophylla*, adding the *helix* (Greek

for spiral) as the varietal name. It is also called *Feasti helix*.

A fine picture of this plant in bloom appears in Helen K. Krauss' book "Begonias for American Homes and Gardens," available through your A.B.S. Library.

Our Question and Answer column in this issue also contains some interesting data on these plants.

Appreciation is due Mrs. A. E. Sackett of the Miami Branch for sending in both the photograph reproduced on this month's cover and this picture of *Begonia e. helix*.—Editor

Our Cover Picture . . .

BEGONIA FUSCOMACULATA

By Marie Minter, Encinitas, Calif.

A very colorful member of the rhizomatous group of begonias is the plant that most growers are still calling *B. rubella* or *B. rubellina*. As the name of *B. rubella* correctly belongs to a species from India, it became necessary to find a new name for this hybrid, so Axel Lange renamed it *B. fuscomaculata*. In taking the name apart we find that *fuscus* translated means brown, dusky. And *maculatus* or *maculata* means spotted. So we have literally a brown-spotted leaved plant.

The rhizome is rather short jointed and creeps along the ground. The color is bright green with a row of white dots beneath each leaf scar. The stipules soon turn brown and remain on the plant a long time, giving rather a shaggy appearance to the rhizome.

The plant was developed many years ago by William Bull in England and is a cross between *B. heracleifolia* x *B. strigillosa*. The shape of the leaf takes after the first parent, giving us a lobed leaf. The spots of the second parent are prominent and reddish brown, ap-

pearing on both sides of the leaf.

The leaf is ruddy and along each main vein are broad stripes of light green. This is more pronounced in some plants than in others. This same light green stripe appears on the back of the leaf, which is flushed red. The upper surface of the leaf is smooth but the under surface is covered with short white hairs between the veins. The veins themselves are light green and have white hairs which are red at the base.

The petioles of the leaves are so covered with red-based white hairs it gives the appearance of a red stem. The edge of the leaf is serrate and each point is tipped with white hairs.

This plant may be a shy bloomer. The flowers are listed as being pink but in the years I have had my plant I have never seen it bloom. In my particular case this may be due to the fact that cool winters and not too warm springs may keep the plant dormant longer for me than for others.



Our readers who have not learned of this through their Round Robins will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Frances Downing's husband is seriously ill of leukemia. All our prayers are with both Mr. and Mrs. Downing. *Editor.*

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Azaleas for Springtime

By Alice M. Clark, San Diego, Calif.*

(Reprinted through the courtesy of "California Garden")

If you are looking for garden color in spring when the early rains bring a fresh green to the lawns and shrubs, try azaleas. They are like the sweet, clear prelude to the rich strains of a summer symphony; a flower promise that gives the same breath-taking sense of beauty as the first sight of a peach orchard in full bloom. They come with a scattered flowering when the begonias are drooping and swell to a full crescendo at Easter, losing their petals in time to make a muted-green background for the summer favorites.

San Diego is not the best place to raise azaleas, as they prefer more moisture and an acid soil. They are so wonderful in the deep south that it seems foolish to try them here, but with patience and experience results can be obtained that, to me at least, are very worthwhile.

My initial azalea purchase, a small eight-inch plant of "Hexe," was a fortunate one, as it still strikes me as the best investment for a beginner. It bears clusters of fairly large, bright-red, hose-in-hose blossoms (one inside the other), over a long blooming period, with fine dark foliage, healthier than some, and a compact habit of growth. It is one of the Sander hybrids originated in 1885, combining the larger flowers of the *Indica* variety with the floriferousness of the small *Kurume* type.

At a wayside stand, eleven years ago, three very young plants, covered with single blooms in pink, white and salmon, were added to my azalea family and they too are large specimens now. This *Kurume* variety is hardy both to cold and sun and lives to be very old. It blossoms when quite small and may double its size in a year. Introduced to the east from *Kurume*, Japan, by the plant explorer, Ernest Wilson, in 1911, it did not reach our coast until 1927, where it was developed in Pasadena. There are now 200 new types and a lyrical dictionary of names to choose from. "Fire-bird," a deep flame color, is rather unusual and "Seraphim" is a fine fluffy pink with a delicious scent. They all have small leaves and an open twiggy growth.

Originally, only the deciduous type of azalea was known, so it was listed under that

genus. There are sixteen species of this in North America besides the one on the west coast, one from the Caucasus and one from China. The evergreen species were introduced into Belgium, Holland and Britain in 1830 from southern Asia, at that time generally called *India*. Azaleas were then reclassified as belonging to the *Rhododendron* Genus, coming in with forty-three related groups. There are sixty-five known species of the Azalea Series. In Europe, the evergreen types were hybridized for greenhouse culture and known as the *Indian* or *Indica* variety. They are larger and heavier in both leaf and flower than the *Kurumes*. They soon found their way into the southern states where, for the first time, they were planted out in the gardens and now present the finest show of the kind in the world.

It wasn't until 1940 that it was discovered that these large hybrids would bloom outdoors in California also. They are grafted onto a stronger stock for faster growth, so one must watch for suckers. There are dozens of fine plants of this *Indica* type suitable for gardens, but be sure to keep them in the foreground for closer appreciation. One of the loveliest is free-blooming "Paul Schame," a coral color. The original "Vervaeana" is a real pink with a double center and there is a white and coral form. "Professor Wolters" is a large ruffled single with a white edge and deep pink center, resembling a *Lady Washington* pelargonium. "Albert and Elizabeth," named for Belgian royalty, has a distinctive white center with a light rose edge. "Pink Pearl" is a luscious shade and "Hollandia" is a rare orange-red double.

The *Indica-micrantha* Hybrids were developed in Japan and introduced into California in 1933. The flowers are blotched and speckled and even notched like a morning glory. They have larger blooms than the *Kurumes* and are later. One I like very much is "Houri," a vivid rose-lilac color.

The *Rutherfordiana* Hybrids were patented in 1935 by Bobbink of Bobbink & Atkins, Rutherford, New Jersey. After ten years of labor an evergreen type was perfected that blooms longer, is more compact, and well worth growing if you can find it.

If you are fortunate enough to be presented with an azalea, keep it in a cool room, never let it dry out or get soggy. As soon as the

Turn to next page

bloom is over, sink the pot in partial shade in the garden out of the wind, or plant in peat or acid soil with special care to have good drainage. It is a good plan to pick the flowers for corsages when in bloom; otherwise trim the new growth lightly after the bloom has faded. Feed about a teaspoon of acid plant food to a six-inch pot every six weeks, stirring it in lightly at the outer edge. Stop feeding in September. Do not cultivate, as the roots are near the surface. If cottonseed meal is used, don't let it cake on top, so the water cannot penetrate. Canadian peat with sand is good for repotting, as it holds the moisture. Mulch in summer and wash with hard spray from the hose to keep down thrips and maintain humidity. It is best to spray with rotenone or pyrethrum about as often as you would for roses. Copper sulphate will control fungus, but nothing much helps with leaf-rollers, and rose beetles must be hand-picked.

All this sounds a bit difficult, but it is really no harder than caring for roses correctly, once you get the knack of it. Azaleas are especially

lovely around a pool, particularly an informal one. The foliage is so fine it gives a woody effect and the flowers double their beauty in reflection. They hold the picture you create with them as they do not grow out of bounds too quickly. They combine well with camellias in the background, standing more sun than the latter and enjoying the same soil. Sink a few pots in different places at first to see where best suited and buy small plants until you understand their care. Be faithful in spraying; feeding is secondary but moisture and drainage are imperative. At the end of a year I am sure you will wish to increase your stock, finding azaleas, as I do, one of the most satisfying year-around plants for the garden.

***NOTE:**

Mrs. Clark, until recently editor of "California Garden," has now obtained a replacement for herself in that capacity and hopes soon to be free to resume her painting of Begonias, which all our members familiar with her work in past years have so sorely missed.

R Begonia Therapy

By *Manson E. Hume*

This is the second Begonia Therapy treatment and I hope that it will plant a seed of joy to you who will try growing begonias as a hobby. It is wonderful to know that you can take a part in the growing of plants from the dust like seed to the full grown plant—plants that will keep you busy from morn till night. For the person who is low in spirit and has a heavy heart because of a disability, there is no more hope-inspiring, restful, healthful occupation than growing begonias. It is truly a most wonderful realization that you can find joy and health from just growing and caring for your plants each day. Gardening as a therapeutic occupation has been used extensively at service hospitals in this country and abroad.

Through the generosity of our seed fund Director, Mrs. E. Carrell, I can make the following offer to those disabled persons reading this column. This column is offering mixed begonia seeds to any disabled person wishing to start growing begonias for health and as a hobby. With your package of seeds you will see the beginning of a life of joy and excitement. Get your request in to me early for the supply is limited.

When a disabled person decides he or she is not to be whipped by a whim of Old Lady Fate, one's power of perception increases, one's personality becomes radiant and, in the field of endeavor they choose, their ability exceeds that of the person who is not physically handi-

capped.

As your interest in growing begonias increases, the leisure moments of the day and troubled hours of the night fade away and you plan the work for the morrow enjoyably and fall asleep dreaming of begonias. Healthy thoughts gradually are paramount in your mind.

Write to me enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope and I will answer as best I can your particular problem on growing begonias as a therapeutic aid to a healthier and happier life. My address is: Interlaken Road, Orlando, Florida. So long until we meet again.

M. E. H.

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Armchair Explorers

February Newsletter

This will be a busy month in the greenhouse for it is now a good time to plant begonia seeds. Start your tuberous begonias in peat-moss and when well-rooted transplant to pots of leafmold.

Thank you for the nice Christmas cards as well as the many sympathy cards you have sent, they were much appreciated. From Oregon came holly sprays and a lovely wreath, from Arkansas a box of wild ferns. The Tobermans sent these. The ferns looked very dried up upon arrival and to my great surprise the next morning after a good soaking they were as fresh and green as tho they had grown always in my lath house. They must be a kind of resurrection fern; they look like polypodiums growing on the bark of a black walnut. I found dwarf adiantums and a taller fern among them. I am glad to have these ferns growing in my lath house along with the many I have from Oregon and Mexico and those grown from spores from other countries.

Two of the articles in the January Begonian interested me. The one by Mrs. Elsie Frey brought back to my mind my first visit with her about 14 years ago and how we sent away to Europe for begonia seeds, which we shared, starting my interest in searching out the rare seeds from other countries and beginning my interest in the Seed Fund. Mrs. Frey has done a vast amount of hybridizing, especially with the rex begonias. She seems to be able to bring out the soft delicate pinks and other shades, velvet texture and beauty in the rex leaves, more so than any other hybridizer. She surely has more than just a "green thumb"—it must be a "magic thumb" as well. I predict that Mrs. Frey will soon be known as the most outstanding rex hybridizer of our time. She can always get seeds to grow, even when most others report failure with them. She is a member to be proud of.

The other article I referred to is that by our new friend, Manson Hume, who is confined to a wheelchair—see his pictures in the December issue. I should like to see his last article reprinted in every magazine and newspaper in the world. What a wonderful thing it is to have found such joy in life and to want

to send it out to others! In these times of so much stress and worries let us, too, tell others about the joy and comfort we have found working with plants. Share your plants with others when you can.

If you have put off ordering some of the begonia seed collections offered in the October issue of the Begonian it is not too late, we have plenty of seed still on hand. This month I offer seed of two outstanding begonias—*B. stitched leaf*, the light green begonia with the stitched effect along the edge of the leaves, and *B. Nurii*, the miniature rex from China of which I wrote several months ago and now find I have a little extra seed to offer to members. These are \$1 each per packet, and are only for experienced growers. For beginners I suggest mixed packets of begonia seeds at 25c per packet, or larger packets at 50c if you wish.

Cheerio and a happy Valentine Day to you all,

Your Skipper, Florence Carrell

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Beginners Corner

For February—

Refreshen up your indoor plant display by changing their positions from time to time. It can make you feel as if you had just re-decorated your room. Also be sure to keep turning pots so that the plants don't become too one-sided reaching for light.

Flashier colors come in many begonia leaves if the plants are put in sunny windows. Begonias *manicata aureo-variegata*, *Templini*, etc.

Figure out your garden plan for spring while you're sitting by the fire and the wind howls around the eaves. Sharpen a pencil and put it down on paper and STICK TO IT when you finally get a chance to put it into operation.

Fill up all those seed jars now and by warm weather you'll have more than enough to fill every corner of your garden plan and some to give away to the less fortunate folk in your neighborhood who need something to cheer them up.

Note the names and addresses of our advertisers. They can help you with your various garden problems. Write or see them.

How I Grow Begonias in Vermont

By Mrs. H. C. Sanborn, Thetford Center, Vt.

(Mrs. Sanborn, known as "Mother Pearl" to many Robinites, gives many hints to you Northeastern beginners in this tale of a plant room.)

Up to 1944 I had never seen or heard of over 15 varieties of begonias, but I did have specimens of those. Then a horticulturist gave me 65 cuttings—all different. Of course some failed to grow, but I now have had over 100 named varieties that have done well for me in my little lean-to plant room. There have been many others that could not stand the conditions, of course.

I formerly kept many in house windows, but in 1945 I had the little plant room built and have had much fun with it. It is 8 x 24 feet with glass roof and south side—a lean-to against the south side of my house. The south windows are on hinges so can be lifted for ventilation and there are two ventilators in the roof near the house—also a door at each end, east and west.

It is heated by hot air with two pipes from the furnace going through the two cellar windows. Therefore it had plenty of circulation all the time. In this little room I have kept 2000 plants in good condition even when the outside temperature dropped to 45 degrees below zero. I did use an electric heater when the inside temperature dropped to 40. Of necessity the plants were packed very closely together and formed a solid mass of green from floor to ceiling. Even the floor space was almost completely filled, leaving very little space for walking. Many of the large plants were in ten or twelve quart buckets.

I watered with a spray on the hose carrying



water direct from the spring, so it was really icewater—which is not recommended for many plants, but even the begonias were beautiful out there, doing much better than when in the house. Some of them reached unusual size under these conditions.

Haageana (Scharffi), *foliosa*, *multiflora-rosea*, *Richardsiana*, and *medora* were in 12 quart buckets and would fill a bushel basket. *Templini* was six feet tall and so was my *diadema* seedling. When in bloom these two are indeed beautiful plants. I believe *Haageana* has the longest lasting bloom of any plant I ever saw. *Lecco* has been a wreath of bloom all summer. It is four and a half feet tall.

The rhizome group is a beautiful sight in spring. *Sunderbruchi* had flower stalks that were over two feet long and the loosely clustered flower heads would scarcely go into a ten quart pail. *B. ricinifolia*, with stalks not so long but clusters of bloom fully as large; *manicata*, *aureo-maculata*; *Feasti*; *Feasti-belix* and all the rest were masses of bloom.

Peach leaf or *washington street* was a large well-branched plant at least six feet tall but never did bloom well for me, nor did *scabrida* or *dichotoma* although they were large handsome specimens. *Loma alta* was another very large plant which did not produce flowers while I had it. *Corralina de lucerne*, *Mme. de Lesseps*, and *President Carnot* were nearly as large and a riot of bloom for months. *Abel Carriere* was so beautiful as a plant it did not require any flowers to enhance its beauty, nor did *Margaritaceae*.

Peltata (*incana*) and *Kellermani* were odd and unusual. I love the fragrance of *Kellermani* and of *nitida alba* but am still waiting to find out about *nitida rosea*, for although it is a large plant, it has never had a blossom on it.

Helen King, *Maybelle E.*, *red rubra*, *lobata*, *Elaine*, *decorus x E.*, *Orrell*, are a few of the speckled beauties that have done well for me. The rose begonias, of which I have several, are more notional and must be placed to their liking in order to do their best. *Nelly Bly* has refused to bloom but *Duchartrei* and *prunifolia* have done well with their large florets, two inches across. *Rufida*, *Druryi*, and *metallica*, with the deep red hairy leaves are must haves with me.

These are a few of the many which have lived and enjoyed a cold plant room with cold

My Plant Room

Courtesy Mrs. H. C. Sanborn

spray baths and direct sunlight from glass roof. However, I find they are much more beautiful when only a little direct sunlight strikes them. Then the leaves put on a rich silken sheen which is not present when in full sunlight, and although some people prefer the more intense coloring of foliage produced by direct sunlight, I prefer the softer silken appearance. *Venus*, when placed well back from a window, is almost a black satin.

Semperflorens, *gracilis* and *carmen* all did much better out there, and I had some large beauties. I say "did" rather than "do," as they have now been moved to a new plant room. "Mother Pearl's" plant room is closed, but her plants are still growing and later I may be able to tell you how they like their new home.

ONE OF MRS SANBORN'S 'MUST-HAVES'



This reproduction of one of Mrs. Alice M. Clark's paintings (see note following Mrs. Clark's article, page 24) was made some years ago and is an excellent likeness of one of Mrs. Sanborn's favorites.

Druryi is one of Miss Constance Bower's seedlings of *B. cyprea* x *B. sanguinea*; *Elaine* and *rufida* were also her introductions.

Library Notes

With the coming of the New Year much of the exchange material which is sent to the Society is being bound for circulation and the following publications are ready for your use:

CALIFORNIA GARDEN, Vol. 41, 1950.

NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL MAGAZINE, Vol. 29, 1950, publication of the American Horticultural Society.

JOURNAL OF THE CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. Vol. IX & X, 1948 and 1949—one volume.

CACTUS DIGEST of the Henry Shaw Cactus Society, Vol. 9, 1950.

It is regrettable that more Begonia publications are not available but there is much of value to the plant minded in any garden magazine and you will have many hours of pleasant browsing in any of the above.

A B C OF ORCHID GROWING by John V. Watkins has been added to the Library and those members who have added a few orchids to their plant collection will find it of interest since it is profusely illustrated and is written for the amateur.

PACIFIC COAST GARDENING by Norvell Gillespie should prove of interest to our West Coast members.

—Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.

Members desiring library lists may have same by forwarding a stamped self-addressed envelope to the librarian.

CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW

Planned to outshine all other shows, this grand masterpiece is scheduled for March 3 through 11th at Hollywood Park, the great racetrack located at 1050 South Prairie Avenue, Inglewood, California. All persons who are anywhere near Southern California at that time should make a special effort to see this gigantic display which will be participated in by the great commercial growers, the florists, garden clubs, nurseries, and all allied endeavors.

Cal Trowbridge, our president-elect and show manager, has arranged for a space for the American Begonia Society of approximately 16 by 30 feet. This will be worth a little time and trouble to go out of your way to see.

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TO THE CONTRARY:

Henceforth, under this heading, we invite our readers to submit their opinions and conclusions, based on good experience, which are opposite to those previously expressed on our pages. We believe our readers enjoy good discussion and take this means to stimulate it. Don't hesitate to "cross words" with The Begonian on any point. We will be glad to print all sides to any question when well-written and well-based on fact and experience.

Mr. Furniss' letter to us suggested the heading and we are highly gratified by his interesting report.

MY EXPERIENCES WITH MAIDENHAIR FERN

By George B. Furniss, Oakland, Calif.

The Rex Begonia and the Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum*) have distinctive characters and add a delicate tropical effect to a collection of plants. The statement in the October Round Robin Notes that a fern should never be reported during its dormant season, is a mistaken conclusion. During the dormant period a plant will stand rough handling, abuse and exposure which would be fatal if it were in growth. Fortunately this period is prolonged, so we may choose our weather, time and convenience to report or transplant.

But to wait for fern growth to start, as the Round Robin states, entails watchfulness, quick action and utmost care so as not to break the tender sprouts. The writer has grown the Maidenhair Fern, specimen plants, for years; likewise our neighbor . . . in the greenhouse, lathhouse and in lathhouse beds.

In December when the fronds show signs of resting, loss of vigor and fading, watering is stopped. All the fronds are sheared off including the lingering new fronds thereby leaving them stubs, say a half inch above the crown. The pots are then stored, turned over on the side, and allowed to go bone dry. The roots have withstood 18° while thus in storage. Plants in the lathhouse beds are allowed to linger along until looking shabby and then sheared but otherwise not disturbed. Rain keeps the ground wet and in consequence the fronds do not reach the perfection of potted plants.

Plants require constant moisture during the growing season. Dryness will cause the fronds to wither and watering will not revive them. The only thing to do is to cut it off at the crown and water it well. New growth will

restore the plant in a remarkable short time.

For soil I use one-third leafmold; one-third decayed, rotted wood; one-third garden soil; and one-fourth cup bonemeal to each gallon of the mix. Lumber with dry rot or decayed from contact with the ground, crumbly and flaky, is a good substitute for leafmold; being similar in mineral content. Also peat or 100% compost may be used. In midsummer, say September, a very weak fertilizer is stimulating. About a level teaspoonful of garden fertilizer to a quart of water. I have skipped repotting through pressure of duties. In such case, a little bonemeal, 5 or 6 level table-spoonsful worked in around the edge of the pot, and the liquid fertilizer in September, makes a passable showing.

Commercial growers keep the growth within 6 inch pots as the restriction causes the fronds to grow small and thereby better serve floral arrangements. However, for specimen plants, clumps are separated and started in small pots and shifted to larger sizes without shearing the roots. Eight and nine inches is the limit in weight for convenient handling. 10-12-14 inch pots make a beautiful showing and are obtained by shifting from 8 or 9s without root trimming.

Adiantum cuneatum is the one commonly used commercially and the most hardy and dependable. It is very popular because of its heavily crested, drooping fronds and easy to grow. *A. pedatum* is our native five finger fern and extremely handsome when well grown. There are many others for a collection but require skill.



Calendar of Coming Events

FEBRUARY 8th: Inglewood Branch presents Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger of Santa Barbara (our Public Relations Director) speaking on the Basic Principles of Growing Begonias. All A.B.S. members and friends are invited.

FEBRUARY 28th: Glendale Branch will have Dr. Russell Seibert, Arboretum Director, as special speaker. A distinguished plant specialist, widely travelled through South and Central America for the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and formerly with the Arnold Arboretum, Mass., and Missouri Botanical Garden, his talk will be a "must" on your list. Mrs. Gladys Nolan will also describe the spring care of begonias.

MARCH 3-11th: California International Flower Show, Inglewood.



Glancing Back

GROWING A BEGONIA ON THE "DRY" SIDE

By Lambert Day, Los Angeles, California

Since the proper watering of plants grown in pots is one of the most important factors and possibly the least understood by the amateur, we will try to answer in as much detail as possible.

It is difficult to explain exactly when to water and when not to, so some experience must be gained by trial and error methods before successful results can be acquired—much judgment must be used.

The water to be used should be clean, fresh, and as soft as possible—rain water being ideal. Never water a plant until the soil becomes dry, though not bone dry; then it should be soaked thoroughly. One way to determine if the soil is dry in a clay pot is by tapping the pot. If a clear ring is heard, it is time to water; a dull thud indicates that enough moisture is present. Be sure that the pot in question is not cracked, as this defect might lead to confusion.

Begonias like an abundance of water but will not tolerate for long a dank, soggy soil. When plants that I prize highly are first received, all of the old soil is washed off of their roots. A pot is selected that is neither too large nor too small for the plant in question. The first inch to two inches of the pot (depending on the type of plant and size of pot) is filled with sphagnum moss or very coarse drainage material of broken crocks. A soil is prepared that is porous enough to allow fairly free passage of water. The last one-half to inch of space in the top of the pot should be left for filling with water when watering.

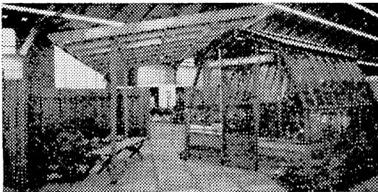
A few naphthalene flakes sprinkled in the drainage material will discourage earth worms for some time. These worms do more to

destroy the fibrous texture of the soil than any other single factor. They are the fifth columnists that will, in short order, make an otherwise good soil a soggy, damp, worthless one. Be sure that they are not allowed to close the drainage hole in the bottom of the pot, as poor drainage is fatal to begonias.

Other factors to be considered are whether the plant is in active growth or dormant. Naturally very little water is required by a plant that is not growing, while an abundance of water will be needed by one that is at the height of its active growth period. A plant of woody structure will require water less often than one of succulent growth. Large leaved plants require more water than small leaved ones. The humidity of the surrounding air determines to a large extent the frequency with which water must be applied. Plants that are to be kept on the dry side should not be left in places where the air is heavy with moisture and poorly ventilated.

As each of these factors mentioned are correlated, they should all be taken into consideration if maximum results are to be had. Avoid watering at night during the winter or when there are prolonged periods of dampness and fog. During the hottest part of the summer it is sometimes advisable to water in late afternoon or evening, but here again experience is the best advisor. Water every day if necessary, but only if necessary. The temperature of the water to be used should be close to that of the surrounding air. Colder water will retard plant growth.

Note—Mr. Day is now a grower of fine orchids with the cleanest glasshouse your Editor has ever seen—and the fastest-growing orchids.



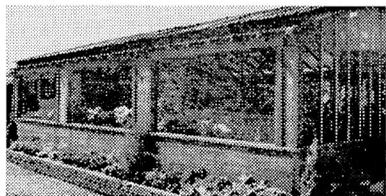
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ACHIMENES FROM EUROPE

By Alexander Sim, Manhattan Beach, Calif.

A little gem for the border, pot, or basket culture in the lath house, greenhouse or window garden!

Allied to Gloxinias, but much easier to grow and more varied in foliage and coloring, these charming plants provide interesting color accents in the shade garden and lend themselves especially to basket culture.

They may be grown as single specimens or in combination with begonias, fuchsias, campanulas, or lobelia.

The potting mixture should be rich in humus, light, and porous. Any good Begonia soil mixture will suit them.

Recently we have been fortunate in obtaining European hybrids which have flowered vigorously for us and have new and more beautiful colors and so many more variations in the foliage—in shape, texture, and shadings of greens into the bronzes, both velvety and fairly smooth.

Achimenes are the perfect complement for the reds and yellows, pinks and flames of the tuberous begonias because their colors (purples and lavenders, bluish tones, etc.) are in direct contrast with the tuberous and their foliages, being smaller and more delicate, complement the bold tuberous leaves. Therefore, we suggest using them tucked between and in front of your tuberous plants.

There are few plants that will afford such a display of bloom with so little time and attention.

Mr. Sim, whose gardening experience covers not only many years in California, but Canada, England, and Scotland too, used to contribute much to *The Begonian* during its beginnings. Mrs. Sims' houseplants were featured in the Garden Section of the Los Angeles Times recently.

Your Editor

Among interesting letters received is one from Mrs. Hansen of Chambers, Nebraska, whose story of her rexes you read in the November *Begonian*, wherein she reports they are wintering nicely and that her seed grown cyclamen are in fine leaf and heavily budded. She also reports wonderful luck with her gloxinias (now all tucked away for the winter), which were grown from Mr. Buell's hybrid seed and have had about 35 different color combinations in 100 plants. They grew leaves up to eleven inches and blooms five inches across. Gosh—all-Gloxinia!

Another came from Mrs. Edna W. Kirch of the year-old Western Pennsylvania Branch on stationery printed with our A.B.S. em-

blem. She tells us their president, Mrs. Leslie Perry is over seventy but drives her own car and is Horticultural Chairman for Pennsylvania and knows all the answers. During the summer they met at various member's homes, making a day of it as they are so scattered—from Butler to Brownsville (some 60 miles).

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Strand of Seattle, Washington, sent this picture of their tuberous begonia collection on one side of their friendly Christmas card—inspiration for next summer! Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Miller also featured one of their rexes on their beautiful card. We received many others and thank you one and all. But your Editor was busy editing and didn't have time to send out one!





Q + A = Success

by Research Dept.

Question: Do leaf cuttings of *B. conchaefolia* revert to the plain leaved plant?

Answer: From your question I gather that you are referring to *B. erythrophylla helix* which for many years was known as *B. conchaefolia*. The name of *B. conchaefolia* rightfully belongs to a small leaved, peltate, species plant, hence it was necessary to change the name of the hybrid plant which went under that name.

Leaves from these hybrids have been known to revert to the plain leaf at times but I think that most of your trouble was probably due to not waiting a sufficient length of time. A good many of the rhizomatous plants when propagated from leaves have a tendency to start out in life with perfectly plain leaves, without any of the distinguishing marks belonging to that particular plant. Seedling plants do the same thing.

Question: Root cuttings of this particular plant (*B. erythrophylla helix*) are all developing plain leaves. Why?

Answer: Again I think it's a matter of time. Your cuttings must develop new roots and a new rhizome. At first this is at the expense of the leaves. One must be patient until the plant is well established. You should have the typical leaf formation within one growing season.

Question: How do you propagate *B. luxurians*?

Answer: This is a hard plant to propagate. Propagators that I have talked to tell me that the "strikes" are very uncertain, hence the plant will always be one of the higher priced ones. Tip cuttings seem to be the best, but in order to be even half-way certain of even one cutting rooting, the whole stem is cut into pieces. Bottom heat is usually employed. It has been my experience that taking the tip out of one of the canes causes the whole cane to die back, so it is wise to cut the cane out and use all its parts, in the hope that one of the cuttings will root. This plant is a winter bloomer and usually after blooming all begonias have a dormant period, so spring would find this plant semi-dormant. When new growth starts from the bottom would be a good time to try your luck.

Question: Is there a red flowered rhizomatous plant?

Answer: Rhizomatous plants seem to have only white or pink flowers. *B. Joe Hayden* has beautiful dark red buds but the flowers open out white.

A CORRESPONDENCE COURTESY

Please, members and friends, when writing to any of the American Begonia Society Departments (for instance, the Library, Research Department, Membership Secretary, etc.) for assistance or material such as library lists, addresses, or questions to be answered, kindly enclose a self-addressed envelope for their reply.

Some of our advertisers have requested us to call your attention to the fact that they do not offer lists or catalogues unless they so state in their ads.

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A LETTER TO THE BRANCHES



Over the past year we have carefully noted response to various items printed under "Branch News" and the different types of reports sent in by branch secretaries or publicity chairmen. Accordingly we have decided to make the following changes in handling branch material, *commencing with the March issue*, with the idea of making The Begonian of greater consistent help to its general readers and of stimulating their interest in branch relationship where possible; as well as keeping all branches posted on mutual activities and ideas.

FIRST: PLEASE NOTE DEADLINES DATES: The 10th of each month prior to the month at issue.

That is: Material to be printed in the April issue of The Begonian (which reaches members at varying dates after the 1st of April) must be in The Editor's hands by the 10th of March.

SECOND: We invite each branch secretary, publicity chairman, or some appointed qualified member, to write at least two feature articles during the year, as interesting, detailed, and accurate as possible, concerning any of the following:

—report in full of the talk given by an outstanding speaker (preferably on begonias, of course, but allied plants are acceptable topics);

—detailed questions and answers from an exceptionally helpful discussion forum;

—complete story of some expert gardener-member's methods of growing; or

—history and description of an exceptionally fine begonia collection in your area.

Illustrations will greatly enhance all such articles but should be as follows: Black and white photographs on glossy paper not smaller than 5 x 7 inches—and they must be sharply focused for good reproduction; and use a dark background for portraits of light colored subjects and a light background for dark colored subjects, if possible. All photographs will be returned after use. Drawings in india ink also make good reproductions.

THIRD: Please continue to send in reports of your various activities as convenient or desirable to your branch; we will be glad to re-

ceive all such information. However, they will not be published as a unit as previously. Instead we will use the information contained therein in these ways:

A CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS makes its appearance with this issue. Under the appropriate date we will print advance notice of any show or meeting to which you wish to call the attention of your own branch members and that of the membership-at-large.

AN IDEA column will be commenced in the March issue featuring timely suggestions gleaned from your reports and our national directors. Such topics as Organizing Branch Shows, Smooth Business Meetings, Improving Branch Finances, Program Ideas, Membership Increase, Suggested Speakers List, Good Neighbor Work (regarding your charitable endeavors), More About Begonias (containing your various methods of increasing knowledge and popularity of begonias), Publicity, etc.

Those valuable little excerpts from speeches or discussions which many of you have been sending in (and which have been rather lost in a sea of branch details) will be spotted throughout the magazine wherever space permits as they become timely—with proper credit to speaker and branch involved.

Changes in officers will be duly noted under a heading such as "New Branch Officers."

DON'T FORGET to send in the addresses for new secretaries whose names are to appear in the "Branch Meeting Dates and Places" section and all changes of meeting dates, places, and times as soon as they become official, to avoid confusion, especially for visitors. Also please call our attention to errors at once; thanks!

FOURTH: We will be glad to receive your comments on the new system and to answer all your questions regarding it.

AND—We wish you one and all the most successful year you have ever had and, for all new branch members, the greatest joy in your new undertaking.

Stanley Spaulding, Editor
Frances Spaulding, Co-Editor

BRANCH NEWS

BELFLOWER: Our new officers were installed at our Christmas-gift dinner meeting by Mrs. Birdie Nicoll as follows: President, Mildred Marshall; Vice-President, Doris Milan; Secretary, Audrey Adams; Treasurer, Harry R. Dunn; and National Representative, Frank Adams.—*Mildred Marshall.*

EAST BAY: Held a wonderful Christmas party with a heart-warming program. Mr. Ed Carlson introduced Mrs. Wm. Roth, a member of the Rainbow Hobby Club of California, who

explained her hobby of "collecting achievements." One of these achievements is providing recreation for blind children under the leadership of Rose Resnick. Miss Resnick's place, called "Enchanted Hills" is located in Sonoma County. Here the blind children learn hiking, swimming, horseback riding, gardening, and many other things, including handicrafts. Mrs. Roth explained how she made and sold enough lapel dolls to send six blind children to this recreation place for two weeks.

In place of the usual exchange of gifts, a silver offering was made and presented to Mrs.

Roth's Chapel Fund. The Chapel is in the open air at "Enchanted Hills" with benches where the children go for daily meditation. Mrs. Roth's fund is to provide a pulpit carved in braille inscriptions which the children may read.

In addition, J. R. Spencer introduced Juanita Miller, who spoke on the history and writings of her father, the famous California poet, Joaquin Miller.

Our new officers for 1951 are: Mr. Dick Goodnow, President; Mr. H. L. Helwig, Vice-President; Mr. C. F. Jensen, Secretary; Mrs. J. J. Hallahan, Treasurer; and Mrs. Rose C. Gaubert, Representative Director.—*C. F. Jensen.*

FOOTHILL: December was Camellia Meeting, with special emphasis on grafting. The speaker was Mr. O. A. Batcheller, Professor of Ornamental Horticulture at Voorhis Unit of California State Polytechnic College. He graphically demonstrated the correct grafting procedure by using a large scale model of rootstock and scion. After explaining the reasons for grafting, he actually grafted several rootstocks, which were later donated to the plant sale.

In January the following officers were installed: Horace Whisler, president; John Weber, vice-president; Anna K. Anderson, recording secretary; Gertrude M. Cooper, corresponding secretary; Tillie Weaver, treasurer; Dan B. White, director; Edwin Williams, representative director.

Homer Green, representative of the California Spray Chemical Company, manufacturers of Ortho insecticides, etc., humorously conditioned those in attendance for his fine color movie, "How to Grow Beautiful Roses." Any hows, whats, whens, wheres or whys that may have been in anyone's mind were certainly answered by this complete and illustrative sound movie.—*Edwin O. Williams.*

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY: December was a busy month at La Jolla. Our Christmas project, financed by the summer show, was the distribution of gifts for members of a Custodial Unit, aged invalids of County Hospital, Cerebral Children's Home, local shut-ins and needy families. The aged people each received a package of small personal items and each ward was given a large box of fruit and a decorated living Christmas tree. The latter were planted on the Hospital grounds later on. Our members and friends spent days selecting gifts and food for all and wrapping and distributing them but the results were very gratifying. The La Jolla Soroptimists aided financially.

Our meeting was a Christmas party with the La Jolla Singers as guests and members bringing table decoration pieces for display.

—*Harriet Stanford.*

HUMBOLDT: Had a turkey dinner party for a December meeting, complete with tree, trimmings and many gifts. Millie Grinsil, with the help of her niece, put on a skit in which members were supposed to have written questions to Millie which she answered in riotous fashion.

Our new officers: Mrs. Jessie Thomas, president; Mable Minnie, vice-president; Margaret Smith, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. F. Brelle, representative-at-large; and Mrs. F. Krege, representative-at-large; were presented with corsages each made of a young *rex* "fireflush" leaf with red and silver ribbon as they were installed.

Our January meeting was extremely fruitful with ideas and suggestions from all sides and good progress in organization business. We are considering a shade garden plan for our Fair Exhibit and there will be a scrap-book for all clippings. We are also to have an exhibit at the Flower Show in Fortuna some time in April.

Several members brought potted plants and gave their names and other interesting information about each.

Mrs. Thomas has a friend who gathers moss, ferns, pieces of old wood, and toad stools. These she fashions into beautiful gardens on a baking pan. She displayed one containing toadstools of cream through browns with one of brilliant red and one could imagine fairies all around.—*Violet Wooden.*

INGLEWOOD: The following are our new officers: President, Bert Slatter; Vice-President, Perry Olmsted; Secretary, Virginia Smith; Treasurer, Stuart Smith; National Representative, Mary Choate.

For our February meeting see the CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS.

—*Virginia Smith.*

ORANGE COUNTY: Received a very instructive demonstration on pruning and planting rose bushes by Mr. Harold Botts of the Botts' Nursery of Anaheim as the speaker. The three rose bushes he used in his demonstration were later given away as door prizes. Many questions were asked concerning individual problems. Mr. Botts said when planting, set the bush with the bud towards the south; when pruning, take out the small cross branches, leave three main canes, cut the bush down to about the height of your knee—making the cut about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch above a bud. He recommended fertilizing them from mid-March to mid-October, using a rose food. In planting the bush, Mr. Botts suggested that a hole be dug two feet deep and one and a half feet wide with a high mound in the center. On this mound set the bush, being very sure that there wasn't an air pocket under it, and spread the roots out straight so they aren't twisted

Turn to page 35

Branch Meeting Dates and Places

BELLEFLOWER BRANCH

1st Monday, Feb. 5, Mar. 5, 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, Feb. 8, 7:45 p.m.
Willard School, Ward St.
C. F. Jensen, Secy.
3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Feb. 15, 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, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, 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, Feb. 3, Mar. 3
Mrs. Marion R. Thompson, Secy.
129 White Horse Pike, Magnolia, N. J.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Feb. 28, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central Ave.
Mrs. Edna Bradley, Secy.
1301 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 8, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m.
Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Center, Cor. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 27, 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, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Members' Residences
Mr. Homer Meek, Secy.-Treas.
1306 N. 28th, Kansas City, Kans.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 8, 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, Feb. 19, 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, Feb. 12, 8:00 p.m.
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.
Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 8, 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, Feb. 12, 8:00 p.m.
Porter Park
Mrs. G. W. McManus, Secy.
Rt. 1, Box 1070, La Mesa, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 20, 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, Feb. 27, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.
2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 20, 8:00 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, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Houghton Park Club House
Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach
F. John Nachbor, Secy.
6217 Butler Ave., Long Beach 5, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Mar. 1, 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, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m.
Casita del Arroya, 177 S. Arroya Blvd., Pasadena
Mrs. Harold Benson, Secy.-Treas.
360 N. Fair Oaks, Pasadena 3, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Feb. 16, 8:00 p.m.
McKinley Rec. Center, Washington & Vallejo Sts.
J. Earl Wilson, Secy.
111 Hill Blvd., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

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

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, Feb. 23, 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, Feb. 14, 8:00 p.m.
Members' Residences
Mrs. Zena L. Twomley, Secy.
7154 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Feb. 23, 8:00 p.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. Edyth Sherwood, c/o Mrs. Leta Wescott
1767 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., San Diego 7, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, McKinley Park
Mrs. W. J. Holley, Secy.
2914 V St., Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

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

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 27
Congregational Church, 2700 blk. University
Mrs. D. M. McDaniel, Secy.
1059 Meade Ave., San Diego 3, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Feb. 12, 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, Feb. 7, Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m.
1641 Taraval St.
Mrs. William Meyer, Secy.
1422 27th Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Feb. 28, 8:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia
Mrs. Gonda Hartwell, Secy.
1719 Alamos Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 8, 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.

SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Feb. 7, Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m.
225 26th St. (upstairs), Santa Monica, Calif.
Mrs. S. S. Cross, Fin. Secy.
1116 S. Carmelina, Los Angeles, Calif.

See next page

SANTA PAULA BRANCH
4th Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m.
Steckel Park
Mrs. Beryl Emsberger, Secy.
6057—31, N. E., Santa Paula, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH
3rd Tuesday, Feb. 20
Members' Homes
Mrs. Thomas Myers, Secy.
6057—31, N. E., Seattle 5, Washington

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH
1st Tuesday, Feb. 6, Mar. 6, 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, Feb. 15, 8:00 p.m.
Faculty Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
Mrs. Nettie Condit, Cor. Secy.
1345L 99th Ave., Oakland, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH
4th Tuesday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern
Mrs. Juanita Pritchard, Secy.
11150 Duncan Ave., Lynwood, Calif.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH
4th Friday, Feb. 23
Mr. E. Weaver, Pres.
1325 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH
2nd Tuesday, Feb. 13, 11:00 a.m.
Phipps Conservatory, Schenley Park
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Mrs. John C. Schmucker, Secy.-Treas.
Box 233, Brownsville, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.
4th Wednesday, Feb. 28, 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, Feb. 27, 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.

BRANCH NEWS, cont. from page 33
around or under. A plant sale and refreshments concluded the meeting.—*Helen Meyer.*

REDONDO AREA: Our newly elected officers are: President, Earl Wiltse; Secretary, Lucy A. Sault; Vice-President, Emri Stoddard; Treasurer, Lucy Brooks; and National Representative, Harry Marshall.—*Lucy A. Sault.*

SACRAMENTO: The following officers were elected at our December meeting: President, Mr. Mel Newfield; Vice-President, Mr. J. C. Roberts; Secretary, Mrs. W. J. Holley; Treasurer, Mr. Fred Walsh; National Representative, Mrs. L. M. Flannigan; Directors, Mrs. E. K. Schnauss, Mrs. W. M. Kelso, Mr. Robert Gunther.—*Mrs. W. M. Kelso.*

SALEM, OREGON: At the close of a successful year, with money in the treasury and many interesting programs behind us, we have elected the following officers to start us on another fine year: President, George Malstrom; Vice-President, Max Morris; Secretary, Miss Ellen Quail; Treasurer, Gordon Black; Representative Director, Earl M. Pettycrew; Directors, Walter Barkus and Al Clark.

—*Estill L. Brunk, D. M. D.*

SAN FRANCISCO: Now that the holidays are over, and we hope you all had a very Happy Holiday season, we again turned to our Be-

gonia seeds with a very interesting forum, expertly handled by Art Mann, Hyacinth Smith and Carl and Ann Meyer. This was followed by discussion on care and storing of tubers with Bill Meyer adding his versions.

Our new officers are: President, Mr. Carl Meyer; Vice-President, Mr. Robert Gromm; Secretary, Mrs. Paulyne A. Meyer; Treasurer, Mrs. Hyacinth Smith; National Director, Mr. Art Mann; and Board Members, Mrs. Beth Sackman and Mr. Walter Bass.

—*Paulyne A. Meyer.*

SAN GABRIEL: Held its annual birthday dinner meeting in January with installation of officers by our past president, Howard Small. Those taking office were: President, H. M. Washburn; Vice-President, F. C. Brown; Secretary, Mrs. Gonda Hartwell; Treasurer, Mrs. James Daley; Director, Mr. A. I. McNatt.

—*C. W. Johnston.*

SANTA MONICA: Elected the following officers: Mr. Jack MacLanahan, president; Mr. A. B. Lueck, vice-president; Mrs. Chas. King, recording secretary; Mrs. S. S. Gross, financial secretary; Mrs. Jas. A. Mattison, treasurer; Mrs. E. O. Sherer, national representative.

Our new president immediately appointed a long list of chairmen to cover all phases of branch endeavor and they and the elected officers will comprise the executive board, which will meet on the last Monday preceding the Branch meeting.

Mr. Ray Wilson of the Hollywood Branch was our principal speaker and chose for his topic, "Appropriate Shrubs to Plant Now for Lovely Arrangements Next Year."

Mr. Sherer was thanked for his two years of faithful service as president and given Mrs. Helen K. Krauss' book on begonias.

—*Mrs. Marie K. Haskell.*

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY: Our new officers are: President, Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss; Vice-President, Mr. H. G. Kiosterud; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Marie Reed; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Nettie Condit; and Treasurer, Mr. J. Floyd Slutter.

—*Mrs. Harvey Manning.*

TEXAS STATE: Was entertained with a Christmas party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Weaver which was so enjoyable we hope to make it an annual event. Potted plants were exchanged as gifts and a contest for the most attractively decorated was won by R. C. Scott.—*Mrs. Fred M. Owens.*

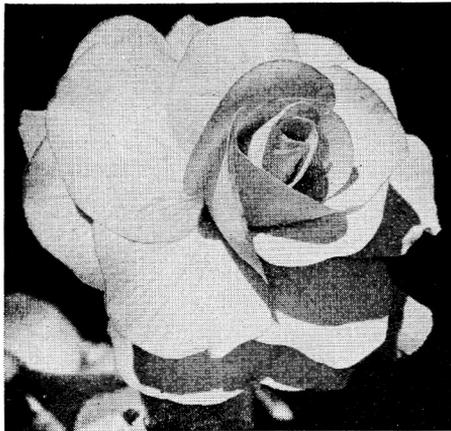
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