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SEPTEMBER
1951

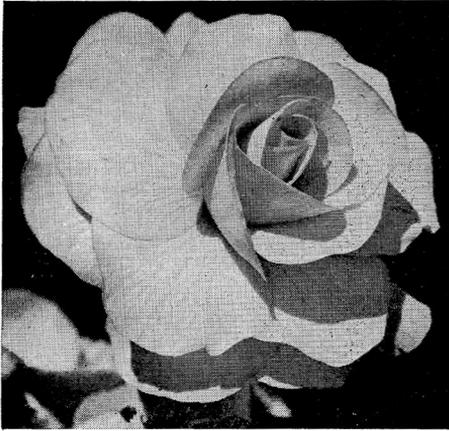


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The next Board meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held in the Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1305, 7:30 p. m., Sept. 24th, 1951. Use Main St. elevator. Park lower garage, south entrance on Main Street.

- ★ Annual Dues - Two Dollars Fifty Cents.
- ★ Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Los Angeles, California, under the act of March 3rd, 1879.
- ★ Business Office - 5110 Monte Bonito Drive, Los Angeles 41, Calif.

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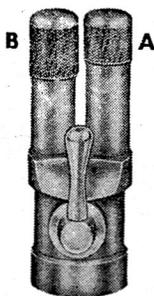


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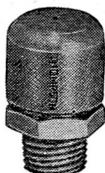
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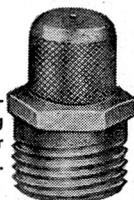


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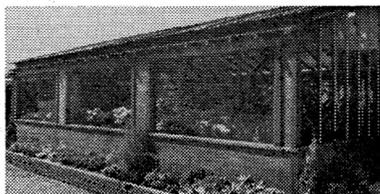
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The BEGONIAN

September—

*Now north leaves parch in early warning!
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Automatic-Irrigation

Bringing My Experiments Up To Date

John P. Toberman, Columbia, Louisiana

We are printing Mr. Toberman's article in full including the notes on such plants as hydrangeas and geraniums because we believe they are of interest to the eastern window-gardener who grows these and many others in pots along side his Begonias, while California gardeners are fortunate enough to be able to grow them in the ground out-of-doors to such an extent that they are not primarily house or sheltered plants for them.—Editor.

The October, 1950, issue of *The Begonian* carried an article on Automatic-Irrigation, describing in considerable detail experiments in using spun glass fiber wicks for pot plants. These experiments followed the methods evolved by Dr. Kenneth Post of Cornell University.

Since that time I have carried on experiments in which I have developed methods of my own, using a wide variety of plants to find those that would respond favorably to this method of watering and to find out what size wicking was best to use under various conditions. These experiments were used under greenhouse conditions and under all types of ideal and adverse conditions found in the home. I really subjected the plants to some terrible punishment and as a whole the plants are still doing fine but some just couldn't take it. Reporting on the results of these experiments, I hope to give you some information that will be of help to you.

Please use your October, 1950, *Begonian* for reference and number the paragraphs from 1 to 19, for I shall not go into detail on the points brought out, but shall refer to certain paragraphs by number.

The manufacturer of the glass wicking suggested using 7/32" wicks for 2" to 3½" pots; ¼" wicks for 4" to 6" pots and ⅜" wicks for 7" to 12" pots. For flats, porch boxes, hanging baskets, etc., I found this classification very unsatisfactory. I am convinced that besides the size of the pot you must take into consideration the type of plant and its affinity for water, the size of its root system, the amount of vegetative growth, and the amount and type of heat and humidity the plant will have to live in before you can actually determine the size of Plant Glaswick to use in each pot. Your soil type will have a lot to do in determining your decision. While you have the plant out of the pot, be sure to note the moisture content of the root-ball to help you decide on the proper size of wick to use.

Your wicking being made of spun glass fiber it will not rot or decay and can be used indefinitely, as you report from, say, a 4" to a 5" pot, you lay the 4" pot and its wick aside, place a clean wick of the size you have decided on, in the 5" pot and complete the potting. For proper handling you should have a cigar box, or some similar receptacle, in which you place two divisions, thus giving you three compartments, and label the inside of the lid 7/32", ¼" and ⅜". This way your different size wicks will be separate and you will not be making mistakes in your potting.

When you are through potting a batch of plants, always clean all the old soil out of the used pots and scrub them. Wash and dry all wicks that have been used. When they are dry, place them in their proper compartment in the receptacle and they are ready to use again. By doing this your Automatic-Irrigat-

Turn to next page

ing system will not be as expensive as you thought it would be.

In the October issue, paragraphs 6 and 12, I gave two types of Automatic-Irrigators for use in greenhouse benches, display racks, etc. Since then I have developed the type or system shown in photos 1 and 2. No. 1 shows the inside of the vat and the inside of the grill and No. 2 shows the grill in place in the vat. This set can be made any size to suit your convenience and I find it far superior to the system using eave-troughs. For one thing the water capacity is many times greater. It is far more flexible, for you can arrange your pot plants any way you wish because the slats on the grill are 1" x 1" with 1" spaces between each slat. Be sure to put in enough 1" x 1" cross braces (marked X), so the slats will not sag.

If you do not want to go to the expense of galvanized vats, you can water-proof your benches, display racks, etc., with 'kadite' an asphaltum compound put out by Lord & Burnham, Irvington, N. Y.; Des Plains, Illinois; Mt. Eden, Calif.; or Bradenton, Fla.

Photo No. 3 shows the vat and grill loaded with plants; note how luxuriant the plants are. It is loaded to full capacity all the time in my experiments. I do not have them properly spaced for light and ventilation, on purpose, for I want to see what they will do under adverse conditions. For a check I use the same type



plants under the same conditions except the 'check plants' do not have Automatic-Irrigation and the 'check plants' just are not in the race. To show all the abuse I put the plants to, at one time the plants were 4' below the windows, at another it got so cold some of the plants froze, at another the rooms were too hot and dry, at another gas leaked and the plants lost most of their leaves. Then I put them in the greenhouse under ideal conditions and in photo No. 3 you see the plants that survived the above abuses and have revived with luxuriant foliage and growth. I had to throw the check plants away for no one would have them.

In photo No. 4 you see different types of Automatic-Irrigators for individual plants. The two plants on the extreme left are on Automatic-Irrigators made of one pound coffee cans and marked A, they have crossed wires to hold the pots. On the right in photo No. 2 you can see the crossed wire arrangement. In the center is a pottery bowl; there are 3 different sizes of glass fish bowls and an ordinary tin can. Of these four types the one pound coffee can is the best, for besides irrigation it supplies humidity around the leaves of the plants whereas in the other three the pots and containers fit tight and there is no evaporation for humidity. With the grill system you get the maximum of evaporation for humidity which is so vitally necessary for the well being of the plants.

I have examined and tried out numerous types of Automatic-Irrigators and find in most of them that there is no way for evaporation to give the necessary humidity; in practically all of them there is absolutely too small a reservoir for water. In one the irrigator was so small it made the pot plant look so top heavy it appeared likely to topple over at any time. I have designed an Automatic-Irrigator that I feel meets the necessary requirements which I hope to make available to the public soon.

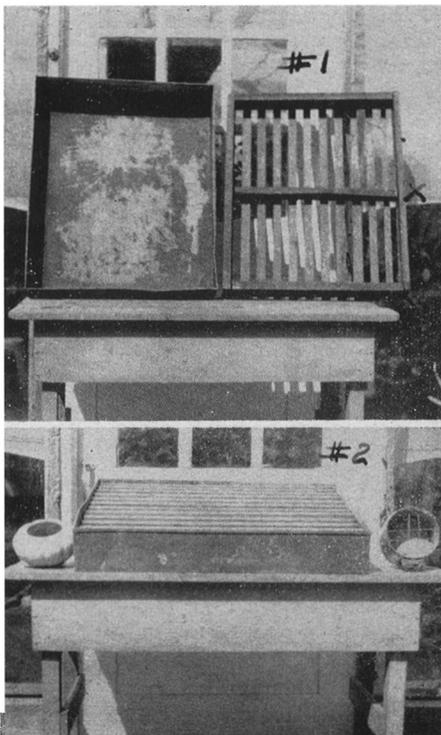




Photo No. 6 is a 12 inch wire basket with a one pound coffee can for an irrigator. This basket contains 3 types of *Tradescantia* (Jew), *Anthericum comosum* (Airplane plant), *Vinca variegata* and *Alyssum saxatile compacta* (Basket of Gold), each trying to crowd the other over the rim.

In moss-lined hanging wire baskets you have a larger surface for evaporation and you have to compensate for this extra loss of moisture by supplying more water. To do this you will have to use two $\frac{3}{8}$ " wicks and a larger irrigator. You will note that it would have looked better had I used a darker paint instead of aluminum. It is best to use sheet moss instead of sphagnum moss to line wire baskets, for in that way you will eliminate the shedding of moss particles on the floor.

Many people do not use hanging pots and baskets on account of the dripping every time the plants are watered. This is eliminated entirely by the use of Plant Glaswicks and Automatic-Irrigators, thus opening a new field of home decoration with hanging pots and baskets



of gracefully trailing plants, many of which produce very pretty blossoms.

The manufacturer of Plant Glaswicks states that Dr. Kenneth Post, the well known plant specialist and horticulturist, who first applied Plant Glaswicks to the sub-irrigation of plants and seedlings, has had special success with Gloxinia, Saintpaulia, Cyclamen, Cineraria, Primula, Geraniums, Easter Lilies and Poinsettias when irrigated by this method.

The following detailed results of experiments are of types of plants that I feel have proven themselves amiable to Automatic-Irrigation with Plant Glaswicks.

Aglaonema or Chinese Evergreen: I had this plant in a 4" pot with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " wick and it failed to respond properly. When I took it out of the pot I found it waterlogged with very few roots. I repotted it in another 4" pot with a $\frac{7}{32}$ " wick. It is now doing very nicely.

Anthericum comosum or Airplane Plant: I have this in the 12" hanging basket with other plants. The wire basket is equipped with a $\frac{3}{8}$ " wick. It would have been better if I had used two $\frac{3}{8}$ " wicks, but you cannot repot wire baskets like you do clay pots. This plant is making an excellent showing and is commented on by everyone.

Begonia: A pink wax (name unknown). Started in a 4" pot with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " wick. (It and all the other begonias were almost completely defoliated by the leaking gas). It managed to struggle through all the abuses and I found it waterlogged the same as all the other 4" begonias. On repotting with a $\frac{7}{32}$ " wick, it snapped right out of its lethargy and is now a thing of beauty. It will have to be repotted or topped for cuttings as it is crowding the other plants so.

Begonia 'argentea-guttata': It had a hard time of it but on changing from a $\frac{1}{4}$ " to a $\frac{7}{32}$ "

Turn to next page

wick it came right along and is doing fine now.

Begonia 'corallina de lucerne': I lost three plants by freezing and the gas gave my remaining plant an awful jolt. It came along a little better than the other plants but was a poor specimen. On reducing the wick size to 7/32" it snapped to the front. I kept repotting it and now have it in an 8" pot with a 3/8" wick and it is blooming profusely.

Begonia 'Pink Rubra': It took an awful beating from the gas, freezing and other abuses; I thought I was not going to save it but on reducing to a 7/32" wick it pulled right ahead and now is an excellent specimen.

Begonia 'Thurstoni': I really felt sorry for this plant, for it was a candidate for the compost pile, but on reducing to a 7/32" wick it pulled right ahead and is now a beautiful, lustrous specimen.

Cactus: Many people tell you to keep your cacti on the dry side and in poor soil. I am not saying that they are all wrong but this is what I have found: Xmas and Thanksgiving Cacti, Night Blooming *Cereus*, and my *Stapelia* that I have on 7/32" wicks in 4" pots really are beautiful and bloom profusely in their seasons and I give them the same soil and feeding I give my other plants.

Clerodendron Balfouri: I had this in a 4" pot with a 7/32" wick and it was a beauty when it was blanketed with white blooms with "red noses." The roots were going everywhere possible (even out through the wick), so I had to repot it in a 6" pot with a 1/4" wick. It is now blooming a second time. I call it the "drunkard plant" on account of the "red noses" and its affinity for water.

Crassula or Jade Plant: The gas nearly finished them but they have now started to make a good showing in 4" pots with 7/32" wicks.

Dracena Godseffiana and *Sanderiana*: The gas gave them a hard jolt but they are finally coming along nicely in 4" pots with 7/32" wicks.

Ficus elastica Doescheri or Variegated Rubber Plant: The gas gave this plant a terrible set back and I thought for some time it was the watering but I kept it right on wick watering. Its leaves looked like they had the leprosy. It has now shed those leaves and the new leaves shine like they were varnished and I have had to shift it to a 5" pot with a 1/4" wick and it is really growing "to beat the band."

Ferns: I had all my ferns in 4" pots with 1/4" wicks but I had to shift back to 7/32" wicks. The Crowsfoot fern died but the Boston, Norwood, *Adiantum plumosa* and *Sprengeri* ferns are all making fine plants.

Geraniums: All were in 4" pots with 1/4" wicks. The outlandish treatment gave them much trouble and the gas almost finished them

off for good. I really wouldn't have given 2c for the whole lot. I repotted them all in 4" pots with 7/32" wicks. They gradually picked up and now the Improved Poitevines are in excellent condition, the Rose Scented were going so strong I had to top them and make cuttings, the Apple Scented are really doing fine, the *filicifolium* or Fern Leaved are making excellent growth. The Strawberry Geraniums (which are really of the Saxifrage family) have unfurled their curled up leaves, taken on a beautiful green luster, are running all over the place and keep me busy potting up the little ones.

Gloxinia: My gloxinia bulbs were not given that outlandish treatment. I potted each bulb in a No. 3 tin can with 1/3 black peat, 1/3 leaf mold and 1/3 sandy loam. As soon as one poked its leaves through the mixture it was potted up in a 4 inch "squatty" pot or pan with a 7/32" wick. You never saw plants take off with such a bang and have such deep dark green leaves that looked like they had been dusted with silver. The rims of the pots were insulated with paraffine. I used the same soil in potting as for sprouting. They are a sight for sore eyes; everyone comments on them.

Hydrangea: I picked out a plant slightly under average condition and put it in a 4" pot with a 7/32" wick. I soon had to pinch out the top and it is throwing a nice lot of shoots and I have had to shift it to a 6" pot with a 1/4" wick. It is really stepping now.

Ivy, Variegated English: I have been unable to determine whether it was the abuse, the gas or if it was in a sub-dormant state. At any rate it made no growth all winter but it retained its leaves. Finally I repotted it in another 4" pot and changed from a 1/4" to a 7/32" wick; still it never "batted an eye" until the first week in March when it really started "going places" and everyone is yelling "take that thing off the experimental vat so we can buy it."

Nephtythis, Tri-Leaf Wonder: I potted one in a 4" pot with a 1/4" wick. It couldn't take the gas and just folded up and said "Gabriel, here I come." I now have two others in 4" pots with 7/32" wicks. They are looking fine, one is developing as a 'standard' and one as a 'trailer.' The standard is going up so fast I am going to make it into a 'totem' and just see how long the trailer will get. They are in the new experimental group I am setting up.

Pellionia pulchra: (Not a Begonia). I had this in a 4" pot with a 1/4" wick which I had to change to a 7/32" wick. Now it is really going rampant, trailing and climbing. I am

going to make it into a "totem" with a wick up the center of the sphagnum filled pole.

Peperomia variegata: They can take a lot of abuse but the gas nearly killed them out. Those that showed any appreciable sign of life I repotted in 4" pots with 7/32" wicks. They just stood still for the longest time but now are doing well.

Pothos Wilcoxi: I have three in a 3 pound lard can and a one pound coffee can as an irrigator with a 3/8" wick. I wish you could see it, for the longest runner was 84 inches long, June 10th, and it was only 24 inches long when I brought my plants here March 11th. It is over 100 inches long now and still running; see photo No. 5, which was taken June 26th.

Saintpaulia or African Violet: These take to wick culture like "a duck to water." I use 4 inch "squatties" or 3/4 size pots equipped with 7/32" wicks. The rims have been insulated with hot paraffin to protect the petioles from "pot snow" or alkali secretion from the water, which causes petiole rot. I have all of my African Violets on wick watering including the new *Saintpaulia Grotei*, the new trailer or climber. I wish you could see them for they shine like new silver dollars and there is not a single blemished leaf.

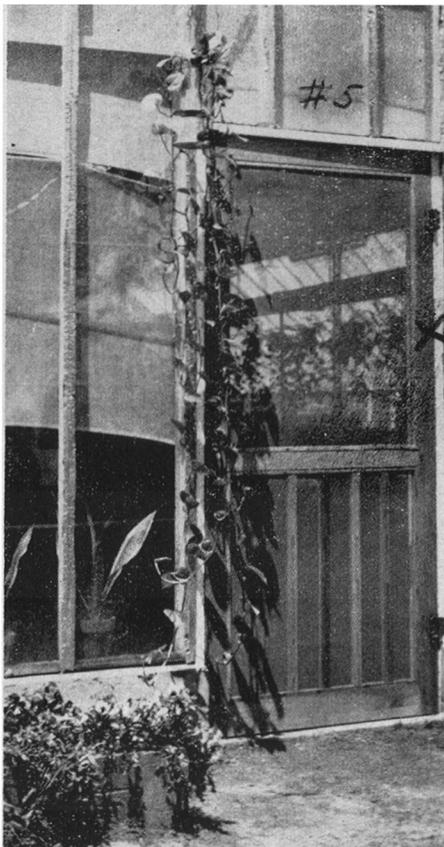
Tradescantia or Wandering Jew: I have one group in 3 1/2" pots with 7/32" wicks (the smallest size wicking I have); I took a wire and made a loop just large enough to fit under the rim of the little pot, the loop has two ears or loops for a bail like a bucket, the bail has a loop at the top center so it won't tip sideways. I took the point of my knife and drilled two equi-distant holes in the rims of plastic custard cups. These I suspended from the pot hanger with two short wires so the bottom of the pot would be just above the top of the cup. This keeps the plants water-logged but the plants grow like "wild fire," see X in photo No. 6, and in the basket there.

The following begonia plants are still in the experimental stage: "Lady Mac," "Maple Leafed," "Beefsteak," "Star," *rex* and tuberous. I have many types of begonia seeds sown and will add plants of each as fast as they are large enough.

Besides the above, *Alyssum saxatile compactum* (Basket of Gold), *Sanseveria Laurenti* and *zeylanica* have proven excellent.

LIGHT EXPERIMENTS

I am now starting a new series of experiments: Under the potting bench we have installed five grilled vats 25" x 40" x 4" under three large fluorescent lights (which we keep burning all day) and two grilled vats 39" x 42" x 4" on one end of a bench (beside my experimental vat) in the greenhouse. Those



under the potting bench will be for seed germination and rooting cuttings while those in the greenhouse will be for pot plants. (I may have a hump on my back like a camel from watching the seed pans and cutting flats). I will also experiment with wick-fed plants and seed and cutting pans under infra-red lights. The results of these experiments will be another story, but I will give you a few preliminary notes I have taken so far:

The Geo. J. Ball Seed Co. in their "Red Book" have a germination table giving the normal times it takes for most seeds to germinate; I will first give you their time and then my time; Balsam 2-3 weeks; up in 4 days and 145 plants 5th and 6th day. Coleus 2-3 weeks; up in 9 days. Begonias 2-3 weeks; up in 1 week (this will vary with different types). Mimulus 1-2 weeks; up in 4 days. Nierembergia 2-3 weeks; up in 5 days. Schizanthus 1-2 weeks; up in 4 days. I also find that the seed pans right under the tubes show the greatest speed. However, there are a lot of data to be taken on this work before the full account can be written.



Looking toward the foggy Pacific over the Woodriff establishment — 1948.

Scenic Highway "101"

By Mand Nichols, Burbank, California

Begonia '101' was rightly named for the scenic coastal highway winding along the California and Oregon shores. Our visit to Leslie Woodriff's Fairyland Garden was a highlight. To see such enthusiasm in hybridizing and creating new plants in begonias and lilies and even grass!

It was late when we reached their place but Mr. Woodriff, Sr., was there and generously took time to show me through the greenhouses. It seemed as if I saw acres of rexes. The propagating house, cold storage for bulbs and their method of germinating lily seeds each was a story in itself. Lilies are a hobby of mine as well as begonia seeds.

Mr. Leslie Woodriff has created a new white lily we will be hearing about in the future.

Their place is a beautiful spot facing the ocean with a real beach covered with driftwood where my daughter and children spent their time while I was in the greenhouses. One cannot miss the spot by the huge rocks above the beach and the greenhouses if you drive on '101' just over the California line into Ore-

gon, and I am sure not one of our begonia hobbyists wants to miss it.

Also while in Oregon I visited Al Clark's D-Vista Gardens in Salem and found a real begonia man — plenty of begonia talk and beautiful plants. I, of course, came home with *Begonias versicolor*, *Augustinii* and others, and he has many rexes.

The trip through the redwoods is always a treat. Surely when all the trees being cut and hauled are cut up into lumber every one of us should have a house, as Oregon and northern California are busy with lumber. However, it is a sad sight to see the forests recently burned as we did in several places.

June is the time for rhododendrons and azaleas in this land and it is a beautiful sight to see them as high as twenty feet and as far back into the woods as the eye can penetrate. The State Parks have natural streams, quiet and peaceful, covered with moss and ferns, inviting everyone to sit down and take it easy. Camp grounds to pitch your tent and ocean nearby to swim in if you wish—can any of you ask for more?

NEW OFFICERS

San Gabriel Valley Branch announced Mr. James Giridlian has accepted the presidency of their branch.

Santa Barbara Branch won sweepstakes in their city's summer show and Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger was reported to have again won an imposing number of prizes with her enchanting collection.

Glowing reports continue to come in from many sources as to the fine merchandise and service supplied by our advertisers. Try them.

Mrs. Elinor Slocum reported at National Board meeting that the El Monte Branch had been given a novel hint for cool floral arrangements for summer time — the adding of a little blue or green food coloring to the water in a clear glass container of flowers.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Helen K. Krauss Collection Of Begonia References

By Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian

MEMBERS of the American Begonia Society have been hampered for years in their efforts to obtain adequate descriptions of the plants in which they specialize and will be interested to know that we now have, on the West Coast, much of the known material for research on the subject.

Thru the kindness and generosity of Mrs. Helen K. Krauss, author of *BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES AND GARDENS*, twenty-five notebooks of photographic and photostatic copies of illustrations and literature on Begonias have been donated to the library of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum at Arcadia, California, for the use of any serious student of the *Begonia*.

This material includes hand-painted reproductions of Begonia plates from *Curtis Botanical Magazine*, E. J. Lowe's *Beautiful Leaved Plants and Addisonia*; descriptions of Begonias contained in Lindley and Moore's *Treasury of Botany*, Paxton's *Botanical Dictionary and Magazine of Botany*, Nicholson's *Illustrated Dictionary of Gardening*, Johnson's *Gardener's Dictionary*, Loddige's *Botanical Cabinet, Gardener's Magazine of Botany*, the *Gardener's Chronicle*, descriptions from the Transactions of the Linnean Society and other periodicals; complete photostatic reproductions of "Die Begonien" by Karl Albert Fotsch, "Les Begonias" by Chas. Chevalier and of the "Begoniaceen-Gattungen und Arten" by H. Klotzsch.

Much descriptive material from trade catalogs, also French, German and Belgian botanical literature is included in these notebooks and the collection is a duplication of the reference literature bequeathed to the New York Botanical Garden in 1946 by Mrs. Albert H. Gere, who collaborated with Mrs. Krauss in accumulating this splendid acquisition.

It is Mrs. Krauss' desire that this reference literature be placed, for interested and serious students, in a suitable repository on the West Coast and we are delighted that such a botanical and scientific library exists in the area which is the headquarters of our Society.

We are members of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum (see September 1950 *Begonian*) and the Arboretum Library is open to research students by appointment, which may be made through the Librarian of your Society at any time. Library hours are from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M., Monday through Friday (excepting holidays). A trained librarian is on duty to supervise and assist and information, for out-of-town students, may be typed and forwarded for a small fee to cover cost of typing and time consumed.

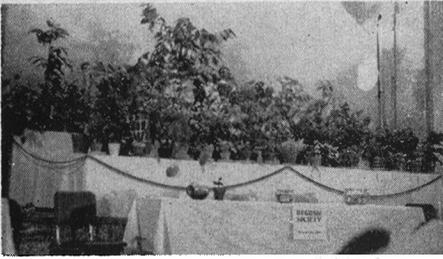
This wealth of begonia references should prove a source of inspiration to members of the American Begonia Society interested in assisting in the clarification of Begonia nomenclature, and it is to be hoped that it will be used extensively by our members as well as by outside students for our mutual benefit.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

EXHIBIT "A"

The delegates to the recent Annual Meeting of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania showed much interest in a small, but effectively arranged display of begonias staged by Mrs. George Earle DeCoursey, Mrs. William Kurtz Myers, and Mrs. Ernest C. Drew. Though limited to a space 13 x 2 feet, the exhibit showed specimens of most types of begonias, with em-

phasis on those adapted to house culture. Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Drew were among the original members of the Philobegonia Branch and Mrs. DeCoursey is one of its newest and most interested members. — *May Taft Drew*. (A properly arranged small exhibit can be made even more interest-awakening than a massive display which depends on beauty alone for focussing attention. Congratulations.—Editor.



MISSOURI BRANCH SPRING SHOW

Our Missouri Branch held its show in conjunction with the Kansas City Garden Club in the Little Theatre of the Municipal Auditorium May 23rd and 24th.

The show was attended by approximately 5000 people.

We were allotted the stage and, as our space was limited, we built up our tables in tiers from 27 inches to 8 feet to show all sizes of plants to the best advantage.

The "Lucerna," which is the topmost plant on the tier, was three feet tall by three and a half feet wide and loaded with bloom. It belongs to Mrs. W. D. Breshears, our vice-president and nomenclature leader.

Our branch has 39 active members, of which 19 entered plants. There were approximately 110 plants, which was all our space would hold. More members entered plants in this year's show than ever before. We feel greatly encouraged.

The people who visited our exhibit were very much interested in the seedlings and plants grown from leaves shown on the first table. The competitive plants were shown on the second table. There were six classes: Cane—1st award to Mrs. Clarice Cole; Rhizomatous—1st award to Mrs. Calmese; Semperflorens—1st award to Mr. L. Webb; Rex—1st award to Mrs. Calmese; Hirsute—1st award to Mrs. Marion Parrott; Tuberosus—1st award to Mrs. Amy Breshears. Meses. Calmese, Seever, Edwards, Wood, Breshears, Baughman, Hood and Whipple received additional awards in 2nd and 3rd places.

We want to heartily thank Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger for her grand cooperation.

On the 29th and 30th of this September we will hold our first independent and unassociated flower show. We are becoming very enthusiastic and feel we will go on and on.

Our president, Luceal Taylor, is doing grand work, cooperating and working with each department. Though small, she seems to have unlimited energy, giving freely of it wherever needed, kindly but firmly upholding the standard of fairness and honesty of our Society.

—Virginia Hood.

ORCHID CACTI FOR THE SHELTERED GARDEN

By S. E. Parker of Encinitas, Calif.

(Mr. S. E. Parker, of Lessar Nursery, gave these Epiphyllum facts to the San Diego Branch at their April meeting where he brought many beauties for the plant sale, and San Diego passes them on to the rest of us.)

To understand the culture of epiphyllums one must realize that they come from the tropical districts of Mexico, Central and South America. Their growing conditions are nearly exactly opposite those of our desert cactus and they should not be grown as cactus but do well if grown under the same conditions as the begonia. They are found growing as epiphytes in the highly nitrogenous humus, lodged in the trees along with the orchids and bromeliads. Because of this they are shade loving and make excellent house plants.

These plants do very well outside in the shaded gardens and patios of Southern California and the Southern States but in other areas where the temperature drops below freezing they should be grown as house plants.

Epiphyllums have a limited root system and grow best when potted in a soil mixture that is light, rich and porous with good drainage. Although they will grow in any good mixture, I have had best results with the following if planted in small pots with plenty of gravel in the bottom for drainage: 4 parts leafmold, 2 parts well rotted manure, 1 part good garden loam, 1 part coarse sand.

To start cuttings: Keep cuttings in a dry place at least ten days after receiving them. Then place in pots of the above soil mixture. Do not plant over one inch deep — it is best to tie the cutting to a small stake for support. Epiphyllum cuttings cannot absorb moisture from the soil until they have started roots and any excessive moisture will have a tendency to rot them. A light spraying is sufficient until roots have developed but they will root just as well without any water. When new growth has started it will indicate that the roots have also started and the plants may be watered more freely — keeping the soil moist but not soggy.

Plants: Treat bare rooted plants in the same manner and do not water too heavily — keeping the soil barely moist until they become re-established. Be sure your plant is no deeper in the soil than the old soil line.

Front Cover - - -

Begonia Circumlobata

By Marie Minter

A few years ago Mrs. Florence Carrell was able to obtain seeds of several Chinese species begonias. One of the plants raised at that time has been identified as *B. circumlobata*.

A description of the territory where these begonias are indigenous says the hills are heavily wooded and rather rocky. The elevation ranged from 1200 to 1700 feet.

The leaves of this particular plant are rather thin for a rhizomatous plant. They are a bright green, lobed to about half their depth. The lower lobe is generally larger than any of the others. The surface on the upper side is quite pebbly and rough looking. The new leaves as they push out from the rhizome are quite reddish on the back, but this disappears as the leaf matures, leaving only a red tinge on the edge of the leaf.

The stems look almost white in the new leaves due to the density of the hairs on the stems, and as they get older, the stems show their true color which is a deep dull red. The hairs on the stems are quite scaly looking and coarse, giving a very shaggy appearance to the plant.

The rhizome creeps along the surface of the soil and the leaf scars are quite close together. The plant only grows a few inches before it starts making side shoots, so it isn't long before one has a well-filled pot plant.

The leaves are about 8" x 9" on stems that often attain 14". I have never seen this plant in bloom and can find no description of the color of the flowers. It's a handsome plant without any flowers and one that many people should find very attractive for the foliage.

Back Cover - - -

Begonia Scabrada

By Research Department

If one needs a bushy type plant somewhat on the order of *dichotoma* or *palmifolia* then try *Begonia scabrada*.

In the ground the plant grows to about 5 feet, sending up many canes and is a good bloomer in the early spring months. The leaves are fairly large, often 5" wide by 8" long, bright green, rough textured, short hairy, irregularly toothed, lighter green beneath.

The stems are about an inch thick, light

green, well branched, becoming woody and brown with age. The older sections of the stems show a ribbing which is not so pronounced in the new growth. Only the new stem growth is lightly hairy.

The flowers start appearing in February in California and the whole plant turns into a mass of white flowers held well above the foliage. Even the short branches bloom.

It is a Venezuelan species.

Library Notes

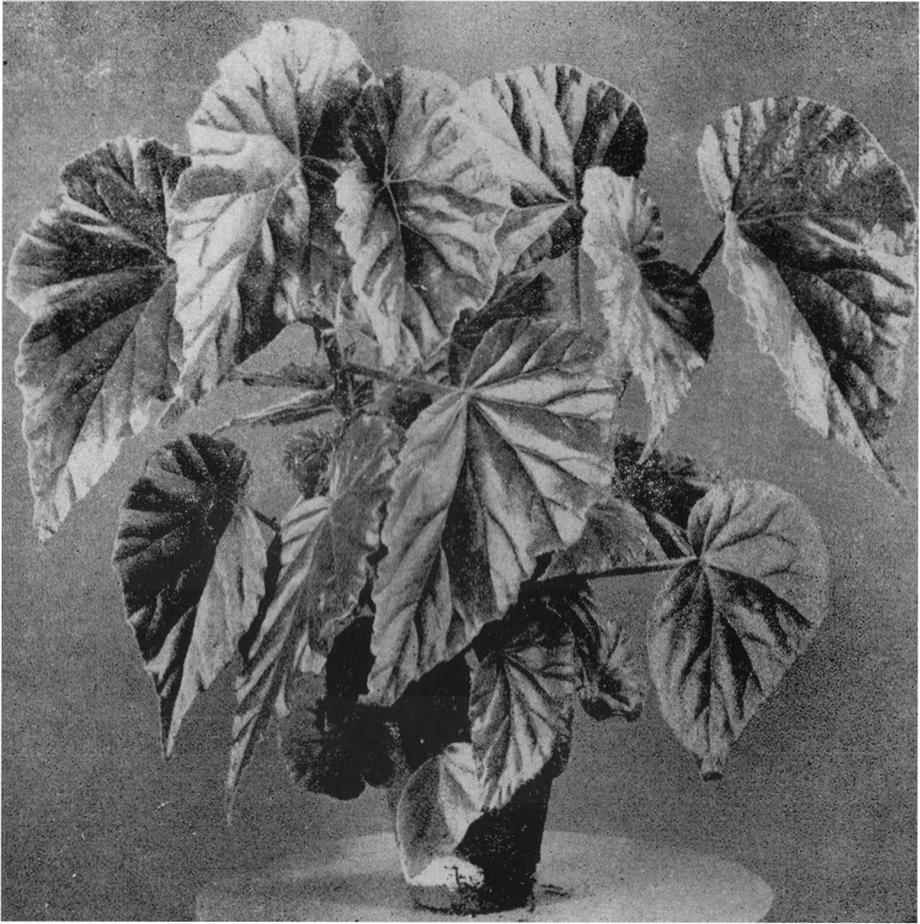
The library is richer with another copy of THE AFRICAN VIOLET by Helen VanPelt Wilson, a gift from a member in Dodge City, Kansas. Mrs. Paula Hoisington, the donor, has long been enjoying the privilege accorded all members of the Society in the use of the library and this was her expression of appreciation for this service and we are grateful to her for her kindness in sharing this book with other members.

A new exchange publication has been added to the library files this past month and should be of interest to any one growing *gesneriads*. The editor, Elvin McDonald, one of our members, calls attention to the fact that sample copies of THE GLOXINIAN, Volume 1, No.

1, may be purchased for \$0.25 each from him at Route No. 2, Gray, Oklahoma. It is beautifully illustrated and of interest to any gardener — Send for your copy!

Kindly correct the price list in your May Begonian for books in stock in the Library — the present price of BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES AND GARDENS by Helen K. Krauss is \$2.49 — a most substantial cut by the publisher, which should make it possible for every Begonia Society member to obtain a copy for his own use. Also add to the list, THE TUBEROUS BEGONIA, by Worth Brown — \$2.75, which has been out of stock for some time — Order your copy early!

—Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.



Courtesy Helen K. Krauss

BEGONIA SCHARFFI

Beginners' Corner

A Tribute to Hairy Fibrous Begonias

If there are two begonias more widely known than any other excepting the glorious tuberous hybrids, surely they must be hairy old *Scharffiana* and *Scharffi*. *Scharffi* is no doubt better known to old time growers as 'Haageana', due to a famous mix-up in nomenclature when these two plants were first introduced.

In 1886 Dr. Scharff discovered new types in Brazil and sent material to Haage & Schmidt, a famous plant firm of Erfurt, Germany. Seed was sent by them to Dr. Regel and Kew Gardens. It was apparently impure and Dr. Regel introduced one as *Begonia Scharffiana* and Hooker another as *Begonia Scharffi*, both thus honoring the discoverer. When the similarity

of names and difference in descriptions was noted, another English botanist, Watson, decided it would be better to call the English introduction by a more distinctive name and honored Mr. Haage by calling it *Haageana*. However, under current rules of nomenclature we must use the earliest name because it is not identical with "*Scharffiana*."

Because of the confusion of names, when at first both plants were thought to be one species, some early records of the first hybrids are not clear as to which was used as parent. The plants do have many similarities of habit of growth. However, *Scharffiana* is distinguished by the pronounced 'tail' at the tip of

its leaves and the veining is not nearly so evident as in *Scharffi*.

Because of their sturdy growth and hardiness they have long been popular pot plants and have produced whole lines of hardy descendants. Some of these have been pictured on these pages in past issues, including the half-brothers by *B. laetivirides* in July, 1951, and 'Morgana,' cover picture for May, 1950. Others include 'Credneri,' 'Houghtoni,' 'Duchartrei,' the latter's child—'Viaudi,' and such famous California grandchildren as 'Neeley Gaddis,' 'Prunifolia,' 'Irene,' 'Viascharff,' 'Loma Alta,' and 'Emma Palmer'—winner for its class in the 1950 national show.

We quote from Mrs. Bessie Buxton's *Begonias and How to Grow Them*: "*Begonia Haageana* (*Scharffi*) is considered at Kew one of the best six shrubby begonias, and will grow to great size. The stems, leaves, and even the flowers are set thickly with red hairs. The flowers are borne in heavy, drooping clusters,

white or pale pink, with many red hairs on the outside of the petals. They remain in bud form, only a few opening wide. As it is a constant bloomer and demands no special care, it is invaluable." (Courtesy Mrs. Buxton & Massachusetts Horticultural Society.)

Mrs. M. Roy Weller of the San Diego Branch, in sending in the picture of her *Scharffiana*, states it had been in bloom since before Thanksgiving and the picture was taken in March. It is on her front porch on the north side of the house. Mrs. Helen Krauss describes its coloration in *Begonias for American Homes and Gardens* as "densely white-hairy; stems red, branches lax; leaves . . . olive-green, the red of the under surfaces extending to the margins; flowers small pale pink in long, loose, arching inflorescences." (Courtesy Mrs. Krauss & The MacMillan Company)

Both are good begonias for beginners in the hirsute class.

For more details of *B. Scharffiana*, see Mrs. Alice Clark's article, page 150, August, 1945.

BEGONIA SCHARFFIANA

Courtesy Mrs. Roy Weller San Diego



Jaunt to Paradise

The Tuberhybrida continue to cast their everlasting charm on everyone who had the pleasure of raising them. Under the spell of this charm we travelled over two hundred and fifty miles to attend the annual picnic held by the San Francisco Branch in Santa Cruz. The new Santa Cruz Branch acted as hosts, having attended to all the preliminary details. They selected a beautiful Redwood Grove for the picnic grounds, placed directive markers leading to it, etc. The members of the Southern Alameda County Branch also participated in the tour of gardens and picnic.

We all met at Vetterle and Reinelt Begonia Gardens and after an extended tour proceeded to Antonelli Brothers. Both Reinelt and Antonelli improved considerably their method in arranging and displaying the basket varieties. Each has devoted a special glass house for that purpose and the arrays of many colored blooms present an impressive picture. At Reinelt's, the baskets are arranged in rows of the same color with a background of potted standards reaching to the ceiling. Antonelli's built a special glass house for their display of the hanging baskets and the whole ceiling was a riot of color and beauty. They both made wonderful progress in developing blooms of unusual sizes and perfect form; in addition Reinelt created a begonia of a new dark cop-

pery red shade. The standards at both Gardens were impressive as usual for their rich colors, sizes of blooms and perfection of form.

Pat Antonelli, the president of the Santa Cruz County Branch, led the caravan of visitors to the picnic grounds. It was a wonderful experience for me to meet again my old friends from the San Francisco and Southern Alameda County Branches. I especially enjoyed seeing the officers and members of the young Santa Cruz Branch which I consider my favorite "baby" right now. I also noted with great pleasure and satisfaction that my own San Francisco Branch has many new, young and very enthusiastic members who enlivened the gathering. The usual spirit of friendship and good fellowship prevailed. The common interest brought close together the members of these three branches. Refreshments were furnished by the San Francisco Branch and everyone participated in games. The prizes for winners were outstanding specimens of baskets and standards of Tuberous Begonias, several of which were donated by Frank Reinelt and Antonelli Brothers.

After enjoying again the usual morning fog and inhaling the fresh ocean air, we rolled back to our hot valley with pleasant memories of an exceedingly enjoyable day.

—Lillian Ashe, Oakdale, Calif.



We regret to announce the resignation of your beloved Round Robin Chairman, Mrs. Frances Downing, and our best wishes and prayers will surely follow her wherever she goes.—Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger.

Mrs. Tarpley, Texas — I kept tuberous in bloom until January by using artificial light fourteen hours.

I have a calla called 'Doty's Calla Queen' more robust and vigorous than 'Ruby Jewel.' Its leaves are large with great white splotches. Blooms as large as and similar to 'Christmas Cheer' in coloring.

Mrs. R. E. Kartack, Wisconsin — I've gathered *nitida* from different sections of the coun-

try and find there are differences. The Florida one has larger flowers than the others — pure white — and the leaves and stems had no touches of red; no fragrance. The California one has white blooms in big arching sprays, very fragrant; both flower and leaf stems somewhat red and there is a red spot on leaf sinus. These are tall growers. New York's is a lower grower and flowers are pinky-white; leaf and flower stems quite red; no fragrance. Wisconsin's has more pinkish flowers and is the only one with a bit of red veining on the back of the leaves; very fragrant. Mrs. Krauss is her book says they should be called *nitida* and not *odorata alba*. *Odorata alba* is entirely different as she pictures it in her book.

Mrs. Scefeldt, Illinois — *Incana* bloomed for me in February with a flower stem two feet long holding its cluster of white flowers.

Mrs. Leora Calmese, Kansas City, Mo. — If your rhizomatous types of begonias have become ugly, cut up and put in the ground; by fall you will have some lovely plants. When the leaves of your rex and rhizomatous types start to turn brown, they are on their way out; take off and start a new plant while there is life left.



Courtesy of Hub City Branch and Herald American Newspaper

Mrs. Sidna Coppers, Charter Member of Compton's Hub City Branch, explains the value of hanging pots of fuchsias and begonias.

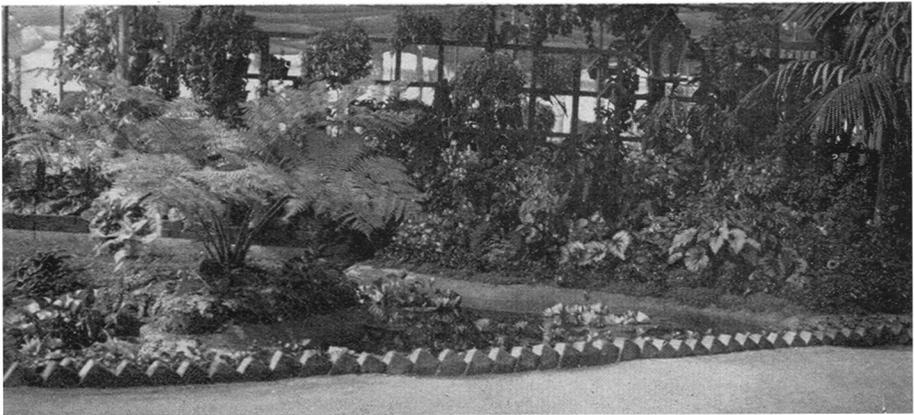
GOOD PICTURES MAKE GOOD PUBLICITY

Mrs. Dorothy Powell, President and Publicity Chairman of Hub City Branch, has obtained the full cooperation of her local paper in continuously publishing attractive pictures of newsworthy items such as the above. The branch usually pays the cost of making the

cuts.

The accompanying article stressed that hangers should be away from paths, low enough for easy viewing and high enough to avoid bumping, while along side walls they can be used at varied heights as illustrated. *Sutberlandi* and *Scharffiana* were recommended.

Eva Kenworthy Gray Branch's second place winner at the San Diego County Fair in the Amateur Garden Display Division — \$125.00 prize!



Begonias Best Suited for Central Florida

Condensed form of one and a half hour discussion by Helen Winquist, Program Chairman

Helen Winquist: "Our panel includes a number of people who have been growing Begonias for several years. They are as representative a group on growing conditions as I could find. Each brought two or more plants they consider easy to grow. After our talk, the panel will be open for discussion."

Mrs. G. R. Crisler: "My Begonias are grown in the Begoniarium. This is a construction of camouflage wiring on the top and sides. It allows an air cooler system in the summer, and breaks the force of the wind and the rain, and protects from falling debris. The soil mixture is pure oak leaf mold and steer manure. The two plants I brought in are *luxurians* and *Schmidtiana*. I consider the *luxurians* a magnificent collector's item. *Schmidtiana* not only grows well in a hanging basket, as you see, but makes an excellent border plant. One of the loveliest sights I have ever seen was a border of *Schmidtiana* in Mr. Ramer's beautiful outdoor garden in Miami. All my Begonias have been grown in the ground and in baskets with the exception of a few that had to be potted for show purposes."

Mr. E. W. Ensign: "One section of my greenhouse is devoted to Begonias. Beds of peat were put under the benches to provide humidity for the orchids. The Begonia leaves have rooted so well there that I use this for my propagating bed. I use peat and leaf mold as a potting soil without the addition of fertilizer. I don't like plants to get too large and straggly. This plant called "Our Indian" is a favorite because I like brilliant colors and it is also easy to grow and propagate. This other Begonia is one of my seedlings planted in August of 1949. I think it is going to be worth keeping. It grows well, has a nice color and seems to propagate easily."

Helen Winquist: "This is only one of Mr. Ensign's promising seedlings which we hope he will soon have on the market."

Mrs. J. A. Black: "At the present time my Begonias are grown as house plants. My potting soil is a mixture of top soil, leaf mold, Bordeaux, Vigoro, coarse sand, manure, vermiculite and most anything that looks and feels good. This "Glory of St. Albans" is my favorite, for I like bright cheerful colors. This one has always had eastern exposure, has been turned frequently, sits in a saucer with a small amount of water and the leaves are rinsed often. I thought the Begonias were beautiful growing along the walks in Kew Gardens in England, and I found in Europe that they don't seem

to baby them as much as I do. I was impressed with the size, variety and coloring of the plants there."

Mrs. A. L. Piepenburg: "This "Lord Palmerston," "Queen of Hanover," *aconitifolia* and this one locally known as "Piggyback" were grown in pots plunged in my outdoor garden. I have large trees and shrubs which provide filtered light and protection from strong winds from the lake. For potting soil, I use leaf mold, peat, top soil and manure with the addition of charcoal. I propagate in open beds under a tree and the plants sometimes get rather large before I find time to pot them. During the fifteen years in which I have been growing Begonias, they have become acclimated to rough treatment because with a large garden there is very little time to devote to any one group."

Helen Winquist: "Bringing into our panel discussion our committee on nomenclature, (*Note: Two specimens discussed each meeting*), the two plants that I brought tonight are not very plentiful, but two that I consider outstanding. The "Richard Robinson" is one of the seedlings of the late A. D. Robinson of California. It often goes dormant in the winter and loses each leaf. This plant is about a year and a half old and during the past winter it was in the greenhouse with heat. I didn't expose it outdoors because I read it was temperamental. I have just a tiny plant of "Dawn" underneath which is decidedly temperamental but which I think worth growing. This small green and silver plant is "Skeezar." It came to me from California and I understand is one of Mr. Ziesenhenné's plants. This surprisingly roots from the leaves like the *rex*. I have these two plants in my favorite containers for difficult plants and that is wood with perfect drainage. The spaces between the slats are covered with sphagnum. The only potting soil I use for any Begonia is pure leaf mold. These two plants are kept moist but I do not spray the foliage as often as I do my many other varieties of Begonias."

The panel helped to clarify many problems of the members and guests there. The meeting was so successful that this type of program will be repeated in the future.

BEGONIA SEED

.75 Per Packet

B. rupicola	B. Sunderbruchii
B. foliosa	B. Kellermanni
B. Scharffiana	B. strigillosa
B. scandens	B. Calla Begonia

LOUISE SCHWERTFEGER

1450 Cantera Ave.

Santa Barbara Calif.



Q + A = Success

by Research Dept.

Question: I have several of the more delicate plants that I believe would be better raised in jars but every time I put the plants in a jar, a mold appears on the stems and leaves. I have wanted these plants for so long and I know something will have to be done about them before frost time. Can you offer any suggestions?

Answer: I note from your letter that you have just received these plants. I believe at this time of year your weather is about the same in regards to heat and humidity as it was in the greenhouse where you got your plants. Mold is usually caused from too high humidity and not enough air circulation. I cannot solve your problem but I might offer some suggestions. The first would be to keep your plant on the dry side. When the soil is pretty well dried out try the plant again. If there is still sufficient humidity in the air to

cause mold, just keep trying until your weather cools off somewhat. My second suggestion is to start new plants. The particular plants you listed may all be started from a leaf. Put the leaf in a jar until it has rooted and started new plants from the bottom. Then transplant the new plant into whatever container you desire it to grow. Do not water plants in jars as much as you would your other types, as the leaves absorb enough moisture from the humidity created in the jar to keep the plant alive and growing.

Question: The wind seems to dry out the beds where I have my begonias. Can you suggest something that can be interplanted among them that would require about the same growing conditions?

Answer: If your beds have sufficient shade, the hardier *Adiantums* would make nice companion plants. I have interplanted one of my beds with *B. Evansiana*. The bulbs were set out in clumps and soon shaded the bed. By using *B. Evansiana* you also have the advantage of having blooms when your other plants are still in the foliage stage. Research Department, Rt. 1, 505 Hermes, Encinitas.

Your Editor

Received a copy of Ethel Calloway and Helen McCabe's touching printed Memorial to their Mother, Eva Kenworthy Gray, in which her "Prayer" is quoted — and we hope "From hidden corners of the earth the rare begonias greet (her) there."

Young Editor Elvin McDonald sends copies of his new "Gloxinian," published in Gray, Oklahoma, as the bi-monthly magazine of The American Gloxinia Society he has organized. Spiced with some lovely pictures it turned out to be an attractive first issue and we congratu-

late Mr. McDonald.

Mr. B. Y. Morrison, Editor of the American Horticultural Society's publication, (the latest issue features some good information on begonias) writes that not only does he like the Washington heat but his rex begonias are enjoying it too. He confesses his thrifty tuberous are looking somewhat spent after a series of hot nights. So you folk who can't make your tuberous begonias happy with your climate may have inordinate success if you'll try rexes instead and you will marvel at the never-ending variation of leaf forms and colors — some almost as bright as tuberous flowers.



Photo by William Henningsen
Central Florida Branch First Plant Sale
Held in May at Residence of Manson Hume,
President, Produced Our First Bank Deposit

A NEW NAME . . .
A NEW DRESS . . .

with a
BEGONIA

on the label!



DestruXol's
TENDER LEEF
Spray

Now replaces Orchid Spray not only for Begonias but for Cyclamen, Fuchsias, Fine Ferns, Cinerarias and exotic plants that cannot stand oil. A NON-OIL Emulsion, made by

DESTRUXOL CORP., Ltd. PASADENA 1, CALIF.



Armchair Explorers

September Newsletter

Hello again! Well, Maud Nichols, Joyce Ann and I enjoyed our visit in San Diego in June so much and since we missed visiting a few nurseries, off we went again the last of July for three days. This time we attended the A. D. Robinson Branch meeting at the beautifully landscaped, compact garden of Mr. W. F. Sinjen, so lovely. We got a lot of new ideas for our own gardens. Mrs. Alice Clark entertained us at a delicious luncheon in her shaded garden. A redwood fence encloses her yard, tall blooming *B. fuchsoides* grow as a background with rhizomatous, tuberous and other small and lower growing begonias at the front. These beds were raised up about a foot from the ground. Many lovely plants were growing all around her yard, so neat and attractive. She gave us many cuttings. We appreciated so much the nice time she showed us.

Our friend, Mr. Chas. Cass, again took us out to many gardens and nurseries. Maud and I especially enjoyed the beautiful home, garden and glasshouse of Mrs. Harlie G. Brown. This was a real thrill for us. This garden is one where the plants are made to feel right at home; flowering vines of several kinds covering high fences and buildings set this garden off from the rest of the world. *Strelitzia Nicolai* blooming high overhead, a large tomato tree (*Cyphomandra betacea*) which I had never seen before, and such a lot of unusual trees, shrubs and plants of all kinds make her garden very outstanding. In the glasshouse were cattleyas and anthuriums, many in bloom. Her home is a collector's dream. We finally tore ourselves away, hoping we might visit this charming place again. Mr. Cass took us across on the ferry to Coronado to see the beautiful old Coronado Hotel, drove us along the Silver Strand, the narrow strip of land between the ocean and the harbor, and back to San Diego.

We visited the Aztec Orchid Gardens of Mr. Albert Wilson on Rosecrans St. and saw all those hybrid begonias he has grown from seeds obtained by crossing *B. Mazae* with an unknown begonia he found growing in an orchid basket — each plant grown from this seed is different, some large, some small, red

backed, green backed, ruffled, plain, no two alike. I was entranced with one glasshouse which had a wall made of redwood slabs from which grew many beautiful orchids in bloom. The Soledad Gardens of Mr. Lewis Walmsley on Alta Vista St. in Pacific Beach were a delight to us. It is situated on a hilltop overlooking the water. In one very large lath house were many tropical plants such as gingers, aroids, marantas, etc., all growing in the ground. Mr. Walmsley told us how he had spread over the ground a layer of chicken fertilizer, covered it with horse fertilizer and redwood sawdust and shavings, then thoroughly mixed it and soaked it well with water, and set the plants right out into this. They were growing as lovely as tho in a glasshouse. A bed of luscious pink dahlias grown from Holland seed, flats upon flats of interesting looking succulents, flats of philodendrons, etc. On to LaJolla for a seafood dinner, a ride thru the hills looking at beautiful homes and gardens. San Diego and surrounding country is beautiful, there is a lovely view wherever you look. We again remembered our manners and said it was time we started off for home. We had enjoyed our second trip as much as the first and wish to thank Mr. Cass for showing us around.

Now back at home I am working harder than ever to get my yard and garden looking better and better. My little seedlings are coming up in the hot bed. Wood rose seeds have sprouted in the sand on the top of the heating coils. While I was away a box of 30 phalaenopsis plants from the Philippines arrived. They are actually blooming size. I put them in moist sphagnum moss under the benches for a week before planting and many new roots started. Now I have them all planted in osmunda in redwood baskets.

So many members have written to tell me how they have missed Manson Hume's cheerful articles each month. Mr. Hume felt that his articles weren't reaching the folks who needed them, but he didn't realize how much encouragement each of us received from those articles. Most of us are able to get around very well, we can use our hands and feet, but many of us have very heavy hearts, we all need to be cheered. Shall each of us who enjoyed Mr. Hume's articles and miss them write a letter to him urging him to continue again with those inspirational articles? (Interlaken Road, Orlando, Florida).

You gesneriad fans will be happy to hear that I have for you seeds of a new gesneriad. It is *Reichsteimeria macropoda*, a fine plant with trusses of orange flowers and large, broad, decorative leaves; seed just received from Holland, 50c per packet. A new lot of gloxinia seeds just came in—4 kinds—white with cher-

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Calendar of Coming Events

(Visitors are always welcome!)

Sept. 1st & 2nd

1951 National Convention and Show:

September 13th

Inglewood Branch: Every member is asked to bring one plant for the plant sale table.

September 15th

Pasadena Branch: 4 p. m. White elephant and plant sale. 6:30 p. m. Potluck supper. Home of Col. & Mrs. C. M. Gale, 40 N. San Rafael, Pasadena, Calif. Visitors and members cordially invited. Bring own table service. Any article which may be sold at the white elephant sale will be welcome.

September 22nd

New England Branch: 12 m. Box lunch. Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Buxton, hosts, 114 Central Street, Peabody, Mass. Speaker, 2 p. m.

September 26th

Glendale Branch: Sylvia Leatherman will talk to us on "Ferns." Mrs. Gladys Nolan will give a Begonia Lesson.

San Gabriel Valley Branch: An elegant dinner meeting will be held from 6:00 to 7:30 p. m. and our program will include a fine speaker. Contact our Secretary for details.

September 28th

A. D. Robinson Branch: 10 a. m. Brown Garden, 3233 Tennyson St., San Diego; Marie Minter speaks on "New Begonia Introductions." White elephant sale.

September 29th & 30th

Missouri Branch: Our first independent flower show. Please contact our secretary if you are in Kansas City and visit our show.

October 10th

New England Branch: HARVEST SHOW, Horticultural Hall, Boston. 2:00 p. m., Annual Meeting. 3:00 p. m. An excellent speaker.

October 26th

A. D. Robinson Branch: 10:00 A. M. at Cass Nursery, 2229 Erie Street. C. L. Cass, speaker; subject "Rare Bromeliads." Election of Officers.

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ry red throat, pure white, rose tigered, dark pink slipper—and these are 25c per packet. Many have asked for seed of the trailing begonia named for me. This is a hybrid begonia and seed of it would not come true, but I do have seed of a beautiful white flowering begonia, *B. glabra*, which makes a lovely basket. 25c per packet.

Cheerio until next month

Your Skipper, Florence Carrell

IN MEMORIAM

The National Board of the American Begonia Society and all co-workers regret the passing of Mr. Claude Finley of the San Gabriel Valley Branch. Mr. Finley and his wife were among our most faithful members. Besides serving as our National Director, he filled offices in the branch at various times. The loss of such a valued member is deeply felt by all, and we extend sympathy to Mrs. Finley and family.

San Gabriel Valley Branch

SPOONIT

FREE SAMPLE

Send Post Card now for trial package of SPOONIT fertilizer. Try before you buy.

PLANTS MITH

Box 818

Palo Alto, Calif.

Cussing and Discussing at Inglewood:

The new mold attacking various begonias over widespread areas was duly cussed. Mr. Fred Schultz stated he had consulted a bacteriologist and the latter was unable to identify the mold but ascertained the best cure for it to be a yellow oxide of copper which was available only wholesale through the Aggeler & Musser stores as yet to his best information and called Durham's Dust No. 8. He reported it had checked the spread of the mold on his plants and seemed to be clearing it up.

Mr. Stanley Spaulding recommended Volck and nicotine spray for white fly and adding 1 teaspoon baking soda to 1 gallon of the mix to release more fumes.

Mrs. Edna Korts backed "Op-Tox" for mealy bug and cyclamen mite.

AFRICAN VIOLETS

LEAVES - PLANTS

Most of the older varieties and limited stock of many new ones, including Fringettes, White Girl, and Fantasy Write for List

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JOE SMITH

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Branch Meeting Dates and Places

BELFLOWER BRANCH

1st Monday, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.
I.O.O.F. Hall, Ardmore and Palm Sts.
Audrey Adams, Secy.

CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH, ORLANDO, FLA.

1st Friday, Sept. 7, Oct. 5

Member's Homes
Mr. Ted Wolf, Secy.-Treas.
Rt. 19, Box 3700, Orlando, Fla.

DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, DALLAS, TEXAS

1st Thursday, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, 7:00 p.m.

Member's Residences
Mrs. Russell B. White, Secy.-Treas.
919 N. Clinton St., Dallas 11, Texas

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Sept. 13, 7:45 p.m.

Willard School, Ward St.
C. F. Jensen, Secy.
3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Sept. 20, 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, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, 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, Sept. 1, Oct. 6

Mrs. Marion R. Thompson, Secy.
129 White Horse Pike, Magnolia, N. J.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Sept. 26, 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, Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Center, Cor. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Sept. 25, 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 BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Members' Residences
Mr. Homer Meek, Secy. Treas.
1306 N. 28th, Kansas City, Kans.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Sept. 13, 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, Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Roosevelt High School Cafe
1200 E. Olive, Compton, Calif.
Mrs. Dorothy Sarson, Secy.
1108 E. Glencoe Ave., Compton 1, Calif.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Sept. 10, 8:00 p.m.

Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.
Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Sept. 13, 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, Sept. 10, 8:00 p.m.

Porter Park
Mrs. C. W. McManus, Secy.
Rt. 1, Box 1070, La Mesa, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Sept. 18, 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, Sept. 25, 8:00 p.m.

Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.
2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Sept. 18, 12:30 p.m.
Amer. Legion Bldg., Linwood & Paseo,
Kansas City, Mo.

Mrs. Mona Ayers, Secy.
6655 Bellefontaine, 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, Sept. 10, 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, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, 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

Sept. 15, 4:00 p.m.

40 N. Rafael, Pasadena
Mrs. Harold Benson, Secy.-Treas.
3180 No. Crestford Dr., Altadena, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Sept. 21, 8:00 p.m.

McKinley Bc. Center, Washington & Vallejo Sts.
Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.
222 Bodoga Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

Mrs. Lillian Watts, Secy.

405 Cotswald Lane, Wynnwood, Pa.

PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Sept. 28, 8:00 p.m.

Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.
Mrs. George Verner, Secy.
7604 S. E. Tolman, Portland 6, Oregon

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, Sept. 28, 8:00 p.m.

2308 Rockefeller
Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Lucy A. Sault, Secy.
309 E. 220th St., Torrance, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m.

Members' Residences
Mrs. Zena L. Twomley, Secy.
7154 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Sept. 28, 10:00 a.m.

Homes of Members
Mrs. J. J. Howarth, Secy.
4319 Del Mar Ave., San Diego 7, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Sept. 18, 8:00 p.m.

Garden Center, McKinley Park
Mrs. W. J. Holley, Secy.
2914 V St., Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

1st Thursday, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m.

Salem Y.M.C.A.
Miss Ellen Quail, Secy.
202 E. Rural Ave., Salem, Ore.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Sept. 24

Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University
Mrs. Thomas Hofmann, Secy.
2327 33rd St., San Diego 4, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Sept. 10, 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, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.

1641 Taraval St.
Mrs. William Mever, Secy.
1422 27th Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Sept. 26, Dinner, 6:00 p.m.

Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia
Mrs. Hazel Snowden, Secy.
5956 N. Encinta Ave., Temple City, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m.

Rm. 5, Com. Center, 914 Santa Barbara St.
Mrs. Ada Schaefer, Secy.
1103 W. Micheltorena St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, 8:00 p.m.
V.F.W. Hall, 311 Pacific Ave.
Miss Hazelle E. Oxley, Secy.
428 Davis St., Santa Cruz, Calif.

SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

2nd Friday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7th St. Entrance,
Santa Monica
Mrs. Edith King, Secy.
2627 Corinth Ave., Los Angeles 64, Calif.

SANTA PAULA BRANCH

4th Thursday, Sept. 27, 6:30 p.m.
Steckel Park
Mrs. Beryl Ermsberger, Secy.
621 Santa Paula St., Santa Paula, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Sept. 18
Members' Homes
Mrs. Thomas Myers, Secy.
6057-31, N. E., Seattle 5, Washington

SHEPHERD, THE ODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Ma n, Ventura, Calif.
Mr. Orville A. Rogers, Secy.
126 S. Pacific Ave., Ventura, Calif.

SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Sept. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Faculty Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
Esther Krabach, Cor. Secy.
8438 Fairview Lane, Hayward, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern
Mrs. Juanita Pritchard, Secy.
11150 Duncan Ave., Lynwood, Calif.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Friday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Members Homes
Mrs. Fred M. Owens, Secy.-Treas.
1312 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Sept. 12, 11:00 a.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. John S. Schmucker, Secy.-Treas.
Box 233, Brownsville, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.

4th Wednesday, Sept. 26, 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, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Union High School, Room 19
Lindley Ave, Entrances, Whittier, Calif.
Mrs. Gretchen Bauchop, Secy.
9741 S. Santa Fe Springs Rd., Whittier, Calif.

CONDENSED MINUTES meeting National Board, American Begonia Society held in the City Hall, Los Angeles, Calif., July 23rd, 1951.

Present for the meeting Messrs. Moore, Walton, Trowbridge, Sherer, Lorenz, Small, Spaulding, Mesdames Korts, Nolan, MacLanahan (by proxy). Branches South Gate, Hub City, Santa Monica, El Monte, Pasadena, Whittier, Glendale, San Gabriel Valley, Ventura, Riverside, Hollywood, Inglewood.

Salute to the Flag and Statement of Aims and Purposes of the Society.

Reading of Minutes of June 25th meeting dispensed with, on motion, due to same having been published in the Begonian and copy sent President Moore.

Reports of Treasurer, Business Manager, Membership Fees and Editor read and accepted as read and made part of the Minutes. These reports are always available to the membership.

Flower Show Chairman Cal Trowbridge outlined plans for the coming Annual Meeting and Flower Show. For full details please read your July and August Begonian. He urged full support by all branches for the Flower Show; also for the Educational Exhibit which carries the Louise Schwerdtfeger Award.

Librarian Mrs. Nolan called attention to books in the Library for sale to members i. e. 3 copies of "Beautiful Leaved Plants" by E. J. Lowe at \$4.00 each; Fuchsia Survey by W. P. Wood; 3 copies Western Wild Flowers; also reported donation of "The African Violet" by Helen VanPelt Wilson - donated to the Library by Mrs. D. W. Hoisington of Dodge City, Kansas.

President Moore read a letter of greetings, prepared by the Parent Chapter (under the supervision of Mrs. Hixon, Historian) and mailed to all A.B.S. Branches. A very kindly and friendly gesture from the Parent Branch.

Mrs. Korts reported 25 Begonia Pins on hand. Anyone desiring pins just contact Mrs. Korts.

Director Small reported a recent visit to the Hollywood Branch by a group of San Gabriel Valley Branch members. Most enjoyable evening.

Director Korts reported on her attendance at the annual meeting of the Arboretum group; reports most interesting and work there is progressing but there is still much to be done. Told of the offer of Marie Turner, of the San Gabriel Valley Branch, to furnish hardy begonias for a planting at the Arboretum.

President Moore again asked that members send in their ballots designating their choice for the elective officers.

Treasurer instructed to take care of bills falling due this month as there will be no August meeting of the Board - this is to allow him to close his books for the year.

Treasurer instructed to issue check for \$15.00 to Secretary to cover mailing charge on incoming ballots.

Secretary instructed to send condolence card to daughter of Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Gray (recently deceased). See August Begonian.

BRANCH REPORTS (in brief)

El Monte-For August pot-luck in El Monte Park and pig-in-a-poke plant table. Glendale - Mrs. Jensen speaker. Hollywood-jimney pot-luck; speaker on gloxinias; very nice meeting. Hub City - Installation of officers; Mr. Dyckman installation officer; got some nice newspaper publicity on it. Aug. 20th meeting a pot-luck. Inglewood - Mrs. Leatherman our last speaker; subject, Begonias and Begonias. Very much enjoyed. Next meeting Round-Table. Pasadena-Our last meeting at the Giridlian Gardens; Miss Hoak gave her usual begonia talk. Director Mrs. Korts called attention to the joint Glendale and San Gabriel Valley meeting at the Giridlian Gardens Sunday the 29th; pot-luck and everyone welcome.

Mr. Terrell said Riverside Branch very much enjoyed Capt. Dere as their speaker. He also reported he had recently visited the La Mesa and La Jolla Branches and brought interesting reports from each Branch. San Gabriel Valley had Mr. Larry Darwin as their speaker for July. Fuchsias and Begonias subject-matter. Branch dinner in Sept. Mr. Human for Southgate-Pot-luck dinner, Mrs. Nolan our speaker. Sent in a donation to the Show Expense. Our President Mrs. Arbuckle, and her mother Mrs. White here with us tonight. (Mrs. Arbuckle spoke briefly but encouragingly). City sponsor of Flower Clubs discussed. Santa Monica, Whittier and Ventura reported but lack of space prevents further comment. Respectfully submitted, Gonda Hartwell, Secy.

OL. 0154

HOURS 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

IVANHOE NURSERY & FLORIST

2835 GLENDALE BLVD.

LOS ANGELES 26, CALIF.

FLOWERS BY ANN

F. MANGOLD

HORTICULTURAL ADVISOR

Mr. Terrell of Riverside Branch announced to the National Board that a park in Riverside has been selected by the All-American Rose Selections people as a demonstration ground for proving the new roses.

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BEGONIA SCABRIDA

Plant of Grace Bayer, photographed by Bill Bayer: See page 197