

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens

BEGONIA

NO. 15 OF
'SERIES 275'
(See page 36)



Plant of
Marie Turner



Photo by
Bill Bayer



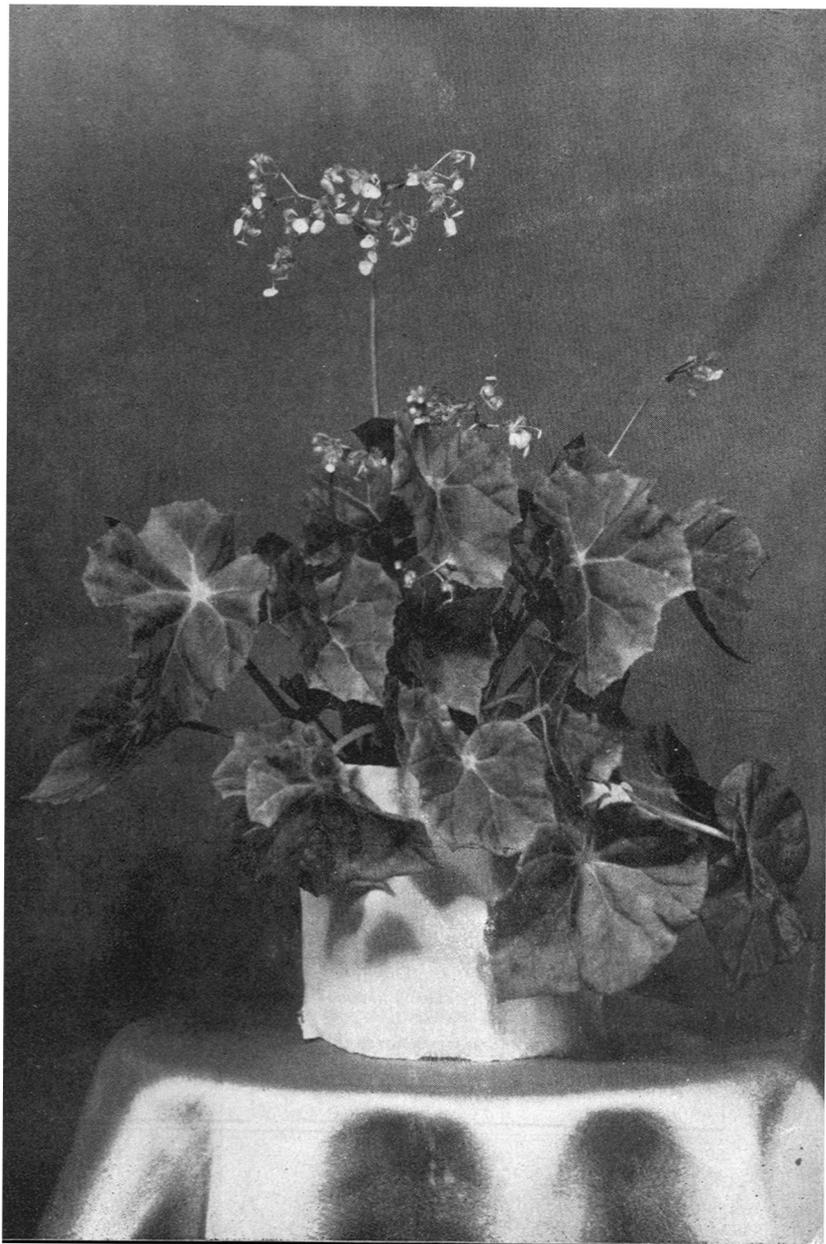
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—Editor.

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808 E. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo, Calif.
Co-Editor.....Mrs. Frances W. Spaulding
808 E. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo, Calif.
Business Mgr.....Mrs. Frances W. Spaulding
808 E. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo, Calif.
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Tried and True Begonias

By Dorothy S. Behrends

VIEWING SUSIE ZUG'S begonia garden never fails to inspire visitors to greater effort in begonia culture. A hybridizer for many years in the begonia field, Mrs. Zug of San Dimas, California, has been growing begonias in a climate not too favorable or ideal for this type of plant.

Her garden is the full length of the house, planted on an incline, where a wall of white fluorescent tubes stand at the top, shutting out the highway and helping to preserve the necessary humidity. The roof is covered with lath and fluorescent tubes, which also lends a soft light.

Beautiful colored rocks, interplanted with ferns and helixine moss, help to hold up the mixture of leaf mold, top soil and compost. The drainage is perfect and there is plenty of light and air, which makes an ideal setting for her huge begonia specimens.

This begonia vista may be viewed from every room the length of the house and time and space will not permit the listing of the hundreds of rex, fibrous and rhizomatous begonias gracing this breath-taking array. Pictures cannot do it justice because a photographer would only be able to take a small portion at a time. The artistic manner in which the garden has been arranged is a pattern of separated nooks and niches. Winding paths make it possible for one to view more closely some unusual or beautiful begonia.

This is the Zug's private garden, the type you and I, as amateurs, are trying to achieve.

Too many of us line up our begonias in rows, as they would be found on the nurseryman's benches, and lose so much of their beauty.

Every individual grower is confronted with separate problems. However, it is interesting to find how some growers are able to cope with the natural disadvantages to begonia growing, without a whimper.

We often hear the complaint that the dry winds discourage the would-be grower. Susie has mastered this by the use of old, burned out fluorescent tubes. They are vacuum tubes, which holds *out* the heat and *in* the cool dampness or humidity.

Another registered complaint is water. Some growers will say they cannot grow begonias due to the high alkaline content in the water.

By not watering the foliage and adding one teaspoon of vinegar to a gallon of water, growers living in the Metropolitan water district have won prizes on their begonias. This watering is done from a container by hand, not from the hose, but these people really want to grow begonias.

Now let's go to Susie Zug's nursery. She has two glasshouses, six propagating beds (using bottom heat) and a large semi-glasshouse. Plants from this

semi-glasshouse will grow anywhere. They have been hardened off.

People living in the inland areas find that begonias bought from nurseries on the coast suffer a setback when taken home and put out of doors. They must be hardened off gradually, to become acclimated to the dryness or lack of humidity in the air.

Susie has been producing rex hybrids for years, but from an amateur's viewpoint, unless one attains an *unusual* trait in a rex, it is just another rex, slightly different. Too many amateurs are crossing rexes, producing plants of ordinary beauty.

But Mrs. Zug has turned to the other types, after attaining a startling rex begonia named Begonia 'Sir Percy'. When the leaves of this begonia are young and immature, they are lanceolate (long, narrow and ending in a sharp point); surface a brilliant silver, edged with a bright green, narrow margin. As the leaves mature, they widen, becoming broad-ovate with wavy edges and the underside becomes a vivid pink. Because it has Elsie Frey's B. 'Silver Star' as one of its parents, there is a peculiarity of one edge curling back over the surface, showing the beautiful pink underside without having to handle the leaf.

The leaves are semi-miniature for a rex, because they seldom grow larger than four inches across and six inches in length.

This begonia is named in honor of Susie's Knight in Shining Armor, her husband.

Mrs. Zug produced several begonias

in the Spring of 1951 that have proved to be of particular value. She crossed *Begonia Macdougalli* with *B. Mazae* and *B. manicata*.

The magnificence of *B. Macdougalli* has carried through, without its temperamental or intolerant nature, we may say.

Many growers have enjoyed *B. Macdougalli* for one season, treated it as the average rhizomatous begonia and then lost it. It wants and even *insists* on being kept on the dry side.

Susie Zug has injected some new pep in this species that keeps it from going so completely dormant and has given it the tolerance necessary for the average begonia fan to grow it among their other begonias.

B. Macdougalli x *B. Mazae* has produced Begonia 'Doma'. It grows to a large size, leaves 6 to 12 inches across, star shaped having 7 or 8 lobes, pronounced light-green veins; the surface is a bronze-green, underside dark-red. Stems or petioles from 12 to 24 inches in height, being dotted with light-green flecks.

It gains its size and type-stems from *B. Macdougalli*, while the quality of color is from *B. Mazae*. Begonia 'Doma' has proven it will grow under glass as well as out of doors in a protected area during mild weather.

Her hybrid made by crossing *B. Mazae* x *B. Macdougalli* has given us the Begonia 'Stitched Star'. This does not grow as large as B. 'Doma', (as *B. Mazae* was the seed parent) but it has the interesting color in the leaves, in-

Portion of the Zug gardens

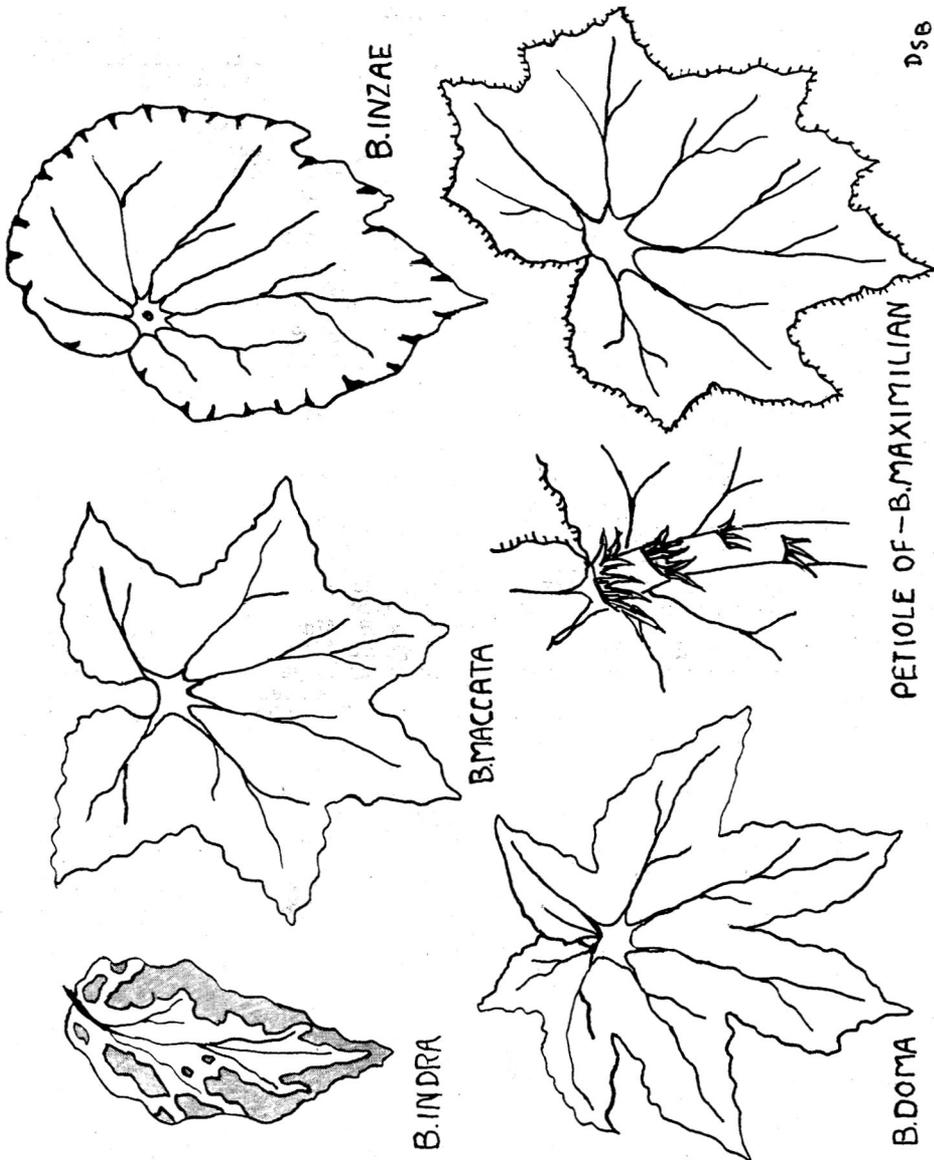
Percy Zug Photo



cluding the blanket stitch on the edge, that *B. Mazae* has brought to so many of the newer hybrids.

The *B. Macdougalli* x *B. manicata* cross produced a large plant. This is the light-green of *B. manicata* with

hairs from *B. manicata*. The lobes are about one-third deep, although they vary as in the case of so many star begonias. This has been named Begonia 'Maccata' and promises to be a favorite as a spectacular background, specimen



NEW ZUG BEGONIAS Dorothy S. Behrends Drawing

three collars of red hairs on the petiole under the sinus. It grows to large proportions similar to *B. Macdougalli*. The begonia has a large creeping rhizome; sturdy petioles having red dots containing sparse hairs and an occasional light-green fleck, makes them distinctive. The lines are from *B. Macdougalli* and the

begonia. Begonia 'Maximilian' is a hybrid of *B. manicata* x *B. Macdougalli*. It has a large rhizome on which there are light-green dots and long silky, white hairs. The petioles are light-green and ridged, smoothing as they mature; scattered light-green flecks and red collars vary-

ing from a dot to a quarter of an inch in length, containing long silky, white hairs; two collars completely ring the stem at the sinus; the hairs are very long and beautiful. The light-green, shallow lobe leaves are medium to heavy texture and the pronounced veining is almost white in the center. There is an occasional clump of hairs on the veins on the underside.

At first glance one would imagine the begonia to be *B. 'Fischer's riciniifolia'*. On second glance the great amount of hairs found on the stems of *B. 'Fischer's riciniifolia'*, compared to the neat and orderly arrangement of the few hairs on *B. 'Maximilian'*, makes the contrast quite noticeable.

As both parents of *B. 'Maximilian'* originally came from Mexico, it seems only fitting to name this begonia having such neat and beautiful silky hair, in honor of the misinformed, kindhearted, temporary Emperor of Mexico. Students will remember his long, beautifully groomed beard.

In the class of smaller begonias, Mrs. Zug has produced some interesting pot subjects. *Begonia 'Indra'* is the result of *B. rubro-venia* x *B. India*-spotted. This produced a small, rhizomatous begonia with oblique-ovate leaves — a very beautiful creeping type of begonia that will prove popular with window gardeners, especially where space is limited. The bright green and silver is divided equally in area on the leaf surface and is particularly decorative. The

pointed leaves overlap one another. A promising plant for the hobbyist.

Two others in this small class are her hybrids *Begonia 'Vendia'*, produced by crossing *B. rubro-venia* x *B. India* spotless. The latter begonia is the same as *B. India*-spotted in size, shape and manner, but without spots. This hybrid has oblique-ovate leaves, dark green on the surface and red-flush on the underside.

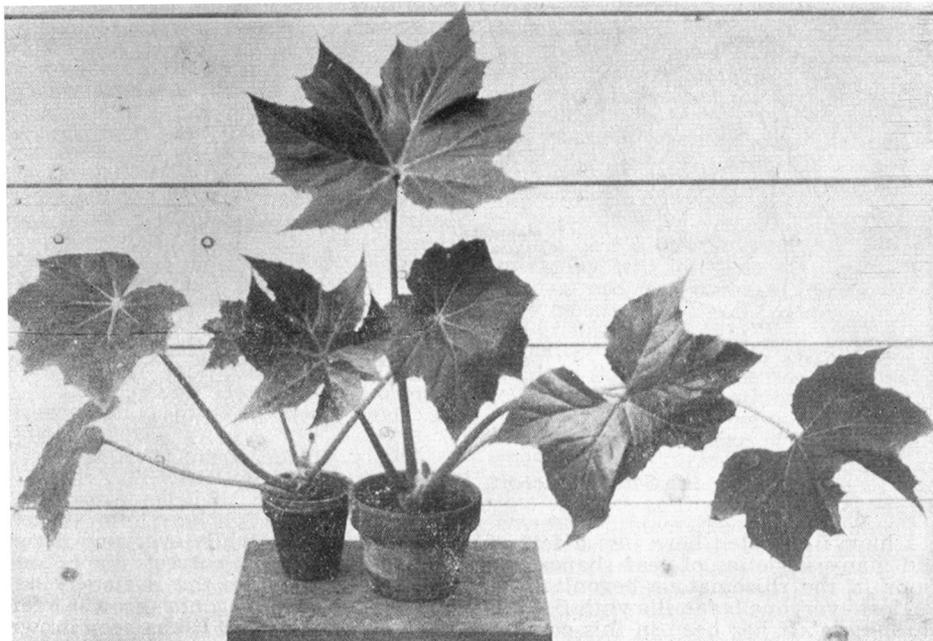
Her hybrid *B. 'Rubit'* (pronounced roo-bit) is a cross of *B. rubro-venia* x *B. 'It'*. It is similar to *B. 'Indra'*, but the spots are smaller, having the pink flush so noticeably characteristic of *B. 'It'*.

One more of the interesting hybrids produced by Susie Zug is *Begonia 'Inzae'*. This cross uses a begonia not too easily found on the market, *B. involucrata*. As the illustration shows, the leaf is quite different in shape and the peculiarity is reproduced in her cross with *B. Mazae*, bringing the color and the shape of the two exceptional begonias into her new introduction.

As stocks on new begonias are often limited, information or reservations concerning such plants should be requested in advance, enclosing a self addressed, stamped envelope for a reply. The stocks will be greatly enlarged by late Spring.

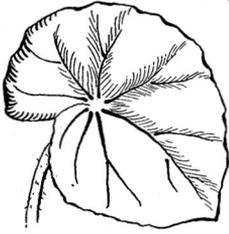
Mrs. Susie Zug lives by the Golden Rule and you will be pleased to meet her in Personalities of the Begonia World.

Left: *Begonia 'Maximilian'*. Right: *Begonia 'Maccata'*
(Note the bare veins at sinus on *B. 'Maccata'*.)

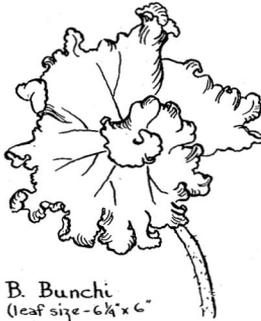


Beginner's Corner

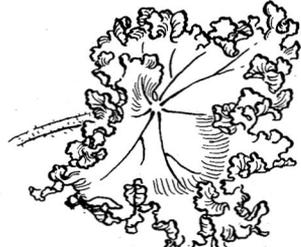
Rhizomatous Begonias



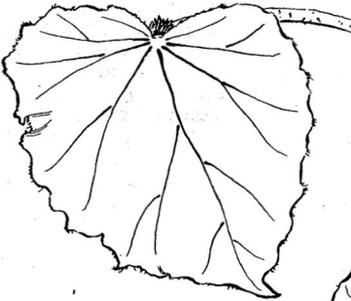
B. erythrophylla
(leaf size - 7" x 5½")



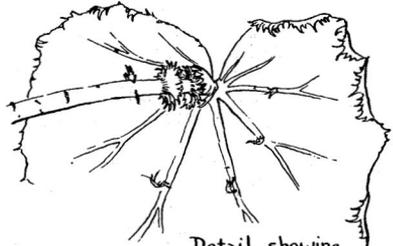
B. Bunchi
(leaf size - 6¼" x 6")



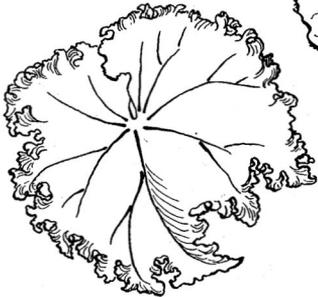
B. erythrophylla helix
(leaf size - 4½" x 4")



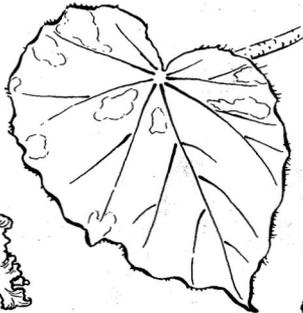
B. manicata
(leaf size - 4¼" x 4")



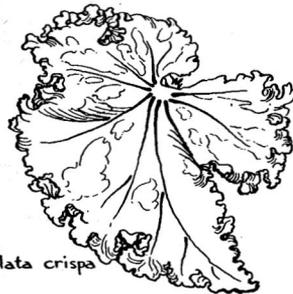
Detail showing collar of coarse hairs at top of leaf stalk on *B. manicata* (full scale)



B. manicata crispa



B. manicata aurea-maculata



B. manicata aurea-maculata crispa

Sally Bancroft '48

By Sally Bancroft, Solana Beach, Calif.

I have illustrated here just a few of the many varieties of leaf shapes one finds in the rhizomatous begonias.

Most everyone is familiar with *B. 'erythrophylla'*. It has been in this country

a long time and, while everyone is not familiar with the correct name, one only has to mention the Beefsteak begonia and any begonia grower will know what is meant. It has been grown

under the synonym of *B. 'Feastii'* for a good many years.

Four begonias are generally listed as being in this group. *B. 'Bessie Buxton'* is an upright growing variety, with thinner leaves. *B. 'Bunchii'* is a mutant with lighter green leaves which are ruffled and crested at the margins. *B. 'erythrophylla helix'*, long grown as *B. conchaeifolia*, has spiraled leaves ruffled at the margins.

B. manicata was introduced into Belgium from Mexico in 1837. It is a low grower, the rhizomes very succulent, sometimes ascending. The leaves are ovate, fleshy, smooth, green, margins toothed and ciliate and it has a collar of coarse red hairs at the top of the leaf stalk. I have drawn this detail because it is one of the ways one is able to identify this particular plant, or

any in this group. It is also one of the characteristics that has been passed on to many of its children. Many crosses using *B. manicata* as one of the parents will show this same collar of hairs.

B. m. aureo-maculata is a variety of *B. manicata* with yellow blotches. Occasionally rose-red blotches also appear on the leaves.

B. m. crispa is a plain green-leaved variety that has crested leaf margins, while *B. m. aureo-maculata crispa* combines the yellow blotches with the crested leaves. The latter plant is rather a touchy one to grow and even here is grown in a glass house.

The plants in this group have a descriptive name — *manicata*, meaning "cuff". These cuffs or collars are at the top of the leaf stalk as shown in the detail drawing.

TUBEROUS TIPS

(More of Mr. Robert Lundblad's talk at Inglewood Branch, as reported by Mrs. Alma Walton.)

Mr. Lundblad emphasized that he was not a salesman for any commercial concern and his audience paid him the compliment of undivided attention.

Stating he believed pot culture superior to ground culture, since pots can be raised above the ground level where less temperature variation occurs, inasmuch as tuberous begonias dislike fluctuating temperatures, he gave his formula for producing his magnificent specimen plants.

He lets the tubers lie in a flat until the eye is half an inch high. Then he places 25 to 30 tubers in any desired medium in a flat. He prefers a potting mixture of two-thirds leaf mold and one-third very coarse sand, which he also uses to start his tubers. When shoots are 4 to 5 inches high, he pots them. He recommends rabbit fertilizer as horse and steer manures (unless steamed) are apt to promote fungus growths in potting mixtures.

Potting formula:

2 sacks leafmold

1 sack sand

1 sack "Rabbitlizer"

6- inch pot "Humisite" (a bacteria impregnated medium which aids soil breakdown).

1 pound superphosphate

MIX THOROUGHLY

He uses one-half inch of the coarse leaves, etc., from leafmold for drainage in the pot and adds the potting mixture to within one-half inch of the rim, having placed a small handful of fish-meal in the bottom half of the pot. Water to settle soil. Do not overpot.

Water often, lightly, according to needs. When roots reach fishmeal, growth spurt will be evident. Then it is advisable to give a little more water. One month later (first bud should appear by then) begin to feed regularly with liquid fish every two weeks, one-half regular strength (from about mid-June through August). For hybridizing purposes, seeds seem to set better if plants are a little starved and watered less. Always water first, then, two hours later, feed. About mid-July he fed Durham's Vitalizer, using one-half teaspoon to one gallon of water. This product's formula makes the use of acidifiers unnecessary.

When planting in the ground, use the fish meal and do not feed later since not as much leaching takes place in the beds.

Dust with Cryolite when first planting to combat looper worms.

Water at 5 or 6 o'clock at night. Plants which are dry at night and watered next day will lose lots of blooms. Begonias are not swamp plants. They like moisture but not drowning.

Fertilizer burn will show up on top growth.

More flowers will be had from hangers in redwood containers. Pinch on branch. Use small containers—keep a little on the pot bound side—and watch the water. Tuberous begonias are sensitive to light. Mr. Lundblad uses lots of light at first and then a muslin cover to protect the flowers later.

Now is the time to send for catalogues and send in your seed and tuber orders—not later when your neighbor's are in bloom. Let's cover the earth with glory this year.



Percy Zug Photo

Personalities of the Begonia World

Susie Zug

Susie Zug was born in Indiana, as were so many other plant enthusiasts now living in California.

Her love of flowers came naturally, as her grandmother's flowers on the farm were not only of keen interest to her but to people living far and near, who would drive many miles, when necessary, just to see the flower borders.

Susie's mother was also a plant hobbyist, having the windows filled with her choice plants each winter, as is customary in Indiana.

After moving to California in 1912, Susie took up the hobby of growing all types of flowers in earnest, as the outdoor life appealed to her.

Raising four children, in addition to the hobby, kept Mrs. Zug well occupied.

Susie joined the American Begonia Society in 1941, having only one rex begonia when she decided to really learn to grow begonias.

She is now a member of the Foothill Branch.

With her husband's help (who is a rock-hound) and the help of Begonia friends, her hobby developed into the interesting nursery of today.

Her hybridizing efforts centered on rex begonias for several years and, as the urge for new and unusual crosses developed, her talents spread to the other rhizomatous and the fibrous begonias.

As the hybridizing was more or less a hobby and for her own enjoyment, she did not pay particular attention to the parentage. As the fine begonias developed, her friends prevailed on her to keep a record of the crosses, so that other hobbyists could also enjoy the fruits of her labors.

Hybridizing has now become the most interesting part of begonia growing to Susie Zug.

When visiting the Zug's private begonia garden and realizing its beauty, one's appreciation of their efforts is even more well deserved than by the average gardener, because Susie has six grand-children. The children are lively, healthy, disciplined, well-mannered and have learned to be appreciative of the surroundings.

This goes to prove, beautiful gardens and young children *do* harmonize.

The Percy Zugs have proved this beyond any doubt.—D.S.B.



Armchair Explorers

White frost on the housetops. Do you mind watering your greenhouse plants with ice water? Well, I do. So I carry out buckets of hot water from the house and mix with the large can of water under the bench in the glasshouse, mix in a handful of Spoonit, stir well and start the motor. I have a pump on my large can of water and can make a fine spray if I desire or give the plants a soaking. I can notice that the plants respond well to the Spoonit fertilizer.

Mr. Brooks is back now from his exploring trip into Mexico and brought us tubers and rhizomes of his new finds described next month. \$1.00 each.

There has been some confusion about the Armchair Explorer's Club. Perhaps I should explain it again in detail for some of you new members. Mr. Clayton Kelly originated the idea of members contributing to a fund for the purchase of seeds from other countries and at that time members sent in \$1 for a share of the seeds secured. Perhaps 6 to 10 kinds of seeds were distributed. Times have changed and I find I am able to get as many as 200 kinds of begonia seeds, and with several hundred Armchair Explorers wanting seeds, it hasn't proved satisfactory to try to share evenly with all, since many of you are very advanced growers wanting only the rare kinds and many are beginners wanting easy to grow kinds. I am now able to send for seeds and let members select what they want from those I receive. This is your own Seed Fund, no seed selling business. There is no charge to buy seeds, no separate membership fees to belong to the Armchair Explorer's Club. If you grow plants from our seeds, then you are surely an Armchair Explorer, along with me. Pay only for what seeds you want, and then if you are not satisfied, do write. Your money will be refunded or more seeds sent. You may exchange seeds with us, too. The new seed list was in your January Begonian, and as new seeds are obtained, they will be listed each month.

All the information will be in your Begonian; read it carefully each month. Fourteen collections were listed in January. In Collection #1, Tuberous,

there are 8 different kinds of seed listed, #1 will be Andersoni, #2 Josephii large leaf, etc. Thus you can find out just what seed you have in each collection. Order as many different collections as you need. Send in your seed orders as early as you can, so as not to be disappointed.

It is a good idea to plant only half a packet at a time, so that if something goes wrong with that planting, you can try again. There is plenty seed in each packet to grow many fine plants. Send all orders direct to me—Mrs. Florence Carrell, 214 No. Yale, Fullerton, Calif.

A few kinds of quite rare begonia seeds arrived too late for the January issue, so I am offering them to you as follows:

B. cathayana, \$1 pkt.—Soft-hairy, olive-green shaded, pointed leaves; crimson veins; red underneath. China.

B. versicolor, \$1 pkt.—Similar to *B. imperialis*, but more beautiful colored leaf; pink flowers. China.

B. deliciosa, \$1 pkt. — Fibrous type, beautiful foliage, bushy; dark olive-green leaves, heavily spotted, red beneath; flowers large soft-pink. Borneo.

B. cavum, 50c — New Mexican species pictured on cover of Aug. 1951 issue.

B. scandens, 25c — White flowered climbing begonia; makes beautiful baskets. Mexico.

B. multiflora tuberosa, 50c — Double flowers. Mme. Helene Harms, yellow flowers. Germany.

B. multiflora tuberosa, 50c—Double red flowers. Germany.

B. multiflora tuberosa, 50c — Single flowers, mixed colors. Germany.

I have just received a copy of the British Fern Gazette, a 25 page booklet dealing with British ferns, from the British Pteridological Society (dues \$1.40 per year—one issue annually). Write me if you want to join, and I'll send in your membership for you. I'll hope to have something to tell you soon about ferns.

I almost forgot to tell you that the *Achimenes* tubers are here from Mexico. Poncho sent them to us. There are 2 kinds, red tubers and green tubers. I believe the same kinds that we had two years ago. The large tubers are 15c each, the small ones are 10c each. Please add an extra 10c for mailing, as I will send them out in small boxes.

Many have reported fine success with the *Philodendron Selloum* seeds. It is always nice to know when you are pleased. More of these seeds will soon be available at 50c per packet.

Wishing you a lot of fun in this growing season,

Your skipper,

Florence Carrell.

27SA x 1331

M. D. Gresham

By Marie Minter



New seedlings are of interest to anyone who grows begonias, but to the hybridizer there is a particular interest in others' crosses. To the trained eye, one can distinguish one or the other of the parents used and thus find out which particular parent seems to have the recessive qualities and which parent is dominant. This is more true when two species are crossed. When, as in this case, a species is crossed with a known hybrid, then more interesting information turns up.

Mr. Ziesenhenné introduced under the number of 1331, a very large, green leaved, rhizomatous begonia. It has proven to be exceptionally strong in growth and soon filled a ten inch pot. The leaves are large, often going to fifteen inches or more, and the flowers are a light pink, rising well above the foliage. Although it is a species, it is still unidentified.

Shortly after that begonia came into this country, Mr. Ziesenhenné received seeds of another begonia. When the plants were large enough to distinguish what they were going to be, it was discovered that he had received seeds of a hybrid. No two plants were alike. Being a good bookkeeper and wishing to keep track of these hybrids, he put the number of '27S' on this series. Some of the plants he further labeled with either a letter from the alphabet or a number. They are all of course rhizomatous. Our cover picture is of No. 15 of the series.

No. 27SA has a darker green leaf than No. 1331 but does not grow quite as large. It is shallowly lobed; one might almost call it scalloped. Each main vein of the leaf ends in a tail-like point on

the scallop. There are a few scattered white hairs on the surface of the leaf. The back of the leaf is a dull green and around each vein there is an area of dull red. The veins are pale green liberally splashed with red dots, each of which has a white hair protruding from it. The entire back of the leaf is more hairy than the face. The petioles are light green, with the same red splashes and there is a small collar of white hairs where the leaf joins the stem.

The seedlings resulting from this cross were very variable as to leaf size. The plant exhibited at the convention and pictured here was one of the larger leaved varieties. From that size leaf, they graduated down to a small leaf not much over three inches. The coloring of the leaves on all the plants that Mr. Gresham saved were much the same. Between the veins the color is more of a yellowish green, while the area close to the veins seems to be more of a reddish green, due to the reddish areas on the back of the leaf shining through. This area on the back of the leaf is not as pronounced as in the parent plant but is a much deeper tone of red. The larger leaved plant seems to have retained the green stem and white sinus of No. 1331, while the smallest leaved plant in the collection retained the red marking on the veins and stems. Both parents having pink flowers, the children have the same.

If one were working for a definitely small leaved, rhizomatous begonia, I believe that it could be accomplished by using No. 27SA for one of the parents. Being of hybrid stock, selfing would produce many variations, but from this one cross it seems that it has some very dominant characteristics. It would be interesting to hear of someone's else's work with this plant or any of the 27S series.

Branch Ideas

Let's Blow Reveille

By Dorothy Powell, Natl. Publicity Director

President Cal Trowbridge wants each member of the A.B.S. to bring in one new member before our Convention and Show this fall. To realize this goal, let's make everyone aware that there IS an American Begonia Society and that it has much to offer the garden lover and begonia grower.

Publicity is advertising of any kind, and in our case its purpose is to increase the interest of the community in A.B.S. activities. In this way new members are acquired and the interest of old members is stimulated and strengthened. Each enthusiastic member can indirectly advance the publicity of his own branch by telling his friends about his group—but you Publicity Chairmen have an especially fascinating job. There is the obvious necessity of keeping up with all the club's activities, which in itself tends to spur your interest in your organization and make you a vital part of it. In addition you have the opportunity to make new friends and broaden your experience in other fields. It is your duty and privilege to create such an interesting picture in the minds of your readers that they will wish to be a part of this American Begonia Society about which they read so much. And it is up to us, as Publicity Chairmen, to see that they DO read about it!

If you are wondering where, and what, and how to go about it, perhaps these suggestions will help:

WHERE: Your local newspapers in your own community are your best bet.

a. Call, or better still, make a personal visit to your paper and get acquainted with the editor. If you are fortunate enough to have a garden page or magazine in your paper, the editor of this section will probably accept both social and gardening articles, while the society editor will be limited more or less to the social side of your activities.

b. Find out about deadlines and adhere to them. This is to your advantage, as last minute material is more likely to be cut in order to fit the space that is still available.

c. See if your editor has special preferences as to style, use of names, etc.

d. Ask if he is interested in good pictures and the amount of engraving charge, if any. Daily papers will usually accept pictures at no cost, but most of the weeklies and semi-weekly papers do not have facilities to do their own

engraving and hence must charge for this.

WHAT: For subject matter, your own meetings will give you a wealth of information:

a. Advance notices of special events or regular meetings are of great importance to your club, since this is what draws the visitors and prospective members. Be sure to include the five news requirements: what, why, when, who and where. Make it clear that visitors are welcome.

b. After the meeting, send a *prompt follow-up*, because nothing is so old as yesterday's news. For the garden section, your speaker's subject can be worked into a very interesting article, taking care, however, to give him (or her) credit for the material submitted.

c. Study classes, outside charitable activities, elections and installations all provide excellent sources of publicity. Never miss an opportunity to bring the name of the American Begonia Society before the public, either directly or indirectly. For example, I have submitted several holiday cover designs to our Home and Garden Magazine, the subject of which did not pertain to the A.B.S.; but the people in the pictures were in some way connected with the Hub City Branch and this was mentioned in the description.

d. Pictures are important and should be used as often as possible, since they draw the immediate attention and interest of the reader. However, submit only 5" x 7" or 8" x 10" sharp, clear photographs. If someone in your branch has a camera, enlist his aid in taking pictures to go with your publicity articles, and build up a publicity fund in some way to take care of the costs of film, flash bulbs, engraving charges, etc.

HOW to submit copy:

a. Write legibly or typewrite if at all possible. Use one side of the paper only and double-space to allow for editorial corrections. Unless you are thoroughly familiar with your paper's style, your copy will probably be changed. Don't let your disappointment discourage you, though. Instead, try to understand that editors have problems, too; quite often even the best material must be condensed because of limited space. Also, because of limited space, you should omit superfluous material, making every word count.

b. Identify your copy at the upper left-hand corner with your name, address, and telephone number. If there

is more than one page, put "more" or "continued" at the bottom of page one and "2" at the top of the next page. At the end of your article in the center about two or four spaces below the last line, type "30", which indicates that there is no more.

Nearly all the above pointers could be discussed at length, but space and time will not permit. However, I am

ready at all times to aid in any problems you may have, and would particularly like to know in advance of special speakers or events that are planned at your local branches, or flower shows in which you are participating. Your Begonian editor, Stanley Spaulding, is always on the look-out for interesting material of national interest.

Begonias and Branches

While most of us enjoy and use our gardens a wide variety of plant families and we must take time out constantly to demonstrate how companion plants complement and enhance our fascinating favorite, let's remember to give Begonias the greater part of our concentration. There are two prime reasons for this: First, begonias, even the highly publicized tuberous, are virtually unknown to millions of garden lovers throughout the world in comparison to such flowers as gladioli, roses, lilies, tulips, camellias, etc., etc., which receive great quantities of attention in popular magazines, and many of those who have heard of them maintain a hands-off policy due to the legend that has grown up that they are hard to grow and require fussy care and attention. Second, there is an African Violet Society to boost Saintpaulias, a Bromeliad Society for such plants, Orchid Societies, Fuchsia Societies, Camellia Societies—and on, and on—but only ONE Begonia Society, and we are IT.

We must realize we have a pristine field of action on this one subject above all the rest—Begonias. Of all the companion plants, perhaps we are entitled to stress one family more than any other because it is a bit on the orphaned side at present and because its members are probably the most satisfying we can use with our begonias; that is the Fern. As a matter of fact, ferns have a more distinct botanical status than Begoniaceae, comprising an entire Order made up of several families, which in turn have many genera, species and varieties. But first, Begonias!

HOW TO DO IT

The name quiz: Long Beach Parent Branch has made an interesting contest by having its members try to name those on the plant table.

Study time during the regular meeting:

Elsa Fort Branch: During the past year, at each of our regular meetings, our president, Mrs. Essie Morris, has

introduced for study and discussion, the names of two different types of Begonias. When possible, the plants being studied were obtained for display. In this manner, our group has become familiar with a large number of begonias. Each member has tried to collect at least one rare type of Begonia. During the year we learned pollinization and have grown plants from seeds, cuttings and leaves. — *Arianna Paynter.*

Portland, Oregon, Branch: During the past seven months we have been studying a different type of begonia each month. These are the cane-stemmed, semperflorens, tuberous-rooted, and hirsute types. Members of the group are asked to bring specimen plants of these types. These members in turn tell about the growing habits of these plants after the chairman of the study has outlined the general characteristics of the type being studied. Being a new Branch of the A.B.S., we feel that this study has been of great benefit to us as a group. — *Rachel Venner.*

In Santa Barbara Mrs. Frey has given begonia lessons, in San Diego, Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Minter, and publicity has been given Mrs. Gladys Nolan's snappy, informative lessons at the Glendale branch, among others. Some groups name a "Begonia of the Month" for all to study and compare notes on. In other groups various members bring certain plants or material for the branch to study, as when Mrs. Haskell of Santa Monica, brought a number of 8 x 10 inch flats of begonia seedlings in different stages of growth to demonstrate types of seedling growth. Last spring the Elsa Fort Branch participated in Mrs. Fort's interesting demonstration of the complete process of starting a begonia leaf. Each member came prepared with all needed materials and were supplied with various types of begonia leaves by President Essie Morris. Later, each member reported her progress. At the San Francisco Branch, Mr. Bob Gromm, new

president, introduced a new project: four members each to bring one plant, a tuberous begonia standard, a hanging basket, a rex and a fibrous, in the beginning of their growing stages to the January meeting; the same plant will be brought each month until show time and each grower will tell exactly what has been done to it during the month; then they will be on exhibit at the show. Another instance of begonia study within the regular meeting was the recent meeting of the Margaret C. Gruenbaum Branch when Mrs. Boysen read an informative paper on Nomenclature, the members had an exhibit of their outstanding plants and a sale of small plants raised from seed from the Seed Fund.

To progress faster in begonia lore or because some branches are so large a nucleus of more serious students forms, study groups have been organized to meet once a month between regular meetings. Inglewood is having great success with theirs, as you will see by reading your President's letter. Hub City has commenced one where, lacking a trained instructor, the leadership is being rotated between members, two of whom are to do as extensive research as possible on a selected begonia and report to the group. At the first class Mrs. H. E. Miller reported on Begonia 'Mrs. Fred Scripps' and Mrs. Mildred Ogden compared *B. compacta* to B. 'Gray Feather', bringing plant or leaves to illustrate. The second meeting was led by Mrs. Margaret Stone with reports on *B. manicata aureo-maculata* B. 'Dwarf Houghtoni' and Begonia 'Freddie'. Material is endless. You take it from here.

BEAU GESTE

One member of Texas State Branch has made a beautifully hand tooled leather folder with a begonia in colors on the front for the branch charter.
—Mrs. H. F. Sikes.



BESSIE RAYMOND BUXTON HONORED

*Orpha C. Fox, Secretary,
New England Branch*

The New England Branch Christmas party at the beautiful colonial Domine Manse in Bedford, Massachusetts, was highlighted by the presentation of an American Begonia Society pin to Mrs. Bessie Raymond Buxton of Peabody, Massachusetts, in recognition of her long association with the new England Branch. Presentation was made by our President, Mrs. Charles Allen.

Mrs. Buxton stated she became an early member of the American Begonia Society after having corresponded since the early 1920's with the late Mr. Alfred D. Robinson of California. She has served as vice-president and director and at the present time is a member of the Nomenclature Committee.

The author of numerous articles, pamphlets, and at least three books on the subject of window garden plants and begonias, she has spent much time in research and study. Her latest book, "Begonias and How to Grow Them" is well known to Begonia students. Mrs. Buxton has been eagerly sought as a speaker. She is a Charter Member of the New England Branch and has just retired as Secretary. Her time has been given without stint; her knowledge of plants and their culture has been freely shared; her enthusiasm has been an inspiration to us all.

Luncheon was served in the garden room adjoining the conservatory at a table attractively decorated by Miss Alice Newell. Members exchanged gifts of small begonias and plant accessories and a lovely Begonia Kenworthy was won by Mrs. Charles Dennison.

An enthusiastically received surprise was the distribution of the many plants in the Domine Manse conservatory to the members of the Society by Mr. Blake, the owner, who is closing it for the winter. Rex, semperflorens and fibrous and Marjorie Gibbs begonias in abundance, beautiful coleus, cissus and ivies and many more exotic plants were lovingly transferred to new homes.

At this time of year for many of the branches the election and installation of officers goes hand in hand with holiday celebrations. Pictured receiving a welcoming handshake from national President and installing officer Cal Trowbridge, is Stuart Smith, newly-elected President of the enthusiastic Inglewood Branch. Installation was held during the gala Christmas party where everyone attended in garden clothes with true California informality.

—Dorothy Powell Photo

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE A. B. S.

Hello, there! Here we stand at the beginning of a brand spanking new year, itching to get started. There are so many things to do, we hardly know where to begin. Before we get too far into, "what's on our minds this month", we want to pause for just about ten seconds and wish you the best of everything for 1952. Hope your begonias grow better than ever!

For the past several months I have been wanting to tell you about our study group over at the Inglewood Branch. I am going to use this particular group as an example because it is close to home and also because of the enthusiasm shown by the members attending its meetings.

About the middle of last year Mr. Bert Slatter, who was then President of the Inglewood Branch, suggested at one of the branch meetings that we start a study group. The idea caught fire; before the meeting was adjourned that night thirty-three had signed for the initial class. A chairman was appointed and a meeting place was designated. The first meeting was spent organizing and finding out in what the group was most interested, for a beginning. Various topics were assigned to the more advanced of the group, all on various phases of begonia growing. The result is exceeding our fondest hopes.

During the November meeting, Mr. Glenn Motschman, a member of the Inglewood Branch, gave an instructive lecture on the planting and germination of tuberous begonia seed, followed by his colored movie on tuberous begonias. It was suggested that we purchase and grow our own seed. The group readily accepted this idea and were instructed as to what containers to bring in which to start their seed.

Wanting only the best, Mr. Mot-

schman purchased the seed from Vetterle and Reinelt and from Antonelli Bros.

The December meeting found us all coming with our dome-lid casseroles and shallow clay pans. The clay pans were nestled into a pad of peat moss all around the inside of the casserole, assuring an even moisture during germination. The germinating mix consisted of one-half German peat moss and one-half oak leaf mold finely screened to insure uniformity. The mixture was sterilized by both baking and by using semesan. Excitement permeated the air as the packets of seed were torn open. The expressions on the faces of the group as they saw the tiny seed being broadcast on the seed pans was worth every minute I spent there that night.

Most of these study group members had never seen a tuberous begonia seed prior to this meeting, to say nothing of watching the actual planting in their own containers. You know the group was pleasantly surprised to find that on the sixth day after planting the little green fuzz was beginning to show through. All the casseroles were put on back porches or some spot where the temperature was even at all times—about 65 degrees.

"A Royal Hobby"? I'll say it is. Where else could you have as much enjoyment and get so much out of it for so little spent? The beautiful part is the fact that you all can do the same thing right in your own homes. If you do not have a study group in your branch, start one. You will be surprised what happens when you start putting one foot ahead of the other.

Think I had better stop. I have used more ink now than the budget allows. See you next month.

Cal Trowbridge

Library Notes

Shade plant devotees nearly always have a few aroids in their plant collections, such as a fine caladium, a choice philodendron, an arum grown for its exotic foliage or a Chinese evergreen in a dark spot in the home. These members will be interested in a recent book, *THE CULTIVATED AROIDS*, by M. R. Birdsey, which has been added to your library for your use. Copies may also be purchased thru the library for \$4.25 each. (California members please add sales tax.) This is the first work of this kind which has been offered to the public and is profusely illustrated with actual photographs of each plant described, which alone would make it a valuable book, aside from the cultural

instructions and the botanical descriptions. These plants are part of the modern trend, since they lend themselves excellently to up-to-date interiors, and it is a delight to add reference material on them to your library.

New members have requested information as to how to use the library. *Send in your post card request for the books which you desire. These are shipped to you for your use for thirty days, then returned to your library with the postage enclosed for the amount on the face of the package.* We hope to have a new library list in the near future and a stamped, self-addressed envelope will bring the list to you.

Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian

★ ★ ★ ★

Calendar of Coming Events

(Visitors are always welcome!)

February 21st

Southern Alameda County Branch:
Pat Antonelli, the great tuberous begonia grower, will be our guest at our sixth Anniversary meeting.

February 23-24th

Kansas City African Violet Show, 13th at Wyandotte, Kansas City.

February 27

Glendale: R. B. Townsend Huntington Gardens Supt. — "Camellias and Azalleas."

May 26th - 31st

SCOTLAND BOUND? — From L. A. Lauener, Organizing Secretary, Scottish Gardens Tour, c/o Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh 4, Great Britain, comes an invitation to join their 6-day tour for a cost of approximately twenty-five guineas (about \$75.00), traveling in luxury coaches, with hotel accommodation, meals and gratuities. Many famous place names are on this list.

★ ★ ★ ★

1952 CONVENTION BULLETIN

Remember, last month we told you about little Linda Lou, the beautiful doll donated by Miss Marjorie May complete with wardrobe and traveling chest.

One of the highlights of the Christmas party held by the San Francisco Branch was the awarding of Linda Lou to a contributor to our Convention Fund. Miss May was granted the honor of making the award and, upon ascertaining the winner's name to be Letitia (Mrs. Clarence) Hall, of Ventura, California, she was immediately notified by telephone.—*Anne Mitchell.*

Begonias In Print

"New Plants of Merit" (Blackmore & Langdon named varieties)—Gardening Illustrated (London), Sept., 1951, p. 251, ill.

"Christmas Begonia" — Back to Eden — Sept., 1951, p. 12.

"Come September" — Horticulture, Sept., 1951, p. 332, ill.

"Planting Small Seeds in Missouri"—Saier's Garden Mag., Aug., 1951, p. 65.

"Tuberous Begonias" by Douglas Elliott—New Zealand Gardener, Oct. 2, 1950.

"Begonia Care for Winter" by L. Schwerdtfeger—Golden Gardens, Oct., 1951.

"Missouri Speaking: I Put My House Plants in Cold Storage" by F. Kellenberger—The Home Garden, Oct., 1951, p. 69, ill.

Your Editor

Late Again!

Guess we'll have to apologize before you tear our scalps. We have a new printer and we are on better paper and easier-to-read print now, but we had to pay for the change with two late issues and we sincerely hope this one reached you much closer to the first of the month. We should ride "steady on" henceforth.

J. French, England

Mr. French writes another interesting letter: "The Second Show which I mentioned in my letter was a great success so far as my second display was concerned. Once again, a great deal of interest was taken by the visiting public and I had many inquiries about begonias, ferns, and if I had been in position to make sales, there were the people to buy them, but as you know, our source of begonias is very limited in the field of rex, fibrous, etc., and is confined to a few of the keen collectors here and you folk in the States. On the show bench at this show I won another first with B. rex 'Fireflush' . . . I hope by my continued displays at each annual show to stimulate a greater interest in the begonias other than the tuberous . . . and eventually start a group of keen collectors in my own district."

Correction

Mr. French adds that we misunderstood his first letter in the statement, "won two firsts, with B. rex, *one plus extra . . .*" which should read "B. rex Ne Plus Ultra," which he describes as a real gem amongst the rex family.

Thanks

To our Armchair Skipper for sharing a lot of her interesting correspondence with Your Editor. To our new Publicity Director for undertaking a gigantic project; if we're ever going to grow into a Society as important to gardeners the world over as, say, the Rose Society (and we can), we must grow in numbers and to do so, we must tell EVERYBODY about ourselves. Let's GO! Let's GROW!

SPECIAL OFFER FOR NEW MEMBERS

All NEW (first time) members will receive with membership cards:

THREE cultural bulletins covering Rex, Fibrous and Tuberous Begonias.

A packet of easy-to-grow begonia seed with complete instructions.

AND a subscription for 12 issues of The Begonian. ALL only \$2.50!

MAKE MEMBERS
OF YOUR FRIENDS TODAY!

Sacramento Branch contributed \$10.00 to the national fund for advertising in large circulation national magazines.

BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES

CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, Feb. 1, Mar. 7
Lounge, Florida Power Co.
Winter Park, Fla.
Mr. Ted Wolf, Secy.-Treas.
Rt. 19, Box 3700, Orlando, Fla.

DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, Feb. 7, Mar. 6, 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, Feb. 14, 7:45 p.m.
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward,
Berkeley
C. F. Jensen, Secy.
3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday Feb. 21, 8:00 p.m.
Christian Church Fellowship Hall,
304 E. Valley
Jean Cross, Cor. Secy.
1304 Elm, Alhambra, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

1st Friday, Feb. 1, Mar. 7, 8:00 p.m.
Woman's Club Hse., 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa
Gertrude M. Cooper, Cor. Secy.
340 W. Electric, Glendora, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Feb. 2, Mar. 1
Mrs. Marion R. Thompson, Secy.
129 White Horse Pike, Magnolia, N.J.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Feb. 27, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central
Mrs. D. H. Bradley, Cor. Secy.
1301 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 8, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Genter, Cor. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10:30 a.m.
Home of Members
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following
Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.
R. E. D., Willow Grove, Pa.

HEART OF AMERICA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Member's Residences
Mr. George Knouf, Secy. Treas.
2912 Delevan, Kansas City, Kans.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Mrs. Florence F. Flynn, Cor. Secy.
1319 N. Ogden Dr., Los Angeles 46, Calif.

HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Feb. 18, 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, Feb. 11, 8:00 p.m.
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.
Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.
P.O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 14, 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. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Porter Park, University & La Mesa Blvd.
Mrs. G. W. McManus, Secy.
7313 Princeton Ave., La Mesa, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 19, 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. 26, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.
2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 19, 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. Lester H. Fox, Secy.
170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, 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. 11, 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, Feb. 7, Mar. 6, 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. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Casita del Arroyo, 127 S. Arroyo Blvd.,
Mrs. Harold Benson, Secy.-Treas.
3180 No. Crestford Dr., Altadena, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Feb. 15, 8:00 p.m.
McKinley Rec. Center, Wash. & Vallejo Sts.
Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.
222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

Mrs. Earl Wurster
Rt. 25, Riverton, N.J.

PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Feb. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.
Mrs. George Verner, Secy.
7604 S. E. Tolman, Portland 6, Oregon

REDONDO BEACH AREA

4th Friday, Feb. 22, 8:00 p.m.
2308 Rocketeller
Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Arline Stoddard, Secy.
522 S. Guadalupe Ave., Redondo Beach, Cal.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Member's Residence
Mrs. Zena L. Twomley, Secy.
7154 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Feb. 22, 10:00 a.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. J. J. Howarth, Secy.
4319 Del Mar Ave., San Diego 7, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 19, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, McKinley Park
Mrs. W. M. Kelso, Secy.
1848 Markham Way, Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Feb. 5, Mar. 4
The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem
Mrs. Dan Scharf, Secy.
3460 N. Lancaster Dr., Salem, Ore.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Feb. 25
Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & Unvsty.
Mrs. Thomas Hofmann, Secy.
2327 33rd St., San Diego 4, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.
18635 Calvert St., Reseda, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Feb. 6, Mar. 5, 7:30 p.m.
1641 Taraval St.
Mrs. Anne Mitchell, Secy.
2370 18th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Feb. 27, 8:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.,
Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Hazel Snowden, Secy.
5956 N. Encina Ave., Temple City, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.
Mrs. Ada Schaefer, Secy.
1103 W. Micheltorena St., Sta Barbara, Cal.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Feb. 5, Mar. 4, 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, Feb. 8, 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, Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m.
 Steckel Park
 Mrs. Beryl Ernsberger, Secy.
 621 Santa Paula St., Santa Paula, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Feb. 19
 Members' Homes
 Mrs. James Fariss, Secy.
 17721 Bothell Way, Seattle 55, Wash.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Feb. 5, Mar. 4, 7:30 p.m.
 Alice Bartlett C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura
 Mr. Orville A. Rogers, Secy.
 126 S. Pacific Ave., Ventura, Calif.

SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Feb. 21, 8:00 p.m.
 Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
 Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss, Cor. Secy.
 26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Feb. 26, 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. 22, 7:30 p.m.
 Members' Homes
 Mrs. Fred M. Owens, Secy.-Treas.
 1312 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Feb. 13, 11:00 a.m.
 Homes of Members
 Mrs. Walter H. Kirch, Secy.
 Clearview Rd., Glenshaw, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEV., O.

4th Wednesday, Mar. 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, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m.
 Union High School, Room 19
 Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.
 Carolyn Spitz, Secy.
 7721 Vanport Ave., Whittier, Calif.

LIVING THE GOLDEN RULE

Inglewood: Tools, used or new, were collected for the local Children's Home.

Redondo Beach Area: A piano was purchased by this branch and presented to the Girl Scouts, in whose clubhouse they meet. Three representatives from the South Bay Area Council accepted the gift. They expressed their appreciation and assured the members that the piano would add to the enjoyment of the social activities of the Scout groups. Mrs. Arline Stoddard and Mrs. Earl Wiltse should be commended for the work they did in raising the money for the piano. The two day rummage sale held in Hermosa Beach was a big success, due to their efforts. Surplus plant tables also helped swell the fund.—*Gwen Trefethen.*

Eva Kenworthy Gray: Again busy in December with its Annual Christmas Project. It has two undertakings each year. First, we see that "shut-ins" in

La Jolla have a plant for Christmas. Secondly, we remember each of the 230 men and women at Edgemore Farm, a division of the County Hospital. Each patient will be given an individual gift and in addition there will be a donation of fruit and candy for all. We also plan on supplying a quantity of decorations, so that the patients who are well enough might have the pleasure of decorating the hospital. — *Mrs. R. J. Hulsizer.*

Redondo Area: At our Christmas party each person is to bring a toy for a gift exchange and later they will be donated to a worthy organization. — *Gwen Trefethen.*

East Bay gave a cash offering to the Junior Red Cross girls' program for the wards at Oak Knoll Hospital instead of having a gift exchange between members.

CAN YOU BEAT THIS RECORD?

Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch paid honor recently to member Floyd Shaw on the occasion of his 94th birthday, when the branch sent him a decorated cake and presented a year's membership card to him and his wife. Mr. Shaw and his wife have been members of our branch for 14 years and both are very active gardeners and members. We wonder if any other branch can top this? 94 years old and going strong! — *Mrs. H. A. Meyer.*

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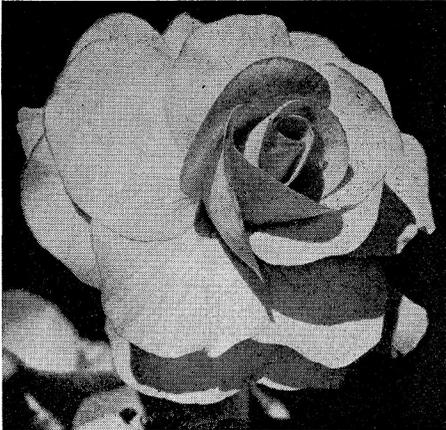
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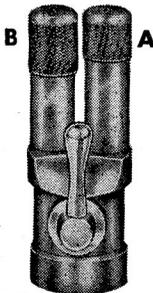
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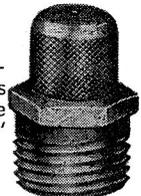


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