

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens



BEGONIA
'PAUL
BRUANT'



Photographer
P. I. Merry



Plant of
Mrs. Ruth P. Merry



JUNE
1953



TWENTY-FIVE
CENTS



VOL. XX
No. 6



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Editor Stanley Spaulding
808 E. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo, Calif.

Co-Editor Mrs. Margaret Fenn
1201 Pier Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif.

ADVERTISING

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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., June 22, 1953. Use Main St. elevator. Park lower garage, south entrance on Main Street.

- * Annual Dues—Two Dollars Fifty Cents.
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Border and Pool at the G. E. Ramers' Miami Bit of Eden

The BEGONIAN

JUNE

THE ROSE MONTH

Deepen the pinks of May with good food carefully applied!

"You Are Nearer to God in a Garden"

By G. E. Ramer, Miami, Florida

Photography by Nixon Smiley,

Courtesy Miami Herald

Last month you may have read in Your Editor's column of the notice taken of my little garden here in Miami where I have endeavored to produce a happy home for my favorite begonias and other sheltered garden plants. I had quite a time explaining to people who came visiting after the story appeared in the Herald that I did not sell plants!

In this climate begonias do not like the hot sun, and while slat houses are all right, they do not add much to the scenery, so I have a number of trees and shrubs to furnish shade, and these also help to beautify the place. The following are some of them:

Strawberry guava, the Ti plants, Ylang-ylang, Doryalis (Aberia), Jacaranda, Coconuts, Cocos plumosus, Loquat, Jerusalem Thorn, Grape Myrtle, Privet, Cycads, Dwarf poinciana, Callistemon, Bananas, Areca palms, etc., Orange Jasmine, Viburnums, Tabernaemontana, Podocarpus, Camellias, Surinam Cherry, Ixoras, Pittosporum, Thryallis (Galphimia), Crotons, Hibiscus, Bush Morning Glory, and Jacobinia.

We also have many lilies—crinum, swamp, day, Easter, Zephyranthes, Iris, Elephant Ear, Caladiums, and annuals etc., such as Phlox, Verbena, Nasturium, Candytuft, Ageratum, Coreopsis, Gaillardia, Achimenes, Petunias, Pinks, Flax, Asters, Sweet Alyssum, Cosmos, and Gladioli. I seldom plant these as they reseed themselves.

Then there are a lot of vines that make up the picture, such as Asparagus falcatus, Allamanda, Combretum, Solanum wendlandi

and seafortianum, Cydista, Pandorea, Petrea volubilis, Senecio confusus, Pothos, Clerodendrum delectum and Cissus discolor, Stephanotis, etc.

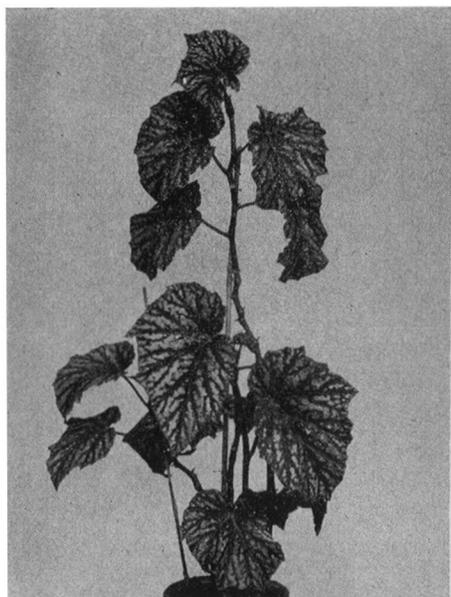
There are also a lot of tender tropicals like Episcias, Alocasia, African violets, etc.

I have my own pumping and water system, and it is easy to inject fertilizers into the water and the whole garden benefits. The lush growth requires a lot of continual trimming, but most of this is turned into compost, with cottonseed meal and bacteria, and returning this to the soil pays dividends. We do not have much trouble with pests, as the many birds that make the garden their home keep the bugs under control. Our principal trouble with begonias are nematodes, slugs and grasshoppers, the latter eating the foliage and the former the roots. We use Lawnogen effectively for the nematodes, and common salt gets the slugs, but only a deft and quick hand can get the grasshoppers. The birds don't like them and neither do we.

It is really surprising how much can grow in a small lot 100 x 115 feet with a house in the middle, but with proper care, food and water, all plants seem to do well, and they certainly are a joy and a blessing.

There is a conspicuous sign in the garden that reads:

*"The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth;
You are nearer to God in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth."*



Begonia x C. P. Raffill



Begonia x Mrs. Hoffmann

England Reports on Cane-like Rex Crosses

Photography by F. J. Bedson, F.R.H.S.

Dear Editor,

I was interested to read the article in the January, 1953, *Begonian* by Eugen Hahn, translated by Rudolph Ziesenhenné, on three Bush Begonias.

Having grown these for many years, but not having noted them referred to in American Literature, I had hoped to send you some notes on them, but have hitherto been baffled as to their parentage, which still seems unknown. Perhaps I may add my impressions of these plants.

B. X L. R. RUSSELL (not L. R. Russell as quoted) was introduced in the 1937 Catalogue of L. R. Russell Ltd., the British Nurseryman. I must confess I found it the least attractive of the three, and I have since discarded it.

B. X AXEL LANGE seems only to have been distributed in England since the end of the War. I have grown a 4ft. high plant, but, like many others, they are usually at their best in a younger stage. One can readily believe that a cane stem Begonia such as 'President Carnot' is in the parentage, along with a Rex hybrid, to add the pleasing leaf colour blendings of tawny green and brown, with silver spots and a wine red underside.

The pride of the trio is B. X MRS. HOFFMANN, as it is named in the 1937 Russell

Catalogue, and if my wide collection of Begonias had to be reduced to half a dozen, I doubt if I could exclude this. I have an old plant of this over 3 ft. high and nearly as wide, but as usual, smaller plants of around 18" seem the most attractive. There is much variation in the beauty of the leaf under differing growing conditions, but at its best it is a glorious dark crimson, with hardly any trace of silvery, and the quality of the leaf is most distinct, being like silk brocade. Poorer grown plants show more silvery and paler colouring. It is very much on the lines of B. 'Abel Carriere,' but far superior in texture and colour. B. 'Abel Carriere' is a *Rex-Evansiana* cross, but there seems little of *B. Evansiana* in B. 'Mrs. Hoffman', unless the tree-like habit. The stems are covered with downy hair, and the plant is quite happy in 40 deg. winter night temperature, a sign of at least one nearly hardy parent, such as *B. Evansiana*. It is surprising that such a first class plant should still remain with parentage unregistered. Currently it is being catalogued over here as B. 'Mrs. Hoofman'.

A fourth plant might well have been added to this trio, as it is another Bush or tree-like Begonia, with foliage loosely tending to Rex. This is BEGONIA C. P.

RAFFILL, also in the 1937 Russell Catalogue, and named after the well known Officer of Kew Gardens who passed away only last year. This also I cannot trace parentage of, but, as the enclosed photo shows, it is tree-like, rather straggly with age, somewhat weak stemmed unless grown in more than usual temperature, pointing to a more exotic parent, at least on one side. It is however, so unlike any other Begonia that it is not easy to guess at possible parentage. It is the only Begonia I know with almost black leaves, this

colour spreading from the veins over a background of silver overcast with this intense deep cherry black shadow. The smooth succulent stems are deep wine red, and the leaves elephant ear shaped, lightly lobed, slightly cupped, and most distinct. Perhaps it is another of the above group of European crosses, between a Rex and a cane stemmed Begonia. If so, these rare crossings of rhizomatous by fibrous seem to have remained unsung hitherto.

F. J. Bedson,
"Ivywood", BIGGIN HILL, Kent, England



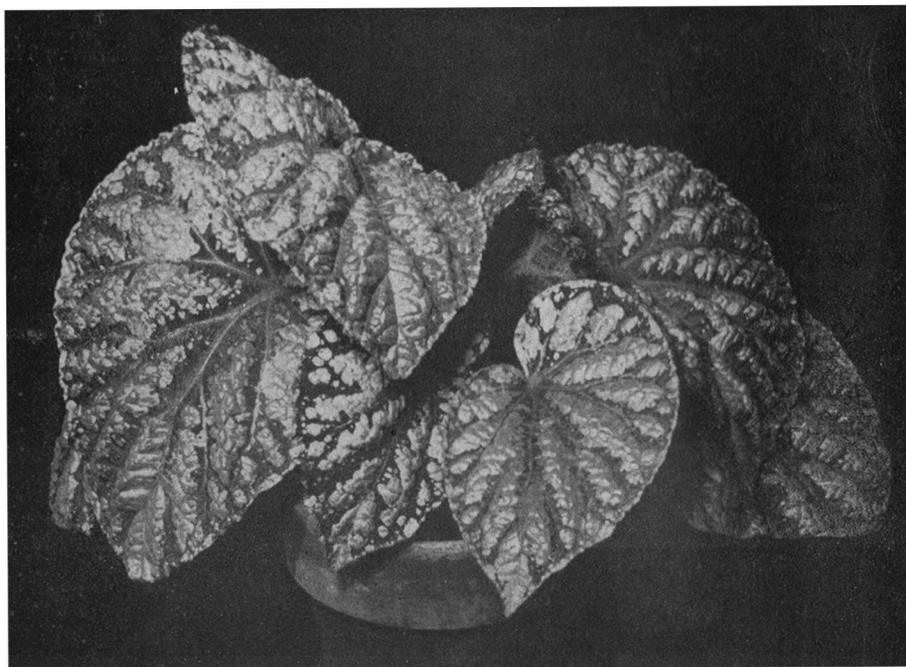
Begonia incarnata grown by Mr. Bedson from a rooted slip sent by R. Ziesenhene during the drive to replenish England's stock of Begonias after the war.

BEGONIA GAMES

Mrs. Mildred Knoupf of Missouri Branch reported some good ideas from their Christmas party. 1. They had to give the history of the 'Florence Carrell' Begonia (Mrs. Mary Wood won). 2. Name as many variegated begonias as possible (won by Mrs. Vivian Tolman). 3. Name as many begonias as you can of any kind (won by Mrs. Elizabeth Kratz).

BUDDING FLORISTS

Mrs. Jewell Smith, one of Missouri's newer members, gave a lesson on Corsage Making in January, using the flowers of Lady Mac and Ferns, then answered questions. Part of their "Little Show" was of corsages made of begonia flowers and foliage. Awards were made with first place going to Mrs. Breshears. —*Leora Calmese.*



—Courtesy of Reynolds Gardens.

Rex Begonia 'President' (formerly 'President Carnot') Reynolds' Gardens, Sebastopol, Calif., presents a perfect young specimen of this old olive-green and silver large-growing variety.

For Beautiful Leaves - - Rexes

A Chat with Della MacLanaban

Yes, a good rex will take much neglect and can still be resurrected. For instance, one of the few to survive the complete lack of any attention and tossing around incident to our recent move was the large old favorite pictured here—from Reynolds Gardens in Sebastopol, California—'President' (formerly called 'President Carnot')—a wall-basket of which, entwined in aged rhizomes is now coming back to life in almost full sun.

This old variety has been in nearly every rex collector's garden during the past fifty or sixty years and is supreme in its color class of silver over olive green, keeping its leaves all year if properly watered and fed.

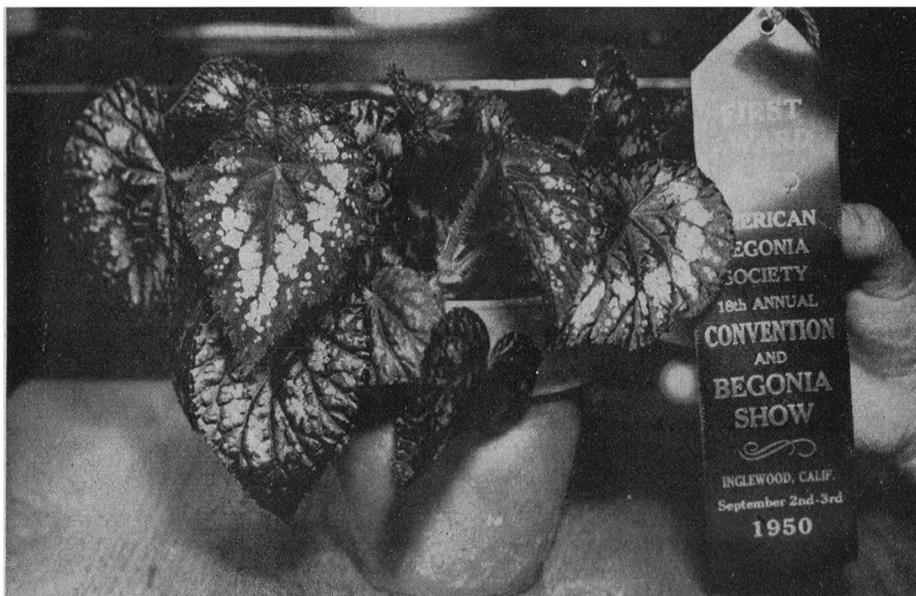
Now, feeding is something to be very particular about. They won't take heavy fertilizing, and I have wonderful luck with all my begonias and other plants as well by watering them twice a week with a dilute solution of a commercial fertilizer. For my indoor plants I add B-1 vitamin to the water for all watering. Your plants are like you. Can you sit down to a great big meal and stuff yourself and then

wait a week before eating again? I find that continued light feeding will prevent dormancy in many indoor plants.

After a rex *has* gone dormant, water sparingly until spring and then mulch with a layer of manure and water till new growth starts; then you can commence the regular feedings, and meanwhile the light fertilizer leaching from the manure has built a good root system.

By the way, when you water a pot or basket—don't forget to water the *whole* thing. A little water poured around the front edge may trickle out the bottom without ever wetting the main soil mass at all. Water all around and then right down into the center, too.

If you find your clay pots drying out too fast, a trick I use is to take at least a 2-inch larger size pot and pack an inch of green Oregon moss all around the sides and set my planted pot in that; then I water the moss thoroughly, and I can even leave for several days and come back and find my plant in perfect condition, it having absorbed the needed moisture from the moss and



—Plant of Mary Choate

—Ken Clarke Photo.

Rex Begonia 'Peacock', showy midget introduced by Leslie Woodriff; Center black, to reddish-pink, to silver, to silver-spotted green and edged black.

been insulated by it against dry, hot air.

I have another little trick with house plants. I put a pinch of an insecticide containing DDT and chlordane, etc., in the bottom pan on which my plant stands, and I never am troubled with soil-inhabiting insects such as worms, mites, etc. I water my pots from the top and let the excess flow into the drip pan and leave the pot right there so it absorbs the excess, which contains the B-1 and, twice a week, the fertilizer, plus some of the insecticide, no doubt. I haven't yet been troubled with alkali by this method—possibly because of the continued fertilizing????

Most of my rexes have been large-leaved plants. Mrs. Choate, whose collection of small-leaved types was famous, won a first

with this beautiful specimen of Leslie Woodriff's 'Peacock' at the Inglewood Show in 1950. She could keep the plants dwarf and suitable for the small window-garden even though some have tendencies to stretch into medium-sized plants when given the same treatment as your other rexes. I find you cannot fertilize the dwarfs if you want really small plants, and it is better to rely on shady spots for them to bring out the color of their leaves. Mrs. Choate, incidentally had set an intensified color into some of the 'Berry Miniatures' by continued propagation from the prettiest leaf on the successive plants. Shade will intensify the color in all of your rexes, of course. I tested Roy Berry's 'Tapestry' by giving it regular feedings and grew it into a beautiful plant with leaves to six inches long.

Colchicine Experiments

Dr. Clyde Switzer of Grandview, Missouri, a retired physician, was guest speaker at Missouri Branch's February meeting. Having worked in flowers all his life, as did his mother before him, he was most helpful. He made suggestions on different ways of sterilizing soils, the reason for molds, etc. Then he spoke of his work with the drug colchicine. He is now experimenting with the colchicum bulb itself, the source of the drug. He has ground some up and planted seeds on it and also dug out a hole in a bulb and planted a violet leaf therein. Results are eagerly awaited.—*Leora Calmese.*

William Penn Branch Tests

The hostess called attention to six plants of *B. Scharffi*, acquired from different sources under different names, which varied slightly in leaf color and texture after being grown side by side for six months, yet were inescapably the same. This illustrated what small variations had been made an excuse for varietal names. She also showed plants of fibrous Begonias grown from leaf or leaf-bud cuttings. A very handsome Begonia of the hirsute group was tentatively identified by Mrs. De Coursey as *B. 'Lillian Sloan.'*—*May Taft Drew.*

Convention Bulletin

The Redondo Area Branch wishes to extend an invitation to every member of the American Begonia Society to attend the 1953—21st Annual Convention in Redondo Beach, California.

The members of this branch have made every effort to give consideration to each branch of the society, and although it is possible that the dates set for the convention will conflict with other branch activities, it is our heartfelt wish that everyone will make special effort to attend. YOUR presence is both wanted and needed to make this year's convention the success we hope it to be.

The campus of Redondo Union High School will be at our disposal August 22 and 23 for the flower show, business meeting, and banquet.

The National Board will provide a nomenclature committee at the site of the flower show to answer all your queries and help with the correct placing of the plants.

There is a tremendous amount of space waiting to be filled by your prize exhibition plants. Take courage! Wrap them carefully and bring them, one and all. It isn't always the largest plant that takes a prize. Show them with the selfsame pride you display in your own back yard!

The Missouri branch has suggested a special class for out-of-state entries. This idea is under discussion now, and we hope to initiate it in the schedule this year.

We wish to thank the Alfred D. Robinson Branch and the Santa Monica Bay Branch for their generous contributions to the host branch for the convention.

Directives may be sent to Mr. Sam Sault,

Publicity Chairman, 309 East 220th Street, Torrance Calif.; Mr. Joe Taylor, Treasurer, 301 Anita Street, Redondo Beach, Calif.; or Mr. Jack Koebig, Convention Chairman, 520 South Guadalupe Avenue, Redondo Beach, Calif.

We know you will want to enter your plants in competition, and we are hoping to receive early requests for entry blanks. Application may be made to the Flower Show Chairman, Mr. C. O. Eipper, 25388 Pennsylvania St., Lomita, California.

Accommodations

Banquet and Hotel accommodations have been arranged. There are also motels available for those who prefer them. The Bay area's finest beach resort hotel, The Hermosa Biltmore, is located directly on the ocean front, and within minutes of the convention site. Start filing your reservations with: Mrs. Chelsea Hendrix, 838 Thirteenth Street, Hermosa Beach, Calif.

Hotel rates are: 3.50 to \$7.00.

Motel rates are: \$3.50 to \$7.00.

Our banquet chairman has secured an excellent caterer, and promises an enjoyable dinner. Tickets will be mailed to all branch secretaries. Reservations should be addressed to Mae Koebig, 520 South Guadalupe Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif. Dinner will be \$2.25 per plate.

The Flower Show Schedule will appear in next month's issue. With a catch of our breath we suddenly realize that convention time is almost upon us. We've lots of room, so groom! groom! groom! *Bring* your plants; don't let them come alone; they need *you*, and *we* do too.

Library Notes

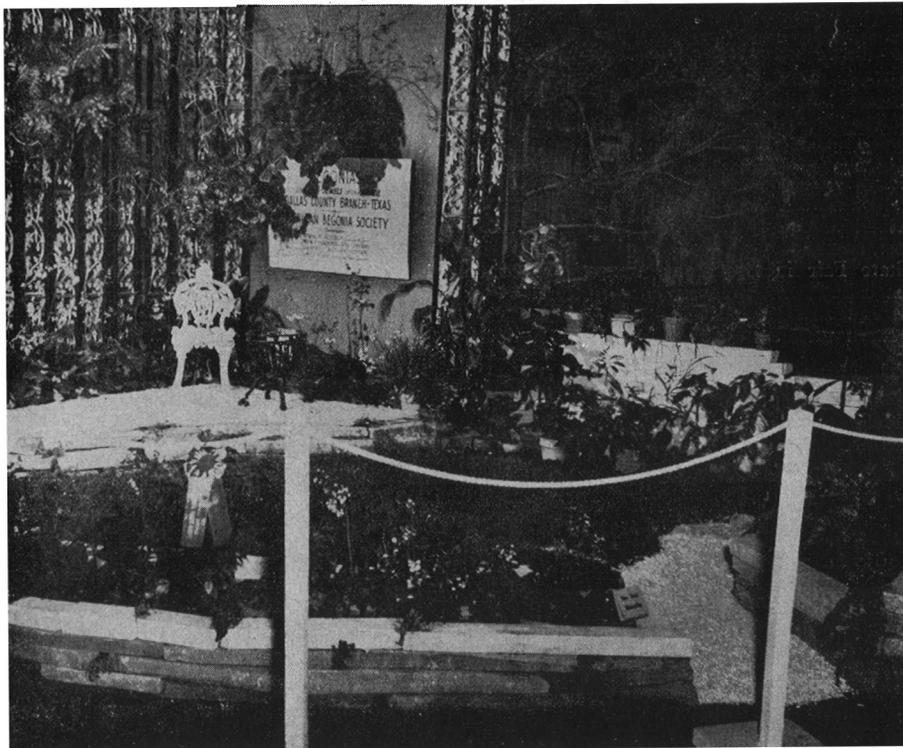
STYLING CORSAGES WITH GARDEN FLOWERS by Mary Hazel Drummond, (see May Begonia pg. 102) has been donated to your Society by the publisher and may be added to your library list on this subject.

INDOOR PLANTS AND GARDENS by Jones & Clark, publ. by the Architectural Press, London (\$2.75 postpaid) has also been acquired for your use and should delight all those interested in modern plantings and the appropriate plant material which may be grown for this purpose. This is one of the finest volumes to date on this field of gardening and is beautifully illustrated with actual photographs of studied plantings for modern design.

May I also call the attention of the membership to the new publication of the Bailey Hortorium, *BAILEYA*, a quarterly

journal "designed primarily as a medium by which taxonomic information, pertaining primarily to cultivated plants, at a level comprehensible to the nontaxonomist can be made readily available."—This is written for the amateur and horticulturist interested in the botany of cultivated plants and especially their identification, nomenclature, classification and history in cultivation. Mr. Lawrence, Editor, has generously offered to be of assistance in solving any questions regarding the identification or nomenclature of Begonias and assures us that there will be at least one article dealing with taxonomic problems of Begonias before the first volume is completed. Subscriptions \$2.00 per year may be sent directly to the BAILEY HORTORIUM, NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, N.Y.
—Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.

BRANCH SHOWS



Dallas County, Texas, Wins Award

The Dallas County Branch of the American Begonia Society participated in the Garden Center Flower Show held in Dallas, Texas, March 20 to 29th, 1953. We are all so happy over the "Award of Merit" we received that we want to share our good news.

Our part in the show was that of an out-door garden, using ornamental iron as the corner background from which baskets of begonias and ferns were hung. Around

the sides were large beds of beautiful blooming begonias. The yard was enclosed with Austin Stone with a winding white pebble walk thru the St. Augustine grass lawn. Of course, there were a few beautiful shrubs at appropriate places. We used a beautiful Bronze Statue in one corner that helped to accentuate the beauty and charm of our gorgeous begonias.

—Mrs. Dorothy B. Bearden

The Portland Branch is very proud of their exhibit in the 1st Annual Spring Flower Fair and Garden Show, staged by Multnomah County and local landscape architects, at the Fairgrounds, on April 9th thru 12th. Members were surprised at the wealth of material available for use in the display, and very pleased with the many compliments received from the 1400 visitors signing the guest register. (This usually calls for larger-sized hats). President and Mrs. Runtz are to be praised for planning such a colorful display, and together with Mr. Post, as well as other workers, deserve a great deal of credit for their efforts.

Foothill Branch Exhibit

Foothill had a wonderful 7th anniversary meeting in March and entertained a number of visitors elegantly. It was announced that they are exhibiting at the Padua Hills Shade Plant Show and also that a sheltered location in La Verne Recreational Park is soon to be planted to begonias by our branch with camellias and associated shade plants as a background setting.

President Mrs. A. B. Clarke announced commencement of a schedule of visitations of members' gardens with her home and that of the Percy Zugs to which all members and friends are being invited.

—Mrs. C. W. Hall.

More Branch Shows

Texas State

The "Showingest Branch"? Our Branch staged four shows last year and will take part in four shows this year. Our plants hardly have time to grow. On April 7-8th we entered the Spring Flower Show put on by the Federation of Garden Clubs and on May 15-16th we held our 2nd Begonia and Shade Plant Show. We hope to show at the National Convention in California in August, and in October we will be at the Texas State Fair in Beaumont, Texas. We could be called the Circus Branch. Of course this is in addition to all our other interesting branch affairs.—*E. Weaver, Natl. Director.*

Portland Branch

A new program, sponsored by the ORTHO people over a local radio station, features a 15-minute round table discussion by 5 of our members, answering audience

questions on various phases of begonia culture. The first of a series of 3 or 4 such broadcasts was tape-recorded at the last meeting, and will go on the air May 11th.

Inasmuch as this program is released through 26 radio stations in Oregon and Washington, we feel sure that our endeavor can only result in good publicity and new members for the society.

This winter one of the local theaters had a greenhouse on display during a spring garden campaign and different plant societies were asked to exhibit in the greenhouse for weekly periods. Our branch was happy to participate and took the first week.

Mr. Talbot, my husband, I am happy to say, is slowly but gradually recovering from his very serious illness.

I was most pleased with the full page color photograph of a corner of our garden taken last fall after the Flower Show, displayed by HOUSEHOLD magazine in a recent issue. *Florence A. Talbot*

Your Editor

That article by our advertiser, Fisher's Gardens (Anaheim) in the Sunset Magazine for May, 1952, pictured one of their new dwarf rex introductions, 'Georgia Lou Fisher', a tri-color little part-spiral leaf of green, lilac and maroon, with a mature plant in a 5-inch pan measuring 14 inches across and six inches high, with leaves to 6 inches across. The late Mrs. Elizabeth Fisher began this breeding to get away from the long-stemmed, straggly appearance of so many rexes. Looks good.

BRENTWOOD HOSPITAL

Our branches have responded eagerly to the circular sent round regarding this project and I am sure our other readers would also be interested. Mrs. Charline Hardacre, at Las Campanas Hospital, has sent us the following information with a view to stimulating interest in constructive help for our disabled G. I.'s:

"Gardening Therapy at Brentwood Hospital" by Mrs. Andrew Olsen:

... "Some people think of mental hospitals as places where people are shut in and kept behind iron bars. That idea is as out-moded as a dodo bird! In modern hospitals where patients have a chance to get well, they are not treated that way. Instead, they are sent out in the garden to work. All medicine doesn't come in bottles.

"The Landscaping Society of Southern California is trying to raise funds for a garden which is to be built for and by the

boys in the psychiatric Hospital. Governmental appropriations are being used, of course, for medical service, but extra services such as these are always given by an appreciative public. We shouldn't have to be reminded of what these fellows have done for us. If you but realized how much it means to them to have something of this sort to do during the time they are getting their personalities adjusted, you would try to do something about it.

"... Doctors say results from this kind of therapy show up very quickly. Little jobs to be done, like planting seeds, making a hot bed or a lawn, or planting shrubs, require initiative, a development of careful work habits, diligence, good co-ordination, teamwork, and the ability to get along with one's fellow workers and patients, and follow through to finish the job. And then too, when there are quite a few things and kinds of tasks to do as there are out in a garden, a fellow can work out his conflicts, or "feelings of aggression" as they are called, by vigorously hoeing weeds, digging a trench, or doing all the other strenuous assignments in a garden.

"... Our aim is to furnish a more efficient tool for their use, and to treat a lot more people. With a well designed garden, all the space can be used so more patients can work at it, and besides, we are counting on the natural beauty of this new garden to create more harmony and peace of mind for the folks who work in it. There will also be a greater number of jobs to do

besides growing cut flowers and vegetables the way the boys do there now. There will be picnic areas to be kept neat, plants to be propagated, and a miniature farm where farm animals will have to be taken care of.

" . . . You can help provide a big, well-designed garden where all these boys who want to can go out there and work. Here's how you can help. Send in a donation to Mrs. Frank L. Coe, Project Chairman, Brentwood Hospital Project, 1420 El Rito Ave., Glendale 8, Calif."

Of course, if you have a project like this

in your home, you will want to support it, or perhaps this is just the thing for a group of you to commence pushing for one of your local hospitals. If not, Brentwood Project is a fine thing in our opinion.

TRAILERITES

In a clipping sent in by our newest branch, Ocean Co., N. J., by Mrs. Emma Ficken, we note they had a fine meeting and laid plans to share in the Paul Kimball Hospital benefit in July by entering a rare begonia. More power to all good works.

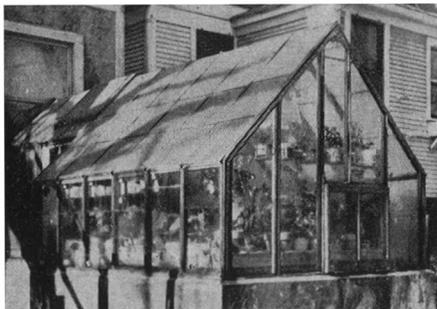
Pages From Missouri's B.B.B.*

By Leora Calmese,
Missouri Branch Natl. Director

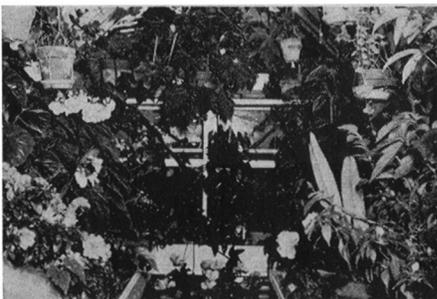
Mrs. Ralph Seever has a little glass house 7 x 14 fairly bursting at the seams. If Spring doesn't come soon, I don't know what may happen. Mrs. Seever grew the beautiful *foliosa* pictured in the March Begonian. Her husband is what I call a gadgeteer. On the shelf just inside the glasshouse door is her extension phone and door bell! It also has a control in case the heat should go off that will ring a bell in their bedroom and one that opens a window if it gets too hot. The heat comes from hot water pipes under the benches. The heating system is an old-fashioned gas hot water heater. All this was built by Mr. Seever from materials on hand and furnished by friends.

This little glasshouse is really a three-decker. The regular benches are on all four sides, leaving just enough room for a door on the south and a narrow space to work between benches. We have come up with the idea of fluorescent lights under our benches to increase our growing space. Mrs. Seever has a forty-inch light under her north bench. There on the ground grow *acida* 'Richard Robinson', *Boweri major*, and many others. Under her south bench are her working materials. She has shelves on the east side and on one of these are her rhizomatous types. She ties the blooms down to keep them from touching the glass. There are pots hanging from every available space. There are extra lights on the north and east so the plants in the back may get their share of light.

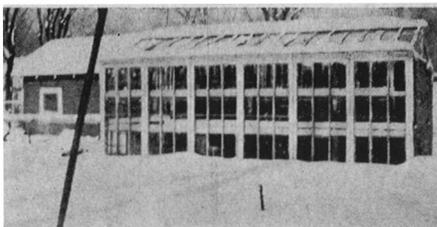
Mrs. Seever counted her plants for me, and there are 315 besides the cuttings in sand and water. All are not begonias, however, as Mr. Seever is a flower grower too. He has his ficus, monstera, azaleas, etc. She has between 80 and 90 varieties of begonias. Many duplicates are kept just in case—for all was not always like this. Two years ago almost half her plants were killed by overfeeding. So one sees by constant care one can really grow something out of this world in a small space. In the summer she moves her plants to a lath house of the same size.



Missouri's Mrs. Ralph Seever grows her prize-winners here.



Interior of the Seever glasshouse—Mr. Seever's orchids, azaleas and cyclamens share the warmth.



This winter at the Leora Calmese greenhouse, Missouri Branch.

(* Begonia Blue Book)



Mona Ayers, Kansas City, Mo. Do not worry about rexes in your hot dry summer; use this period for resting. Do not feed at this time; but put them on the north side or east side of a building where they get good light but no direct sun. Use a fine spray and sprinkle them and the ground, walls, etc., two to three times a day. This promotes humidity that they like. They don't suffer so much from the heat; it is the evaporation of moisture from their leaves that harms them. They will look moth-eaten, but they all do two months of the year, if you want beautiful plants the other ten months.

If you are a member of the A.B.S. and not taking advantage of the Round Robins,—you don't know what you are missing. Your membership entitles you to join.

You are just a new member learning about Begonias?—Then you will be able to glean a great deal of information from reading of others' experiences. No?—You have been growing Begonias successfully for some time?—Then you will thrill in writing of your experiences and in helping others to be successful too.

After you are a "Robinite" and receive that first packet of letters, read them over, take notes, and then add your bit and send it on its way. You will begin looking forward to the time the Robin flies to your door again.

How to join? Just send Mrs. Baker your name and address and tell her which Begonia or Shade plant Group interests you. She will place you in a Robin that will meet your needs. Simple, isn't it, this Round Robin way of meeting garden friends through the mails? AND you will learn all the why and wherefores.

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GARDEN GLEANINGS
2B, Baroda, Michigan

TIMELY TUBEROUS TIPS

By Glenn W. Motschman
Monthly cultural information on growing the Tuberos Begonia in Southern California.

This month the queenly Tuberos Begonia will begin rewarding us for our care during the past few months. June is usually the month when most tubers will start blooming, and so we can enjoy their beauty for the rest of the summer and fall.

The Tuberos Begonia is almost pest free, but of course clean gardening is the best preventative for disease and pests. Remove the fallen leaves and flowers from beneath the plants each week. If a flower petal falls on a leaf it will usually damage the leaf within a few days, so try to keep your plants clean too.

Remember that the Tuberos Begonia likes to be watered each day about the same time. Check the moisture in the soil periodically to see if you are watering correctly. The soil should be moist, not wet or dry, at least four inches beneath the surface. Protect your plants from the wind, especially on warm, dry days.

Our National A.B.S. Garden Tour will be on Sunday, June 28, 1953. Our garden will be one of the many shown this year. May I extend to you a very cordial invitation to visit us on that day. If you have a problem about Tuberos Begonias, I should welcome the opportunity of discussing your problem with you.

Robin News

Dear Members:

June finds us well caught up with garden work and with a few extra minutes in which to answer our Robins. Let's find time to take notes from day to day and be ready when the Robin flies in. By doing so you will help to send the Robin through its flight in record time.

We are greatly in need of new members for the Fuchsia and the Day-Lily Robins. The Orchid Robin has room for a few more members, so hurry if you wish to be in the first flight.

The work our directors are doing and the response of our members is most gratifying, and I greatly appreciate such cooperation, especially at this time of year. Thanks for all you do to keep our Robins flying.

Wishing you a summer of good growing,
Sophia Baker, Chairman
2733 South East 35th Place
Portland, Oregon.

MISSOURI WAYS AND MEANS

Reported over \$350.00 taken in from luncheon, flowers sold, grab bags, bazaar, etc., plus \$50.00 local dues, during last year.

—Leora Calmese. (WOW!)

Begonias Can Stand a Winter Show

By Marion W. DeCoursey, per May Taft Drew

On January 18, 1953, I took to the Flower Show held in the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co., Philadelphia, Pa., about fifty Begonia plants. The previous morning I soaked all the pots in water up to their rims until the soil looked and felt moist. Then I wrapped the pots in tinfoil to retain the moisture. That afternoon they were wrapped in two thicknesses of newspaper and packed in a heated truck, to spend the night in a heated garage. The plants were unpacked the following morning in good condition, although the outside temperature was just about freezing.

They were exhibited for five days on trays, packed quite closely together. The hall was very large, very hot and dry, but had some change of air due to customers coming and going constantly. The plants were watered once and the leaves sprayed four times. This watering was good for the little pots, which were set in peat in long flower boxes, but was not needed by any of the larger pots.

The day they were brought home the outside temperature had risen to points between 40 and 50 degrees. This time the plants were not wrapped at all but packed

closely in large florists' boxes. On reaching home I found that the only damage seemed to be due to overwatering, though a few leaves and branches were broken and a few varieties had lost a great many leaves. On the whole, the collection survived the move in good condition. At this time of year all should recover in a few months.

The following showed no ill effects. 'Templini', 'Dora Swisher', *laetivirides*, *manicata aureo-maculata*, *frutescans*, 'prunifolia', Manda's Woolly Bear, 'Mrs. Fred Scripps', *acutangularis*, *angularis*, 'Grey Feather', 'Mami', 'Sunderbruchi', *lobata variegata*, 'Vedderi', 'Rubaiyat', 'Roetzli', Dwarf Houghtoni, 'Viaudi', 'Viaudi Pink', 'Red Compta', 'Sachsen', *ulmifolia*, *albo picta*, 'Tea Rose', *sanguinea*, 'Limminghei', 'Stitches', 'Luwalter', 'Paul Bruant', *metallica*, 'dignswelliana', *incarnata*, *imperialis*, *imperialis smaragdina*, 'illustrata', 'Pearli Hybrid'.

The following lost many leaves: *epipsila*, 'Decker's Select', 'Bessie Buxton', Mexican species No. 1327, Boweri, *rotundifolia*, 'Alzasco', *hispidavillosa*, 'Winter Jewel', *circumlobata*.

These suffered severely. 'Perle de Lorraine', 'Mexican Species', 'Elvira Swisher'.

Our Cover Picture . . .

Begonia X Paul Bruant

Here we have a French hybrid between the star begonia *heracleifolia* var. *longipila* and another entitled 'Frutescent' introduced in 1888 by M. Bruant and still an undisputed beauty 65 years later.

An interesting feature of this plant is its habit of bearing adventitious leaves and plantlets along its stout stems, after the fashion of *B. phyllomaniaca*, (Jessie) and 'Templini', the latter's variegated form. However, as noted by Mrs. Minter in the July, 1950, Begonian, it does not always produce these, due to some unascertained factor of environment.

In Western gardens this beautiful plant seems to have limited hardiness, at least where grown amid other begonias of rugged out-door usage, vanishing when not properly

attended to. However, when given moderate care its dark green leaves and great rose clusters of flowers splash the landscape with glory. In the mid-west it is a great favorite, being accounted one of the best of its family to resist the dry heat of summer, along with canes and semperflorens. Depth of color of bloom varies according to conditions, as usual.

As this picture by Mr. Merry shows, it is a fine plant for household decoration in the East, as well, the rich green, serrate leaves being ornamental in themselves. The pods are green, the petals rose-pink, and, as Mrs. Buxton notes, it needs sun, which will, of course, deepen the blooms.

The propagation by leaf cuttings with a bit of petiole attached is reported successful.

AUTOMATIC-WATERING PLANT GLASWIKS

4" ROUND WIKS: 1/16". .08c for small pots; 7/32".A .08c for 3" & 4" pots; 7/32".B .10c for 4", 5" & 6" pots; 1/4". .12c for 6", 7" & 8" pots; 3/8". .15c for 8", 9" & larger pots.
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\$1.50 each, F.O.B. Santa Barbara

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★ Calendar ★

(Visitors Always Welcome)

June 9th

Missouri Br.: Educational display at the Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

June 14th

Natl. A.B.S. Garden Festival—WE HAD THIS REVERSED WITH THE TOUR IN LAST MONTH'S CALENDAR — THIS IS THE FESTIVAL DATE — OAKHURST GARDENS!

June 20th

New England Br.: Hostess Mrs. Max C. Miller, Diamond Hill, Cumberland, Rhode Island, at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. F. N. Wiley speaks on Ferns.

June 24th

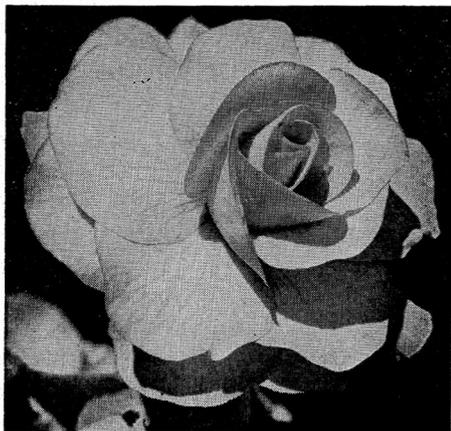
Glendale Branch: Mr. Alfred Roberts, Fern specialist—"Ferns For Our Gardens."

June 28th

Natl. A.B.S. Garden Tour — Get your tickets at your Branches.

July 18th

New England Branch: 10:30 a.m., Hostess, Mrs. Frederick Kingsbury, 225 Lee Street, Brookline, Mass., with visit to estate of Dr. George Shattuck. Talks: "Rhizomatous Begonias" by Mrs. E. W. Hutton; "Hirsute Begonias" by Mrs. Percy I. Mer-ry.



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July 18th and 19th

South Bay Garden Club's 15th Annual Flower Show in Eagles' Hall, Catalina and Garnet Sts., Redondo Beach, Calif. No admission charge. Exhibits will include table arrangements, flower and vegetable specimens, pot plants, floral displays including those by professional florists and nurserymen. One section for children under 13.

July 22nd

Glendale Branch: Mr. Ladislaus Cutak, Horticulturist in Charge of Conservatories at the Missouri Botanical Garden, will talk on "Exotic Foliage Plants" and show some of his excellent color slides. Glendale Branch is exceedingly proud to present Mr. Cutak and urges everyone in the vicinity to accept their invitation to attend.

July 31, August 1st and 2nd

San Gabriel Valley Br.: Annual Flower Show!

August 22nd, 23rd

A.B.S. NATIONAL CONVENTION
REDONDO BEACH HIGH SCHOOL
REDONDO BEACH, CALIF.

Continuously till October 11th

Hamburg, Germany: A stupendous International Horticultural Exhibition is being held here throughout these months, comparable to a World's Fair confined to horticulture. Massed tuberous begonias will grace the entrance hall in summer time.



Homecoming Meet

San Diego Branch outdid themselves at their February meeting calling in old friends and members from all over San Diego County, not to mention Mexico City. It was a sort of "rally" meeting with an inspirational speaker, Mrs. Lestina.— Reported by Mrs. Alice Shetler.

ANNOUNCING
**AFRICAN VIOLET EXHIBITION
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New England's Scrap Book & Its Custodian

By Catherine M. Sheehan, Massachusetts

Miss Alice Newell has been a member of the A.B.S. since 1938. Her plant room is nine feet square with brick base, brick-tile floor and tall windows. It is heated by steam. Copper trays, containing a small amount of water and filled with small pebbles, on which rest the pots, line the lower shelves. Rex are her favorite begonias; some that were doing well were 'Silver Queen', 'Emperor', 'Prince of Hanover', 'King Edward', 'Carmelita', 'Peace', and a few smaller plants. Other rex varieties were showing signs of new life after their dormant period.

Like all plant lovers she has a small propagating box filled with sand for leaves and cuttings in various stages of growth.

B. Schmidtiana was growing luxuriantly in a hanging basket, as were several plants of the old reliable *B. erythrophylla* (*B. 'Feast'*), and a nicely grown *B. manicata crispata*. A low-growing, unnamed, small-leaved Star type begonia interested me very much because of its compact growth.

Miss Newell is custodian of the N.E. Branch scrap-book and has recently put it in a new book and brought it up to date. This book contains all items of the branch activities and those of its members, including awards and pictures of exhibits, since 1934!

One of the first items is a picture of the Garden Club of America Exhibit at the New York show of 1934 for which Mrs. Buxton loaned 19 of her begonias. Our memories include:

1939—The branch's 1st prize exhibit at Boston. Under the same year are pictures of Mr. Barstow's cloth house of tuberous for which he has won medals at Worcester and Boston.

1940—A special ribbon award for a begonia garden at Essex Agricultural College; a picture of the garden and the news item describing it; and Mrs. Buxton's talk on "Bringing Window Gardens Up to Date".

1941—Educational Exhibit at Boston Spring Show—1st prize and Bronze Medal. (See Buxton book p. 132)

1942—Bronze Medal — Spring Flower Show.

1943—Educational Map and plants. (See Buxton's p. 132)

1946—Meeting held at Arnold Arboretum with begonia talk by Dr. Merrill on discovering begonias.

1947—Mrs. Haddrell's 2nd prize for a large exhibit of begonias, etc., and a first for cacti at the Boston Spring Show.

1948-1952—Silver Medals for our exhibits at the Fall House Plant Show and various prizes won by many members for individual exhibits. At these we had a hall for our own exhibits.

The year books, show schedules, news clippings and, last year, the Convention Program, all add interest. The book is available at each meeting for members' reference.

Winter Bloomers

No, this does not refer to red flannels! William Penn Branch had a very productive general discussion period during their February meeting at the home of Mrs. Malcolm Lloyd on the subject of winter blooming begonias and their vagaries. Each member reported on the Begonias of her collection blooming at the moment and indicated which of them are consistent bloomers. All agreed that fewer varieties were in flower than at the same time last year. One reason advanced was that the specimens entered in the Midwinter Show in January not only lost their current bloom but seemed to have ceased bud formation. The question of the relation of feeding to winter bloom naturally arose. Some maintained the relevance of the rule for feeding in the summer garden, i.e., six weeks before bloom is expected. One member presented the view of a number of "authorities" that plants grown under house conditions should not be fertilized from November 1 to March 1, because they do not receive enough light during these short days to use the material furnished. —*May Taft Drew.*

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BEGONIAS AT 50 CENTS PER PACKET
Barkeri—MEXICO. Heavy rhizome, large dark green leaves, small white flowers in huge tall clusters.

lobulata—MEXICO. Tall branching; glossy green leaves; slightly tomentose; flowers pink in large globular clusters.

BEGONIAS AT 25 CENTS PER PACKET
Semperflorens heterosis Blütenmeer, a German hybrid.

Rex hybrids.

Rex type, mixed, from India.

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Cibotium Chamissoi, Hawaiian Tree Fern—The best fern from the Islands.

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Sheltered Garden Book Review

Begonia and Shade Plant Show

Handbook, by Behrends & Korts, \$1.75

At long last a handbook, or text book, is available for Shade Plant Shows. This has been in demand for many years, and now we find Dorothy Behrends, collaborating with Edna Korts, producing a concise, practical, easy-to-read manual that will help the would-be exhibitor as much as it will help Show Committees and Judges.

The finely detailed Begonia Schedule will encourage more entries, if included in Shade Plant Shows, as like material will be competing, making the Classifications more equal.

Schedules of all other shade plants and tropicals are also included.

All the specialized plant societies were invited to submit their Scoring Scales, and by their enthusiastic cooperation we find extremely valuable Scales to help the Judges in their tasks of evaluating the exhibits by computing points for determining the ultimate winners.

'Hats off' to these two enterprising Begonia enthusiasts, and may the keystone continue to hold up the enthusiasm and welcome for this fine Handbook.

—Frank Overton

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The Begonian. ALL only \$2.50!

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Begonia dipetala

Please note that the first description of the species (Hooker's) is included in the material I sent the A.B.S. two years ago and specifies *pink* flowers. It is to be noted that many species produce flowers of more than one color—(From a letter by Helen K. Krauss)

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Begonia Manicata Variations

By Mabel Anderson, Long Beach Parent Branch

(Reprint by special request from the March, 1940, Begonian)

Illustration on Back Cover

Begonia manicata aurea maculata, probably a sport of *B. manicata*, was discovered by Lemoine and introduced in Germany in 1884. It is a native of Mexico and Central America. The growth is thick-stemmed and rhizomatous.

B. manicata has a smooth, almost round, light green leaf, edged with red hairs, and a collar of fleshy red hair at the junction or base of the leaf and along the leaf stem.

B. manicata aurea maculata is similar, but the leaves are blotched with large patches

of whitish yellow.

B. manicata crispa has the green leaves of *B. manicata*, but has ruffled or crispate margins.

B. manicata aurea maculata crispa combines the crispate margins and yellowish white blotches, and makes a handsome hanging basket. A strong light is needed to produce the variegated color in the leaves. During the blooming season, which is generally in February, the long lacy sprays of pale pink flowers extending well above the leaves, make a beautiful plant. All four plants make good pot subjects.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Added incentive to you for bringing in new members is the Seed Fund's offer of a 50c pkt. your choice, for each new member you sponsor. Let's go!

Ziesenhenne Soil Mix

Mr. Ziesenhenne says the firm of Vaughn Seed Co., 601 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 6, Ill., or 47 Barclay St., New York 7, N.Y. carries the rarer items of his soil mix.



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The bi-monthly "BEGONIA BULLETIN FOR EASTERN FANS", compiled by the Margaret G. Gruenbaum Branch members under Editor Anna L. Mather, for Eastern members, has just completed its first year. Featured are past, present and coming activities of the branches, begonia cultural tips and methods, varieties and nomenclature of begonias. Thus an active branch provides essential information for interested begonia fanciers.

The Raytown Missouri Branch is to be congratulated on completion of their first year of membership in the A. B. S., with a membership of 17. It's not the size, but the spirit, of a branch that makes it a valuable asset. Their 1953 directory, containing the history, officers, aims, membership, programs and hostesses for the coming year, is a worthy effort of this interest and enthusiasm.

Book for Dr. Irmischer

The Elsa Fort Branch has thoughtfully undertaken the purchase of Helen Krauss' book "Begonias for American Homes and Gardens" to replace the copy lost by Dr. Edgar Irmischer of Germany, the great European begonia botanist. Reported by Mrs. Jennie Lee Still. Congratulations on a kindly deed.

Cold facts

By Sidney Sampson, Duluth, Minn.

Do not plant tuberous begonias too close together. Good circulation of air will prevent rots, moulds, mildew, etc. Do not overwater them—that is the cause of many foliage troubles. Eighteen inches apart is about right. They have wonderful individuality—don't mass them.

Gloxinias like begonia soil too. When grown in the house, place close to the window glass, avoid strong sun, and do not overwater.

AFRICAN VIOLETS



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Catalog with culture tips 15c

LEATHERMAN'S GARDENS

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Begonias in Print . . .

Arrangements with *B. 'erythrophylla'* leaves, ill. pp. 52-3; "A Hardy Begonia" (Evansiana), John S. Owen, p. 82;—Popular Gardening, March, 1953.

B. 'erythrophylla belix' ill., p. 22; "For the Tropical Effect Try Yard Begonias", J. B. Reark p. 53;—Tropical Gardening, February, 1953.

Medal Awards of Mass. Hort. Society (to Mrs. Buxton), Horticulture, February, 1953, p. 62.

"Mexico—Begonia Treasure Chest", Stanley Spaulding, p. 43. Natl. Horticulture Magazine, Jan., 1953. (*B. chivatoa*, *B. Mazae*, ill.)

"The Lady Loves Ferns" (Marie Turner), California Farmer, p. 191, February 21, 1953.

"New Houseplants", (Silver Pustulata, 'Lucy Locket', th. 'Rose Picotee' ill.), Flower Grower, p. 78, February 1953; "New Begonias" Bess L. Shippy, p. 64, (B. 'Brocade', 'Legacy', 'Michael L. Barnes' ill.)—Flower Grower, p. 64, January 1953.

"A New Method of Culture of *B. Semperflorens*" — Le Bulletin Horticole, (French), Dec. 1952.

"Seedlings Are Alluring," Florence Knock; Jan. 1953, Back to Eden; "Second All-Begonia Show", Mrs. Calmese—Back to Eden, Dec. 1952.

Two Begonia Exhibits and Progress Between, (ill.), T. H. Everett, The Garden Journal, New York Botanic Society, Mar.-April, '53, p. 40.

Adventures with Begonias, (ill.), Elsa Fort, same mag. & issue, p. 42.

Hybridize a Begonia by Dorothy Behrends—reprinted from The Begonian,—Tropical Homes and Gardening, March, 1953, p. 17.

Tuberous Begonia—Flower Grower, Mar., 1953, p. 71, ill.

Mrs. David Talbot's Begonia Garden (full page color plate), April, 1953, Household, (publ. Topeka, Kans.), page 21, article p. 20, You Can Grow Begonias by Gretchen Harshbarger.

Tuberous Begonias by Glenn Motschman, April, 1953, Nat. Horticultural Mag., p. 98, ill.

The Year Around with Begonias by Dorothy S. Behrends, in 1953 National Capital Flower and Garden Show Program, p. 37, ill.

Tuberous Begonias by Nannete M. Strayer, Garden Gossip, April, 1953, ill., cover and p. 5.

"THE BEGONIAN"

ADVERTISING RATES

	Per Month	Year Contract
One Inch	\$ 4.00	\$ 3.50
Quarter Page	15.00	13.50
Half Page	28.00	26.00
One Page	52.00	50.00

The Color in Leaves

(Reprint from May, 1936, *Begonia Bulletin*. This was part of a Round Robin of that year.)

The letter relating to the spots on begonia leaves has touched upon one of the most fascinating things in all plant life, namely the color of leaf, flower and stem. Some basic facts will help toward an understanding of the matter.

The leaf is made up as follows; on the upper surface is a layer called the epidermis, which is transparent and is made up of cells. Just below this layer is a series of cells in a vertical position, that is, at right angles to the upper surface . . . then below these upright cells is another rather irregular group of cells. The upright cells are known as the palisade cells, from their resemblance to palisades in shape. The group of irregular cells, is known as the spongy parenchyma. The palisade cells and the spongy parenchyma are collectively known as mesophyll (meaning middle of the leaf.) The green coloring matter, called chlorophyll, is found in the mesophyll and is not a dye permeating this area, but is found there in the protoplasm, in the form of grains, which have a definite shape. The protoplasm is found in the cell walls and is the physical basis of all the phenomena of life. Under the mesophyll is the under surface of the leaf, which consists of more epidermal cells, somewhat like those on the upper surface of the leaf, but differing therefrom in a number of particulars. If you take a cross section of a leaf, the above construction would appear.

The natural color of plant tissue, when there is no coloring matter present, is a sort of creamy white, but one of the most universal characteristics found in plants is the presence of this green coloring matter called chlorophyll. Yet there are plants which do not contain this green color, such as the molds, mushrooms and others. But one of the most interesting things about this is, that these plants are generally dependent upon other plants or animals for food, when they are called parasites; or they may be dependent upon their own decaying remains, when they are called saprophytes. The plants with the green coloring matter practically all take their food from the air, soil or water.

On the underside of the leaf are myriads of openings of microscopic size, called stomata, thru which air is taken in by the leaf, and in the mesophyll the food of the plant is manufactured under the action of the sunlight. Probably all members are familiar with the lessons of physics and the colors

of the spectrum. As the light plays upon the leaf all the colors of the spectrum are absorbed by the chlorophyll except the green and the yellow, which gives the leaf the appearance of yellowish-green in varying degrees. That is, their color is due to the rays which are not absorbed. This means that the food of the plants is manufactured largely by the red and blue rays, which furnish the chemical energy to produce the necessary starch and sugar for plant life. There is, however, a group of foliage plants like coleus, beets, etc., in which the color is due to other causes, and then there are the young shoots of many plants and wild plants, where there is a red color in the veins and the underside of leaves and at other points of the plant structure. This red, however, is due to another substance called anthocyanin or erythrophyll. Its particular value in plant life is not yet fully understood.

The above statements, however, do not explain the color changes in fall leaves, as these are due to the chemical changes which take place as the leaf prepares the tree or plant for the winter.

As one examines a begonia leaf, upon which are white spots, it will be observed that the white color is not present in one complete mass, but is more or less punctured by small green spots within the white spots. These white spots are the natural color of the leaf tissue with no pigment or coloring present at these particular points. This in a general way is the explanation of the white color in other plants where it appears as part of the variegated foliage, such as, Snow on the Mountain, Wandering Jew or Cerastium. As far as the color changes in the fall leaf is concerned, the yellow is probably present in the leaf but is obscured by the green or the chlorophyll, and as the green fades away, as the leaf-changes take place, the yellow color (called Xanthophyll) becomes apparent. The red, however, in the fall leaf is due to the anthocyanin which is probably not present in the leaf, but is manufactured under the action of sunlight and occurs in those leaves which contain sugar and tannin, among other substances, from which the color is built up.

These processes of plant life are among the most remarkable in all the plant world, subtle, mysterious and marvelous, inspiring and assuring that, as Dr. Milliken says, there is a Creator continually on the job. And the more they are studied the more alluring do they become.

BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES

(Visitors always welcome at these meetings.)

CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, June 5, July 3, 8:00 p.m.
Lounge, Florida Power Co.
Winter Park, Fla.

Mrs. Martha Gipson, Secy.-Treas.
861 Juanita Roecal, Winter Park, Fla.

DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, June 4, July 2, 7:00 p.m.
Member's Residences

Mrs. W. H. Buntin, Cor. Secy.
3113 Parker Dr., Dallas, Texas

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, June 11, 7:45 p.m.
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward
Berkeley

Miss Dorothy Osburn, Secy.
5015 Cochrane Ave., Oakland 11, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, June 18
Jennie Baker School, 12043 Exline
Jean Cross, Cor. Secy.

1304 Elm, Alhambra, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, June 18, 8:00 p.m.

La Verne Recreation Hall
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.

358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland

FORT ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, June 6, July 4, 2:30 p.m.
Miss Lola Price, Secy.

628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N. J.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, June 24, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central
Mrs. Mabel Anderson, Cor. Secy.

1064 Davis Ave., Glendale 1, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, June 15, 7:30 p.m.

Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Genter, Cor. Secy.

7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRAYS HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 8, 8:00 p.m.
Hoquiam Pub. Library, or Messingale &
Rosenear Music Store, Aberdeen, Wash.

Mrs. Jessie B. Hoyt, Secy.

1013 Harding Road, Aberdeen, Wash.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 23, 10:30 a.m.

Home of Members
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following

Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.

R.F.D., Willow Grove, Pa.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

Mrs. Maude A. Cooper, Cor. Secy.

1014 Havenhurst Dr., Hollywood 46, Calif.

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, June 12, 10:00 a.m.

Garden Center, Herman Park

Mrs. E. H. Claggett, Secy.

4415 Austin, Houston, Tex.

HUB CITY BRANCH

COMPTON-LYNWOOD

3rd Monday, June 15, 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, June 8, 8:00 p.m.

Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.

Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.

P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, June 11, 8:00 p.m.

325 N. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.

Mrs. Velda Scalley, Secy.

1415 W. 104th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.

Porter Park, University & La Mesa Blvd.

Peggy Owens, Secy.

4275 Nabal Dr., La Mesa, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Tuesday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.

Fox Home at 2255 Elm Ave.

Mrs. W. Cox, Secy.

3592 Lewis Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 23, 8:00 p.m.

Simpson Memorial Garden Center

Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.

3340 S.W. 24th Terrace, Miami, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, May 19, 1:00 p.m.

American Legion Bldg., Linwood & Paseo

Kansas City, Mo.

Mrs. Mary Wood, Secy.

626 W. Charles, Independence, Mo.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.

170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.

Houghton Park Club House

Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach

Mrs. Beatrice White, Secy.

1411 Poppy St., Long Beach, Calif.

OCEAN COUNTY NEW JERSEY BR.

1st Monday, June 1, July 6, 12:30 p.m.

Members Homes

Mrs. Helen Ravasy, President

Cedar and Summit Aves., Island Heights, N. J.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, June 4, July 2, 7:30 p.m.

Farm Bureau Hall, 353 S. Main St., Orange

Mrs. Evie Darden, Secy.-Treas.

6701 S. Fee Ana St., Rt. 3, Anaheim, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

3rd Monday, June 15, 7:30 p.m.

Casitas del Arroyo, 117 S. Arroyo, Pasadena

Mrs. Lois Williams, Secy.-Treas.

1674 Monte Vista St., Pasadena 4, Calif.

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, June 19, 8:00 p.m.

Dania Hall, 19 Main St.

Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.

222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, June 12, Members Homes

Mrs. Robert York, Secy.

3311 Fremont St., Camden, N. J.

PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, June 26, 8:00 p.m.

Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.

Ronnie Hiersch, Secy.

6831 S. E. Flavel, Portland 6, Oregon

RAYTOWN MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 23, 7:30 p.m.

Homes of Members

Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.

7708 Sni-A-Bar Terrace, Kansas City, Mo.

REDONDO BEACH AREA

4th Friday, June 26, 8:00 p.m.

2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Mr. Joe Taylor, Secy.

301 Anita St., Redondo Beach, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, June 10, 7:30 p.m.

Member's Residence

Mrs. Kay Elmore, Secy.

Shamel Park, 3670 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, June 26, 10:00 a.m.

Homes of Members

Mrs. L. Carringer, Secy.

825 Harbor View Pl., San Diego 3

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, June 16, 8:00 p.m.

Garden Center, McKinley Park

Mrs. H. R. Pirkner, Secy.

750 - 48th St., Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM OREGON BRANCH

1st Tuesday, June 2, July 7

The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem

Mrs. Loren H. Edlund

863 Edina Lane, Salem, Ore.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, June 22
Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University
Mrs. Alice Snetler, Secy.
4551 Kensington Dr., San Diego 16, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, June 8
Homes of Members
Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.
18635 Calvert St., Reseda, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, June 3, July 1, 8:00 p.m.
1641 Taraval St.
Mrs. George Leslie Kuthe, Secy.
1095 Market St., San Francisco 3, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, June 24
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Gonda Hartwell, Secy.
1719 Alamitas Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.
Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.
Mrs. Rolland J. Brines, Secy.
440 Via Dichosa., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH

1st Tuesday, June 2, July 7, 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

4th Wednesday, June 24, 7:30 p.m.
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7th St. Entrance
Santa Monica
Jack MacLanahan, Secy.
3734 Overland Ave., Los Angeles 37

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, June 16, 7:45 p.m.
University of Washington Arboretum
Clubhouse
Mrs. H. C. Bamford, Secy.
810 W. Lee, Seattle, Wash.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BR.

1st Tuesday, June 2, July 7, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura
Mrs. M. E. Ramelli, Secy.
1839 Poli St., Ventura, Calif.

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, June 16, 8:00 p.m.
Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
Mrs. Margaret Nelson, Cor. Secy.
P. O. Box 818, Niles, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, June 23, 7:30 p.m.
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern
Mr. Walter Partridge
4849 Beck Ave., Bell, Calif.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Friday, June 26, 7:30 p.m.
Rose Hill Club
Mrs. Ed Fullerton, Secy.
2822 - 8th St., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, June 10, 11:00 a.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. Walter H. Kirsh, Secy.
Clearview Rd., Glenshaw, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH

CLEVELAND, OHIO
4th Wednesday, July 22, 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, June 23, 7:30 p.m.
Union High School, Room 19
Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.
Mrs. Gladys B. Bruce, Secy.
6602 Milna Ave., Whittier, Calif.

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH, PA.

3rd Tuesday, June 16, 2:00 p.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. J. H. Ward Hinkson, Secy.
Wallingford, Pa.

CONDENSED MINUTES

Regular National Board meeting of the A.B.S. convened by President Korts 7:45 p.m., April 27, 1953, at Los Angeles City Hall.

After opening ceremonies minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer Richardson reported a loss of \$114.01 last month of which \$125.00 loaned to Ways and Means Committee will result in slight gain when the sum is returned. Total funds now \$2520.15.

President Korts advised that Mr. and Mrs. Paul Behrends were willing to accept post as Membership Secretary and Board approved the appointment. Mrs. Behrends report read: 56 new, 103 renewing members.

Business Manager Irma Brown reported \$140 income from advertising.

Editor's report read by Mr. Motschman introduced Mrs. Margaret Fenn, being appointed as co-editor by him.

Ways and Means Chairman Motschman asked all Directors send him list of gardens in their area for tour June 28th so lists may be ready for distribution.

Finance Chairman Trowbridge stated would get more bids on stationery.

Public Relations Director Schwerdtfeger reported questionnaire from Cornell University for their reference files; Hamburg, Germany, flower exposition data; Raytown, Mo., year book with hand-tinted begonia cover; read reports from Wm. Penn, Missouri, Texas State and M. Gruenbaum Branches.

Secretary read resignation of Frank Rich as Flower Show Chairman due to illness. Mrs. Korts appointed Eseline Reynolds of Redondo Beach Area with approval of the Board.

Librarian Nolan reported 46 books in circulation, 16 sold. Recommended the 17 vol. of Candollea & supplements be placed on indefinite loan to the L. A. Arboretum Library for safekeeping and master copies of translations. So ordered.

President Korts announced Seed Fund turned over to the MacLanahans and introduced "Grace Adams": Mmes. Violet Moore, Jean Kerlin, Louise Schwerdtfeger, Marie Turner, Dorothy Behrends; and thanked them. Reported \$200.00 balance and it was ordered that \$50.00 be left therein, \$50.00 be transferred to the Robinson Memorial Fund and \$50.00 to the Nomenclature Department and \$50.00 to the General Fund.

President Korts reported putting booth in Pasadena Show; thanked her assistants and reported plants sold amounted to \$90.75 less sales tax, requesting that it be applied to the Robinson Medal Fund. So ordered. Mrs. Korts gave short history of the Robinson Fund and proposed medal and was ordered to go ahead with medal and spend amounts collected, with a little more, if necessary.

Show Chairman Rich reported certificates of award given at Pasadena show and display at Hobby Show acquired 250 names of interested persons. International Show assistants thanked and reported \$46.49 expense including plants and moss which may be resold and \$120.00 from greenhouse tickets. His motion that plant and moss be turned over to Ways and Means for sale at Garden Festival, funds received to be incorporated in Festival Funds was passed.

Fine Branch Reports.

San Francisco and Southern Alameda Branches reported convention date but Board felt Labor Weekend impossible because buildings not then available and Redondo a resort city crowded on holidays.

President-elect Motschman read letter from Inglewood Book & Stationery Company presenting proposition to handle advertising as well as print The Begonian. Accepted.

President Korts announced appointment of Mr. Frank Moore and Mr. Ray Wilson for 3-year term, Mrs. Jessie Gale and Mr. Jack MacLanahan for 2-year term, and Mr. Bert Slatter for one-year term on "Convention Advisory Committee." Constitution report held for lack of time.

Respectfully submitted,

DORRIS MOTSCHMAN.

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Reprinted from March, 1947

—Alice M. Clark Painting

Begonia manicata aureo-maculata

(See Page 135)