

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens



BEGONIA
SARABELLE



Courtesy of
Helen Krauss



A. H. Gere Photo



MARCH
1953



TWENTY-FIVE
CENTS



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**For DUES, ADDRESS CHANGES, OR
MAGAZINES — write to Membership
Secretary, Box 2544, Los Angeles 54,
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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., March 23, 1953. Use Main St. elevator. Park lower garage, south entrance on Main Street.

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MARCH—

THE GREEN & WHITE MONTH

—Multiply your green leaves—sow seed.



—Spaulding Photo—Plant of Marie Turner

Begonia Pustulata, Silver Variety

The BEGONIAN

The Imperial Family

A pictorial survey of these regal little Mexicanos and their descendants.

By Carlos Jardinero

In 1859 a plant collector for Verschaffelt's nursery, named Ghiesbrecht, discovered in the warm and humid portion of the Mexican wilderness a tiny velvet begonia which the botanist Lemaire appreciated so much he named it *imperialis*.

Just prior thereto (1853) Liebmann had

collected a somewhat similar plant with larger "bumps" and less hairs which he named *pustulata*. Since Mr. Ziesenhene has recently introduced the latter into horticultural channels, we first present a comparative study of the two which illustrates pretty well the obvious differences between them.



—Courtesy of Rudolf Ziesenhene

Begonia Imperialis (Life Size)



Begonia Imperialis

—Courtesy of Helen Krauss

We show just a portion of a close-up of the Ziesenhenné plant at about life size to emphasize the multiplicity of the smaller pustules, from each of which sprouts the fine hairs which form the velvet. Mrs. Turner's plant, although the silver variation of *pustulata*, illustrates the sparseness of hairs in comparison and the greater size of the pustules. Mrs. Turner grew her fine specimen in sort of Wardian case. Mrs. Helen Krauss' picture of *imperialis* shows best the color of the type—a brownish-olive divided along the veins with emerald green. (Note the typical small white flower cluster arising in the center.) Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger's flat of *imperialis* seedlings shows to advantage the great range of color variation from the type to the *smaragdina* variety of pure emerald green.

It is interesting to note that a Costa Rica collector of orchids found isolated specimens near the Panama boundary of that country, and MacDougall reported finding *imperialis* growing on limestone rocks in the same rain-forest where he discovered the plant called after him, B. MacDougalli. All the *imperialis* tribe grow easily in Wardian cases or terrariums because of the easily controlled humidity, but they may also be used in the house in simple pots to furnish excellent small decorations—as witness the article by Mrs. Martin which follows.

Of course this charming and variable plant was a clear challenge to hybridizers from its first introduction. In Europe a hybrid (or sport) was named 'Gruss an Erfurt' and is described by Vogelmann as having whitish-

green vein zones irregularly between emerald-green areas. Froebel, about 1879, crossed *B. Rex* x *B. imperialis* and called it 'Otto Forster', which, according to Mr. Vogelmann, is silvery olive-green with brownish-green coming in from the edges. If you have the Vogelmann book, you will find a picture of these two European types with the clear green *smaragdina* variety on page 34.

He also reports on *B. x herimperia*, Vil., a cross between *B. heracleifolia* var *nigricans* x *imperialis*, described as having a brilliant iridescent colorplay over brownish-green, broad, sharply cut and wavy leaves, on a very bushy plant. Of this we would like to hear more!

Mrs. Bessie Buxton reports that in 1870 Froebel introduced an *imperialis* cross named 'Melanie' and, in 1876, *imperialis smaragdina* x *B. rex* called 'Miranda' and *imperialis smaragdina* x *B. strigillosa* called 'Venulosa'. (Could this be any relation to our 'Illustrata'?)

This brings us to the three mystery begonias which are almost surely hybrids of *B. imperialis*, having similar characteristics but seeming to have "sprouted out" a bit, especially as to size of leaf or length of petioles.

'Illustrata' is represented here by Mr. Ziesenhenné's clear photograph. The dainty, long-petioled leaves are coarsely hairy and, to quote Mrs. Krauss: "metallic-green with lighter green veins, occasional violet overtones—flowers dull pinkish white." The darkening at the cross-veinings gives the leaves an inscribed effect reminiscent of

the *strigillosa* family. It is interesting that Roy Berry crossed this plant with *imperialis* about 1937 and got a bigger plant with larger, still longer-petioled leaves and better pink flowers. It is simply known as 'Berry's *Illustrata*'.

'*Pearli*' was so beautifully depicted by Mrs. Alice M. Clark, in a 1948 issue of *The Begonian* now out of stock, that we reprint it here. We quote from her accompanying article: ". . . Its small creeping rhizome, fine papillary surface and pointed heart-shaped leaves, class it with *B. imperialis*, and related types, although it has much sturdier growth. Like *B. 'Speculata'* it is slightly larger than *B. 'Illustrata'*. They could be close relations, but its true origin is unknown.

"The narrow rhizome of *B. 'Pearli'* is so crowded with new leaves pushing out of the axils of the old ones, that the characteristic scars are hardly visible. Pale green stipules,

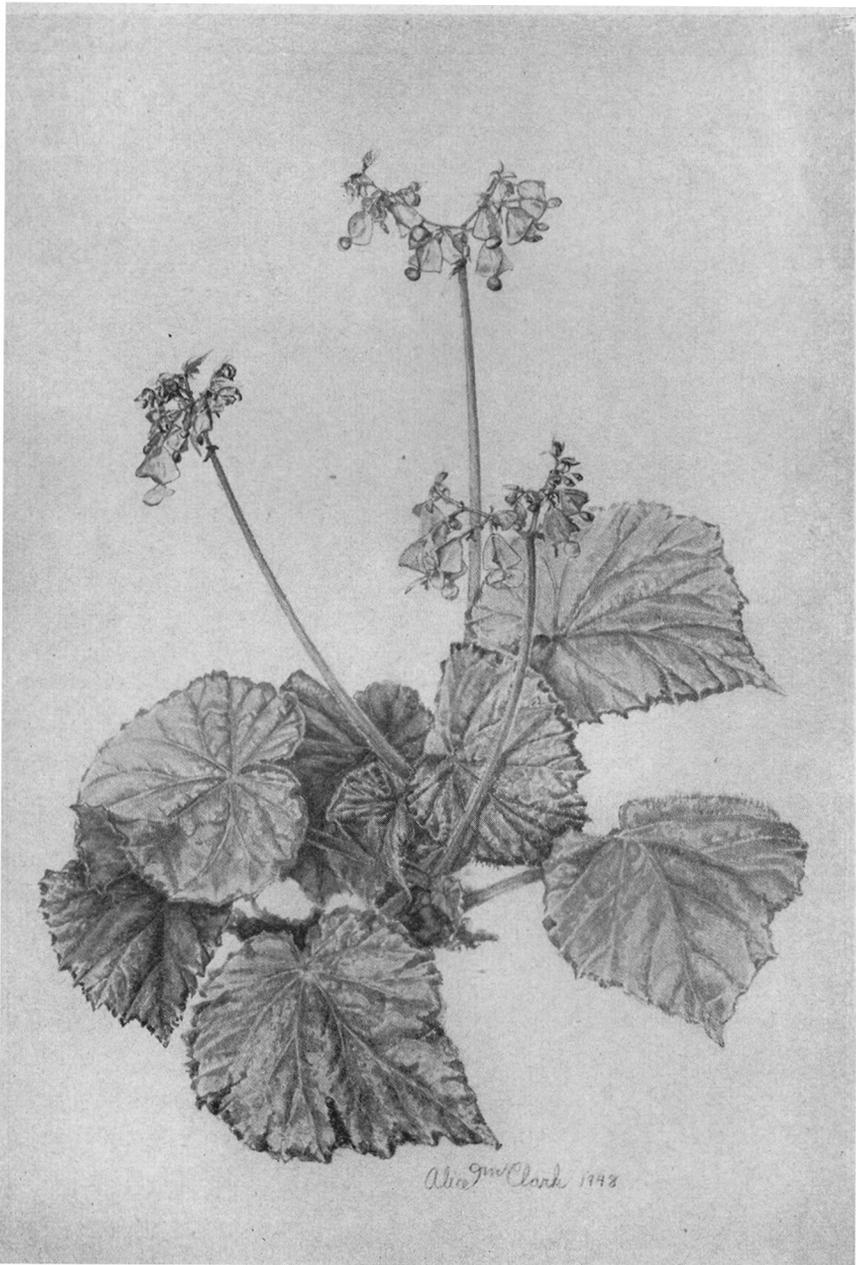
with hairy keels, guard the fuzzy pads of baby leaves, turning to brown twists when their job is done. As the leaves grow, the raised portions between the veins is strongly diffused with red. Later this spreads to a flush on the back that is darker on the edges, but, strangely enough, shows on the top as a brownish-green border that gives it the appearance of a rex begonia. In its medium stage, the general color is a pewter green, overlaid with a pinkish tint. The margins are faintly ruffled and toothed, with little sprouts of hairs. The main veins are faintly raised on a hairy ridge in a smooth green channel.

"When mature, the leaf changes to a beautiful jade green with a pearly pink light that probably gave it its name. Both surfaces are heavily tufted with soft white bristles that cause a harsh texture." (Size: to 6 by 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches on 4-inch petioles.) ". . . the first inflorescence . . . 15 inches."



—Courtesy, of Louise Schwerdfeger

Begonia Imperialis Seedlings

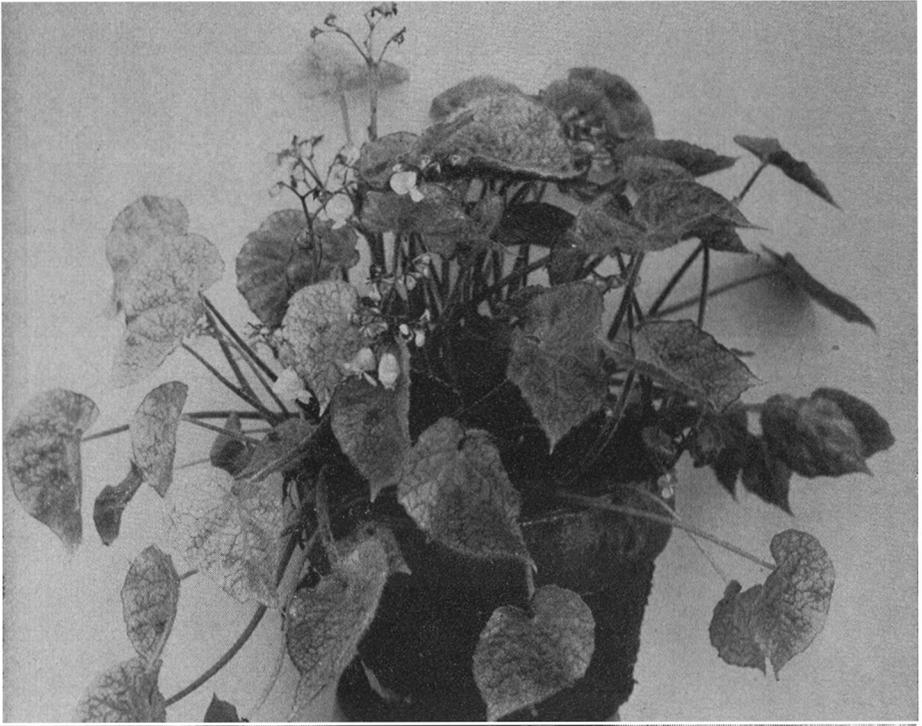


Begonia 'Pearli'

She compared the twin petals of the female flowers to tiny pink polkadots, also stating the males did not open before falling. Her sketch was made in early February.

'*Speculata*', synonym 'Grape Leaf Begonia', is coarsely hairy with shallowly lobed leaves with rough-puckered surfaces of dull

green with irregular grayish areas or blisters and a dark edge; white flowers. It appeared as early as Gause & Bissell's 1892 catalogue (described as having silver-spotted leaves, which Mrs. Krauss says are rarely found today.) This may sound like a very dull plant, but turn to her book, and look at the beautiful plant pictured on the 13th plate page between pages 70 and 71!



Begonia 'Illustrata' —Courtesy of Rudolf Ziesenhenné

This begonia has also been used in hybridizing. Leslie Wodriff crossed 'Speculata' x *B. imperialis* and obtained a plant which D-Vista Gardens' catalogue says is very low growing with 3-inch leaves of very light lettuce green, covered with fine white hairs and pink, midwinter flowers. You will remember that interesting article by Mrs. Nolan and picture of Mrs. Susie Zug's amazing cross between 'Speculata' and an unnamed rex hybrid which jumped into the giant class—'Sequoia'. (Begonian, July, 1952, p. 146.)

Mrs. Krauss believes that the old begonia 'Silver Fleece', which has been in American lists since 1891, probably came from the same cross that produced 'Speculata'. She describes it as "softy hairy; leaves ovate, about three times the size of those of *B. imperialis*, lustrous silvery green with darker green margins."

Next month we will take up the rest of the newer crosses of the Imperial Family which are being increased every month by our enthusiastic hybridizers.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Mable Walker on January 26, 1953. Mable had long been one of the Society's most faithful workers. She has served in many capacities for the Inglewood Branch, being Treasurer in 1952 and Plant Sale Chairman for 1953. Mable loved her begonias, growing most of her collection from seed. Her recent introduction, 'Maphil', pictured on the cover of the October, 1952, issue of The Begonian, promises to be one of our loveliest begonias and will be treasured by our members as a living memory of our good friend.

—Dorris Motschman, Inglewood Branch.

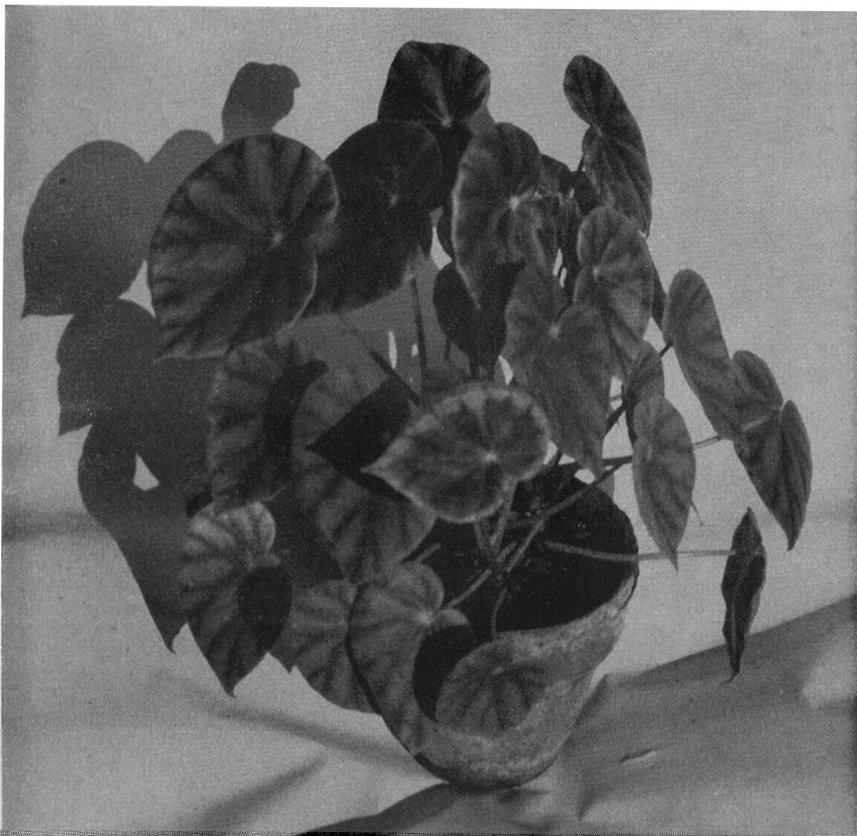
A NEW "BOOKVIEW"

"Guide to English Gardens" by Alice Chauncey, published by the Horticultural Society of New York, (\$1.00), is a charming little 32 page review of English and Scottish Gardens for the person having the opportunity to travel in that country. In fact, such a person should not be without this Guide, giving as it does so many helpful tips on how to schedule your visits and the points of importance of each. Also good as a reference book for the Armchair Explorer.

This review copy has been placed in our A.B.S. Library. —F. S.

Begonia 'Helen Krauss'

By Stanley Spaulding



—Spaulding Photo—Plant of Louise Schwerdtfeger

At last we have been able to obtain some descriptions of a few of the many hybrids being continually introduced from Santa Barbara, mainly between Mrs. Elsie Frey, Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhene and Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger.

From the latter's home, snug on the side of a sunny hill with a gull's-eye view of the Pacific and Santa Rosa Island, comes a yearly crop of fascinating new sturdy hybrids, and of last year's group, perhaps the hardiest, certainly one of the most colorful introductions since Mr. Ziesenhene's 'Joe Hayden', is the one Mrs. Helen Krauss has honored by allowing her name to be given to it.

Begonia 'Helen Krauss' is one of Mrs. Schwerdtfeger's choice crosses (*B. Dayi* x *B. Mazae*) which has proved its sturdiness in your editor's coastal garden. Planted in the ground on the west side of the house be-

tween camellias and fuchsias (but where it gets little afternoon shade), it has grown and thrived after a long blooming season last spring with a heavy crop of rich red flower stems quite tall above the foliage.

The leaves are of heavy texture and the undersides are light green with the maroon red on the veins spreading out a little onto the in-between portions. The top sides are a bright spinach green with veins chocolate to black and have a dull satin sheen. Petioles are long—to about three times the length of the leaf, smooth, flesh-colored. Female flowers are spotted red outside and have two to three light pink petals about one-fourth inch broad. The pods are bright red with two wings about one-fourth inch wide and the third about three-eighths inch. As mentioned, it is a long bloomer and from our experience bids fair to be a long-lived plant worthy of its good name.

Begonia Species Names

(A compilation of a number of the begonia species which have been mentioned in the last years' issues of *The Begonian* followed by: (1) the namer; (2) the approximate date of either its discovery or its naming; (3) place found; (4) pronunciation; (per Bailey, as approved by Dr. Mathias of U.C.L.A.); (5) meaning of the name; (6) location of an illustration. Any corrections or additional information will be welcomed.)

(Dashes indicate separate syllables—accent marks between letters do NOT, being used only where type was not available with the required accent mark over the vowel.)

- acetosa*, Velloz, 1790, Brazil, (ace-eh-tòw-sah): acid, sour. *Florae Fluminensis* vol. 10, plate 50.
- acida*, Alphonse DeCandolle, 1843, Brazil, (á-sid-ah): acid, sour. *Begonian* 1947, p. 101.
- aconitifolia*, A. DeCandolle, 1892, Brazil, (ac-on-ite-ih-fò-lee-ah): aconite-leaved, after the monkshood plant. *Buxton*, p. 52-3; *Krauss*, p. 70-71, 4th Plate.
- acuminata*, Dryander, 1790; Jamaica, (ac-you-min-ay-tah): having a gradually diminishing point,—referring to the leaves. *Chevalier's Les Begonias*, p. 304.
- albo-picta*, Bull, 1883, Brazil, (ál-bo píctah): painted with white. *Begonian*, 1952, p. 237.
- albo-coccinea*, Hooker, 1843, India, (al-bo cock-sin-ee-ah): white-scarlet. *Curtis Botanical Mag.* No. 4172.
- alnifolia*, A. DeCandolle, 1859; Colombia?, Costa Rica; (al-nih-fò-lee-ah): alder-leaved.
- alveolata*, Te-Tsun Yu, 1940, S.E. Yunnan China; (al-ve-o-la'te-ah): honey-combed, referring to the scaly under-sides of the leaves which look like honeycomb under a lens.
- andina*, Rusby, 1860; Bolivia, Ecuador; (an-deñ-ah): belonging to the Andes.
- angularis*, Raddi, 1820, Brazil, (an-gu-la'y-ris): angled (stems); *Begonian*, 1949, p. 152. Variety *acutangular*, Everett, about 1935, probably California; (a-cute-án-gu-lah): sharply angled. *Begonian*, 1945, p. 31.
- amoena*, Wallich, 1830, India; (am-eè-nah): "charming."
- argyrostigma*, Fischer, 1819, Brazil; ar-jeh-rost'ig-ma): silvery stigmas. This is now only a synonym for *maculata*, Raddi—an earlier name for the same plant.
- aridicaulis*, Ziesenhenné, 1952, Mexico; (ar-id-ih-cawl'-is): dry-stemmed. *Begonian* 1952, p. 104.
- asperifolia*, Irmscher, 1927, China; (as-per-ih-fò-lee-ah): rough-leaved; variety *tomentosa*, Te-Tsun Yu, 1940, China; (toe-men-tòe-sah): densely matted with wooly short hairs.
- Augustinei*, Hemsley, 1900, China; (Au-gús-teen-eye): for Augustine Henry, collector of Chinese plants?
- barbata*, Wallich, 1830, India; (bar-ba'y-tah): bearded or having long weak hairs.
- Barkeri*, Knowles & West., 1837, Mexico; (Bárk-er-eye): for Mr. Barker, patron of Mr. Ross, its collector. "Floral Cabinet", iii, t. 135.
- Baumanni*, Lemoine, 1886, Bolivia; (Baù-man-eye): for E. Napoleon Baumann of Germany. *Buxton's* p. 12.
- boliviensis*, Hooker, J. D., 1857, Bolivia; (bo-liv-ee-éhn-sis): belonging to Brazil. *Chevalier—Les Begonias*, p. 39; *Curtis Botanical Magazine* No. 5657; *Bailey's Std. Cycl. Hort.*, No. 508.
- Boweri*, Ziesenhenné, 1950, Mexico; (Baù-er-eye): for Constance Bower of San Diego, Calif. *Begonian*, 1950, p. 76.
- brasiliensis*, Klotsch, 1854, Brazil; (bra-sil-ee-éhn-sis): belonging to Brazil. Erroneous name for *B. acida*.
- cantareira*, (A.B.S. Seed fund name for plants now identified as *B. acetosa*) Brazil; (can-tah-ray-éhr-ah): for Cantareira Hills of Sao Paulo Province, Brazil?
- caroliniaefolia*, Regel, 1952, Mexico; (car-olin-ee-fò-lee-ah): leaves resembling a tree genus once called Carolina but now *Pachira*. *Krauss's*, p. 70-71, 8th Plate; *Begonian*, 1946, p. 234.
- carpinifolia*, Liebmann, 1852, Costa Rica; (car-pin-eh-fò-lee-ah): leaves like the Hornbeam trees, relatives of the Birches. *Krauss's*, p. 167.
- cathayana*, Hemsley, 1908, China; (cath-ay-ain-ah): of Cathay—the old name of China. *Begonian*, 1950, p. 99; *Curtis Bot. Mag.* No. 8202.
- Cathcarti*, J. D. Hooker, India-Burma; (Cáth-cart-eye): for the English botanist, Cathcart. *Begonian*, 1949, p. 121.
- cavum*, Ziesenhenné, 1948, Mexico; (cà-vum): named after its habitat—caves in limestone rock. *Begonian*, 1951, p. 157.
- chivatoa*, Ziesenhenné, 1950, Mexico; (chiv-ah-tòe-ah): for the mountain on which it was collected by Mr. MacDougall. *Begonian*, 1950, p. 54.
- cinnabarina*, Hooker, 1849, Bolivia; (sin-nah-bar-eye-nah): cinnabar red (the color of mercury ore). This is a tuberous species. Later (1871) Lemoine crossed *B. Pearcei* x *B. Veitchii* and called the progeny by the same name, which, of course, is not valid for the hybrids. *Curtis Botanic. Mag.* No. 4483.

- circumlobata*, Hance, 1883, China; (ser-cum-low-bày-tah): "lobed all around." Begonian, 1951, p. 185.
- Clarkei*, Hooker, J. D., 1867, Andes; (Clarkeye): after Major Trevor Clarke, who first grew it, and flowered it. Bot. Mag. No. 5675.
- coccinea*, Hooker, 1774 Brazil; (cock-sin-ee-ah): scarlet. (Synonym: *rubra* "red"). Bot. Mag. No. 3990, Bailey's Std. Cycl. of Hort. No. 527.
- compta*, Bull, 1886, Brazil; (cómptah): "ornamented". Krauss' p. 70-71, 7th Plate; Begonian, 1951, p. 85; Buxton's p. 66.
- conchaefolia*, Dietrich, 1851, Costa Rica; con-cheh-fò-lee-ah): shell-shaped leaves. This species' name was used erroneously for years to designate the plant now known as *erythrophylla helix*'.
- corallina*, Carriere, 1875, Brazil; (cor-al-li'ne-ah): coral-red. Chevalier's Les Begonias, Pl. 78.
- coriacea*, A. DeCandolle, 1859, Bolivia; (cor-ee-a'y-see-ah): leathery. (Name used erroneously for plant now named *B. Society*, Krauss, which is possibly a hybrid between *B. venosa* and *B. incana*.) Begonian, 1946, p. 79.
- cucullata*, Willdenow, 1805, Brazil; (cue-cull-a'y-tah): hooded.
- cyclophylla*, J. D. Hooker, 1885, China; (si-clo-fil-lah): leaves encircling the petiole, lobes overlapping. Curtis Bot. Mag. No. 6926.
- Davisi*, Veitch, 1876, Peru; (dày-vis-eye): for Walter Davis, its collector. Begonian, 1948, p. 28.
- Dayi*, Ziesenhenné, 1947, Mexico; (Dày-eye): For Mr. Day, its importer. Begonian, 1947, p. 174.
- decandra*, Pavon, A. DeCandolle, Tropical America; 1859; (deh-cán-drah): having 10 stamens. (Description, Begonian, 1947, p. 107.
- decora*, Stapf., 1892, Perak, Malaya; (deh-co're-ah): elegant. (A small rex-type plant not related to the one called "Decorus" in American catalogues—which is a 3-foot plant of the cane type.) Chevalier's Les Begonias, 6. 215.
- deliciosa*, Linden, 1880, Borneo; (dee-lih-see-ò-sah): delicious. Krauss' p. 70-71, 15th Plate.
- diadema*, Linden, 1881, Borneo; (dye-ah-deè-mah): crown. Begonian, 1948, p. 13.
- dichotoma*, Jacquin, 1793, Venezuela; (dye-kòt-oh-mah): two-forked, referring to the branching of the inflorescences. Begonian, 1943, p. 99.
- dichroa*, Sprague, 1906, Brazil; (dick-ro-ah): two-colored. Begonian, 1941, p. 58; Chevalier' p. 155, 388; Bot. Mag. No. 8412.
- dipetala*, Graham, 1826, India; (dye-pét-al-ah): two-petaled. This was introduced accidentally into the U.S. by Manda of New Jersey about 1913 and called Mrs. W. S. Kimball, which remains its synonym. Buxton's p. 52.
- dominicalis*, A. DeCandolle, 1860, Dominica, West Indies; (do-min-ih-cày-lis): of Dominica.
- Dregei*, Otto & Dietrich, 1836, So. Africa; (dreèg-eh-eye): For Dr. J. F. Drege, its discoverer. Buxton's p. 4; Begonian, 1945, p. 173.
- Duclouxii*, Gagnepain, 1904, China; (du-clò-ey-ey): for one of its finders, Ducloux.
- echinosepla*, Regel, 1870, Brazil; (ek-ine-oseè-pa-lah): prickly-sepaled. Begonian, 1953, p. 34.
- Engleri*, Gilg, 1904, Africa; (én-gler-eye): for the German botanist, Engler.
- Evansiana*, Andrews, 1804, East Asia; (ev-an-see-a'y-na): for T. Evans, the employer of Wm. Kerr, its collector. Buxton's, p. 12-13.
- Faureana*, Garnier, 1895, (for-eh-a'y-nah): for the then President of France, M. Faure. This is a synonym for *B. aconitifolia*, A. DC.
- fimbristipula*, Hance, 1883, China; (fim-brih-stíp-you-lah): with fringed stipules (the basal appendage of a petiole).
- foliosa*, Humboldt, Bonpland & Kunth, 1825, Colombia; (fo-lee-o'h-sah): closely covered with leaves. Begonian, 1944, p. 318; Krauss', p. 166-167, 6th Plate.
- Francisi*, Ziesenhenné, 1950, Mexico; (Fr'ansis-eye): for Mrs. Myrtle Shepherd Francis, daughter of California's first leading begonia hybridist, Mrs. Theodosia Burr Shepherd. Begonia, 1950, p. 218.
- Franconis*, Liebmann, Mexico, 1850; (fran-conè-is): for Don Francisco Franco of the Tropica de la Concepcion at Conaltepec.
- Froebeli*, A. DeCandolle, 1874, Peru; (frèè-bel-eye); for Otto Froebel's Nursery, Switzerland, which introduced it. Gartenflora, 1896, p. 207; Krauss' p. 166-167, 2nd Plate.
- fruticosa*, Riedel, Brazil, 1838; (frut-ih-cò-sah): "shrubby". Chevalier's, Pl. 49.
- fuchsioides*, Hooker, 1845, Colombia, (few-she-oh-ey-ey-des): fuchsialike; variety *floribunda*, Lemoine, 1875, (flor-ih-bún-dah): abundantly flowered; variety *miniata*, Linden, 1855, (min-ee-a'y-tah): "red-lead colored" more orange and duller than vermilion: this name has also been used erroneously for *B. foliosa*. Type: Begonian, 1948, p. 277; Bot. Mag. No. 4281. Var. *floribunda*: Begonian, 1944, p. 318. Var. *miniata*: Revue Horticole 1855, p. 221.
- fulgens*, Lemoine, 1893, Bolivia, (fúl-jen): shining, glistening.
- gemmaipara*, J. D. Hooker, 1848, Himalayas, (jem-ih-pah-rah): producing buds.
- gigantea*, Wallich, 1820, Himalays, (ji-gan-tee-ah): of unusual size (probably in reference to other begonias known at that time?). Buxton advt., Begonian, 1946, p. 52; Everett's, p. 19.
- glabra*, Aublet, 1775, Tropical America, (gla'y-brah): hairless; synonym of *B. scandens cordifolia*, DeCandolle, per Krauss; Smith & Schubert and the New York Botanic Garden argue that *B. scandens*, Swartz,

- is a synonym for *glabra*, Aublet. Begonian, 1941, p. 169; Buxton's p. 20.
- goegoensis*, N. E. Brown, 1881, Sumatra, (go-go-eh'n-sis): from Goego, Sumatra, Begonian, 1939, p. 1 of August issue; Begonian, 1940, p. 154.
- gracilis*, (Humboldt, Bonpland, Kunth, 1825, Mexico, (grá-sil-iss): slender, graceful, Variety *diversifolia*, Hort., (di-vers-hi-fòh-lee-ah): with variable leaves. Botanical Mag. No. 2966; Chevalier's p. 5. Var. *diversifolia*: Chevalier's p. 47.
- grandiflora*, Knowles & Westcott, is a synonym for *B. octopetala*, (grand-ih-flòr-ah): large-flowered.
- Griffithi*, Hooker, 1857, Bhotan, (grif'-ith-eye): for Wm. Griffith, English botanist. Botanical Mag. No. 4984; Begonian, 1947, p. 96.
- Handeli*, Irmscher, 1921, China, (hánd-el-eye): for Handel.
- Haageana*, Watson, 1886, Brazil, (hag-ee-ain-ah): for Mr. Haage of Haage & Schmidt; applied to the same plant named *Scharffi* by J. D. Hooker, Begonian, 1951, p. 198.
- Hemsleyana*, J. D. Hooker, 1898, China, (ems-ley-ain-ah): for W. B. Hemsley of Kew Gardens. Botanical Mag. No. 7685.
- Henryi*, Hemsley, 1877, China, (hén-ree-eye): for Augustine Henry, collector of Chinese plants.
- heracleifolia*, Chamisso & Schlechtendahl, 1830, Mexico; (her-ac-leh-ih-fò-lee-ah: with leaves like *Heracleum*, the cow-parship. Variety 'Guatemala', Hort. (hor-tor-um, meaning 'of the garden—that is, a common name), Guatemala, about 1937, (gwa-teh-máh-lah). Variety *longipila*, Ghiesbrecht, Mexico, 1859, (lon-jip'-ih-lah): long-haired. Variety *nigricans*, Hooker, Mexico, 1844, (nig-rih-cans): black. Variety *punctata*, Link & Otto, Mexico, 1839, (punk-tày-tah): dotted. Type: Botanical Mag. No. 3444; Chevalier Pl. 41; Vogelmann, p. 29; var. *nigricans*: Botanical Mag. No. 4983.
- hirtella*, Link, 1822, Brazil, (her-tél-lah): somewhat hairy. Begonian, 1941, p. 10.
- bispidavillosa*, Ziesenhenné, 1950, Mexico; (his-pid-a-vill-ò-sah): semi-stiff hairy. Begonian, 1950, p. 12.
- Houghtoni*, Hort., about 1922, in California; (hòw-ton-eye): for Dr. A. D. Houghton, its finder. It may be a hybrid. Begonian, 1951, p. 174.
- houttuynioides*, Yu, 1946, China; (howt-too-nee-oh-e'-ye-des): like the Houttuynia, a perennial, creeping herb of wayside boggy spots in Asia.
- Hugeli*, A. DeCandolle, 1855, Brazil; (he'-w-gell-eye): for Hugel. Begonian, 1950, p. 176.
- hydrocotylifolia*, Otto & Hooker, 1842, Mexico; (hi-dro-kot,ill-ih-fò-lee-ah): with leaves like the Hydrocotyle, or Water Pennywort—slender creeping perennials of wet places. Botanical Mag. No. 3968.
- bymenophylloides*, Ward, 1926, Himalayas; (hi-men-off-ill-oh-eyè-des): like the Hymenophylla, the Filmy Ferns.
- imperialis*, Lemaire, 1859, Mexico; (im-per-ee-a'y-lis): imperial. Variety *smaragdina*, Lemaire, 1861, Mexico; (smar-ág-din-ah): emerald. Type: Begonian, 1947, p. 174; *smaragdina*: Begonian, 1953, Mar.
- incana*, Lindley, 1838, Mexico; (in-cày-nah): hoary. Buxton, 1st ed., p. 48.
- incarnata*, Link & Otto, 1822, Mexico; (in-car-naày-tah): flesh-colored, referring to color of the flowers. Variety *grandiflora*, Hort, 1890, California; (grand-hi-flò-rah): large-flowered. Variety *purpurea*, Hort., 1874, Europe, (pur-poor-èe-ah): purple. Variety *Sandersi*, Hort., 1908, Massachusetts; (sán-ders-eye): for its originator. Type: Botanical Mag. (as insignis) No. 2900; *Sandersi*: Buxton, p. 69.
- incisa*, A. DeCandolle, 1859, Philippines; (in-sigh-sah): cut, referring to the finely cut leaves. Begonian, 1941, p. 195; Buxton, 6. 19.
- inflata*, C. B. Clarke, 1879, Himalayas; (in-flày-tah): swollen, referring to the fruit.
- involutrata*, Liebmann, Costa Rica, 1852; (in-vol-you-cra'y-tah): having an involucre or ring of bracts around flower clusters.
- isoptera*, Dryander, 1789, Java; eye-sóp-ter-ah): equal-winged. Variety *hirsuta*, Everett, East Indies; (her-sòo-tah): hairy, referring to the petioles. Type: Fotsch, No. 39.
- Johnstoni*, Oliver, 1844, Tropical Africa; (jón-son-eye): for H. H. Johnston, its collector. Botanical Mag. No. 6899.
- Josephi*, A. DeCandolle, 1859, India; (jò-sef-eye): for Joseph Hooker. Variety *macrocarpa*, A. DeCandolle, 1859, India; (*mak-ro-kár-pab*): large-fruited. (H o w e v e r, Clarke says the fruits of the variety are not larger but are hairy). Variety *minima*, Clarke, 1879, India; (mín'im-ah): smallest, referring to the plant in general. Variety *macrocarpa*: Begonian, Mar., 1953.
- Kellermani*, C. DeCandolle, 1919, Guatemala, (kél-ler-man-eye): Kellerman's. Begonian, 1948, p. 95.
- Kenworthyi*, Ziesenhenné, 1950, Mexico; (kén-wor-thee-eye): for Eva Kenworthy Gray, Southern California begonia hybridist and author of first American begonia book. Begonian, 1950, p. 148.
- Kunthiana*, Walpers, about 1852, Brazil; (kun-thee-ain-ah): for Karl Kunth, writer on plants of the Americas. Botanical Mag. No. 5284.
- laciniata*, Roxburgh, 1830, India; (lah-cin-ee-a'y-tah): cut into narrow lobes; referring to the leaves. Variety *flava*, Clarke, 1879, India; (flày-vah): yellow, referring to the flowers. Variety *tuberculosa*, Clark, 1879, India; (too-ber-cue-lòw-sah): tubercled, referring to the glandular tubercles on the ovary. Variety *lutea*, synonym for variety *flava* per Krauss, (loò-tee-ah): yellow. Type: Botanical Mag. No. 5021; variety *flava*: Begonian, Mar., 1953.

Continued Next Month

BEGONIA DESCRIPTION FROM FLORA INDICA

or Descriptions of Indian Plants

WM. ROXBURGH, M.D.—Calcutta, 1874

BEGONIA, Schreb. gen. N. 1442

Male calyx none. *Corol* four petalled, two opposite, larger. *Stamina* numerous. *Female calyx* none. *Corol* four, or many-petalled. *Capsules* inferior, winged, or lobed, three celled, many seeded.

1. *B. malabarica*. Dryand. in Trans. of Linn. Soc. i. p. 171.

Caulicent, herbaceous. *Leaves* unequally cordate, while young acutely serrulate-dentate; *peduncles* axillary, many-flowered; *capsules* without wings, four-lobed, four celled.

Tsjeria narenampuli. *Rheed. Mal.* ix.t.86

Ram totee, the vernacular name at Chittagong, where it is indigenous, in moist cool vallies. Plants from thence have been received into the Botanic garden at Calcutta, where they continue in flower the whole year, but chiefly in the rains. The natives of Chittagong, where the plant is plenty, use the leaves as a pot-herb; when fresh the taste is pleasantly acid, not unlike sorrel.

Root perennial, succulent, throughout a pretty deep red. *Stems* herbaceous, several from the same root, sub-erect, from six to twelve inches high, succulent, round, jointed, and rather swelled at the joints, marked with numerous, small lanceolar ferruginous, rather elevated specks, while young hairy. *Leaves* alternate, petioled, unequal or rather sub-semi-cordate, acuminate, harsh, with a few short, stiff hairs, with the margins, particularly while young, acutely and unequally serrulate-dentate, and minutely curled, from six to eight inches long, by four or five broad. *Petioles* rather shorter than the leaves, round, hairy and marked with ferruginous specks like the stems. *Stipules* oblong, stem-clasping. *Peduncles* axillary, short, bifid, many-flowered. *Flowers* pretty large, particularly the female ones, drooping, of a very pale pink, indeed almost white, sparkling, as if frosted; sweetly fragrant. *Bractes* round the base of the pedicles, minute. *Male calyx* none. *Petals* four, in opposite pairs, sub-rotund, the inner pair rather smaller by the size of a thin margin, which in the large pair, forms a sharp, vertical rim round the unexpanded globular flower bud. *Filaments* from sixty to eighty, very short. *Anthers* long, clavate, opening with a long slit on opposite sides. *Female calyx* none. *Corol* as in the male, but larger. *Stamina* none. *Germ* inferior, smooth, and thickly spotted with red, four-lobed, four celled; each cell containing two reniform receptacles, attached to the middle of the axis, ovula

innumerable over every part of the receptacles. *Style* four, bifid, yellow; *segments* or *stigma* spiral like the horns of a ram.

2. *B. laciniata*. R.

Caulicent, erect, hairy. *Leaves* unequally cordate, laciniate, serrulate-dentate. *Peduncles* the length of the petioles, few-flowered. *Capsule* with one large oval, obtuse wing.

Beng. Hooirjo.

A native of the Garrow hills, and the eastern frontier of Bengal. Flowering time the rainy season, the seeds ripen in November.

Root fibrous. *Stem* simple, rather succulent, about biennial, first erect, afterwards more or less procumbent, hairy, jointed, from six to eighteen inches long, and as thick as a ratan. *Leaves* alternate, long-petioles; unequally cordate, acutely laciniate, margins serrulate-dentate and ciliate; from three to six inches long and broad. *Stipules* oblong. *Peduncles* axillary, solitary, about as long as the leaves, from two to six-flowered, and generally more than half of them male. *Bractes* like the stipules, but smaller. *Corol* four petaled, cruciate-oval within, ferruginous on the back. *Male stamina* numerous, inserted on a conical receptacle, clavate. *Filaments* rather short. *Female germ* inferior, oval, with two narrow and one broader wing, and for the most part only two-celled, each containing numerous ovula, attached to two jugiform receptacles in each cell, rising from the axis, as in Gaertner's *Mussaenda frondosa*. *Style* scarcely any. *Stigma* large, variously convolute. *Capsule* oblong, three-winged; but two of them so narrow as scarcely to be observed if not carefully looked for, the third broad oval, and obtuse, three-celled, as in the germ.

3. *B. aptera*. R.

Shrubby, sub-parasitic. *Leaves* semi-cordate, entire, smooth. *Capsules* wingless.

Found by Colonel Hardwicke on the Island of Mauritius. He says it is a large spreading shrub.

Stem rather slender, and mostly growing out of decaying, or rotten trunks of fallen trees, in wet shaded woods. *Peduncles* axillary, solitary, bifid, each division three-flowered; the middle one larger, sessile, and male; the other two short-pedicelled, and female. *Calyx* none. *Corol*, *stamina*, etc. as in the genus; only the *capsules* are destitute of wings.

Reproduced from Library reference material.

Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian—January, 1953.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

1953 Flight

Begonia seeds have been flown to the U.S.A. from India, Philippine Islands, Cuba, Germany, England, Africa, Paraguay, Mexico and Hawaii.

Some of them will have to be listed without a description, because the collectors collected the seeds and gave them a number only. The other begonia seeds have been identified (to the collector) and are offered to you as they have been received. Some of the begonias from India are illustrated in this issue, to acquaint the grower with their likeness.

The seeds are fine and many are rare, so it is advisable to give them exceptional care.

For detailed seed growing instructions, newer members may refer to the instruction sheet sent to them with their free packet of seeds. The members of longer standing may refer to Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger's article on Seed Sowing in the January, 1952, BEGONIAN, page 6.

1953 Seed Fund Flight Members, please note: You are asked to choose twenty packets from the following list, adding three substitute numbers, as some seeds are in smaller quantities than others. Send this list of desired seed numbers to the Seed Fund Administrator, on a post card and your seeds will be forwarded to you by return mail.

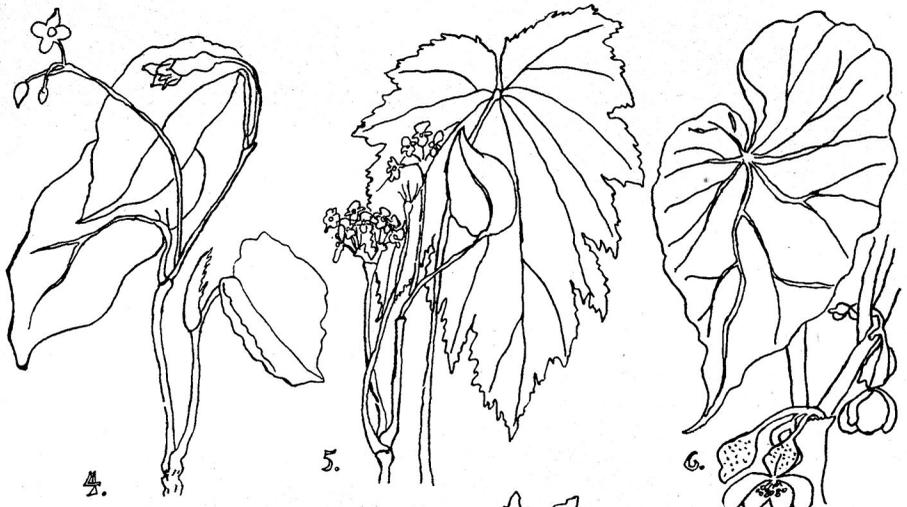
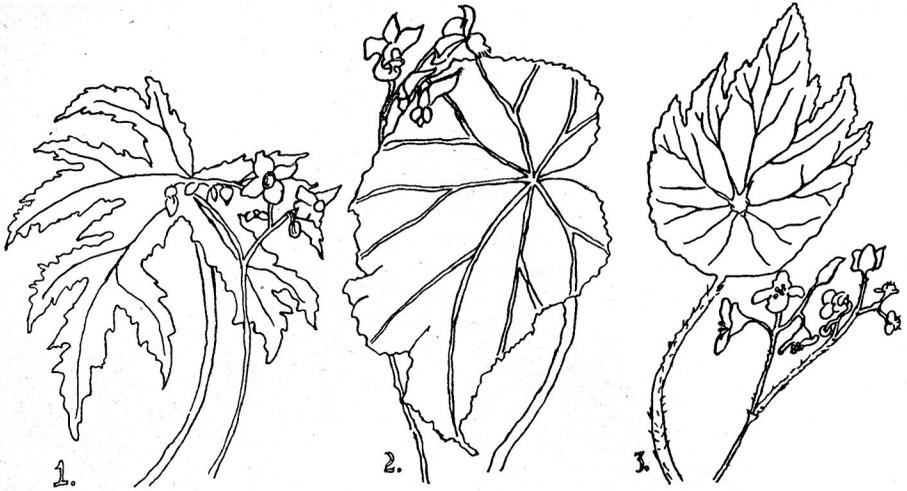
A.B.S. members not joining the '53 Flight will have an opportunity to purchase packets separately, after all Flight Members' requests are filled, at twenty-five cents a packet.

An excess amount of begonia seeds were purchased to allow the members to list their preference, rather than accept varieties they did not want. It is only fair that the members supporting the Seed Fund be given the 'creme of the crop', however.

- #130 *B. Cathcarti* (Himalayan) fibrous; leaves deeply serrated; stems are covered with 'scattered hairs'. Found at approx. 6000 ft. alt.
- #131 *B. cathayana* (Himalayan) fibrous, "rex;" leaves hairy and have a beautiful pattern, therefore is considered a tall rex begonia.
- #132 *B. laciniata* (India) "rex"; leaves green, zoned lighter green; pink flowers.
- #133 *B. laciniata* var. *lutea* (India) "rex"; roundly-ovate leaves; yellow flowers.
- #134 *B. laciniata* var. *bowringiana* (India) "rex"; leaves light-green, soft hairy; pink flowers.
- #135 *B. xanthina* (Bhotan) rhizomatous, "rex"; large, dark-green leaves, red underside; yellow flowers.

- #136 *B. Roxburghi* (India) fibrous; thickened stalk at soil line; bright-green leaves; flowers are borne on stems, as cherries. Very attractive.
- #137 *B. gigantea* (India) fibrous; seldom branches; medium-green leaves; to approx. 2 ft. high; many pink flowers.
- #138 *B. megaptera* (India) rhizomatous; stems erect; flowers large, pink and will completely cover the plant.
- #139 *B. brevicaulis* (India) tuberous; not common; believed to have white flowers.
- #140 *B. Bhotan* sp. (India) tuberous; unidentified.
- #141 *B. pedatifida* (Himalayan) woody rootstalk; leaves deeply lobed; goes completely dormant in the winter.
- #142 *B. picta* (Nepal) tuberous; rounded, mottled green and bronze, rough-surfaced leaves. Seeds have not germinated well, but it is well worth another attempt to grow this unusually attractive and rare begonia.
- #143 *B. Josephi* (India) tuberous; deeply-lobed leaves; flowers white to rose. Found at 5-6000 ft. alt.
- #144 *B. ovatifolia* (India) tuberous; leaves are ovate; white to pink flowers. Found at approx. 4000 ft. alt.
- #145 *B. Andersoni* (India) tuberous; leaves have yellow and red hairs on surface; white underside.
- #146 *B. 'Calla Lily'* (England) fibrous, semperflorens, green and white mottled leaves, especially at tip growth.
- #147 *B. macrocarpa* (Africa) fibrous; long pointed, olive-green leaves, red underside; makes good wall basket specimens.
- #148 *B. leptotricha* (Paraguay) commonly called 'Manda's Woolly Bear', fibrous; long blooming; leaves glossy-green surface, tomentum-covered underside; many white flowers.
- #149 *Philippines* sp. (Philippine Islands) unidentified, which is always interesting.
- #150 *B. "Checker Board"* (Mexico) rhizome-tuber; block-mottled leaves; heavy bloomer in November and December, then goes completely dormant.
- #151 *B. incana* (Mexico) heavy stalk, fibrous; thick, tomentum-covered leaves; white flowers.
- #152 *B. Kellermani* (Guatemala) fibrous; heavy-textured, cupped leaves covered with tomentum. Makes very good basket plant.
- #153 *B. Roezli* (Mexico) fibrous; bright-green leaves; bright-rose flowers.
- #154 *B. acutifolia* (Cuba) fibrous; called

(Turn to Next Page)



—Drawings by Dorothy Shoop and Lester Bonar from Ghose & Co. sketches
 Reprint from 1949 *Begonian*, p. 105.

'White Robusta' and is similar to B. 'Catalina'. We believe this to be the right name, at this date.

- #155 B. *rubro-venia* (India) fibrous; lance-like leaves have rose-red veins on underside; white flowers.
- #156 B. 'Carmen' (Germany) semperflorens, fibrous; dark, reddish-brown leaves.
- #157 B. 'Gruga' (Germany) heterosis semperflorens. Not described.
- #158 B. 'Helena' (Germany) heterosis semperflorens. Not described.
- #159 B. 'Mandarin' (Germany) floribunda, tuberosa; dark leaves, fiery orange flowers, some single and some double; profuse bloomer. Erect, not basket.
- #160 B. 'Nana' (Germany) semperflorens; compact. Not described.
- #110 B. "King Bee" (Mexico) unidentified species.
- #111 B. "Ryon" (Mexico) unidentified species.
- #112 B. "Beaucaire" (Mexico) fibrous; reddish leaves; cane type species.
- #113 B. "Ruby Jewels" (Mexico) unidentified species.
- #114 B. "Thomas" (Mexico) fibrous, semperflorens type; slender stalk; light green leaves; many white flowers. Easy to grow species.
- #117 B "Pluma Blanca" (Mexico) tuberous; has large clusters of white flowers. Species.
- #118 B. "Bill" (Mexico) rhizomatous (ball-shaped); star-shaped leaves. Species.
- #119 Mexican sp. unidentified.
- #120 Hawaiian sp. This is what it was called from our collector on the Islands, and it has not been identified, as yet.

1. *pedatifida*; 2. *aborensis-rex* (not Dunn)—not available this flight; 3. *Josephi macrocarpa*; 4. *rubro-venia*; 5. *Andersoni*; 6. *Roxburghi*; 7. "Bhotan species"; 8. *laciniata flava* (syn. *lutea*); 9. "Nepal species"—not available this flight.

Your Editor

Received word that Mrs. Bessie Buxton's immense labors on the Begonia Glossary for the Nomenclature Committee have been recognized by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society with a gold medal award.

Mrs. Buxton compiled a list of some 10,000 begonia names (both species and hybrids,) in literature, to which Mr. Bedson was able to make few additions or corrections!

Running down the correct spelling of a begonia name, we received a note from Mr. Mulford Foster, Orlando, Florida to the effect that it should be *Begonia Fernando-Costae*, after a man by that name, as christened by Senor Brade, the foremost South American authority on Begonias at the Botanic Garden of Rio de Janeiro.

Corresponding regarding Cuban species of begonias Mr. Grady L. Webster at the University of Michigan kindly sent us a copy of The Asa Gray Bulletin which con-

Grows to six feet, leathery leaves; white flowers.

Please make your choice, from the above list, of twenty numbers, plus three substitutes, and mail immediately to . . .

Grace Adams,
Seed Fund Administrator
P. O. Box 2544
Los Angeles 54, Calif.

Fresh seed received in the past few days may be had for 25c a packet, unless otherwise noted.

Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip tree) will need protection in the winter if grown in cold climates.

Alpinia mutica (Hawaii) typical 'ginger' leaves; yellow flowers with red-veined lip. *Naegelia* hybrids (Germany) of the Gesneriaceae; unidentified.

Cibotium chamissoi (Hawaii) the best Hawaiian tree fern, called Hapu by the Hawaiians.

Spathoglottis plicata (Malay) terrestrial orchid, similar to Bletia in habit; prefers warm, moist location with an abundance of chopped fern fiber or sphagnum moss in rich soil mixture. Good drainage is essential. Sow seeds as for begonias.

Camellias . . . as these seeds are from named hybrids, they will not come true, but are well worth growing at .50 a dozen.

It is hoped we have pleased all the Flight members in the distribution of Begonia seeds. Many members voiced an opinion and the verdict was as described. Value is given, there is no doubt, but happiness in growing begonias is the paramount issue. It is hoped these seeds bring happiness to all our Flight members.

—Grace Adams, Seed Fund Administrator.

INDIAN SPECIES:

tained his account of an expedition from Mr. C. D. Bingham's coffee plantation on the flank of Cuba's second highest mountain, Bayamesa. His report takes special note of the fact that the rich primeval growth was rapidly being cleared for maize and cassava and despoiled indiscriminately, ruining the land, because there were no adequate forestry laws. He described an oasis in these areas as follows: "The Rio Oro itself was a delightful spot. Swift, cool water ran over large boulders of igneous rock, and a lush forest full of mosses, ferns, begonias (identified subsequently as *B. acutifolia*, Jacquin,) and peperomias came down to the water's edge and sprawled over the wet rocks. *Pitcairnia cubensis*, the only conspicuous terrestrial bromeliad in this country, extended its bright red-flowered sprays from steep banks. *Meriana leucantha*, a shrub with neat glossy tripli-nerved leaves and numbers of waxy white flowers with pink stamens, was the most attractive of the several Melastomaceae."

B. Imperialis Grown as a House Plant

By Katherine R. Martin, New England Branch

When a friend of mine brought me a plant of *B. imperialis*, I hesitated to accept it. I believed that it could be grown successfully only in a greenhouse. My winter garden is mostly in a three-window bay in my living-room. After hearing my friend say, "Try it, I know you can make it grow," I accepted the gift and determined to try my best to produce a plant worthy of the donor.

When I received the begonia, about eight months ago, it had ten leaves; now it has added twelve more in various stages of growth, and has bloomed constantly.

My begonia is a division taken from a plant that had been growing in a Wardian case. The plant had first to make the adjustment from growing under glass to that of ordinary house conditions. At first it lost one leaf.

It is potted in a container made of California volcanic rock which is very porous. I set this container in a larger one, the bottom of which I had covered with small stones and shells. I keep just enough water in the large container to come up to the stones but not to cover them. I do not want the water to be absorbed by the plant but only to supply humidity.

The soil mixture is composed of leaf mold, sandy loam, rotted wood soil taken from around an old tree, bits of charcoal, and cotton seed meal for fertilizer. My friend did not remember the exact proportions he used, but it was much the same as for many

other begonias.

I water the begonia from the top when the soil seems dry. I water all my begonias with warm water, and keep several containers filled with water among my plants. Small strawberry jars are excellent for this purpose. I also spray all my begonias occasionally with a fine spray. The center of my bay window faces west, and I have my *imperialis* at the back of the window where it gets good light but not direct sun.

Our part of Connecticut has milder winters than other parts of New England, so I do not often have to think of extreme cold in a house garden. On the coldest nights I pull down the shades for protection. Sometimes I move my begonia to a place in the room sure to be warm.

We have hot and humid summers, so I do not put *imperialis* out-of-doors, as it is much cooler in the house.

I know that my begonia would not in any way compare with one grown in a greenhouse, but it has shown that it can be a pleasure to grow one under house conditions.

I have grown many plants both indoors and out, but begonias are always a challenge to me. I owe much of the pleasure and what success I have had with begonias, in the past four or five years, to Mrs. Buxton's book and to Mrs. Rodney K. Piper of Wethersfield, Conn., for information on growing and also for plants.

OUR COVER PICTURE . . .

Begonia x Sarabelle

by Marie Minter, Encinitas, California

I think one of the most confusing things about trying to get the cane type begonias straightened out in my own mind is the apparent lack of similarity in any degree to the known blood lines of the particular plant in question. From the records we know that *B. 'Sarabelle'* is a seedling of *B. x Maybelle E.* and *B. x Maybelle E.* is in turn a daughter of *B. x Lucerna*.

Just what the original cross was seems to be lost as far as authentic records go, but *B. x Maybelle E.* must have had a very dominant parent, because she came up with leaves much like those of *B. coccinea* and she transmitted this shape of leaf to her offspring, *B. x Sarabelle*, but with only about half the size of her own leaves.

Two characteristics which are dominant

in both plants in question are the heavy silverspotting and the white center to the seed pod.

In the Rosecroft catalog of 1937, I find this description of *B. x Sarabelle*. Leaves are medium cress green, thickly silver spotted. Under, jade green with purple flush, veins ruddy. Blooms deep hellebore red with white center to seed pods. Petals thulite pink. Medium grower, sending up several canes, the whole plant giving a pendent effect.

In my own experience in growing this plant, I have found that it is one of the few cane varieties listed as being spotted that retains its spots in spite of our growing conditions. Most of the time the spots fade in our southern California climate until we are no longer sure that we have the correct name on our plants.

TIMELY TUBEROUS TIPS

By Glenn W. Motschman

Monthly cultural information on growing the Tuberous Begonia in Southern California.

This month we will find that our seedling plants are beginning to crowd each other and are ready for transplanting the second time. Space the plants about two inches apart in flats containing a soil mixture that is no more than one-and-one-half inches deep.

Use a forked orange-wood stick in your right hand and another pointed stick in your left hand. Loosen the plants from the soil with the stick in your left hand and, using the forked stick in your right hand, lift and transplant the seedlings. The planting can be more evenly spaced if a template is used to mark off the planting rows on the soil surface in the flat. I use a piece of plywood 18" x 18" with holes drilled one inch apart over the entire surface. By laying the template over the flat one can, by using a small round stick, mark off the desired spaces over the entire flat.

My crop of seedlings are doing very nicely. May I extend an open invitation to all members of the A.B.S. to visit my greenhouse at their convenience. My address is listed in this publication. Growing from seed is always fascinating, and those who cannot, or have not the facilities for germinating and growing from seed, are welcome to observe the growth cycle of my seedlings. In growing plants our own pleasure is enhanced by knowing that many other horticultural hobbyists will derive an equal amount of pleasure from the plants we grow.

Library Notes

New members will be interested to know that bound copies of past issues of THE BEGONIAN are available for circulation on request and the 1952 file is now ready. A post card request will bring any volume to you, upon payment of the postage on return of the book.

I would like to call the attention of the membership to the splendid article in the October, 1952, issue of the National Horticulture Magazine by B. Y. Morrison on Rex Begonias—the photographs which accompany the article will be of great help to our members wishing to identify their plants and this is a valuable addition to references on this plant. Copies may be obtained from the American Horticultural Society, Inc., 1600 Bladensburg Road, N.E., Washington 2, D.C., for \$0.75 each. Our members are invited to join the American Horticultural Society at any time; \$3.50 is the membership

GENERAL GARDENING

"Late March, in this area, is an important month in the outdoor shade garden, "our Mrs. Dorothy Behrends says. "Remove all old, dead wood from Begonia and other shade plants. Pick up all fallen leaves, as they may be harboring insects and diseases. When the shade garden area is cleared of possible trouble making debris, spread a mulch at least two inches deep in and around your shade plants. Mulch means to place a layer of organic matter on top of the soil in the springtime; mulch may also contain fertilizer. This will serve three purposes: keep down weeds, keep tender roots protected from drying winds and be a long range feeding program. A mulch of proven satisfaction has consisted of either screened cow manure, steer manure, or well decomposed compost, mixed with any of the following: dampened peat moss, bean straw, leaf mold or coarse sawdust. A good ratio would be one sack of fertilizer to 5 sacks of mulching material. Add one cup of superphosphate to this amount and mix well.

"Two rules to remember are: Shade plants may be fed as soon as all danger of frost is past and on until the middle of September in this area. Do not feed any fertilizer again until all danger of frost is past in the Spring; never fertilize a plant unless it shows signs of growing."

(From the Glendale Branch News Letter—1952).

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for 4", 5" & 6" pots; 1/4", .12c for 6", 7"
& 8" pots; 3/8", .15c for 8", 9" & larger pots.
Write for bulk prices.

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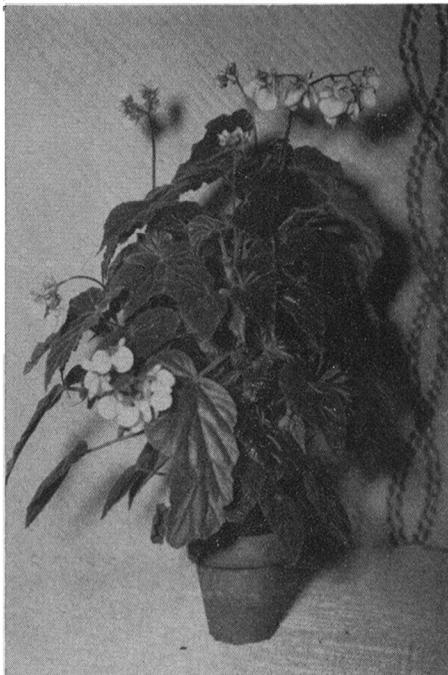
fee to members of the A.B.S. since our Society is affiliated with the A.H.S. Many of you will be interested in the list of reprints, issued in the above number, covering ferns, achimenes, tuberous begonias, etc. all articles of benefit to the shade gardener.

The 1952 volume of the National Horticultural Magazine will be bound for circulation at an early date, but take a tip from your Librarian and obtain a copy of the October number for your own use.

Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.

BRANCH SHOWS

Highlights of Missouri Branch 1952 Show
 B. *foliosa*—Best in Show B. 'Credneri'



—Plants of Mrs. Ralph Seevers—Courtesy of Leora Calmese and Missouri Br.

**NEW CROP
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 HYBRID BEGONIA SEED**

\$1.00 per packet

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1130 N. Milpas St. Santa Barbara, Calif.

Everything Grows Better in Our
CYMBIDIUM COMPOST
 \$2.50 per Large Bag

Special in Cymbidium Backbulbs
 Beginner's Assortment, 10 for \$5.00

THE ORCHID HOUSE

9411 EAST BROADWAY

Tel.: CU. 3-3968 Temple City, Calif.

NOTE that *Begonia leptotricha*, C. De-Candolle, from Paraguay, has been established as the correct name for our old mystery friend, "Manda's Woolly Bear".

For pins and stationery, contact Mrs. Gonda Hartwell, 1719 Alamitos Avenue, Monrovia, California.

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Growers and hybridizers of the finest in orchid plants for amateur growers. Hard grown plants that are easy to acclimate to your conditions. Write for price lists on Vandas, Dendrobiums, Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Species, and Botanicals.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

★ Calendar ★

(Visitors Always Welcome)

March 6th

Central Florida: A fascinating talk by Dr. George Crisler on "Therapeutic Benefits of Begonia-growing" is scheduled for this meeting.

March 13th—22nd

California International Flower Show—
Hollywood Park!

March 25th

Glendale: Mr. Rudolf Ziesehenne will speak on "Begonias for This Area, Rhizomatous".

April 23rd thru 26th

8th Annual Internatl. Cymbidium Show,
Santa Barbara Natl. Guard Armory, with fashion show each evening; auction 2:00 p.m. Saturday.

August 22nd, 23rd

A. B. S. NATIONAL CONVENTION
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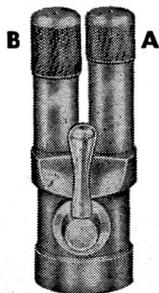
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Shade-Loving Plants*

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BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES

(Visitors always welcome at these meetings.)

CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, 8:00 p.m.
Lounge, Florida Power Co.
Winter Park, Fla.

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

DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, Mar. 5, Apr. 2, 7:00 p.m.
Member's Residences

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

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Mar. 12, 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, Mar. 19
Jennie Baker School, 12043 Exline
Jean Cross, Cor. Secy.

1304 Elm, Alhambra, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Mar. 19, 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Recreation Hall

Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland

FORT ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Mar. 7, Apr. 4, 2:30 p.m.
Miss Lola Price, Secy.

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

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Mar. 25, 7:45 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, Mar. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Community House, La Jolla

Tillie Genter, Cor. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRAYS HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 9, 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, Mar. 24, 10:30 a.m.

Home of Members
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following
Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.
R.F.D., Willow Grove, Pa.

HEART OF AMERICA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Mar. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Member's Residences

Mr. George Knoupf, Secy.-Treas.
2912 Delevan, Kansas City, Kans.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 9, 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, Mar. 13, 10:00 a.m.

Garden Center, Herman Park
Mrs. E. H. Claggett, Secy.
4415 Austin, Houston, Tex.

HUB CITY BRANCH

COMPTON-LYNWOOD

3rd Monday, Mar. 16, 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, Mar. 9, 8:00 p.m.
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.

Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Mar. 12, 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, Mar. 9, 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, Mar. 10, 7:30 p.m.

Colonial Hall, 10th and Locust
Mrs. W. Cox, Secy.
3592 Lewis Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.
3340 S.W. 24th Terrace, Miami, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Mar. 17, 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, Mar. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Houghton Park Club House

Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach
Mrs. Beatrice White, Secy.
1411 Poppy St., Long Beach, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Mar. 5, Apr. 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, Mar. 16, 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, Mar. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Dania Hall, 19 Main St.

Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.
222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Mar. 13, Members Homes
Mrs. Robert York, Secy.

3311 Fremont St., Camden, N. J.

PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Mar. 27, 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, Mar. 24, 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, Mar. 27, 8:00 p.m.
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Mrs. Arline Stoddard, Secy.
522 S. Guadalupe Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Mar. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Member's Residence

Mrs. Kay Elmore, Secy.
3935 McKenzie St., Arlington, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Mar. 27, 10:00 a.m.
Homes of Members

Mrs. L. Carringer, Secy.
825 Harbor View Pl., San Diego 3

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Mar. 17, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, McKinley Park

Mrs. H. R. Pirkner, Secy.
750 - 48th St., Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM OREGON BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Mar. 3, Apr. 7
The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem

Mrs. Loren H. Edlund
863 Edina Lane, Salem, Ore.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Mar. 23
 Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University
 Mrs. Phyliss Kausky, Secy.
 4543 36th St., San Diego 16, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 9
 Homes of Members

Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.
 18635 Calvert St., Reseda, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Mar. 4, Apr. 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, Mar. 25
 Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
 Arcadia, Calif.

Mrs. Gonda Hartwell, Secy.
 1719 Alamitas Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Mar. 12, 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, Mar. 3, Apr. 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

2nd Friday, Mar. 13, 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, Mar. 17, 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, Mar. 3, Apr. 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 Thursday, Mar. 19, 8:00 p.m.
 Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.

Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss, Cor. Secy.
 26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 24, 7:30 p.m.
 South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern

Mr. Walter Partridge
 4849 Beck Ave., Bell, Calif.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Friday, Mar. 27, 7:30 p.m.
 Members' Homes

Mrs. D. W. Briggs, Secy.-Treas.
 2349 13th St., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Mar. 11, 11:00 a.m.
 Homes of Members

Mrs. Walter H. Kirch, Secy.
 Clearview Rd., Glenshaw, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH**CLEVELAND, OHIO**

4th Wednesday, Mar. 25, 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, Mar. 24, 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, Mar. 17, 2:00 p.m.
 Homes of Members

Mrs. J. H. Ward Hinkson, Secy.
 Wallingford, Pa.

CONDENSED MINUTES

National Board meeting, January 26, 1953:
 Called to order at Los Angeles City Hall at 7:30
 p.m.; room filled.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Trowbridge;
 purposes read by Mr. Motschman. Minutes of pre-
 vious meeting read and approved. Correspondence
 read. Resignation of Membership Secretary Elmer
 Lorenz accepted with regrets.

Mrs. Korts requested Mrs. Williams' letter rela-
 tive to changing the by-laws be referred to a
 committee for study before Board action. So or-
 dered.

Treasurer's report: \$33.72 gain for Dec.; \$323.94
 for Jan.

Membership Secretary report: 479 renewing, 91
 new members, 2 life memberships.

Business Manager: Advertising income \$121.50 for
 December, \$114.50 for January.

Reports accepted as read.

Mrs. Korts appointed Mr. Motschman as Ways
 and Means Chairman. Approved. Mr. Motschman
 appointed all Branch Directors as his committee and
 set a meeting date on February 7th to discuss idea
 of an annual function for the benefit of the National
 Society. He reported on the Poster to be
 displayed at the Branches in the new membership
 drive and appeared in February Begonian. He added
 that all members who bring in a new member
 would be given a 50c packet of their choice of
 Seed Fund seed.

Mr. Trowbridge reported on correspondence with
 Mr. Roberts, Sacramento Branch, involving an
 opportunity to have News Publishing Company
 there take over the business management and
 printing of The Begonian. Further conferences to
 be reported next month.

Mr. Trowbridge moved that we run a three-
 months ad in the Classified Section of Flower
 Grower. Carried.

Public Relations Director moved amendments to
 Sacramento Branch Constitution be accepted. Car-
 ried. Thanked branches for newsletters. Reported
 \$57.50 in fund for adopting members in foreign
 countries.

Librarian: 95 books in circulation; 31 sold.
 Speakers Bureau: List now being mimeographed.

Slide Library: 8 slide sets out.

Flower Show Chairman Rich reported invitation
 from Hobby Show. The portable exhibit has been
 finished and will be used there. Requested offers of
 large foliage plants for A.B.S. exhibit in Inter-
 national Show; advance of \$50.00 granted.

Miss Hoak, new Research Director, reported great
 activity; investigating semperflorens heteroses here
 and in Europe; obtaining translations of portions of
 Vogelmann's Die Begonien und Ihre Kultur.

Seed Fund report: Distribution of 1953 Flight
 to be made in February. Income, \$144.80; expenses,
 \$41.70; balance \$137.48.

Old Business: Mrs. Korts reminded it was almost
 a year since our Editor tendered resignation as of
 May, 1953, and asked for recommendations from
 Branches for editor and membership secretary. Read
 new copy of Rules and Regulations governing Re-
 volving Convention Fund from San Francisco
 Branch; asked approval of change in last para-
 graph; Granted. MacDougall Life Membership
 tabled till more in fund. Asked Branch Directors to
 turn in reports on suggested changes in Convention
 Rules and proposed Judge's Class.

New Business: Mr. Spaulding suggested mimeo-
 graphed growing instructions on tuberous begonias
 be distributed to nurseries through the branches to
 be given to the public when purchasing begonias.
 Turned over to Ways and Means Chairman.

Mrs. Nolan moved the Secretary be instructed
 to write a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Buxton for
 the Begonia Glossary prepared by her and Mr.
 Bedson. Carried. Asked that she be allowed to copy
 for the Library any valuable A.B.S. reference
 material (with authors' permission). Granted.

Interesting branch reports were highlighted by:
 Hub City report that a member, Mrs. Hardacre, was
 working with the Veterans Hospital garden therapy
 project and wished to contact branches for contri-
 butions; Santa Barbara report from Mrs. Erika
 Weber of her trip to Germany and the official
 invitation to participate in the Hamburg Inter-
 national Flower Show. (It was suggested a display
 of a year's issue of The Begonian be sent.)

Redondo—Invited all to a card party to raise
 funds for the Convention; settled on August 22nd
 and 23rd as best date therefor, which was offi-
 cially accepted by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

DORRIS MOTSCHMAN.

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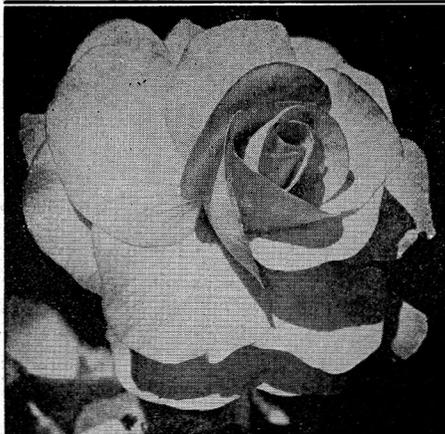
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new members is the Seed Fund's offer of
a 50c pkt. your choice, for each new
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Pkts. 50c each, All 6 \$2.00—FREE CATALOG
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PASADENA 1 CALIFORNIA

Begonia Glendale\$1.50
Begonia Lexington\$1.50

available at

TURNER'S SHADE GARDENS
5549 N. Sultana St. Temple City, Calif.

YES, TEACHER!

In January Mrs. Breshears, Missouri
Branch, gave a very instructive talk on Be-
gonias, 'Credneri', 'Credneri compacta', C 42,
and "Manda's Woolly Bear", using a
blackboard for her illustrations. She showed
two "Manda's W.B.", one neglected and
one well cared for. She also made drawings
of leaves and cuttings, showing how to pro-
pagate. A period of questions and answers
followed. —*Leora Calmese* (A blackboard
in every study group could be very useful.)

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