

The BEGONIAN

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AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be to promote
interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants;
to encourage the introduction and development of
new types of these plants to standardize the no-
menclature of begonias; to gather and publish in-
formation in regard to kinds, propagation and
culture of begonias and companion plants; to issue
a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of
the Society; and to bring into friendly contact all
who love and grow begonias.

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★ ★ ★

Views expressed in this magazine are not
necessarily those of the Editor, the Society, or
its officers.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members: You must wonder at times when you read the minutes, just what in the world is going on out here, and of course by the time you receive the Begonian, we have had another meeting, and another set of minutes are on the way, it is very confusing, to say the least.

In the March Begonian, you will have read some disagreeable and misunderstanding situations. Decisions such as this are not done by the officers or the board, unless they have a good reason. We must diligently control our feelings and emotions in order to live with peace in our hearts. We should respect the opinions of others whether we agree with them or not. This is not always easy. But arguments and ill will, cause resentment and nothing is gained on either side, by being obstinate and relentless.

A great Society is one which members extend their best efforts for good, where selfish interests are not included in the forming of legal administration of authority, where members have a desire to work and progress in various fields of endeavor. Where truth is revealed and individuals witness to the worth of this truth and have Faith in their officers.

May we as members of a great organized Society be steadfast in our Faith and thereby promote peace and unity to those within our organization and also to those outside whom we call our friends.

I wish success to each Branch and individual member at large, in the projects and work you are striving for.

Sincerely, Begoniawise
Your President
MURIEL PERZ

COVER PICTURE

Begonia cheimanthus 'Lady Mac' — grown in a hanging basket by Mrs. Edna Stewart of Tarentum, Pennsylvania.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The February issue brought forth four letters, as of this writing, and we are feeling a bit more encouraged. If it continues, and increases, we will really come to feel this page is serving you and worth the time and expense.

Referring once more to the February issue, response came from both Mrs. Barbara Walker and Charles E. Tagg regarding the question on 'Bijou de Jardin'. Although neither of them had heard of this variety, both seem to feel that the "fairly robust-growing semp with fairly large single flowers edged a clear red" might well be B. 'Flamingo'. It is a likely guess inasmuch as one letter is from California and the other from Indiana, both with the same conviction. Mrs. Walker states that Park Seed Co., Greenwood, South Carolina, has 'Flamingo' seed, and she regrets that, having lost the plant in moving, she cannot supply a cutting. But Mr. Tagg very gallantly offers to send the questioner a cutting if there are no other means of obtaining seed. This is the kind of cooperation we hoped for, and very earnestly hope will continue.

Mrs. Walker suggests trying the Paris Market Gigantea Hybrid semps, seeds also obtainable from Park's (we *must* get them to advertise in our publication!), adding, "this seed produced some beauties for me." Perhaps others are interested in that news.

A very cordial, encouraging letter from Mrs. Ciganek of Baltimore, Maryland, asks how best to keep B. *evansiana* going. She has it in a small pot at present, but wonders how, when to transplant it — into what size pot — to be placed outdoors when the weather clears. She has a "concrete garden" and therefore the plant must go into a large pot or planter. Anyone have suggestions on how best to handle the situation?

Question: Would all these begonias be fairly easy for a beginner? (this was followed by a list of 20 varieties)

(Continued on Page 75)

RECENT ADVANCEMENTS OF THE WINTER-FLOWERING BEGONIAS

By ROBERT L. SHATZER
A.B.S. Research Director

Until the outbreak of World War II the "Christmas Begonias", or more correctly, those of the *B. hiemalis* and *B. cheimantha* groups, were an important and popular commercial crop and were used extensively in floral and botanical displays during the winter months. A few collectors and commercial sources still maintain a meager stock. The decline in popularity is because of the susceptibility to powdery mildew and begonia mite. In addition, rigid temperature and atmospheric demands, difficult and expensive propagation, and a tricky rest period or dormancy have played a part in their lack of popularity. These many drawbacks and deterrents have intrigued hybridists for many years.

At present, extensive research is being conducted in an attempt to overcome these problems. Before investigating this work, let us review the checkered history of these groups.

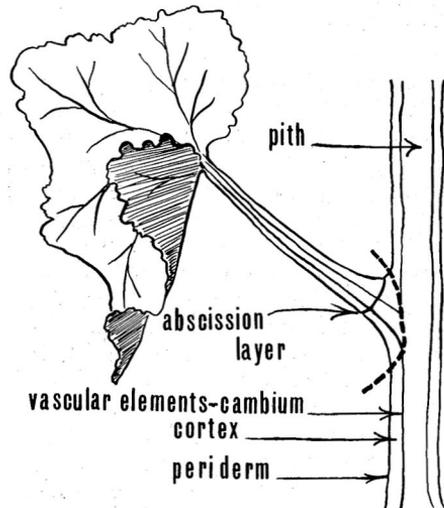
Both the *hiemalis* and *cheimantha* groups are hybrid offspring from Professor Isaac Bayley Balfour's introduction in 1880 of the species *B. socotrana*. Two unique characteristics of this species, its winter-flowering habit and its bulb or bulbous rootstock, interested hybridists in England and France almost immediately and the Edinburgh professor's discovery was employed.

The *B. hiemalis* group appeared as a result of breeding at the English firm of Messrs. Veitch and Sons. Their nursery foreman, John Heal, used *B. socotrana* as seed parent and the newly developed *B. tuberhybrida* 'Viscountess Doneraile' as pollen parent to produce this first of the group. This hybrid appeared only three years after the introduction of the species and was named for its hybridizer, *B. h.* 'John Neal'.

The quarter of a century that followed saw the introduction of many improved varieties by the English firm of Clibrans in Altrincham. They achieved more vigorous plants with taller habits and larger blooms as well as double-flowering blooms. The vigorous *B. h.* 'Emily Clibran' with double rose-pink blossoms and *B. h.* 'Altrincham Pink' with bright camellia-like pink flowers are still available today.

The Baardse firm in Aalsmeer, Holland, continued work begun by Clibrans and developed still more showy varieties.

The *B. cheimantha* group appeared in Nancy, France, a few short years after the *B. hiemalis* group was introduced in England. French hybridist Lemoine created the first of these in 1891 by crossing *B. socotrana* with



LEAF-CORTEX CUTTING

Leaf-cortex cuttings are recommended as the most successful method of propagation for the *Begonia hiemalis* and *Begonia cheimantha* groups.

—Drawings by G. A. Sausaman.



Begonia socotrana showing flowers and leaves with a detail of the bulbous rootstock.

B. dregei and named the resulting plant *B. c.* 'Gloire de Lorraine'.

Fewer varieties and improved forms of this group have been developed in the intervening years, though several white sports and one red mutant have appeared. The most outstanding introductions were made in this country early in the century by J. A. Peterson of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was striving to improve this strain for house plant conditions and produced such new varieties as *B. c.* 'Glory of Cincinnati' and *B. c.* 'Melior'. Both of these pink-flowering types are still grown today. Several New Englanders also offered pink bloomers during these years. From this period *B. c.* 'Lady Mac' and *B. c.* 'Marjorie Gibbs' are still cultivated.

Crucial fuel needs and the demands of the war effort during World War II caused the decline and near-disap-

pearance of these begonias from the commercial scene on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Despite the wane in popularity that resulted and the lack of available stock, the floriferous winter display of blooms produced by these groups was still pursued.

Since 1946 Chr. Asmussen has distributed his strong-stemmed strain of Scandinavian or Norwegian begonias. These have gained wide-spread acceptance both here and abroad in the wholesale florist trade. Perhaps the largest and most spectacular collection of these plants can be found in the 5,000 square feet of greenhouses owned by Weima and Eveleens, Aalsmeer, Holland. Their offerings comprise one of the largest selections of this stock in the world.

When questioning A. B. S. members about these begonias and their experiences with them, Mrs. William Heginbotham of Saxonburg, Pennsylvania, said: "The first plant I ever saw of this kind was in Jamestown, New York, about forty years ago, at the home of a relative of my cousin. She called it *B. c.* 'Melior'. It was a beautiful plant sitting on a stand with flower stems that were about two feet long. It had thirteen branches growing from the one pot." It is certainly no wonder that these plants have been so very highly regarded and sought after by collectors everywhere.

The most encouraging news has been received from J. Doorenbos, a Professor of Horticulture in Holland, who writes: "So little research is done with this group of plants that the few people engaged in the work can only gain by cooperation. Our project started only two years ago. The problem was as follows: fifteen years ago, the Begonias of the 'Gloire de Lorraine' group were among the most important potted plants in The Netherlands. Nowadays they are of little economic importance, although it is generally felt that they could still play an important role if they were not so susceptible to mildew and could better stand the adverse conditions in many homes.

"Begonia 'Gloire de Lorraine' is a sterile hybrid of *B. socotrana* and *B. dregei*. It seemed therefore that there were two possibilities to improve it: (a) to induce fertility, breed a second generation and start selecting among this, presumably variable, offspring, (b) to try to breed a similar, but better begonia by hybridizing *B. socotrana* with other species than *B. dregei*.

"Following pathway (a), we have treated *B. 'Gloire de Lorraine'* with colchicine and obtained tetraploid plants, which we hope will be fertile (it is too early yet to know). We also obtained tetraploids of *B. dregei* and perhaps — but again we don't know yet — *B. socotrana*.

"As to (b), there are various possibilities. We are hybridizing *B. socotrana* with any species that looks like a promising parent. (For this purpose, we are avidly collecting species. We now have about one hundred).

"We have hybridized many other species (in all, we made over 200 combinations) but although some hybrids are very pretty they are of little use for our purpose. Some general observations are (1) reciprocal crosses are different, often strikingly so; (2) we have never succeeded in hybridizing a rhizomatous species with one with upright stems; (3) hybrids often have larger flowers than either of the parents; (4) some hybrids are 'semi-lethal'; they germinate but the seedlings do not grow and eventually die (e. g. most *B. evansiana* hybrids).

"At the moment, a cytological investigation of the cultivars of the 'Gloire de Lorraine' group is in progress. If all goes well, this will be our first scientific publication in this field.

"At our laboratory, Dr. R. A. H. Legro is making chromosome counts of the species that we are using in our breeding projects. Progress is slow, however, not only because the chromosomes of begonias are very small and numerous, but also because it is very hard to be sure that the species under study have indeed a

legitimate claim to the name on the label."

It is with great anticipation that the begonia world awaits the results of this fine research project in Holland. Surely the concentrated efforts of these learned gentlemen will produce a greatly improved and still more rewarding strain of winter-flowering begonias.

RESEARCH REPORT

In the December issue I mentioned rex begonias grown by the Teupels in Germany. I have recently received a letter from these people who tell me that during the last few years they have succeeded in developing four new varieties. These are *B. 'Heideland'*, which means moore land or heath, a cross between 'Herman Lons' and 'Freude'; *B. 'Abendrot'*, meaning sunset, a pure seedling of 'Inka'; *B. 'Silverglanz'*, silver sheen, a cross of 'Heinrich' and 'Silberlanzette'; and finally *B. 'Teupels Hoffen'*, which translates "Teupels Hope" and results from a cross of 'Smaragd' and 'Nympe'. I am indebted to Mrs. Sophie C. Filler of Lemon Grove, California, for translating this material for me.

Dr. Robert Snetsinger, Associate Professor of Entomology at The Pennsylvania State University, is doing research with the Pritchard mealybug. He would welcome any begonia material which could be sent to him that has possibly been attacked by the mealybug. Dr. Snetsinger hopes to publish a short article in *The Begonian* for us concerning this pest if we can supply him with material to work with. If you have anything that appears to have mealybug, please send samples to him at: College of Agriculture, Department of Entomology, 417 Frear Laboratory, University Park, Penna. 16802.

Mrs. Carrie Karegeannes, our busy and energetic Round Robin Director, has lent me the following notes concerning last month's feature begonia, *B. limmingheiana*. In October, 1963,

she purchased seed from the A. B. S. Seed Fund and planted them on the 31st day of that month on "Living Earth", which is a peaty, fine-textured potting mix, she explains. The seeds and the medium were placed in a pot saucer which was inserted in a plastic bag and placed under cool white fluorescent lights. Moisture was provided with water and Rootone.

Fifteen days later one sprout appeared and by the 20th of the month Mrs. Karegeannes had five seedlings. The last week in November a true leaf appeared on the first seedling.

In the following January, algae attacked the seedlings and only one survived, which was transplanted into a mix free of algae and covered with a plastic cover. This plantlet went into good development but died in May from undetermined causes.

Again in September of 1965 Mrs. Karegeannes purchased more *B. limningheiana* seed from the Seed Fund. She planted them on September 25th. The medium used this time was a mixture of "Imperial" soil-less mix and a few coffee grounds, covered with a plastic lid. She placed this under white fluorescent lights and moved it to the range pilot lights at night when heat was turned down. The heat range during this germination varied from 80° down to 65° once.

By October 4, there was one seedling which had required only nine days to sprout. She wonders if the bottom heat on the range could have produced this faster germination. By October 7, there were eleven seedlings. On November 4, one seedling, which was much larger than the others, was transplanted to an egg-carton containing "Imperial" mix and placed under Gro-Lux lights. Three months later this seedling was two inches high, had roundish leaves which were rather like those of a semp. The others, at this time, January 5, are over one-half inch high and have roundish, semp-like leaves. One seedling has hairy edges on round-oval leaves, while two other seedlings have several

still tiny, more narrow and pointed leaves with wavy edges.

Mrs. Karegeannes is wondering about the possibilities concerning these variations. One thought on this is the chance that some foreign seed could have been mixed in by accident, and the other possibility is that the seed was not truly selfed, i. e. the self-pollination of the same plant. She would appreciate information from other people who planted this same seed regarding the resulting seedlings they are raising, in order to compare results.

Please send any suggestions or information to:

ROBERT L. SHATZER
Research Director
 Box 126
 Albright, W. Va. 26519

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ROUND ROBIN NEWS

Specialty robins now flying include two light robins, two hybridizing, two seed growing, two greenhouse growing, and a third in the making, an international group, an all-male robin, and a general robin with emphasis on growing from cuttings. Requested but waiting for members are specialties on ferns, hoyas, miniature begonias, tuberhybridias, and the chairmen's Flight 13. And there's always room for more regular begonia flights.

Light Robin: The first light specialty, Flight 25, made its first round in a month. Members' light setups vary from one two-foot seed and cutting starter to houses and apartments brimming over with fixtures in kitchen, living room, divider in the hall. Experience of several members is that rex seedlings, usually considered difficult, germinate well and grow well under lights.

Seed Sowing: The second seed specialty, Flight 28, also a rapid flyer, compared notes on sowing. General Flight 20 also discussed seeds this time. Pat Burdick of Savage, Minnesota, uses clean plastic flats with a layer of vermiculite for drainage, then a layer of sterilized soil mix (so seedlings can grow on a while in the flat), and dusts seed over the wet soil. She puts the flat in a plastic bag and places it on a heat cable fourteen to sixteen hours a day, airing the flat an hour or two each morning.

Freda Johannesson of Winnipeg, Canada, starts her seed in square, squat pots set into a seed germinator built like an aquarium, one foot by two feet, with glass sides set into a metal tray, and a glass cover. Damp mix can be put into the tray. Germinators are placed on a shelf above the fluorescent light for a little bottom heat. When these are full, she uses plastic dishes, covered, on top the fluorescent fixtures, electric refrigerator, or anywhere bottom heat is available. She uses a very light mix, finishing with a one-fourth-inch layer of sphagnum refined in her electric cof-

fee grinder — or a blender would do — and finely sifted Turfaid.

Helen Matsubu of Fruitland, Idaho, now spreads a layer of sponge rock in a clear plastic breadbox, then a layer of coarse leaf mold, then a layer of a sterilized and sifted mixture of two-thirds leaf mold and one-third sphagnum moss, topped by a very thin layer of screened sphagnum. She waters thoroughly first, then makes shallow trenches between about two-inch beds in her "community style" planter, for different kinds of seed she hopes will germinate at about the same time. She waters with a small-nozzled can, thereafter, using the trenches.

Edna Stewart of Tarentum, Pennsylvania, tops one inch of potting mix with a thin layer of sieved peat, wet thoroughly, and sows seed as thinly as possible. She mists with a bit of fertilizer, a bit of fungicide, and sometimes a bit of pesticide. Edna transplants into a mixture of one-half potting mix and one-half peat topped by a thin layer of vermiculite, wetting slightly with weak fertilizer — finds vermiculite admits air to stems and roots, is sterile, holds tiny plants erect, and is easy to transplant into.

Fun with Pollen: Branches of *B. tuberhybrida pendula* (yellow double) flowering in a glass by the kitchen window tempted the "itching, crossing fingers" of Jo Burgos of Philadelphia. She now has seedlings developing well from a cross with *B. dregei* pollen — as well as three new plants from the rooted branches.

A number of members collect seed for the Seed Fund. Anita Sickman of Cheney, Kansas, saves plastic pill bottles to mail her seed. Freda Johannesson pollenizes rex blooms by the dozens, keeps each pod separate till she tests the seed, then makes a rex mixture when she has enough to send Mrs. Gee. Pat Burdick has already shared seed from her crosses made with *B. 'Bow-Nigra'*.

Rex Dormancy: Bob Shatzer, Al
(Continued on Page 77)

CONSTITUTION

of the American Begonia Society

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the American Begonia Society and shall be conducted on a non-profit basis. The main office of this Society shall be within the County of Los Angeles, California.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this Society shall be:

To stimulate and promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants;

To encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants;

To standardize the nomenclature of begonias;

To gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and companion plants;

To issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and

To bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons who are interested in begonias shall be eligible to membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may revoke the membership of any member for just cause.

Section 2. There shall be three classes of membership in this Society, known as Annual, Life, and Honorary.

Annual Members. Annual members shall have all the usual privileges of membership, and shall pay dues of an amount stated in the Bylaws. Annual Membership shall be for one year from date dues are paid.

Life Members. Life members shall have all the usual privileges of membership. The payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall entitle any person to Life Membership and Life members shall be exempt from any further payment of dues. Life Memberships shall not be subject to cancellation or refund of any part of dues for any reason.

Honorary Members. Any person whom this Society shall deem worthy of the honor may at any Annual Meeting be elected an Honorary Member by a two-thirds vote of the members present; and such election shall specify whether such Honorary Membership is Annual, terminating at the next Annual Meeting, or for life. For each person elected an Honorary Life Member, fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be transferred from the current funds of the Society to the Life Membership Fund. Honorary Members shall have all the usual privileges of membership and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

Section 3. Each Annual, Life or Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Society. Membership shall cover the immediate family, except that only one member of the family shall receive the official publication and exercise the right to vote, unless additional dues are paid.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be: President Emeritus, President, President Elect, Past President, three Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, one Director from each Branch Society, and one Director for each Department of the Society.

Section 2. The President Emeritus shall be Herbert P. Dyckman, Founder and First President of this Society.

Section 3. The President Elect, one Vice President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary shall be elected in August each year by ballot, each member of the Society being entitled to one vote. The President Elect shall serve one year as President Elect, one year as President, and one year as Past President; the Vice President shall serve for three years, the Treasurer and the Secretary shall serve one year. These officers shall be installed at the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. A Director shall be elected annually by each Branch Society and shall serve for one year.

Section 5. All remaining officers shall be Directors to serve as heads of departments, and shall be appointed annually by the President, subject to the approval by a majority vote of the above named elected officers.

Section 6. Any appointed officer may be relieved of his office for just cause, and/or for the good of the Society, by a majority vote of the Elective Members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President Emeritus, the eight officers elected by the entire membership of the Society, the Branch Directors — one elected by each Branch Society — and the Department heads appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society at a time and place to be designated annually by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII. BRANCH SOCIETIES

Section 1. Any group of seven or more members of this Society who wish to affiliate themselves to forward the work and purposes of the Society may be organized into a Branch Society, and upon approval of the Board of Directors shall be issued a Charter.

Section 2. The Charter of any Branch, upon approval of the majority of the Board of Directors, may be suspended, and after due hearing before said Board, upon action of a majority of the Board, may be withdrawn.

ARTICLE VIII. FUNDS

Section 1. The current funds of the Society shall be expended only upon order of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Neither the Board of Directors, nor anyone delegated by them, nor any of the officers, shall incur any debt or liability in the name of the Society beyond the available or maturing funds in the hands of the Treasurer, excluding money and securities held for a specific purpose.

Section 3. All monies received for Life Memberships shall be invested by the Treasurer as may be directed by the Board of Directors, and only the interest accrued therefrom shall be used for the current expenses of the Society.

Section 4. The fiscal year shall start on September first.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting. Such amendments shall then be submitted by mail to the membership in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. The Membership Secretary shall mail a ballot covering the proposed Amendment to each member of the Society within thirty (30) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated, with the request that the member vote, upon said Amendment and mail his ballot to reach the Secretary within sixty (60) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the Amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors, when published in the official publications of the Society.

ARTICLE X. RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings, and the decision of all questions not specifically covered by this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI. ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Section 1. This Constitution and Bylaws shall be subject to the same rules of adoption laid down in Article IX concerning Amendments, and upon adoption shall go into effect, superseding all former Constitutions and Bylaws, when published in the official publications of the Society.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors; shall appoint the heads of the various Departments; and shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society.

Section 2. The President Elect shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the latter, or whenever the President is unable to perform the duties of his office.

Section 3. The Past President shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee. This committee shall consist of the Past President, Treasurer, and Business Manager, and shall submit an annual budget for the approval of the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting of the Society. Any proposed expenditure in excess of \$50.00 shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for recommendation before being voted upon by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Vice Presidents, in the order of their seniority, shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of, or the disability of the President and the President Elect. The Vice Presidents may be assigned by the President the duties of one of the appointed officers outlined under Article II of these Bylaws.

Section 5. The Directors elected by each Branch shall attend the meetings of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society when possible, shall make such reports and recommendations as will further the interests of the Society, and shall file an annual written report of the Branch activities with the Secretary of the American Begonia Society at the last regular meeting of the Board of Directors prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall receive and account for all monies of the Society and shall pay out the monies under the directions of the Board of Directors. He shall file bond in such surety company and in such sum as the Board of Directors may determine. He shall make, to the Board of Directors monthly, and to the Society annually, a report of all receipts and disbursements. The annual report made by the Treasurer shall be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society and shall be accompanied by a report of audits made by an audit committee of two members appointed by the President.

Section 7. The Secretary shall keep the records of the proceedings of the Society and of the Board of Directors, shall conduct necessary correspondence, and shall have charge of the records of the Society,

except such basic records as are necessary for the proper functioning of the various departments and offices. The Secretary shall condense the minutes of the regular Board meetings, and shall transmit them to the Editor for publication in **The Begonian**, not later than the first day of the month following the regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II. APPOINTED OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The officers to be appointed by the President as Directors to serve as heads of Departments shall be as follows: Editor, Business Manager, Membership Secretary, Research Director, the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director, Nomenclature Director, Public Relations Director, Librarian, Chairman of the Speakers Bureau and Slide Library, Chairman of the Flower Show Committee, Historian, Chairman of the Committee of Awards, Chairman of the School for Judges, Parliamentarian, and such other heads of Departments as shall hereafter be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Editor shall have charge of the Publications Department and shall, under the direction of the Board of Directors, prepare and issue such publications as the Board of Directors and Society shall authorize and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall require of him. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 3. The Business Manager shall act as business agent for the Board of Directors and for the Publications Department; shall act as advertising manager for the official publication and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may require of him. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses, if any.

Section 4. The Membership Secretary shall receive all dues, which shall be deposited immediately with the Treasurer; keep an accurate roster of the membership of the Society; and have charge of the mailing and selling of back numbers of the official publication, less than one year old; and of the sale and distribution of all other special bulletins and directories. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 5. The Research Director shall have charge of the Research Department; of arranging for the testing of begonias in test gardens in different locations throughout the country; and of collecting information relative to the culture, propagation and housing of begonias and companion plants.

Section 6. The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director shall have charge of the importation of seed of new begonias and companion plants, and the distribution of the same to the membership. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 7. The Nomenclature Director shall have charge of determining and establishing correct names of species and established varieties of begonias; of approving and registering all newly developed horticultural varieties of begonias; and shall cooperate with the Editor in the publication of the results of his work.

Section 8. The Public Relations Director shall have charge of the Public Relations Department; of contacting prospective members; promoting and assisting in the formation of new Branch Societies; and seeing that the affairs of the Society receive the fullest publicity.

Section 9. The Librarian shall establish and maintain a circulating library for the use of the officers and members of the Society; shall preserve three copies of all publications of the Society and shall have charge of the mailing and selling of all issues of the official monthly publications over 12 months old. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 10. The Chairman of the Speakers Bureau and Slide Library shall provide lists of speakers and a slide library for the use of the Branches.

Section 11. The Chairman of the Flower Show Committee shall prepare show schedules and encourage begonia shows and the use of begonias in flower shows, and maintain a register of the American Begonia Society Trophies.

Section 12. The Historian shall maintain a complete history of the Society.

Section 13. The Chairman of the Committee of Awards shall be the representative of this Committee on the Board of Directors. The duties of this committee are outlined in Article V of these Bylaws.

Section 14. The Chairman of the School for Judges shall have charge of the instruction and examination of potential Begonia Judges, and will accredit those qualifying, the names of whom shall be submitted to the Board of Directors with his regular monthly report.

Section 15. The Parliamentarian shall see that all proceedings of the meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors are conducted according to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society and where a question is not specifically covered there, Robert's Rules of Order is to be cited by him.

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the administrative and executive body of this Society; shall transact all business of the Society between Annual Meetings; arrange for Annual Meetings and any special meetings; establish and appoint such special committees as may be necessary to promote the objectives of the Society; approve the establishment of Branch Societies and issue charters to them; and make such regulations as may be necessary for the good of this Society.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet at least four times a year and/or monthly on call of the President, or in his absence by the President Elect, the time and place to be published in the official publication.

ARTICLE IV. DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. The activities of the Society shall be divided into Departments and Committees under the charge of officers elected or appointed for such department or committee.

Section 2. The Department Directors may recommend the appointment of such special officers, assistants, or specialists as may be necessary to properly conduct the affairs of their departments.

Section 3. Each Department Director shall make a report at the annual meeting and such other reports as may be required by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEE OF AWARDS

Section 1. The Committee of Awards shall consist of six members and the Nomenclature Director. Two members will be appointed yearly for a three year term by the President, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. In the event of a vacancy it shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors, for the balance of the unexpired term. The President shall appoint the Chairman of the Committee of Awards.

Section 2. The Committee of Awards shall study each year the system of ratings and awards and make its recommendations of general policy to the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Committee of Awards shall receive and study carefully the reports of the judges and on the basis of this study shall make its recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Committee of Awards shall grant the awards of the American Begonia Society, including the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal, the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, and such other special awards as may be established and approved by the Board of Directors, subject to such regulations as the Board of Directors may adopt.

ARTICLE VI. ANNUAL DUES

Section 1. The dues for annual members shall be two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) payable in advance. Members in arrears thirty days shall be dropped from the rolls of the Society and their names removed from the mailing list of the official publication until the arrearage has been paid.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. The President shall appoint, not later than 150 days before the Annual Meeting, a nominating committee of three, who shall be Presidents or Past Presidents of Branch Societies. This Committee, not later than 90 days before the Annual Meeting, shall report to the Board of Directors at least two nominations for each elective office to be filled at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Additional nominations may be made by a petition signed by at least fourteen members of the Society, if made and delivered to the Secretary at least 80 days before the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. An official ballot containing the names of all nominees shall be mailed to each eligible voter at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Eligible voters shall mail their ballots to the Secretary of the Society not later than 14 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Only ballots received seven days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be counted.

Section 5. The Secretary shall deliver the ballots on the seventh day preceding the Annual Meeting to a committee of three members appointed by the President. This committee shall count the ballots and make an immediate report in writing to the Secretary of the results of the election, together with the ballots cast, after which all candidates shall be notified of the results of the election immediately by the Secretary.

Section 6. Vacancies in office, either elective or appointive, shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Elected Members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM

Section 1. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum for the Annual Meeting or any special meeting.

Section 2. Fifteen members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for any Board Meeting.

ARTICLE IX. BRANCH SOCIETIES

Section 1. Any member of this Society may affiliate with any Branch Society provided he meets the requirements for membership in that Branch.

Section 2. Each Branch Society shall have a Constitution and Bylaws, both of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society; it shall require that one member of each family maintain membership in the American Begonia Society; it must include among its officers a President, a Secretary, and a National Director, each being a different person; it may determine its own officers, other than those specified above; it may make additional qualifications for membership; it may determine the manner in which its local activities shall be financed; and it may determine its own activities and meetings provided that those activities and requirements in no way conflict with the National Constitution and/or Bylaws.

Section 3. Each Branch Society shall file with the Secretary of the American Begonia Society a copy of its Constitution and Bylaws and all subsequent amendments.

Section 4. Each Branch Society shall file with the Membership Secretary of the American Begonia Society the names and addresses of all new members, together with their dues, as received.

Section 5. Each Branch Society shall furnish the Secretary of the American Begonia Society with the names and addresses of all officers of the Branch immediately following elections.

ARTICLE X. PROPERTIES

Section 1. All properties and physical assets of the Society are under the control of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Approval must be obtained from the National Board before the disposal of any property of the Society. This shall apply to material going to individuals as well as institutions.

Section 3. Each officer, whether elected or appointed, shall be responsible for a complete account-

ing of Society properties through equipment lists, book lists or inventory of other Society properties to the President Elect at the time accounting for the year is closed, prior to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the Bylaws may be initiated by a majority vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting or special meeting called for this purpose, or by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. Such amendment shall then be submitted by mail to the membership in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. The Membership Secretary shall mail a ballot covering the proposed amendment to each member of the Society within thirty (30) days after the amendment is initiated, with the request that the member vote upon said amendment and mail his ballot to reach the Secretary within sixty (60) days after the meeting at which the amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors when published in the next issue of the official publication of the Society.

STANDING RULES FOR FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

National Board Duties

1. Appoint a Convention Advisory Committee of five members, that have had Convention experience, to be replaced upon expiration of term. Committee will outline a system that will take care of all the minor details that are so essential to the success of a National Convention.

- a. Two to serve 3 years; two to serve 2 years; and one to serve 1 year.
- b. Chairman of this committee to be the President of the A. B. S. each year.

2. Establish Headquarters at the Convention and arrange conferences for our various working divisions. Keep a register of all officers, delegates and A. B. S. members. (Convention addresses and phone numbers.) Provide a bulletin board for contacts among our officers and delegates. Hold Open-House at Headquarters the evening preceding the Annual meeting, having our Founder and Mrs. Dyckman, our President and other Board officers as hosts.

- a. Arrange for at least two National Officers to be on duty at all times.

3. Have supervision of Competitive Show as per subdivisions:

- a. Prepare Show Schedule for Host Branch.
- b. Provide clerks and judges and standard material with which to work. Judges should not be charged registration and should be given programs. Also be allowed travel expenses and transportation to show from where judges are housed, if necessary.
- c. Make Competitive Show Awards, Trophies, certificates of award and Robinson Memorial Medals.

4. Collaborate with Host Branch on Brochure. Have A. B. S. Flower Show Schedule printed herein for benefit of Show visitors.

5. National Board officers to provide material for the Nomenclature Begonia Study show in which every possible known begonia might be presented. This exhibit to be in the same room with educational displays. Glass show cases for rare plants could be provided. This Show to be open and free to all members of the A. B. S. during the period of the Convention and to have space for Round Table discussions with two members, qualified to assist visitors with their problems, in attendance at all times.

6. Saturday Afternoon Meeting; Time, 2:30 p.m. which will provide more time for delegates to return to hotels and dress for the evening.

- a. Require all National Officers to submit written Annual Reports at the Board meeting preceding the National Convention (eliminating these reports at Convention.)
- b. Recognize each National Director present who will report the number of Branch members present.
- c. Prepare a constructive program.
- d. Confine business meeting to acceptance of bids for the next Convention; change in the Constitution and By-Laws or those matters requiring the vote of the entire membership, report on ballots and result of election. Allow limited period for discussion of suggestions pertaining to the expansion and improving of the American Begonia Society.

7. Saturday Evening Meeting.

- a. Select the installing officer, allowing President Elect the courtesy of choice if desired. Plan a uniform installation to be used at each Convention, with some latitude given to the installing officer to use in his or her opening and closing remarks.
- b. Installation would include recognition of Past President and National Directors.
- c. National Show Chairman presents the Award for the Competitive Show.

Convention Host Branch

Pre-Convention Activities.

Any branch wishing to Host the Annual Convention should so state at the previous Convention.

Host Branch should set a date for a Convention as close to the Labor Day weekend as possible, subject to approval by the National Board.

Any and all information regarding buildings, finances, date of convention, banquet arrangements, housing facilities, shall be included in a formal letter to the National Board as soon as possible.

1. Provide suitable quarters for competitive how and have complete charge of setting up show for judging, and provide entry blanks; also make cash awards.
2. Provide suitable quarters for afternoon and evening Convention meetings.
3. Have full charge of Saturday evening banquet. During the banquet reserve the meal-time for chatter and visiting. Mix the delegates and members. (We meet with our own Branch members twelve months of the year.) Have the period of introductions and entertainment follow the dessert.
4. Have full charge of housing delegates.
5. Have full charge of local flower show. Make awards (if any) for this show.
 - a. Sell tickets to the general public only.
 - b. Collect Registration Fee from delegates and A. B. S. members.
 - c. Provide suitable badges.
6. Plan Sunday Garden Tour.
7. Provide suitable quarters for the National Board to use as Headquarters and Conference room at the site of Convention. Provide nomenclature room for Educational displays and round table discussion. Space may also be needed for Seed Fund. Library and Research Departments.
8. Host Branch to select speaker, submitting name of speaker and subject for approval of the National Board; care for his entertainment, accommodations and transportation during the Convention.
9. Any and all monies raised through the A. B. S. by approval of the National Board must be accounted for to the Board.
10. Provide Public Liability Insurance and First-Aid.

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND FLIGHT

No. 1 — *B. paulensis* —

Brazil. *Begonia paulensis*, with its shiny, medium green, peltate leaf, is distinctively striking with its ivory-white sinus or eye from which radiate the main veins. The prominent veins first carry the ivory color of the sinus, then slowly merge into the green of the leaf, becoming recessive. The radial veins are joined by cross veins which tend in a circle, giving a fascinating spider web effect. There are short, white, stubble-like hairs running the rim of each spider web section. On the underside of the leaf, we find the hairs are red, showing up distinctly on an apple-green background and pointing the vein pattern. The leaf petiole is light green, covered with short hair which takes on a pinkish cast as it approaches the leaf. At the leaf and petiole junction, there is a small, single row collar of red hair. New leaves appear quite red on the back with their concentrated red tomentum. When light shines through a new leaf, the web pattern on the leaf surface appears to be outlined in red and the leaf bordered with the same color. Flowers are white inside and have fleshy, maroon-colored hairs on the outside. This is a stately and handsome begonia with its circular, glistening green leaves. Price, \$1.00 per pkt.

These seeds were collected by our friend in Brazil who has this to say: "Last week-end I had to make a field trip in connection with my work and ran into a small 'patch' of *B. paulensis*. This is one of the most beautiful begonias I have seen and should be fine for hybridizing as the plants are only two or three feet tall and the flowers plentiful and large. We put 2000 km on our Volkswagen in live days — more than half over rough, dirt roads. This left little time for orchids and begonias but we did see a few, and fortunately some of them were in seed. I saw one lone plant of *B. lobata* but there was no seed!"

No. 2 — *B. cathayana* —

China. Silk velvet leaves zoned ruby-red and emerald-green; reversed underneath, glowing rich when light shines through. Rare orange flowers. Requires warmth, protection from drafts, high humidity. Avoid sunlight and shocking with cold water. Easily grown from seed. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3 — *B. socotrana* —

Herbaceous perennial with more or less deciduous branches. Growth bushy. At the base we find a number of connected green bulbils which are covered with brown scales. Stem ramified, petioles 10-15cm long, succulent, hairy, green. The leaves of the lower and center parts are peltate, almost circular, about 12cm x 12cm when fully grown; slightly bent at the margins, crenate and wavy, fresh green on top, slightly glossy, bare; beneath pale green, hairy at the elevated veins. The upper leaves are more or less cordate or have 3-5 lobes. Flowers are very large and pink. The bulbils should be collected in the fall and stored in a dry place until spring. The two types of Christmas or winter-flowering begonias are both descendants of *B. socotrana*. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 4 — *B. micranthera* —

Seeds from a botanist in Holland with the following comment: "I am curious to know what you think of *B. micranthera*. It is a summer-flowering species with large pink flowers. Most plants are either male or female. We are using it a lot in our hybridizing work, but am not sure if it is the real *B. micranthera*, Griseb." There seem to be two types of this begonia, *B. micranthera foliosa* and *B. micranthera friambiata*, both semi-tuberous and natives of Argentina. We do not know which one of these two plants' seed will produce. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 5 — *B. engeleri* —

Rare and curious. Stems erect, red-streaked and covered with stiff, curly red hairs, short-branched; leaves ov-

ate, to three by five inches long, coarsely white-hairy, dark green, veins reddish and depressed, margins toothed. Flowers rose-pink on six-inch flower stalks. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 6 — *B. picta* —

India. Semi-tuberous with broad-ovate, pointed, green mottled with lighter green and metallic-bronze, upper surface pebbled. Flowers clear pink. Very ornamental. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 7 — *B. 'Prince Charming' x B. 'Pink Calla'* —

Cross made by a friend in Iowa, using red, double-flowered 'Prince Charming' and pink calla lily. Every seed will germinate but we don't know what the plants will be. Price 35 cents per pkt.

No. 8 — *B. Brazil sp — epipsila type*

From our friend in Brazil who comments as follows: "I went with a friend who is an expert on orchids to a very warm and humid area where we had excellent orchid and bromeliad hunting but no begonias except a little granite outcrop that was covered with a begonia that looks like *B. epipsila*. I was able to collect the enclosed seed. They evidently like very warm, moist humid conditions." 50 cents per pkt.

No. 9 — *B. Bow-nigra* — (*B. boweri x B. heracleifolia nigricans*).

Star-shaped bronzy leaves and light veins. Rhizomatous type used for pots or baskets. Price 35 cents per pkt.

No. 10 — *B. Brazil sp — B. bradei type*.

Somewhat similar to *B. bradei* but less hairy and with slender seed capsules. From moist forest at 200 feet elevation. Seed pods concealed underneath, bottom of leaves have a sheen of fine red hairs, tops bristly. A small graceful begonia with opposite leaves on arching stems. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 11 — *B. aconitifolia faureana* —

Brazil. Canetype with dark green, silver-spotted leaves. Dense clumps in full sun. From the University grounds in Piracicaba about ninety miles west of Sao Paulo, Brazil. 2000 feet eleva-

tion. Deep residual soil, nice flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 12 — *B. evansiana* —

China. Hardy type begonia with typical begonia leaves. Attractive semi-shade garden plant having bulbils in leaf axils that fall to the ground in fall and spring up in summer or can be collected and stored. Flowers numerous and pink. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 13 — *B. evansiana* —

Same as above but white flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

Comment:

In *The Begonian* for November we offered Brazil sp. number 14, described as being like *B. heracleifolia*. At the time, the collector did not think it was a species but now he has information that it is. The plant was located recently in a forest about sixty miles from Sao Paulo. It has beautiful, dark green, star-shaped leaves six inches across, with irregular pale silvery-green areas along the veins containing scattered velvety, black spots. Look for seeds to appear in *The Begonian* later.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

Gesneriad sp —

Small, epiphytic vine with paired, rounded, light green, one-half inch leaves. Very short fuzz on top, longer pinkish hairs on bottom. White flowers about one-half inch in diameter. Salmon colored fruits. Growing on tree tops in dense tropical forest. Choice plant. 50 cents per pkt.

Billbergia zebrina —

Broad leaf and tubular with grey-green foliage banded with silver, large showy pink bracts and, as a rule, golden flowers in a trailing scape. Requires dry conditions. 35 cents per pkt.

Bromelia belansae —

Hooked dark green leaves with red bracts and cone-shaped inflorescence bluish-white flowers. At blooming time, the center into a volcano of flaming red. Gorgeous plant. 35 cents per pkt.

Coleus —

Mixed. Bright rose with ivory, red,

yellow, and green variegated, the stronger color in base, outer area ruffled lighter shades, some orientals. Use out-doors in summer in shade garden or in pots or lath house. 35 cents per pkt.

Habranthus sp —

Leaves one half inch wide, fourteen inches long, flower scape about twenty inches tall, single flowers, funnel-shaped, medium, pale lavender. 25 cents per pkt.

MRS. FLORENCE GEE
Seed Fund Administrator
234 Birch Street
Roseville, California 95678

QUESTIONS . . .

(Continued from Page 63)

Answer: Although several books on begonias, including that by the late Mrs. Brilmayer, categorize plants by such terms as "easy", "intermediate", "advanced", etc., I personally dislike such labels, because I do not think they apply to any great extent. When I started growing begonias, not quite five years ago, such warnings put the fear of Darwin into me. I wouldn't touch a Rex or Imperialis with a ten-foot pole! But then I stopped reading what, as a beginner, I should not try and what I should, and I soon found I could grow some varieties listed as "advanced" and failed with some listed as "easy". I still fail — Calla begonias just don't like what I do to them no matter how often one I know tells me that hers grow like "weeds" — but I manage to keep Rexes alive for more than two weeks, which was the limit when I first tried growing them. I am with my fifth Imperialis, because every other one collapsed within two months — yet this one, with me more than six months, is in constant bloom and ever-increasing foliage. Had I given it the conditions it seems to like at the start — the light set-up was there, but I was trying to grow it under a different set-up, it would have grown in my first or second attempt, I believe. In sum, give the plant the conditions it wants, and

there is no "easily grown" or "with much difficulty" begonia. The semps are about the only group that I feel we can all quite readily classify as "easy".

Question: I am growing my begonias in good light during the day, and in the evening I put them under lights. They are growing beautifully and are in constant bloom. Am I doing the right thing?

Answer: We should all have your problem! The only time I like to suggest or advise, from personal experience or quote from authorities, is when people say their plants are *not* doing well . . . so why not try this or that? But if the plants are doing well, and continue to be in good health for any length of time, it seems to me ridiculous to tell the person he/she is doing the wrong thing. Frequently we get this sort of thing when we stage our display at the International Flower Show in New York; a woman comes up and asks how best to feed begonias. We give the advice we have learned from our experience and hope we have helped the person. But after we have gone through our spiel the woman replies, "Well, I don't do ANY of the things you suggest, and MY plants are better than anything you have here!" What can I tell her but, "Madame, you just go on doing what you're doing and forget everything I said! Oh, by the way, if your plants are so good, why don't you bring them in for competition?"

Remember, if you want this page, let us know by writing in — your questions, your suggestions, your tips — EVERYTHING that can help your fellow-growers has a place on this page.

MURRAY D. MORRISON
(Knickerbocker Branch)
2109 Matthews Avenue
The Bronx, N.Y. 10462

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REPORT OF A. B. S. BOARD MEETING

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Begonia Society was called by President M. Perz, for 1:00 P.M. sharp Sun. Feb. 20, 1966, in the Southgate Auditorium, Southgate, Calif.

Meeting called to order by Pres. Perz, with Vice-Pres. Hale leading the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

Sec. Evelyn Keaster called the roll with 23 officers and branch representatives present.

Motion made by Mr. Barnett to table suggested changes in Constitution and By-Laws. Seconded by Mr. Slatter. Motion carried.

Feb. 28, 1966. The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society was called to order by Pres. M. Perz at 7:45 P.M., in the Southgate Auditorium, Southgate, Calif.

Sec. E. Keaster called the roll with 24 officers, Chm. and branch representatives present.

Treas. Harold Burkett gave report with a balance of \$1,622.02.

Memb. Sec., Daisy Austin, reported 85 new Memb., 145 renewals, and 2592 Begonians disbursed.

Resignation of Mr. E. Budd, as business manager of the ABS read. Motion by Pl Benell, seconded by Mrs. Nichols that resignation by accepted with regrets. Motion carried.

Pres. Perz then asked for approval of appointment of Mr. W. C. Cocke, member of Westchester branch to fill this vacancy. Appointment approved.

Pres. asked for approval of appointment of Mr. Al Perz as Parliamentarian. Approved.

Report of Research Dir. Robt. Shatzer was read. Someone in the East is doing research on the Pritchard mealy bug on begonias, but has been unable to obtain begonias with mealy bug. Mr. Shatzer ask if anyone here might be able to send wome infested plants for research? Mrs. Leatherman stated special permits would have to be obtained in order to send bugs through the mail. Mr. Shatzer also listed three categories of research groups needing assistance in plants and other materials. Mr. Barnett made motion for the ABS. to stand behind the Research Dir. on these requests. Seconded by E. Burkett. Motion carried.

The Horticultural Society will hold their International Congress in Beltsville, Md. this

summer and Pres. Perz asked permission to appoint someone to represent the ABS at this meeting. Motion by Mr. Barnett, seconded by V. Naumann, for Dr. Lawrence to represent the ABS at this congress. Motion carried.

Mr. Barnett moved that in the future, suggested memberships granted to individuals, Universities, and Botanical Gardens, doing research work on begonias, be presented to the branches and give them the privilege of underwriting the expense of the membership in the name of the branch. Seconded by E. Burkett. Motion carried.

Judges course Dir. S. Leatherman gave the financial report for Ruth Pease, who is ill. She also clarified some of the misunderstanding of some suggestions made by Mrs. Leatherman, as per a letter of last month.

Adv. Mgr. Anne Rose reported \$75.50 received and \$95.00 outstanding.

Mr. B. Slatter presented the ABS with a check for \$157.68 on behalf of the Inglewood Branch. He also reported a collection of \$28.30 for Project help in Louisiana.

Motion by P. Bennel to send thank you letter to the Inglewood Br. for their donation. She was asked to include the Wm. Penn Br. in her motion. Seconded and carried.

Donations were also made to Project Help by Foothill, N. Long Beach, Orange Co. Whittier and perhaps many others.

Mr. Barnett made motion, on behalf of Mr. Ziesenhenné, to have Const. & By-Laws duplicated. Seconded by B. Slatter. Carried. Mr. Slatter made motion to print Const. & By-Laws in center of April Begonian, with 500 over runs of center pages. Seconded by Anne Rose. Carried.

Mr. Barnett made motion for the appointment of a Committee to initiate a suggested change in Const. Sec. I, Art. IV to read a majority vote instead of two-thirds majority as now required. This recommended change to be presented at annual meeting. Seconded by P. Bennel. Carried.

Discussion held on the impending show. Pres. asked for an affirmation on the Arboretum as per tentative reservation made last year. After more discussion . . . Carried. Date: Sept. 3-4-5.

The suggested resignation of Mr. Peterson, as Editor, was brought for the from the Jan. meeting.

Mr. Slatter made motion to temporarily retain the Editor and he and the Pres. get together and see if the difficulties could be ironed out. President stated she did not feel this could be worked out at this time.

After more lengthy discussion Motion was

made by Mr. Burkett, seconded by P. Benel, for President to appoint a Committee to meet with the Editor and the President and try to find a satisfactory, workable solution. Carried. A report of this Committee to be given at the next meeting. Pres. Perz asked for the approval of a suggested committee of Bert Slatter, Floyd Neff, and Anne Rose. Approved.

Meeting adjourned.

EVELYN KEASTER,
Secretary

(Because of space limitations, some portions of the minutes, discussions, etc. have been omitted. However, no changes or corrections have been made. Ed.)

The Index is being compiled and will be printed when it is completed.

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We would like to have an article each month in the Begonia from each Area, would some one, or the members from all areas write to the President and offer their services to the Society. In this way we shall have a magazine for all sections of the country, something we certainly need.

★ ★ ★

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ROUND ROBIN . . .

(Continued from Page 68)

bright, West Virginia, has been asking causes and cures of rexes' going dormant. Any tricks, anyone? Edna Stewart believes it is best, after giving the plant a rest, to remove the rhizome of a dormant rex and cut or break it into sections and reroot in a flat of peat moss and vermiculite. She uses gentle bottom heat. Others suggest taking cuttings whenever dormancy signs show, in case the rex does not come back.

Edna names some rexes that do not go dormant: 'Helene Teupel', 'King Edward', 'Merry Christmas', 'Fire-flush'. "I had my first plant of 'Fire-flush' for many years and it never went dormant."

Alice Musy of Valrico, Florida, finds that her hairy rexes, like 'Rex Bearded', are less bothered by wet and cold than other rexes.

Mailing Plants: Alice packs a plant for mailing in a plastic bag, the ball of roots held with an elastic band over the bag. The plant is taped to the bottom of a box, to prevent its moving.

Difficult? Arline Peck of Pascoag, Rhode Island, has been told that *B. malabarica* is a greenhouse subject, coming from a hot country, but has always raised it in her house with no trouble.

MRS. CARRIE KAREGEANNES,
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Branch Directory

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy., Kent, England

BUXTON, BESSIE RAYMOND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.
170 Marsh Hill Rd., Dracut, Mass.

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m. Member's Homes
Mrs. George Wilkins, Secy.
3625 N. Fitzhugh St., Dallas, Texas

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School
Telegraph at Ward, Berkeley, California
Miss Dorothy F. Osburn, Secy.
5015 Cochrane Ave., Oakland 18, Calif.

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Natural Gas Co. Building
Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue, Wash.
Opal Johnson, Secy.
1532-108th St., N.E., Bellevue, Wash. 98004

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes
Daisy Morrow, Secy.
2821 Musgrove Ave., El Monte, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Community Bldg.
2039 Third St., La Verne
Mrs. Isabel A. Hall
358 E. Arrow Highway, Upland, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:30 p.m.
Miss Lola Price, Secy.
628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J.

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesdays, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central
Mrs. Edna L. Korts, Corr. Secy.
3628 Revere Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90039

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH

Mrs. J. R. Coxse, Secy.
5757 N. Afton Park Way, Baton Rouge, La. 70806

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive
Mrs. Grant Herzog, Secy.
12601 Broken Bough, Memorial Station
Houston 24, Texas

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

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

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Business and Professionals Women's Club
820 Java St., Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Frances Jean, Secy.
8212 Reading Ave., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Library, Horticultural Society of N.Y.
157 West 58th St., New York
Luis Lopez, Corr. Secy.
421 East 64th St.
New York, N.Y. 10021

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Social Hall of Community Savings and Loan,
3901 Atlantic
Mrs. Mabel Gage, Secy.
3214 Delmar Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Sear's Garden Center
6201 Florida St., Baton Rouge
Mrs. Louis Sicard, Sec'y.
4520 Clark St., Baton Rouge, La. 70811

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday 8:00 P.M.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Rosemond Meriweather, Secy.
1552 Plascencia Ave., Coral Gables, Florida

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m.
Member's Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Miss Nina Austin, Secy.
1104 Askew St., Kansas City 27, Mo.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m.
3901 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach
Kathleen Powers, Secy.
12418 E. 221st St., Artesia, Calif. 90701

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Emma Walker, Secy.
10232 Russell Ave., Garden Grove, Calif 92640

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Anne W. Stiles, Secy.
R.D. No. 2, Box 43B, E. Delaware Trail,
Medford, N. J.

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday each Month
Lincoln School Recreation Center
Ernest and Vail Sts., Redondo Beach, Calif.
Opal Murray Ahern, Secy.
1304 N. Poinsettia Ave., Manhattan Beach, Calif.

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Mary E. Tourgee, Sec'y.
92 Rodman St., Peace Dale, R.I. 02833

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Shamel Park
3650 Arlington Riverside, Calif.
Mrs. Lillian Maddox, Secy.
7172 Mt. Vernon St., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 12 noon, Homes of Members
Constance D. Bower, Corr. Secy.
1609 W. Lewis St., San Diego 3, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Alta Soule, Secy.
5831-79th St., Sacramento, Calif. 95824

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Barbour Hall
2717 University Ave., San Diego
Mrs. Nellie Castillo, Secy.
5443 Bonita Dr., San Diego, Calif. 92114

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, Golden Gate Park
9th Ave. and Lincoln Way
Allen D. Sweet, Secy.
139 Beverly St., San Francisco, Calif. 94132

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Ruth Eppley
9133 E. Longden Ave., Temple City, Calif.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Irene Cretin, Secy.
3060 Crane St., Lemon Grove, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puerta Del Sol
Mrs. A. D. Yost
888 La Milpita Rd., Santa Barbara

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
Loyal Heights Field House,
21st Ave., N. W. and N. W. 77th St.
Miss Sally Harding, Secy.
11632-1st Ave. S., Seattle, Wash. 98168

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH.

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Barlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Truman Stearns, Sec.
230 E. Vince St.
Ventura, Calif.

SMOKEY VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday of each month
Mrs. Lyle L. Melvin, Secy.
833 E. Jewell, Salina Kansas 67401

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Lorenzo Manor School
18250 Bengal Ave., Hayward, Calif.
Jack Dunaway, Corresponding Secy.
1650 Plaza Drive, San Leandro, Calif.

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m.
Members' Homes
Mrs. F. E. Mahler, Secy.
1815 Sixth Ave., Fort Worth, Texas

TEXASTAR BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center
1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
Mrs. V. O. Harman, Secy.
306 Cody, Houston, Texas, 77009

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club
8020 Alverston St., Los Angeles, Calif.
Mrs. Frances Jean, Secy.
8212 Reading Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90045

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Alfred Slee, Secy.
211 Arlington, Butler, Pa.

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive
Mrs. Evelyn Shute, Cor. Secy.
15344 E. Leffingwell Rd., Whittier, Calif.

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Robert E. Waite, Secy.
309 N. Locust Lane, Exton, Pa.

CALENDAR

APRIL 7 — Westchester Branch:
Guest speaker will be Sylvia Leatherman. Her subject will be "Rex Begonias".

April 8 — San Gabriel Valley Branch: Speaker will be Kenneth Drennon, a member of this Branch. His subject will be "The Life Cycle of Ferns".

APRIL 13 — Inglewood Branch: President's dinner at 6:30 p.m. — \$2.75. Guest speaker will be Pat Antonelli from the Antonelli Begonia Gardens in Santa Cruz. He will speak on "Tuberous Begonias" and bring plants for the plant table.

APRIL 21 — Foothill Branch: Robert Wilson will speak on the subject "Gardening without Poisons".

JULY 30-31 — Seattle Branch: Fuchsia and Shade Loving Plant Show. Details next month.

AUGUST 26-27-28 — San Francisco County Fair — Flower Show, San Francisco Branch participating. Details next month.

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