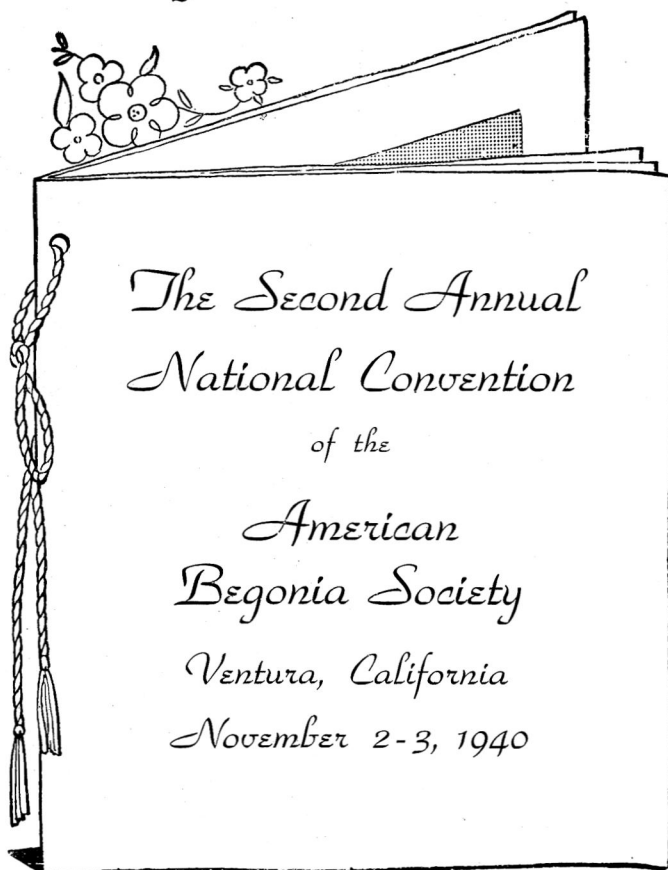


The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

Announcing---



The BEGONIAN

Monthly Publication of the
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Business and General Offices:
757 Athens Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

Affiliated with the
American Horticultural Society

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Gift Subscriptions

• Inaugurating another service to its members the American Begonia Society is prepared this year to offer gift subscriptions of THE BEGONIAN.

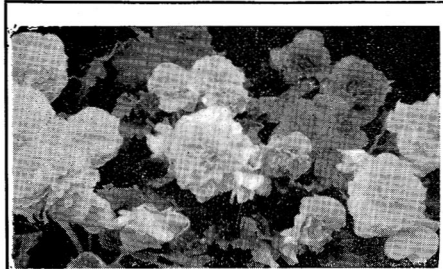
For an inexpensive gift, but one that will be remembered each month of 1941, what could be nicer than a year's copies of this publication.

We will send a Christmas Gift Card bearing your name to each person on your BEGONIAN Christmas Gift List, enclosed with the DECEMBER number which will be a gift from the Society. This is personal, timely, and attractive, as a Christmas remembrance should be!

Send this information with your check: "Please send Gift Subscription to (List names and addresses in legible writing or printing). Enclosed find \$..... (\$1.00 for each name). Please sign the card this way: (Write your name the way you wish it to appear on the Gift Card). Then your own name and address.

The December BEGONIAN will be a special Christmas edition in color! Final date to accept Gift Subscriptions, December 10.

- Remember to send in your ballot.



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Mrs. Annie C. Robinson Suggests . . .

THE THICK-STEMMED WINTER BLOOMERS

HAVE YOU EVER? Why of course you never have made a complete collection of those lovely and most interesting thick-stemmed winter blooming begonias, because you just simply couldn't get a lot of them. I mean those new ones that have been brought to us by our research department of the Begonia Society. Those with big light green leaves like water lily pads from India, Java, and Costa Rica; that very clear green upstanding one from Panama and **Roxburghii**, a similar one. Then there are those two from Costa Rica seed that appeared along with the **Manacatas**. One with a leaf more on the **Ricinifolia** order—green with tiny red hairs dotted over it and red along the irregular edges that wears no collar as does **Manacata**. The other, a plain leaved one, also without a collar. One from Costa Rica seed, in the thick-stemmed class, is like **Sundubruchii** but not so indented.

The adaptable **Manacatas** fill so many

needs. They will dress up your border, fill your baskets, and make delightful groups in your shaded garden where ever you put them, adding the lighter note that is so welcome. They revel in fancy dress with collars and bracelets of shiny red hairs. **Manacata Aurea** adds yellow blotches to its leaves and both the plain **Manacata** and **Aurea** have put fancy ruffles on their margins, making the **Cristata** varieties. They are the most exquisite forms and make unbelievably beautiful baskets.

Do you know **Venosa**? One would surely think it and **Peltata** had a common ancestor with their thick paddy leaves covered with white fuzz. However, **Venosa** grows differently, the leaves coming out of gossamer-like sheaths as thin as tissue paper and beautifully veined. These over-lap one another all the way up the stem. Do examine one at the first opportunity and enjoy its artistry.

I'm sure you know **Ricinifolia**, the monarch of the thick-stemmed group of begonias. It has no equal with its magnificent bronzy green leaves a foot or two across and its three- to four-foot stalks with pink showers of bloom. It starts the winter parade in late summer and all the rest follow by spreading their umbrellas of bloom one after the other. A near relative is **Immense**, with huge darker leaves on shorter stems, making a more compact plant.

Vershaefelti is such a good old stand-by, doing so cheerfully wherever you put it, enduring neglect and blooming profusely anyway. Its dainty pink contrasts so prettily with the fresh green of its broad leaves. Somewhat like it, but smaller and more upright is **Vitafolia** from Brazil, with its grape-like leaves.

Do you know those palm-like ones of this class? **Palmifolia**, **Ecuadoriensis**, and **Silverado**, a seedling of **Ecuadoriensis**, with silvery white markings. Also the so-called **Floria Species** that has clusters of bloom that always remind me of apple blossoms. Somewhat on the order of the palm-like ones is that odd **Carolinifolia**, with its leaves divided like fingers, each finger on a stem of its own joined together at the base. **Mrs. Peace**, a chance seedling is lovely with toothed edges to its large divided leaves.

Descending to the more lowly kinds, there are those beautiful provoking Star varieties. You think you have that lovely, almost black

(Please turn to Page 178)

Fresh **STREPTOCARPUS** Seed

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Mixed: 50c

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7 Blocks South of Manchester

BEGONIA OLBIA

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE, Director of Nomenclature



BEGONIA OLBIA, Kerchove was introduced from Brazil in 1883 and was first described in Revue de l'Horticulture Belge et Etrangere,



Begonia Olbia — 18 inches tall

page 241 in 1883. This plant is often popularly called the "Maple Leaf Begonia."

Begonia olbia, Kerchove is an interesting plant with its clusters of greenish-white flowers and its bronzy-green leaves, which are often spotted. This plant is not particularly hard to grow, yet it is seldom seen in the begonia garden. It does well in a lathhouse in Southern California throughout the year even with a temperature drop occasionally to 37 degrees Fahrenheit. However, like all tender plants, it prefers greenhouse conditions during the winter. As with other fibrous rooted begonias, this plant makes a lush growth when given plenty of food, and a light, well-drained soil.

Begonia olbia, Kerchove has been used in hybridizing. In 1888 Lemoine (See Bull. Am. Beg. Soc. vol. 4, no. 10, Oct. 1937 pages 2 & 3) produced B. X *Argenteo-guttata* Hort. by crossing B. *albo-picta* with B. *olbia*, Kerchove. M. Crozy of Lyons, France crossed B. *olbia*, Kerchove with B. *corallina*, Carr. in 1890 and produced the lovely B. X *President Carnot*, Hort. Mrs. Bessie Buxton in her "Begonias" page 73 states that M. Crozy also produced B. X *Souvenir de Francois Gaulin* from the same cross. This plant has pink flowers while *President Carnot* has red ones. B. X *La Niede*, Hort. (*olbia*, Kerchove, female x B. *Lubbersi*, Ed Morren, male) is another of *olbia*, Kerchove hybrids but the hybridizer and the date are not known to me. This plant is of the general

type B. X *Lucerne* Hort. but has large leaves of a bronzy color and carries a multitude of white flowers in large drooping clusters.

Description: Root, fibrous. Stem erect, 2-3 feet; bushy, thick at the base and woody, brown, above thick and succulent, green at the tips (in lathhouse tinge of red), joints short. Leafstem of medium size and length, reddish, grooved on the inner side, one or two hairs where leaf and the leafstem join. Leaves about 3 inches long and two inches wide, slanting heart-shaped and pointed, irregularly lobed, lobes sharply pointed; margin toothed, and reddish; upper surface olive-green bronze, occasionally spotted with white, covered with few scattered hairs; underside reddish with raised nerves, free of hair. The stipules are long and pointed; they turn brown early and remain on the plant a long time. The drooping flowers, which are produced from summer into the winter, are borne in clusters on short ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") stems, the males appearing first and the

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females later. The flowerstem is produced from the leaf axil. Male flowers are greenish-white, (tinged pink under lathhouse conditions), having four petals, the two round vertical ones larger than the lateral ones which are long and narrow; the stamens are yellow, bulging in a mass. Female flowers, five petals which usually remain cupped together, are almost equal in size and shape. The flowers are about one inch in diameter. Seed pod is greenish-white (under lathhouse conditions the wings are reddish) with the three wings of equal size and shape. Stigmas three, divided into two, one twist to the stigma branches.

In 1901 Lemoine crossed *B. olbia*, Kerchove with *B. Dregei*, Otto & Dietrich to produce *B. X Bronze de Nancy*, Hort. This plant looks like *olbia*, Kerchove only the leaves are more lobed, smaller, more bronzy and velvety and hairy above and green-red beneath.

The plant which I have photographed is commonly in cultivation under the name of *olbia*, Kerchove. A question arises as to whether we have the real plant, *olbia*, Kerchove, or *B. X Bronze de Nancy*, Hort. since the former plant is described as having large leaves, 10-11 by 6-7 inches and flowers 2x1½ inches in diameter. Perhaps this difference is just due to differences in cultivation or is a variation of a seedling but perhaps it is a different plant for it is almost impossible to obtain seeds from this plant.

This plant is easily propagated by stem tip cuttings which may be taken at any time but preferably in the spring.

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East Bay Elects

● At the September 23rd meeting of the East Bay Branch the general business and election of officers for next year was quickly taken care of to make room for the varied program that had been arranged.

The officers for next year are as follows:

Mr. E. H. Warren.....President
Mr. M. L. Boyd.....Vice-Pres.
Mr. G. Pascoe.....Secy.-Treas.
Mrs. H. Bridges.....Nat'l. Rep.

We had an interesting and instructive talk on Fibrous Begonias by Mr. H. L. Swager, who had charge of our exhibit at the Golden Gate Exposition, followed by an exchange of plants.

Refreshments were served by the ladies to round out a thoroughly enjoyable and profitable evening.

—GEO. PASCOE, Sec.

● Reserve your banquet tickets NOW!
Your branch Secretary has a supply.

Miss King Presides

● A well-known grower of cyclamen, Mr. E. C. Kennedy of Covina, was the speaker at the last San Gabriel Valley Branch meeting. Mr. Kennedy probably grows more potted cyclamen for the holiday trade than any other grower in Southern California. He discussed the culture of cyclamen, Saint-paulias and ferns.

The meeting was presided over by the president, Miss Lucile King, and met in the Arcadia City Hall. Future meetings will be held there unless further changes are made. This branch now has over sixty members with new ones coming in at each meeting.

—MAUDE A. FOX.

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Begonia Socotrana and Its Children

by MRS. BESSIE BUXTON



VEN A little study about plant explorers makes one marvel at the men who spent their lives in far countries, in tropical jungles, in the deserts and the mountains, collecting new plants at the risk of their lives. To what purpose? the layman may ask, not realizing that some little plant may, through itself or its progeny, provide not only pleasure, but a means of livelihood for many people, in many countries.

One of the most valuable plants ever discovered is *B. socotrana*. It was found among the boulders of the hot, sandy island of Socotra, in the Indian Ocean, near the coast of Somaliland, by Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour. He brought it to the Edinburgh Botanical Garden in 1880, where the little brown blubs were planted and anxiously watched for signs of growth. A Scotch gardener now in this country, was an apprentice at the Garden at that time, and told me that a prize of one pound was offered to the man who could find a way to start the bulbs into growth. One of the apprentices finally watered the bulbs at the right time—August—and was rewarded by finding a thread of green across the brown bulbs, as well as by the coveted pound.

The great value of *Socotrana* lies in the fact that it blooms at Christmas, when flowers are much desired, and hard to produce, at least in England and all northern countries. The bright pink flowers, golden centered, are held well above the round, dark green leaves, making a showy plant. When the blooming season is past, the leaves turn yellow and fall. Water should be gradually withheld, and the plump little brown blubs remain dormant until August. Then shake off the soil, separate the bulbs if desired, repot in a mixture of loam, leaf mould and sand, and water carefully until growth starts. After the leaves begin to develop, the plant may be watered freely.

The commercial value of *Socotrana* was quickly recognized, and it was described in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, Jan. 1, 1881, by Joseph Dalton Hooker (son of William Jackson Hooker, also a botanical author).

Stock was secured by Veitch & Co. of London, who introduced it in 1882. The first cross was made by John Heal, Veitch's foreman. He knew John Seden was working with the Andean species, producing those varieties now called *tuberhybrida*, so he

began to cross *Socotrana* with summer flowering types to produce a plant with *Socotrana*'s winter blooming traits, and the color and size of the summer flowering types. His first cross, made in 1882, was using *B. incarnata* for the seed-bearing parent, crossing it with *Socotrana*. But the hybrid, Autumn Rose, was short-lived. In 1883, he made another cross, of *Socotrana* with a new tuberous variety, *Viscountess Doneraile*, which had vermilion-red flowers. The resulting plant, introduced in 1885, bore his name. Adonis was produced in 1883, also, and Winter Gem in 1888, both rosy-pink. Ensign was produced in 1885, Mrs. John Heal in 1895 and Winter Perfection in 1898. In more recent years, the firm of Clibran, England, and Baardse, Holland, have added many fine varieties.

This group, which Fotsch gave the name of *B. hiemalis*, in 1933, is also known as English flowering begonias. They are beautiful plants, with large, glossy, dark leaves and single or double flowers in many colors, but are difficult to grow, so are scarce commercially, and expensive. An excellent article on the culture of these lovely plants appeared in the Jan. 1940 *Journal of the New York Botanical Garden*.

B. *Hiemalis* (*Socotrana* x *tuberhybrida*)

Adonis—(John Heal x *tuberhybrida*)—Pink—John Heal 1883.

Altringham pink—double pink—1912.

Baardse's favorite—Baardse 1929.

Baardse's orange—single orange—Baardse 1929.

Baardse's wonder—single red—Baardse 1929.

Boko—single orange-pink.

C. P. Augustein—double pink.

Clibran's pink—Clibran 1912.

Clibran's red—Clibran 1912.

Eclipse—1912

Elatior—semi-double rose carmine—Veitch 1907.

Emily Clibran—double rose-pink—Clibran 1912

Emita—orange—Baardse 1929.

Ensign—Veitch 1885.

Exquisite—single rose-pink—1931.

Flambeau—double orange.

Fred Muntz—improved Snowdrop

Ideala—Veitch 1901.

J. F. Ch. Dix—single orange-pink—Baardse 1932.

John Heal—Veitch 1885.

John C. Mensing—orange

Lucy Clibran—single orange-red—Clibran 1912.
 Mevrouw Baardse—similar to Elatior.
 Mignon—Baardse 1929.
 Mrs. John Heal—single rose-purple—1895.
 Optima—single orange-pink
 Orange King—single orange-pink—1931.
 Oranjezon—golden
 Pink Perfection—double pink.
 Scarlet Beauty.
 Schweden—single purple-rose.
 Snowdrop—double white
 The Pearl—double white.
 Winter Gem—pink—John Heal 1888.
 Winter Perfection—Veitch 1898.

GLOIRE DE LORRAINE GROUP

In 1891, Victor Lemoine, the great French hybridist, crossed *Socotrana* with the African tuberous species, *B. dregei*, a bushy grower bearing a profusion of small white flowers. Because of its free blooming and free seeding qualities, *dregei* was chosen as the seed parent. The resulting plant, introduced in 1893 as *Gloire de Lorraine*, was not considered notable at the time, because so many new begonias had just been introduced. About 1900, a new method of propagation by leaves was discovered, probably in Germany. This completely revolutionized all existing methods and made mass production both easy and profitable. In 1908 Mr. J. A. Peterson of Cincinnati, Ohio, crossed *Socotrana* with one of its own children, *Lonsdale pink*, and produced *Glory of Cincinnati*, which had larger and more lasting flowers than *Gloire de Lorraine*. But both these plants retained many leaves like those of the original *Socotrana*, peltate or round, with a depressed center which held water. This caused the center to rot, spoiling its appearance and therefore, the sale of the plant. So the florists continued their efforts to improve the stock, and in 1914, Mr. Peterson produced *Melior*, followed by Mrs. Peterson in 1915. In 1932, Mr. W. W. Edgar of Waverley, Mass. produced *Lady Mac*. The largest flowered hybrid, so far, is *Marjorie Gibbs*, produced by Mr. Clarence Gibbs of Lynn, Mass. in 1918. In 1936, Mr. Harold Traver produced a beautiful red variety, *Lucille*. All these later varieties have a split leaf which permits water to drain off readily, larger flowers and better lasting qualities in the hot, dry air of the average house. Occasionally these hybrids produce a true *Socotrana* peltate leaf. These have been rooted, and the succeeding plant has reverted to the original species. For culture of this group, see Jan. 1940 *Journal of the New York Botanical Garden*.

Amabilis—(sport of *Gloire de Lorraine* x *socotrana*)—1905.
Blutenball—(sport of *Concurrent*)—Jank 1931.
Brunhilde—Teupel 1918.
Caledonia—1899.
Concurrent—Kettenbeil—1912.
Concurrent gracilis—(sport of *Concurrent*) Neubert.
Edge's Favorite—Andersson 1927.
Glory of Cincinnati—(*Lonsdale pink* x *socotrana*)—Peterson 1910.
Hofwyl—1911.
Hortensia—1901.
Juwel—(sport of *Concurrent*)—Neubert 1930.
Lady Mac—(sport of *Cincinnati*)—Edgar 1925.
Leopold de Rothschild—1900.
Lonsdale pink.
Lucille—Traver 1936.
Marjorie Gibbs—(sport of *Melior*)—Gibbs 1918.
Mrs. Peterson—Peterson 1915.
Phillip Paulig—Reichers 1928.
Rochford's Masterpiece—1910.
The King—1910.
Triumph—(sport of *Concurrent*)—Neubert 1930.
Turnford Hall—1901.
Varmlandia—Larson 1929.

OTHER SOCOTRANA HYBRIDS

Agatha—(*Moonlight* x *socotrana*)—Veitch 1903.
Agatha compacta—(*Natalensis* x *socotrana*) Veitch.
Agatha, var. *Pres. Taft*—Peterson 1910.
Autumn Rose—(*incarnata* x *socotrana*)—John Heal 1882.
Bijou—(*socotrana* x *incarnata*)—Veitch 1887.
Bowden Beauty.
Dazzler.
Glorie de Sceaux—(*subpeltata* x *socotrana*) Thibaut & Keteleer 1884.
Incomparabilis—(*socotrana* x garden tuberous)—Veitch 1907.
Julius—(*socotrana* x white tuberous)
Lady Roberts—
Nancy—(*socotrana* x *Baumannii*) Lemoine 1911.
Patrie—(*socotrana* x *Pearcei* variety)—Lemoine 1908.
Pink Perfection—
Rosalind—
Rose Queen—
Salmon Beauty—
Triomphe de Lorraine—(*socotrana* x *Lyncheana*)—Lemoine 1889.
Triomphe de Nancy—Lemoine 1890.
Triomphe de l'Est—Lemoine 1903.
Venus—
Winter Cheer.

FRANK REINELT AND HUGH EVANS TO BE CONVENTION SPEAKERS

Flower Show to Highlight Convention



THE SPEAKER at the banquet Saturday evening will be Mr. Frank Reinelt of Vetterle & Reinelt, Capitola, who has a national reputation as a hybridizer and grower of gorgeous tuberous begonias. He is the man who propagates those rare specimens you cherish, and now you will have the opportunity to see and hear him. Your editor feels that this alone is sufficient to warrant your visit to the Convention City.

Of equal importance is the scheduled talk of Mr. Hugh Evans of Evans and Reeves, West Los Angeles, Sunday afternoon, an opportunity you garden lovers have been anticipating for many a moon. Mr. Evans will talk to those who not only want to know about shade plants, but to those who love the "inside and out" garden. Full sun or shade makes no difference to Mr. Evans and you will hear from him of those things you have long wanted to know.

Ventura again extends a warm welcome to all ABS members. This time it is of importance for us all to attend, in order to vote and "put over" the first convention held away from Long Beach.

When Ventura won the bid for the Convention last year, we knew then that it would be a real treat for all who attended, for the Venturans have built an enviable reputation for hospitality. You may be sure a royal welcome and a good time awaits all visitors and delegates.

Three enjoyable days are scheduled: Friday, November 1 the flower show opens at noon. This is sponsored by the Theodosia Burr Shepherd branch, and is fast becoming one of the outstanding shows of the Southland. The show is presented both spring and fall and the attendance each time outdoes the previous one. About 8,000 flower lovers visited the spring show, and more are expected to visit the fall show.

Of course, begonias will be prominently displayed, but all flower lovers will find it a haven of beauty, and of immense educational value. A tip, bring your note book, you'll see flowers on display that will go on your "must have" list immediately you see them.

Do you grow herbs? If not you'll see them, there, in their natural state. Do you like the rare and unusual in pots and baskets? You'll see them at the show. Are you one of those

who are enmeshed in the intricacies of flower arrangements?—You'll get some excellent ideas at Ventura.

Do you think you can grow Rex and Fibrous begonias? You had better reserve your answer to this until you see those at the show.

Fuchsias, geraniums, roses, bulbs, annuals, perennials, cacti, will be on display, and each and every plant and blossom will be marked with both the common and botanical name. You are in for a treat, and don't forget to register when you enter the show. The Commercial exhibitors have donated many valuable prizes, and you may be one of the lucky ones.

BUSINESS MEETING 1 P.M. Saturday, November 2, American Legion Club House, 52 North California Street.

BANQUET: 6:30 P.M. Saturday, November 2, Masonic Hall, corner Santa Clara and California Streets. Get your reservation. 75c per person, and the hall can only accommodate 300. Be sure to get in touch with your branch President or Secretary or with Mrs. Irene Van Fossen, Secy.-Treas., at 349 Jones Street, Ventura.

FLOWER SHOW opens at noon Friday, November 1, continuous until 9:30 P.M. Sunday, November 3. Civic Auditorium corner California and Front Streets.

All places of meetings are within three blocks of each other, centrally located and in the heart of Ventura.

We'll be seeing you at the Convention and show!

— FRESH SEED OF —

Agapanthus (blue or white)

Alstroemeria Tigridia

Fuchsia Boliviana

Fuchsia Hybrid Mixed

Begonia Sutherlandii

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Care and Culture of Fibrous Begonias, Subject of Speaker

• Over 300 members and guests crowded the spacious auditorium of the Woman's Club to hear Mrs. Ella Fewkes speak on Ferns, and take part in the festivities marking the second anniversary of the Inglewood branch.

Our next meeting should be tops for the year, but watch the date. It not only happens to be the first Friday of the month but the **FIRST DAY**, and we know you wouldn't want to miss hearing Rudolf Ziesennehenne tell about fibrous begonias, their care and culture during the winter months.

Coming the day before the annual convention a great many out-of-town guests are expected to make the stop-over on their way to the big doings in Ventura. It will be an ideal chance for those of the northern branches to see just how the meetings down south are conducted.

Inglewood members are especially urged to be present for final details regarding the caravan which will leave Saturday morning. However, if you can't make the caravan by all means put in an appearance, wearing your identification tags.

INGLEWOOD — FOR THE 1941 CONVENTION!

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VENTURA, CALIF.

All Rooms with Bath
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DICK COLLINS
 Manager — Owner

The Olney Garden Club Flower Show

• This was held Sept. 13 and 14. There were six exhibitors in the special class of "Begonias" 'not less than five varieties nor more than ten, by an individual or club.'

The exhibitor who won first prize transported his Begonia plants more than 30 miles to exhibit. They were fine large specimens, no particularly rare varieties, but were well grown. The men and women in this locality who judge our flower shows are not acquainted with the different varieties, so that the most attractive arrangement as well as size of plants, and the blooms, govern the decision of the Judges.

There were about 40 different varieties exhibited in the six exhibits, and about 375 people visited the show, so the M. C. G. Branch of the ABS feels that progress was made particularly from the viewpoint of acquainting the public with varieties.

—M.C.G.

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BEGONIA ROXBURGHII

by **RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE**,
Director of Nomenclature

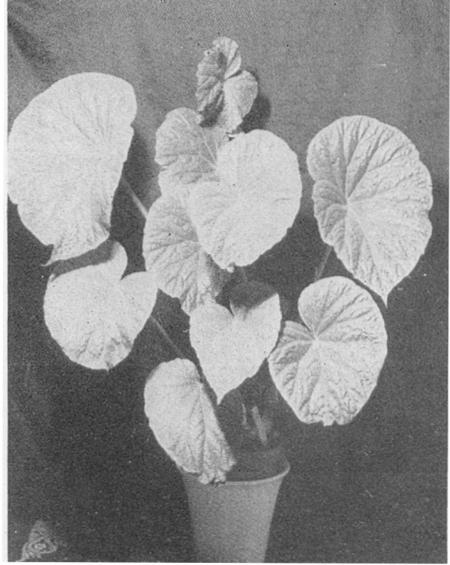
BEGONIA ROXBURGHII, A. DC., was first described by Alphonse De Candolle on page 389 vol. XV. I of De Candolle, "Prodrromus sust-natural. regni. veget." in 1864 and named in honor of Dr. William Roxburgh (1759-1815) Superintendent The Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta, India, from 1793 to 1813.

This plant is native to the region from Nepal to Burma and North and East Bengal and Assam up to an elevation of about 4000 feet.

Mr. Clayton Kelly, Past Research Director of the American Begonia Society, should be given credit for introducing this handsome plant to the United States. Although seeds have been imported, and some plants have been obtained from them, the largest specimens have been obtained from the dormant stems which were presented to the Society by G. Ghose & Co., Town-end, Darjeeling, India, in 1939, through the aid of Mr. Kelly.

Very little literature is available on *B. Roxburghii*, A. DC. and I have been unable to find it mentioned in the popular garden books and periodicals. It is fairly hardy,

having withstood a winter in a lathhouse in Santa Barbara with a minimum winter night temperature of 37 degrees Fahrenheit and day temperature in the 50's. In cooler regions it would be advisable to move it in-



B. Roxburghii — 27 inches tall

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

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doors with the other begonias during the cold weather. Although this plant has not been tried out as a house plant at the present writing, it will probably do all right for the leaves are rather sturdy. *Roxburghii* is handled in the same way as fibrous begonias; however, care must be taken in repotting since the new growth produced from the horizontal thick stem (not a rhizome) is in a given direction and more room should be allowed on that side in placing it into a new pot so there will be ample room for growth. Under greenhouse and lathhouse conditions, this plant is evergreen and blooms during the summer and fall. The flowers, which are seldom seen because they are carried close to the stem, are of interest because they are fleshy and wingless and have four fleshy protrusions where the wings usually are borne. The foliage is very attractive, being a medium green color. The leaves of individual seedlings are observed to be thickly covered with almost minute spots of silver.

This plant may be propagated from seed, stem cuttings, division of the stem base mass (only when vitally necessary) or more with

difficulty from leaf cuttings with the aid of bottom heat.

Botanically A. De Candolle did not place this plant in any of his sections. C. B. Clark in 1879 placed it in Section Casparya of Klotzsch while more recently Otto Warburg in "Die naturliche pflanzenfamilien" of Prof. A. Engler & K. Prentl III part, 6. abt, A (1894) p. 141-142 placed it in Section Sphenanthera, A. DC.

As far as can be ascertained, this plant has not entered into hybridizing work. Its strong habit of growth and beautiful leaves are good qualities which are worthy of being preserved and hybridizing work is being carried on to improve the flowers.

Description: Root: fibrous. Stem: base very shortly horizontal then vertical 1-3 feet, succulent, minutely fuzzy, green with reddish oblong spots, thickened at the joints, joints short. Leaf-stem: as long as or longer than the length of the leaf, scattered fine white hairs, green with oblong red spots, stem slightly flattened on the axil side. Stipules are about three times as long as wide, falling off very early. Leaf: egg-shaped, tapering quickly to a short point bearing a few scattered, short, white hairs; margin toothed and ciliated; upper surface medium green, veins lighter; areas between the veins is raised; under side is lighter green. Flowers seldom visible and are carried on short cymes, 1-4 flowers in a group, from the joint but a quarter-turn around the stem from the leaf axil. The flowers hang downward on their stems which are supported from a short projection, about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Male flowers have two sepals and two petals, the latter almost round but smaller than the sepals which are cup-shaped, never opening very wide; stamens yellow. Female flowers, five-petaled, are cup-shaped, open very little. Styles are 4-divided, almost to the base. Stigma branches with three turns. Seed pod is very fleshy, light green with red spots, wingless but with four fleshy protrusions on the surface where wings are usually carried; they are 4-celled, with seeds carried on both sides of the placenta.

Ventura Notes

• A fine October meeting was enjoyed by a large crowd of members and guests. Mr. Art Longmire spoke on garden soils and potting mixtures. We hope to see you all at the convention and flower show.

—WALTER J. KNECHT.

Number Fourteen



• Word has been received of the organization of another branch of the ABS in the vicinity of Wynnewood, Pa., which will be named at their next meeting.

Eight members of the Society and two new ones met on October 1, and the following officers were elected:

Mrs. Lee Krauss.....President & Rep. Dir.
Mrs. Wm. Kurtz Myers.....Vice-Pres.
Mrs. Albert H. Gere.....Secy.-Treas.

Other members of this new branch are Mrs. Perry D. Richards, Mrs. James A. Tyson, Mrs. E. C. Drew, Mrs. H. P. Dormon, Mrs. Edwin M. Lyons, Mrs. Harry C. Tily and Miss Ethel Tiley.

Watch the branch calendar for meeting dates.

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Mr. Steve Jaeger
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Miss June Bealer
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408 Weston Road, Wellesley, Mass.
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Mrs. Harry C. Tily
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Mrs. Sophia E. Whitaker
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114 W. Queen Lane, Germantown, Pa.
Mr. E. G. Enck
Tail Winds, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.
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Mrs. Robert F. Brinton
The Lindens, West Chester, Pa.
Mrs. M. E. Clark
Box 715, Hondo, Texas

Members in Van Nuys

• Members in Van Nuys, Calif. who are interested in the formation of a branch of the ABS, please contact Mr. Bailey Fesler, 4648 Longridge Ave., Van Nuys, who is also interested.

Honor Roll

Kathryn Weitz*****
 Harry F. O'Donnell*****
 Hugh Hixon*****
 Eddie Tomes*****
 J. N. Nutter*****
 Frank Harrison*****
 Bessie R. Buxton*****
 Mrs. C. H. Harris*****
 Pauline Ney*****
 Mrs. Mary Chapman*****
 Mrs. Rosa B. Harrington***
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 Jack Scoble**

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Clayton M. Kelly	Bessie A. Haasis
A. E. Sphar	Mrs. Bob Smith
Irene Van Fossen	House of Flowers
R. B. Harrington	R. C. Atwood
Mrs. Ruby Liedler	Mrs. M. E. Congdon
Virginia SirKegian	J. W. V. Steele
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Harriette W. Bridges	Miss Helen Converse
Mrs. M. A. Chaffee	Mrs. Lucy Graham
Jessie B. Wright	Dr. C. N. Moore
Mrs. C. H. Harris	T. C. Whitaker
Mrs. J. Sherman	Annie C. Robinson
George McDowell	Miss Bulgrin
R. S. Denman	R. Barnhart
H. Arden Edwards	Lelia Hodges
Mrs. Florence Carrell	Mrs. H. W. Simpson
Mrs. Dorothy Knirck	Burdell Bulgrin
Leroy C. Frost	Mrs. Lee Steinhous
Chas. I. Gould, Jr.	Mrs. Ella Fewkes
Mrs. E. Holmquist	Mr. Anderson
Mrs. A. M. Hartwell	Mrs. J. W. Smoot

*New Members Brought In

Seed Offer Still Good

• The response to a request for new members has been exceptionally good. Mrs. Ruby Liedler, corresponding secretary, who so generously offered a packet of begonia seed to all new members and those listed on the Honor Roll has received many requests for

Second Meeting

• The meeting of the Philadelphia and its Vicinity Branch of the ABS was held at 5343 Greene Street, Germantown, Oct. 14. The following officers were elected to serve the balance of this year and for 1941:

Mr. T. C. Whitaker.....President
 Mrs. Robt. F. Brinton.....Vice-Pres.
 Mrs. Sophia E. Whitaker.....Secy.-Treas.

Mr. Whitaker spoke on the "Rhizome" type of begonias and demonstrated the sowing of begonia seed which was recently received from California.

New members who joined at this meeting are Mrs. George W. Ott, Mrs. Walter Webb and Mrs. Edward N. Cheston.

Tea and a visit to Mr. Whitaker's greenhouse followed the meeting. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Geo. R. Bishop, 15 So. Hillcrest Road, Springfield, Del. Co., Pa., November 11, 2 p.m.

—SOPHIA E. WHITAKER.

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seed, and will send them to those listed in this issue of the Begonian AND TO ALL NAMES THAT COME IN BEFORE NOVEMBER 15.

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THE CHOICE OF WINNERS

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933.

Of The Begonian, published monthly at Los Angeles, California for October 1st, 1940. State of California, County of Los Angeles.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Mrs. C. H. Harris, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Business Manager of The Begonian and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher—American Begonia Society, 757 Athens Blvd., Los Angeles; Editor—Mrs. Pauline Ney, 3112 West 81st St., Inglewood, Calif., Managing Editor—None; Business Manager—Mrs. C. H. Harris, 757 Athens Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

2. That the owner is the American Begonia Society, 757 Athens Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., of which the officers are: Frank M. Harrison, President—712 East Hardy Street, Inglewood; Herbert P. Dyckman, Vice-President—141 West 53rd Street, Long Beach, Calif.; J. N. Nutter, Secretary-Treasurer—1050 East 19th St., Long Beach, Calif.; Ruby W. Liedler, Corresponding Secretary—5858 California Ave., Long Beach, Calif.; L. E. Day, Research Director—2602 Aiken Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.; Dr. W. N. Caseley, Past-President—602 F. & M. Bank Bldg., Long Beach, Calif.; Miss Lena Higgins, Director-at-Large—Long Beach, Calif.; and Mrs. H. R. Morris, Director-at-Large—Ventura, California.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: There are none.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by her.

(Signed) MRS. C. H. HARRIS,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of October, 1940.

(Signed) BERTHA B. JOSEPH,
Notary Public

(My commission expires 12-1-43.)

Gold Medal

• Mrs. Bessie Buxton sends word that our member, Mr. Stuart Barstow of Saylesville, R. I., was awarded the gold medal of the Mass. Horticultural Society, at the Fall flower show in Boston, for the most meritorious exhibit in the show. This was a very beautiful exhibit of tuberous rooted begonias grown by Mr. Barstow. As this was his first exhibit, naturally he was pleased, for it is the

Thick-Stemmed . . .

(Continued from Page 167)

velvety one, then it sends up new leaves and they will have vivid green blotches, and you look again, and bronzy blotches have intermingled with the green and what have you. **Nigricans**, **Heracleifolia**, **Sunderbruchii**, or just a **Star** begonia?

Still more lowly come those thick-leaved ones, just plain **Feastii**, **Conchifolia** with its lovely spirals and the aristocratic **Bunchii** with its frilled edges. What beautiful specimens they make! They seem quite lovely enough at any time but when they send up their dainty showers of pink, they are simply delightful. Perhaps the most formal of them all is **Mrs. Townsend**, a bit stiff and stately in form but very rich in color with its dark glossy symmetrical leaves and darker stiffer stems of rose bloom.

Of the less common sorts, there is **Speculata** and **Illustrata** and that charming bright green **Acida**, better known as **Braziliensis** which seems somewhat akin to the most choice of them all, the **Imperialis**. Both the **Otto Foster** and **Smaragdina** are a bit difficult I'll admit but are so beautiful! As soft and lovely as thick velvet and such a brilliant green. **Smaragdina** just plain and **Otto Foster** with darker blotches. These two are indeed treasures.

There may be many more of the thick-stemmed varieties of begonias; I do hope so, for they are the most fascinating group I have ever collected and I'm sure you would find them so, too.

Fuchsias Discussed

• The October meeting of the Herbert Dyckman branch of the ABS was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Starr.

Mrs. Grace Collins gave an interesting talk on dregei, Mcbethi, parnifolia, etc.

Mrs. Ruby Leidler, president of the Fuchsia Society of Southern California, lectured intelligently on fuchsia culture. She displayed many lovely varieties in this family.

There were something like 85 plants donated for the plant sale, after which refreshments were served.

—MRS. JESSIE JENKINS.

highest award ever given by the Society. I visited his place this summer, and he grows his plants in a cloth house about 15x30. In the center is a great boulder, for his backyard is on a hillside. He has a raised bench over the boulder, and low beds on each side. Pots of hanging varieties are on the uprights.



**CHECK
YOUR**

1940							NOVEMBER							1940						
SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FR.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FR.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FR.	SAT.
												1	2							
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
							23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						

**MEETING
DATES**

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Friday, November 1, 8:00 P.M.
Woman's Club, 325 No. Hillcrest Blvd.
Mrs. V. SirKegian, Secretary,
413 West Ellis Ave., Inglewood.

HERBERT DYCKMAN BRANCH

Tuesday, November 5, 7:30 P.M.
565 Dayman Street.
Mrs. Frank Graves, Sec'y.-Treasurer,
651 Loma Avenue, Long Beach.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, November 6, 8:00 P.M.
1060 Francisco Street.
Harry F. O'Donnell, Secretary.
1575 - 31st Ave., San Francisco.

PHILADELPHIA & VICINITY BRANCH

Monday, November 11, 2:00 P.M.
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Sophia E. Whitaker, Sec'y.,
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THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BR.

Tuesday, November 12, 8:00 P.M.
Coca-Cola Hall, Ventura.
Mrs. Irene Van Fossen, Sec'y.-Treas.,
349 Jones St., Ventura, Calif.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BRANCH

Tuesday, November 12, 2:00 P.M.
Home of Mrs. M. C. Gruenbaum, Phila.
Mrs. Wm. L. Paxson, Secretary,
Willow Grove, Pa.

LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

Thursday, November 14, 7:30 P.M.
Community Hall, 9th & Lime, Long Beach.
Mace Taylor, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer,
520 East Esther St., Long Beach.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Friday, November 15, 7:30 P.M.
Arcadia City Hall, Arcadia.
Mrs. A. N. Hartwell, Secretary,
1719 Alamitas Ave., Monrovia.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

Tuesday, November 19, 7:30 P.M.
333 East Sola Street.
Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, Secy.,
246 No. Alamar Ave., Santa Barbara.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Thursday, November 21, 7:30 P.M.
1644 East 55th Street
Miss Betty Wisker, Secy.
5800 Lime Ave., Long Beach.

EAST BAY BRANCH

Monday, November 25, 7:30 P.M.
Blind School, Derby St. opp. Bellevue.
Geo. Pascoe, Secy.-Treas.,
2125 McGee Ave., Berkeley.

SYRACUSE BRANCH

Richard C. Atwood, Secy.-Treas.
1405 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, N. Y.

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Secretary—Mrs. B. W. Skinner,
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- NIGRICANS (Sunderbruchii)
- ROOTED POINSETTIAS
- PELTATAS

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