

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden



KYLLINGA BREVIFOLIA . . . (commonly called UNIQUE GRASS)

The BEGONIAN

Monthly Publication of the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

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FLOWERS in the spring, FLOWER SHOWS in the spring, WORK in the spring and I find myself in the midst of it all, minus an editorial. However, we have been working ever so hard in making a few changes in the Begonian, that I hope we haven't carried it to the extent as to have lost the one thought we had in mind, which was to please YOU and YOU and YOU.

I sincerely hope our efforts have not been in vain and trust our changes meet with your approval.

THE EDITOR

DICHROA AS WE HAVE KNOWN AND GROWN IT

by ANNIE C. ROBINSON

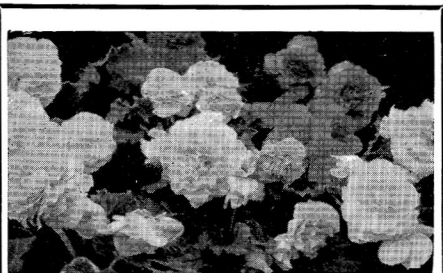
THE PICTURE of Dichroa that appeared in the last Begonian, is reminiscent of our first Dichroa. It came to us from Mrs. Buxton and after its long journey from Massachusetts it was a sad looking little thing, very much discouraged and wanting a home. We tried it under several different conditions, but it remained discouraged; then we resorted to the jelly glass method—you know, when nothing else will work, you invert a jelly glass over your sick plant; one just big enough so that the plant doesn't touch the glass. There it stayed all winter and we worried and anxiously waited for the new year, with its mysterious message to all living things to get busy and grow. Sure enough our pampered darling took heart and began to grow. In a very short time we had to remove it's jelly glass shelter and how those new leaves expanded. They grew both long and wide, and thinking they were weighing down it's frail stem into a "leaning-over" posture, we tied it up to a stake. Of course we were to learn later that Dichroa always wants to lean over the edge of something. Perhaps some ancestor was a "Narcissus" and leaned over the side of some Brazilian stream to see his gorgeous reflection mirrored in the water below.

In a few weeks time buds appeared; not just a few, but a large cluster, and we glimpsed it's remarkable color. Unlike any thing ever known in the fibrous class, its orange hue reminded us of our own California poppy. The sunshine of Brazil must have given it that same wealth of color that the sunshine here has given to our native flower.

With the greatest of care the seed was fertilized and in time, a few ripe seeds were gathered and planted, and as is the way of seedlings, they came more vigorous and strong than the parent;

and each one of that lot, and every one we have grown since, has been identical to the original plant, leaning habit and all. This habit isn't altogether a fault, however, for it makes it very desirable for large baskets, filling them with from fifteen to twenty stems, and with each one bearing one or more large clusters of it's gorgeous orange blooms, it is a striking sight to see.

Many crosses have been made since that discouraged little plant came to us six years ago. The resulting hybrids are many and varied. Our dream of a tall growing fibrous, bearing orange flowers, is yet to be realized. The tall growing hybrids persist in producing flowers of the rose shades with only enough orange coloring to add more brilliance, and those of the orange coloring adhere to the procumbent form of Dichroa. What a challenge to the hybridizer, amateur or professional; and I wonder who will be so lucky as to produce a really outstanding hybrid from this very remarkable and beautiful begonia. Will it be you?



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of
**TUBEROUS
BEGONIAS**

NEW DEVELOPMENTS
and
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ALL TYPES and COLORS

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"The Eastern Home of Rare Begonias"

Tuberos Begonias

Booklet describing more than 225
Varieties of rare begonias — 50 cents

SEMPERFLORENS GROWN IN WATER

by PHOEBE (Mrs. Frank H.) MATHER
Hatboro, Pa.

I WONDER how many readers of "The Begonian" know that the semperflorens readily grow and thrive in water, I am very fond of my begonias, having some forty odd varieties, but they must grow the way I want them to, or else! The semperflorens grow out of bounds very quickly and I snip them three or four inches from the ends. These cuttings I place, together with small pieces of Baby's Tears (snipped off for the same good reason) and Linaria, in small containers of water and set them on the window sash. The effect is very pleasing — to me, at least.

At the time of writing I have on my window, growing in water, Indian Maid, Carmen, and four green-leaf semperflorens, with large pink, small pink, red, and white flowers respectively. The white one is not a climber as is the one C. M. Kelley describes in the April Begonian, but it is a hanging-basket type. I have two cuttings in a halfpint jar which hangs in the window and they extend almost two feet below the container, with numerous white flower clusters about the size of one's fist. Every six weeks I drop a Vigoro tablet in the jar.

I wish contributors to the Begonian would mention the branch to which they belong. Many of the members here in the East will never meet you except in the Begonian, and it would help us to feel better acquainted.

I am a member of the Margaret Gruenbaum Branch, Pennsylvania. We plan to put on an exhibit of Begonias at the spring flower show of "The Gardeners of the Crooked Billet," our local garden club. By doing this we hope to arouse interest in begonias.

• When answering ads, don't forget to mention **The BEGONIAN**.

PICTURE ON THE COVER

• *Kyllinga Brevifolia* is the new grass that is becoming so popular in the southland. It is commonly called "Unique grass." The name unique comes from a nursery, which has had so much to do with its successful propagation.

We are now able and pleased to tell you more about this new grass. It is truly unique in many ways. One does not have to remove your old lawn to put it in. It cuts the cost of fertilizing as it uses only chemically made fertilizers. It cuts time on care as it takes less water and mowing. Once established it will rout out weeds and devil grass. The result is a lovely dark green lawn, minus the lawn moths and brown spots.

Unique grass, which is a native of India and Australia, has as its new home the La Crescenta Nursery, 3654 La Crescenta Ave., La Crescenta, California.

HELP US GROW — BRING A NEW MEMBER

<i>Pestless</i> LIKWID-GRO BI		
<p>and <i>Pestless</i> LIKWID PORDO to control Mildew-Black Spot-Rust Leaves no objectional residue.</p>	<p>and <i>Pestless</i> GREEN HOUSE SPRAY to control Aphis - Beetles - Worms That destroy foliage.</p>	<p>and <i>Pestless</i> SLUG and SNAIL BAIT The Green, Fine-texture bait that's DIFFERENT</p>
<p>There is a <i>Pestless</i> Product for Your Insect Problem —ASK YOUR DEALER—</p>		

FRAGRANT FLOWERS FOR THE GARDEN

by A. A. LONGMIRE

THE NEGLECT of the old hybridizers was in putting fragrance into our beautiful flowers. The rose experimentors considered color and size before fragrance. Our present day hybridizers, knowing the public now want fragrance, are striving to put it back into the rose. The hybridizers are not neglecting the begonia and the possibility of having them in fragrant varieties. We now have several wild forms, and they have been used as parents for future fragrant begonias.

In planting the garden for fragrance there are several things to consider. Flowers with fragrance should be placed so the perfume will carry toward the house, or plant along the pathway so the odor will be carried toward you, as you stroll along the walk or path. We have many flowers to select from and one should ask the plantsman when buying, if such plants have fragrance. The fragrant flowers are not always the most beautiful. The flowers of the fragrant olive (*Osmanthus Fragrans*) are very small, but have a peach-like odor and are very strong. In planting this specie, place some gorgeous flower near so as to confuse the visitor as to where the fragrance is coming from. Fragrance can be found in most all colored flowers, but is rare in the blue shades; and not so plentiful in the red ones. Some of the sweet herbs have odorous leaves as well as blossoms. Lemon vergenia planted so one must brush against it in passing gives off an odor similar to many sages and mints. Some ground covers such as *Mentha Requienii*, *Achillea Tomentosa*, *Anthemis* or *Chamomile* and *Thymus* produce an odor when crushed by walking on them. The best of the cut flowers are the stocks — all varieties and colors. The wallflower is much like the stocks and carries a strong fragrance. They come in yellow, through copper and red colors. They flower throughout the winter, and are a splendid perennial. Carnations have a spice like fragrance, and the range of color is large, and is a very hardy specie. Many of the small *Dianthus* or Pinks are spicy and some make splendid cut flowers. Sweet Alyssum is excellent for the border and has a splen-

did fragrance. The perennial forms have yellow flowers, and have a very sweet odor. Heliotrope is an old standby, and is always liked, for its fragrance. It makes a perfect low shrub and is very hardy. Mignonette produces splendid spikes of flowers for cutting, and is a fine mixture in the floral bouquet. It has a fragrance which cannot be overlooked. Violets hold their place as a fragrant flower and may be had in blue, lavender, white and pink. *Nicotiana Affinis* is a cultivated form of tobacco, but the fragrance is pleasing. It grows up to four feet high and the range of color is white through pink into red. *Nasturtiums* are old timers and are always used for their pleasing fragrance, and for their coppery and yellow blossoms. Their foliage is also fragrant. In bulbs, the *Freesia* has a sweet odor and comes in several colors. Sweet peas always give plenty of cut flowers and an abundance of fragrance. Hyacinths come in many colors, and have a spice like fragrance. Daffodils, Jonquils and *Narcissus* furnish a very strong odor and can be used in the bouquet just as a filler. They have too strong an odor, alone. *Tritillia* is of the onion family and produce small flowers of white to lavender. It is splendid for the border or rockery and the odor is very pleasing. In several of the *Alliums* or onions, the fragrance is very sweet and the color range is white to red into purple. English lavender has fragrant flowers and the foliage has a very pleasing odor, and can be used as a dry flower, for it retains its odor even in its dry state. *Cestrum Noctorium* or night flowering *Jasminum*, is fragrant only at night. It is very strong and is a tall growing shrub, and has white flowers. *Viburnum Carlsii* is a fragrant snow ball. It is a fine shrub and should enter into all plantings. *Paphneya* have a pleasing perfume and is admired by all, being a clean looking shrub, growing to a height of three feet. Several of the camelias have a slight fragrance and we expect more as the experimentors are striving to increase the odor in this specie. Gardenias have a very strong fragrance. The flower is ivory white and

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**ATTENTION SECRETARIES
AND PUBLICITY DIRECTORS**

• The board members of the A. B. S. voted to do away with all branch news, enabling the members to have more reading material on begonias and shade loving plants.

We are working our calendar, so that we can have the speakers name along with each branch.

This will mean, you will have to have the names a month in advance.

We are depending on each and every one to get the name of your speaker in to the editor before the 15th of each month.

Lets make our calendar complete.

Mr. Dyekman on KMPC May 11th—
at 10:45 A.M.

Tuberous Begonias : Lathhouse Plants
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DOUBLE SHASTA DAISY (Esther Read)
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Begonias-Ferns-Potted Plants-Pottery
—“OUR SPECIALTIES”—
We invite you to visit our new NURSERY located at 1409 W. CHAPMAN in Orange, Calif. We have the new POTTERY just right for your flower arrangements and for plants in the house.

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OVER 200 VARIETIES
Lovely Hanging Baskets
1941 Introductions Include
WISTARIA - GAY SENORITA - ELFIN
REITER'S GIANT - FALLING STARS
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60c Each
Specialize in Fuchsias only
WADE'S FUCHSIA NURSERY
One Mile Out Telegraph Road
Ventura, Calif.

Syracuse Flower Festival

• The Federated Garden Club Association of Central New York will hold a Regional Flower Show on June 20th and 21st in the new Horticultural Building, at the New York State Fair Grounds, Syracuse, N. Y.

Twenty-Seven active Garden Clubs of Syracuse and surrounding towns and cities, have formed the Garden Center Association of Central New York. The combined efforts of these various contributing clubs, belonging to the Central New York Federation of Garden Clubs, will make the Syracuse Flower Festival a Fiesta unsurpassed in the annals of Syracuse and national in scope.

Pledged to cooperate and stage its 32nd Annual Rose Show, is the Syracuse Rose Society. Classes will be formed in which all members may enter, also classes for non-members, either in, or out of the city.

The Men's Garden Club is pledged to participate, and will also act as host to a National Convention of Men's Garden Clubs. Delegations from forty Men's Garden Clubs, including many prominent editors and horticultural writers have already pledged to attend this convention and Flower Festival.

Syracuse is glad at this time to welcome the National Peony Show, and gives assurance of adequate space for all classes.

Come to Syracuse June 20th and 21st, and enjoy our Fiesta.

Remember the Membership Drive

Rudolf Ziesenhenn
Over 400 Species and Varieties of
BEGONIAS
CHOICE REX HYBRID SEED
\$1.00 Per Packet
Label your specimen plants with permanent, embossed aluminum tags; 75c per dozen, postpaid. Send your list.
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Handy Kinks For Begonias

WATERING SIMPLIFIED

• First buy 50 feet of 3/8 inch air hose (the same as is used at the gas stations) then get two 3/8 inch air hose couplings and solder them into two 1/2 inch water hose couplings. Install slip-on couplings on all water faucets.

When watering plants and hanging baskets use a sprayer valve and extension pipe with nozzle (as is used on all 3 or 5 gallon sprayers). Be sure to remove the spray disc and use one punched full of small holes like a sprinkler can. This will enable you to reach all plants individually and to give any amount of water, at any pressure and eliminating water all over the glass house, lathhouse and between the plants.

POTS FOR SLIPS AND CUTTINGS

• Save all paper milk containers. Cut in half then cut out bottoms of each end. This will give you two pots about 2 3/4 inches square by 4 inches high. Make up a crate or flat to hold as many as possible. Place gravel in bottom of all and fill with soil. After the slips are rooted slip the contents in pots. This is easily done while the containers are wet. These containers can be used for several rootings.

Our Handy Kinks will be continued, providing enough members care to mail their handy kinks in to the editor before the 15th of each month.

•
Have you started a new branch in your community?

Hatboro, Pa's Spring Flower Show

The Margaret C. Gruenbaum branch of the A. B. S. will stage an exhibit of Unusual Varieties of begonias at the Spring Flower Show of Gardeners of the Crooked Billet, held in Hatboro, May 24, 1941 from 2:30 P.M. until 9 P.M. This exhibit will be for the sole purpose of giving greater publicity to begonias. The members of the A. B. S. will also enter the competitive classes for begonias, which will be a part of the show.

There will be road signs around Hatboro to guide you to the Flower Show.
Eastern Reporter

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\$3.00 per 100

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Price includes Saucer, Cover and Wicks
Color: Green and White

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Syracuse, N. Y.

Developed by Dr Kenneth Post of Cornell University

THE CALLA BEGONIA AND I (lower case by request)

by ALFRED D. ROBINSON



I DO NOT remember when and how I first met the Calla Begonia, but it was in the dim and distant past and for a long time our acquaintance was very distinctly a "passing" one—on the Calla's side, for it kept passing up and down and ended by dying on my hands and indiscriminately in the charge of others. I was getting so that I hated to open the mail I so often read "I have had from one to three Callas from you and they all died, what did I do that was wrong?" "Send me another one and any further information you may have about culture." I was getting information from many sources, but the only one about successful growing said they grew like weeds in old washtubs in kitchens on the Atlantic Coast. Desperation was beginning to drive me mad, I cried in my agony, I must do something for these good people for of such will be the Begonia Heaven even if they don't take a single Calla with them and a ray of light broke through the clouds. Prof. Wiesberg of Montana State University had a Calla and he crossed it with a bedding type named "Darling" and sent me some of the seed. His accompanying letter was not supercharged with enthusiasm, but he said the seed would grow and a certain percentage would have variegated foliage. I grew from that seed some two hundred plants, but only here and there was a variegated one and I moved the batch where I did not have to see them too often. After a week or so feeling the need of something on which to ex-

plode my extra spleen, I went to call on my Calla seedlings, and forgot my need to cuss for surely there were more variegated. A count confirmed this, and to close this part of a true, if rambling, history, eventually fifty percent of those seedlings variegated nicely and both red and pink blooms appeared and in a strong light the pink put that color on the edge of its white leaves and the red, red on its leaves. Selecting a few of the best of these as seed parents and continuing to do so for some seasons has continually increased the percentage of variegated seedlings and today I have a pan of hundreds with an apparent better than 90% variegated, even before the prickling out stage. Am I elated? No! I know the vast majority of plants with variegated foliage are weak members of that family and I shall be happy if I grow half those seedlings to sizeable plants.

Now for a sort of summing up of the teachings of this extended and varied experience, they have not brought knowledge, merely suggested guesses. There was a treasured and much respected idea that the Calla must not be overwatered, and yet I have Mrs. Buxton's word for it that the huge specimen exhibited by Mrs. Brown in the East 2 feet high and 3 feet in diameter was growing in a jardiniere without any drainage hole, in a medium so wet it was practically mud, that it arrived at the show in perfect condition, went through the weeks show without turning a hair or leaf either, and went home as it came. This plant was pictured in the Begonian. Another correspondent chronicling good success, grew her plant in gravel and old plaster, very much on the dry side, and so ran the bewildering and bedeviling story. Here are some guesses and the Gods and the Calla forgive me for making them.

The Calla is a Vernon and like most bedders makes better plants from seed than from cuttings. In California to treat it as an annual might be wise, unless one chose to challenge Mrs. Brown for the Championship.

It makes a comparatively large root system and at least in summer will do better in the ground than in a pot. It

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Begonias Featured In Oakland Flower Show

• Begonias seem destined to play a big part in the West's biggest spring show. At the Spring Garden Show to be held in Oakland, California, April 30th to May 5th, Begonias will be very prominent. In addition to our own East Bay Branch's exhibit of choice begonias, there will be many other exhibits with begonias in them. One of the first exhibits the visitor will see will be that of one of the private growers. It will extend across the center of the hall immediately below the veranda or piazza from which the visitor first views the awe inspiring panorama of beauty. Most of these will be Rex, but there will also be hanging begonias around this exhibit.

Several other exhibitors have indicated they will display begonias in their plots. Truly we are becoming begonia conscious in this part of the country.

All begonia lovers should avail themselves of this opportunity of visiting the largest begonia display on the west coast!

Recent Branch Membership Report

• Our leading branches in this contest for NEW MEMBERS are as follows:

Glendale Branch (just 5 months old) with a total of 143 members.

Orange County Br. (3 months old) with a total of 81 members.

North Long Beach (a wee bit older) with a total of 73 members.

How are the other branches doing on their new membership drive?

Mail your reports to the editor.

Pasadena Has Blessed Event



• Just think another new baby! Boy oh boy! Doesn't it make you happy to see that we really are getting the new branches and members we had hoped for?

Pasadena is the baby branch at present, but the enthusiasm displayed at their first meeting makes me feel that she will be the baby in name only.

The elected officers are as follows:

Joseph CarneiroPresident
 Fred WillardVice-president
 J. Ellsworth Youtz Jr.Secretary
 Mrs. Edwin MasonTreasurer
 Edwin MasonSergeant-at-arms
 Elizabeth KnudsenPublicity Director

Officers of such prominence need no mention, but I do want to tell you who their publicity director is. She is the editor of the Green Thumb, soooooo I just can't help but feel, that our new baby will be well known in and around Pasadena.

Pasadena branch have had one meeting and they are just about to challenge Glendale.

We are all wishing you the best of luck.

• Leslie Woodriff of Harbor, Oregon wishes (through the Begonian) to express his sincere appreciation for the patronage and loyalty of his Southern California friends and customers.

Have You Tried

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In the Amber Bottle and Bright Green Label?

Especially Recommended by MIKE PLANTER, California Gardener

—For Information Write—

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36 PICO STREET PASADENA, CALIF.

BEGONIA "GLAUCOPHYLLA SCANDENS"

by TRISTRAM COFFIN WHITAKER

THE BEGONIA Species Glauco-phylla known as Glauco-phylla Scandens is one of the most beautiful and outstanding Begonias. The leaves are long, about four inches in length, perfectly formed and a lovely green on the upper side, while the underneath is glaucous.

The flowers which are very freely produced, are borne on short stems close to the branches. The color of the buds is a lovely coral red, while the male flowers open to a pale brick red in full sunlight, but in shade are paler, often pink. The seed pods are most beautiful being almost as showy as the flowers.

B. Glauco-phylla is of trailing habit and has been known to produce stems six feet in length. It is perfect for hanging baskets or wall brackets and may be used in place of Philadendron or Ivy and is more attractive.

The cultural requirements are: a warm very light airy situation, with some sun in the winter, and shaded during the warm months; an abundance of water and rich soil. It requires more moisture and plant food than most other Begonias.

I have seen it do equally well in the home and greenhouse and while some report that male flowers fail to open, I feel certain that if given the above mentioned simple requirements, the male flowers will open to delight even the most inexperienced Begonia enthusiasts.

Calla Begonia and I

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does not really need to be coddled, but like all spoiled darlings improves with judicious neglect.

In winter it will shed its variegation to resist a partially dormant and natural condition, but this will be resumed with the warm weather.

The Calla is not delicate it has simply contrived to make you think so. It should thrive in Southern California on exposure as well as do its bathing beauties, seeking a sun tan.

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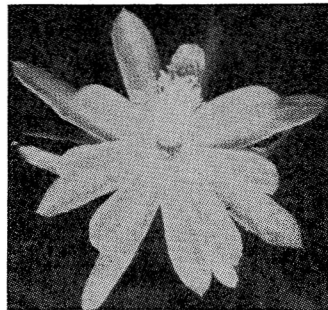
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Many Varieties Now in Bloom

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Fragrant Flowers for the Garden

(Continued from Page 73)

comes in small varieties, besides the larger flowering forms. Jasminum has a gardenia like odor and they come in large shrubs, and also vines, with white, yellow and pink colored blossoms. Mitchelia or Banana Magnolia has small brownish flowers with the odor of ripe bananas. It makes a shrub up to six feet.

Nearly all of the Magnolias are fragrant, and the color is white, lavender, purple and red. The colored forms are small trees and should be in all plantings. Calycanthus Floridus, or spice bush has a red magnolia like flower which is fragrant and the foliage, as it's name implies, has a spicy odor. Wisteria vines furnish blossoms of white, pink and lavender and have a pleasing odor. Meyers Lemon or dwarf Chinese lemon furnishes large fragrant flowers and beautiful fragrant fruit. It is a dwarf grower and can be used in most gardens. The fruit is of very good quality. Acacia or Mimosos have a fragrance that carries in the air for a long distance. Acacia flowers are white to yellow. Mimosos, white to purple and also orange. Buddleias have a strong odor and is a splendid shrub and the flowers are fine for cutting. The color is orange, white, purple, red, and buff. Philedelphus or Mock Orange is a shrub of the old gardens, but it cannot be over looked when one is seeking fragrance in the garden. Osmanthus or fragrantolive, has small flowers, but of an intense peach-like odor. Eleagnus or Russian Olive has silvery like leaves; makes a small tree and has small flowers which have a very strong fragrance. Benzonia is a small shrub with yellow flowers. The flowers, leaves and bark are very spicy. Roses in the wild forms are mostly of strong fragrance. Clematis vines range from white through blue and into red. They are very fragrant and very showy vines. Hibiscus Arnotiana is the fragrant

white hibiscus. Ligustrums or privet bushes have a hay-like odor.

Gelsemium sempei-virens — Southern Yellow Jassimine is a splendid clean vine and produces clear yellow bell shaped flowers which are very fragrant. Trachelospermum Jassminoides, a Jasminum-like vine with both white and yellow flowers have a pleasing odor. Pitosporum are shrubs or small trees, with evergreen leaves and white to yellow or red flowers. Their odor is very sweet and carries in the wind for some distance. Lemon Verbenis has both foliage and flowers, and is a small shrubby tree. Buvardias have gardenia-like fragrance, the range of color — white to red. They make medium small shrubs and should enter into all plantings. Brogmansia or Daturas, commonly called Trumpet flower, is fragrant at night. It is a large shrubby tree and the flowers are white, cream, lavender and red, through yellow. Oleanders are splendid shrubs and several of them planted together will produce a strong odor.

Alocacia Odorata is one of the Elephant Ear plants, but the flowers have a very strong perfume like odor. Hedichium, or ginger root has flowers in terminal spikes which are orange and red. The odor resembles that of the gardenia. Plumeria is a fragrant flowering small tree. The flowers are much used in the making of perfume.

The above plants that I have described can be found at your local nurseryman, and the cost is no more than for a common plant. There is no reason why one cannot have such plants growing in his garden, and they will be admired, both for their beauty and fragrance.

Additional information regarding these plants, their culture and care, may be had by writing the Editor of the Begonian or the author.

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BEGONIA HINTS FOR MAY

by MR. H. P. DYCKMAN
National President

DUE TO the incessant rains this year, plants will be quite slow in starting. Don't become too discouraged.

Watch your tubers and repot them as soon as they have reached the height of three or four inches. Pot them in large enough pots, which will allow them to remain in same the balance of the season. This will save time and labor.

This is the time for the repotting of

all plants, also to add more leaf mould to the plants, which have already been repotted.

Start this month to feed your plants. Use a good liquid fertilizer.

Do not cultivate around your begonias!

Now is a good time to make cuttings, as they should root in two or three weeks.

IS YOUR BEGONIAN ARRIVING ON TIME?

• Be sure to write Mr. J. N. Nutter, treasurer, if you or your friends have not been receiving the Begonian regularly, or on time.



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RARE DOUBLE LILY, ONE IN 35,000, DISCOVERED

• Once in about 35,000 times, nature produces a double-flowered lily, according to Mrs. Rachael Alhadeff, who has one on display at her shop, 953 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, Calif.

The stalk, which at first appeared the same as any other lily plant, produced three buds, one of which proved to have two hearts and blossomed into a double flower.

• When answering ads, don't forget to mention The BEGONIAN.

NOTICE! Due to Mr. Ziesenhenné's "rush business" at this season, he is unable to prepare his articles for this issue, to which we all looked forward.

Venturans NOTICE

You heard the amazing testimonial of Mrs. Rinehart for the efficiency of Likwid Gro with B1 at the February meeting. Visit her excellent nursery at Santa Ana, and see the results obtained with Likwid Gro.

It may be purchased anywhere in So. California, and in Ventura County from the best Seedsmen, Nurserymen and Hardware stores.

Guy Lewis, Distributor for Ventura County, Pestless Products Company, 1164 South Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, California.

LITTLE VISITS WITH ROYALTY

by HARRIETTE W. BRIDGES

"DON'T you folks from out of town ever sleep?" was the greeting we received from Clarence Hall as we came up the walk to his little home in Ventura. And it was only nine o'clock! But it was convention time, too. Two others were ahead of us, so we made four who wanted to see the pride of his home—the sheltered garden.

We followed him, as he chatted cheerfully about the events of the merry banquet of the night before. Around the house and between the garage and the house we passed through a gate, across a patch of green grass and around the corner of the garage and there it was.

In the corner of the yard back of the garage stood a solid wall of green moss. Merrily tinkling over a little rocky mound was a stream of water that slid over the rocks and plunged down into a little pool around which were ferns and flowers. Perched among the mossy side walls were many rex and fibrous begonias as well as fuchsias peeking out here and there. Clarence informed us that tuberous begonias had been there before they faded out. That was November. Still more begonias and fuchsias were suspended in baskets from over head where a pergola spread out acting as a lath house. Over this pergola one could see the blue sky through vines which twined overhead forming an excellent shade for their plants.

The floor of this beauty spot consisted of slabs that looked as though they had been hewn from massive rocks. And they literally were hewn by the hands of our hosts. He explained that nearby were rocks of a sandstone type, which could be split by hand into natural flat slabs. The Venturans usually went after these slabs in groups and worked in pairs on individual rocks. The Halls had set these flat slabs into the floor of their moss house, and they added much to the

beauty of the setting. One of these slabs was of special interest as it contained the outline of a butterfly, perfect in all of its details. This one had been carefully put in the corner behind the pool where few would be able to step on it. They said it was a frequent occurrence when splitting these rocks to find the images of ferns and other leaves and plants, but the butterfly was a rarity. In fact Clarence thinks this is the only one in captivity. The other half of the butterfly slab had been taken by their partner in crime when they obtained this particular slab.

We were joined by Mrs. Hall while we were "ohing and aching" over the beauty of the moss house. Behind the moss house are two good sized cloth houses in which the Halls keep many of their choicest specimen plants, and where they get their greatest pleasure. As what Royal Hobbyist doesn't! Here they propagate their many varieties, carefully nurse them along and watch them grow to maturity. New slips are started, new cuttings and leaves carefully and anxiously watched. New seeds started and nursed along. Lucky people, for in Ventura they do not need to watch the heat as carefully as we do here in the colder northern climates.

Here was a small, but effective moss house and working plant. And they had only been there less than a year! It's marvelous what one can do with ingenuity and simple materials. Most of the joy of creating a beautiful thing with nature's own products comes from doing it yourself. The Halls have only a small place. The clear space back of their home is probably only about thirty by forty feet and yet they have a thing of beauty in their moss house, plenty of room for sitting out in the garden on a lawn when entertaining guests and still have room for a work space. It is an ideal place in which to enjoy life.

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OTHER STATES

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• Why not a year's subscription to **The BEGONIAN** as a birthday or other gift?

NOTICE !! Starting with the June issue of the **Begonian**, the names of new members will be discontinued.

Accomplishments Obtained by Santa Barbara Branch

• Santa Barbaras "La Primavera's" Annual Flower Show gave our Santa Barbara Branch first prize and awarded the trophy for their display in "Garden with accessories."

Mrs. Frey, their President took third prize for her display of Begonias and 2nd prize for her entry of three potted begonias.

Individual members showing flowers and plants in the Amateur Section, were awarded 10 firsts, 8 seconds, 3 thirds and 1 special award.

Last, but not least, the Children's Parade was awarded second prize.

MEETING DATES AND SPEAKERS

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, May 1, 7:30 P.M.
College Hall, Santa Ana J. C.
917 No Maine St., Santa Ana
Florence Carrell, Secy.-Treas.,
214 No. Yale, Fullerton
Speaker: Mr. Geo. McDowell.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Friday, May 2, 8:00 P.M.
Woman's Club, 325 No. Hillcrest Blvd.
Mrs. Rose Hescocock, Secretary,
4209 West 111th St., Inglewood.

PALOMAR BRANCH

Tuesday, May 6, 7:30 P.M.
Vista Inn, Vista, Calif.
Margaret Rutherford, Secy.-Treas.,
Route 2, Box 340, Escondido.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BR.

Tuesday, May 6, 7:30 P.M.
American Legion Hall.
North California St., Ventura.
George Fitch, Secy.-Treas.,
70 South Hurst St., Ventura.
Speaker: Mr. H. P. Dyckman (Nat'l.
Pres.)

PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Tuesday, May 6, 1941
Home of Mrs. James A. Tyson,
519 So. Narbeth Ave., Narbeth, Pa.
Mrs. Albert H. Gere, Secy.-Treas.,
362 Brookway, Merion, Pa.
Speaker: Miss Ethel Tily.

HERBERT DYCKMAN BRANCH

Tuesday, May 6, 7:30 P.M.
Home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Smith
250 East Home St., Long Beach,
Mrs. Anna Smith, Secy.-Treas.,
250 Home St., Long Beach
Speaker: Mr. Chas. Nonoogian.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, May 7, 8:00 P.M.
1060 Francisco Street.
Harry F. O'Donnell, Secretary,
1575 31st Ave., San Francisco

LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

Thursday, May 8, 7:30 P.M.
Community Hall, 9th and Lime, L.B.
Mrs. Ethel G. Arbuckle, Secy.-Treas.,
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Saturday, May 10, 7:30 P.M.
Magnolia Nurseries, Magnolia.
Mrs. B. W. Skinner, Secretary,
54 Essex St., Lynnfield, Mass.
Speaker: Miss Mary E. Logee.

PHILADELPHIA & VICINITY BR.

Monday, May 12, 2:00 P.M.
5343 Greene St. Gtn.
Sophia E. Whitaker, Secy.,
5343 Greene St., Germantown, Phila.,
Pa.

PASADENA BRANCH

Monday, May 12, 7:30 P.M.
Pasadena Library,
285 E. Walnut St., Pasadena.
J. Ellsworth Youtz Jr., Secy.,
334 W Green, Pasadena.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Wednesday, May 14, 8:00 P.M.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Bl.
Mrs. Helen Ehret, Secy.,
7507 Lexington Ave., Hollywood.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Thursday, May 15, 7:30 P. M.
1644 East 55th Street, Long Beach.
H. A. Cuyler, Secy.-Treas.,
5675 Olive Ave., Long Beach.
Speaker: Dr. Poindexter.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Friday, May 16, 7:30 P.M.
Arcadia City Hall, Arcadia.
Mrs. A. N. Hartwell, Secretary,
1719 Alamitas Ave., Monrovia.

GLENDALE BRANCH

Monday, May 19, 8:00 P.M.
Sparr Heights Community Center,
3311 Downing Avenue, Glendale.
Mrs. M. B. Dewar, Secretary,
709 Milford Ave., Phone ClTrus 17517.
Speaker: Henry L. Murrietta.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

Tuesday, May 20, 7:30 P.M.
Home of Mrs. Pererill Meigs,
2121 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara.
Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, Secy.,
246 No. Alamar Ave., Santa Barbara.

EAST BAY BRANCH

Monday, May 26, 7:30 P.M.
Berkeley Council Chambers.
Geo. Pascoe, Secy.-Treas.,
2125 McGee Ave., Berkeley.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BR.

Tuesday, May 26, 1:30 P.M.
Home of Mrs. J. L. Heacock,
Hatboro, Pa.
Mrs. Wm. L. Paxton, Secretary,
Willow Grove, Pa.
Speaker: Mrs. M. S. Prince

SYRACUSE BRANCH

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

• The National Board meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Dyckman, 141 W. 53rd St., Long Beach, Calif., on May 13, 1941.

• Note — Calendar listed according to meeting dates, also the name of each speaker.

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