BEGINIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

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Editor's Notes

· This writer gets a great deal of inspiration from the reading of the Branch News. It would be interesting to learn how many members read all the Branch News - before filing The Begonian? There seems to be an endless chain of suggestions in the doings of other groups. I am sure the Ways & Means as well as the Program Chairman could do verv well for their respective Branches if they would go through this feature every month. Often there is not enough time or space for a comprehensive report of an important talk, but if the main points are sent to us, we do try to pass them on as faithfully as is possible. That, to the mind of this Editor, is the only excuse for the space devoted to Branch News. We have a whole page dedicated to the Calendar for time, place and speakers (when we are given the data). Several Branches still send out monthly "Come Hither" post cards besides the notice you receive in The Begonian. With this "set up" it is felt that the News should give you ideas on how to do better by your own "Little Nell."

We do want to pass on the most worthwhile things you do and the best of what you learn from your speakers at YOUR OWN meetings. In this way we each render a service to the other for the good of all Begonians everywhere.

FLAG DAY, Anniversary of our Flag, June 14th.

Branch News

San Francisco Branch: Members and friends gathered to hear Mr. Glenn T. Mack, Show Manager of the forthcoming San Francisco Flower Show which will be held on August 30 and 31st. Much enthusiasm was inspired and there are many members who plan to participate in the show.

At the meeting of June seventh, Mr. Schnabel will show colored moving pictures of "Fascinating San Francisco."

Eva Kenworthy Gray Branch: Elected the following officers at the late April meeting: President, H. D. Haworth, 5545 Beaumont St., La Jolla, Calif.; Vice-President, Mrs. Chas. Calloway, 1131 Torrey Rd.; and Sec.-Treasurer, Tillie Genter, 7356 Eads St., both also of La Jolla. We have a report of the Society's enjoyment of several outstanding meetings lately. They meet in the homes of members and each host or hostess displays choice Begonias and tells of their origin, growing habits, etc., plus trying

V-Mail To American Begonia Society

(From Pvt. Rowland G. Hagar, 39281366, Btry. A447th AAA (Aw) Bn., APO 230, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.)

Somewhere in England March 10th, 1944

Dear Mrs. Harker:

Today I received your letter of Feb. 7th, inclosing card of a year's membership in the society and a folder. I don't know to whom I am indebted for this, but wish you would convey my sincerest thanks to whomever it was. It is really appreciated and I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of "The Begonian." Begonias seem to be quite a favored house plant here. I have seen Nelly Bly, Abel Carriere and others in windows in pots as I pass by. Have had no opportunity to visit with the growers. I hope to visit Kew Gardens, and will send in a report in the event that I am that fortunate. I shall attempt to spread our memberships as I go along. Yours for a successful Begonia year.

FATHER'S DAY, Sunday, June 18th. Let us show him we love him.

FIRST DAY OF SUMMER, Longest day of the year, June 21st; use it well.

The Editor

to work out the nomenclature of the Begonias shown. They have pledged themselves to get their individual collections correctly named through this year.

Riverside Branch: The 32nd meeting of the Branch was held at the home of Mrs. Dunke. A discussion was held of the favorite plant of each member, which was very enlightening. The usual sale of plants, strawberries and vegetables grown by the members finished the evening very satisfactorily.

The June 6th meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. McPherrin, 6317

Brockton Ave., Riverside, Calif.

California Heights Branch: At the April meeting a letter was read from the Long Beach Water Department in which the General Manager denied that the Colorado River water as delivered to Long Beach is injurious to the most tender plants, unless sprinkled on the leaves of the plants. This, however, seems to conflict with the experience of some of the growers and until the trouble is definitely found, some of them feel they had better maintain private rainwater barrels for better success with their plants. Mrs. Ann Smith was selected as representative at a joint meeting of the Long Beach Branches to determine the time for the joint visitation of gardens for all local members of both Begonia and Fuchsia Societies. President Ann Smith displayed some very fine plants, both common and rare while giving a short discussion on some of them. The Program Chairman, Jerry W. Starr, gave further discussion on a number of plants after which the membership in general got involved in a spirited inquiry on the why's and wherefore's of nematodes. It is felt that they need a careful examination of the subject and would be grateful to anyone who can give a definite and workable means of their disposal.

The June meeting of the Branch will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Ailman, 4404 Greenbrier Road, Lakewood Village, Long Beach 8, Calif., on Friday evening June 9th, at 8 p.m.

San Diego Branch: Mrs. Lisle Williams, amateur grower of the exotic Epiphyllums, spoke at the April meeting illustrating her talk with many beautiful specimens in many colors. She asserted that with care and selection, blossoms may be had for several Spring months by getting early, mid-season and

BRANCH NEWS

(Continued from preceding page)

late bloomers. For the rest of the season they make good background plants able to withstand more than the usual amount of neglect. They do, nevertheless, need to be fertilized in January, February and March with any good commercial fertilizer. An inch of steer manure mulch can be used with fine results. Slips should be of young, growing stock, allowed to dry for about a week which causes a callous to be formed. This callous may then be poised just to make contact over moist sand, tied to a stick which will hold it firmly in place until it is rooted. This lessens the danger of rot. Plant then in the permanent pot, tin or wood box with good rich soil. Any plant needing repotting should be changed right after the blooming is done.

Paul E. Bloomer demonstrated his method of slipping tuberous Begonias. Taking a tuber with at least **two** leaved sprouts, he made a little cut on one side of one of the shoots and then a slanting cut on the other side so that the two cuts met at the base of the sheet. Lifting the sprout right out he dusted it with rootone, and dusted the tuber with powdered charcoal. The cutting will produce flowers and a tuber this year.

Bellflower Branch: The meeting at the home of Mrs. Eshnaur was very well attended to hear Mr. Fairclo speak most interestingly on Fuchsias. A very fine plant sale ensued.

The June meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Herbert Radle, 920 Flower

Street, Bellflower, Calif.

The East Bay Branch held its May meeting in the Auditorium of the Washington School, Oakland. The program consisted of an open forum followed by a plant exchange.

The proposed public plant sale has been cancelled due to the fact that all of the 500 tuberous Begonias seedlings grown by Dr. French have already been sold. The sum, in the neighborhood of \$130.00, is being placed in a special fund for the purchase of a camera — after the war.

The June meeting will be held on the second Sunday afternoon of the month, at 3 o'clock in the Glass house in Lakeside Park.

Inglewood Branch: The May meeting was particularly interesting to the attending members and friends of this branch through the splendid talk given by Mr.

Wm. Jonson, of the Destruxol Company. The plant sale was quite successful—so much so that the members are again asked to bring their own plants for the Donation Sale of next month.

Through the thoughtful generosity of one of the most public spirited members, Mrs. Thomas Crandall, the monthly postcards and the monthly donation for the upkeep of the Robinson Memorial is made possible for the next six months.

Each member is asked to bring his own cup and spoon if he wants to partake of the enjoyable refreshments served afterwards. Your friends are welcome.

Glendale Branch: Mr. John Parker of Hollywood was speaker of the evening on Culture and its relation to Pest Control. He mentioned that plants do not like shade, they only tolerate it as they do much better in the light growing much larger and stronger with deeper coloring. He included in this category most Begonias and other shade plants. He answered many questions which were addressed to him. Most enjoyable also, was the visit from Long Beach of Mr. Remmer with his fine collection of colored slides, thereby taking the audience on an extended visual tour of the finer parts of the country far and wide. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments and the delightful evening.

The June meeting will be entertained by three of the Branch's own members:

(Continued on page 334)

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Page 332 THE BEGONIAN

Plantly Speaking — In the Shade

By JOHN S. VOSBURG Hollywood, Calif.

• By some, the Ceropegias are called "curious." They certainly are interestingly different. While there are some one hundred known species, only about a dozen are known in this country. Most of them are ground covers or twining plants that ideally suit basket or pot work where the ends can trail or hang over and the flowers, though small, stand erect and display themselves and their achitectural fashioning to advantage.

They are succulents native to South Africa that are very welcome in Southern California. They belong to the milkweed (Asclepiadaceae) family with the ability to withstand considerable drought, yet respond admirably to reasonable care such as they get in the shade garden. They thrive in a mixture of loamy peat moss and sand in equal parts. They do

need considerable warmth.

The Ceropegias are propagated readily from cuttings made in the Spring. Many of the varieties have bulbs from which they may be propagated even easier than by cuttings.

C. Barklyi is an interesting species of the group, with its linear to lanceolate dark green leaves veined in whitish design. The flowers appear in axillary clusters, tubular, and inflated at the base. Greenish veined lilac to purple in color.

They are particularly attractive in wall pockets or hanging baskets hung close to a wall which shows up the interesting design of leaf and flower on delicate looking but strong thread stems.

One of the common names is "Heart Vine," referring to the form of the leaves.

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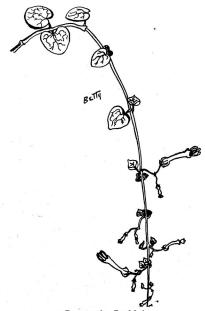
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Mrs. Harry Harker, 2461 Fashion Ave., Long Beach 6, Calif.

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Mr. Frank Reinelt has some tubers of Tuberous-rooted Begonias ten and eleven years old — and still going strong.



Ceropegia Barklyi

Seed Fund News

• Mrs. Clarissa Harris wishes to announce that the Seed Fund has closed its doors for the year. Naturally though, the subscribers to the special fund who did not get any seed will have first call next year, like Mrs. Russell, whose letter appears in this issue. Mrs. Harris is hopeful of procuring some very excellent seed by the time seed time is here again, and even hopes to have some most unusual offers to make.

EXCERPTS FROM A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, REFERRING TO NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDENS

• It was encouraging to hear Mr. Everett say that as soon as the propagating houses were finished, he intended to enlarge the Begonia collection. I think the Begonia enthusiasts are somewhat responsible for this. He told me, on a previous visit, that of all the special plant groups which he knew, the Begonia lovers were the keenest in pursuit of their hobby. So perhaps we have all had a hand in his decision to grow more Begonias.

Very sincerely yours, BESSIE R. BUXTON

April 2, 1944

BRANCH NEWS

(Continued from page 332)

Leaf cuttings and slips, Wm. Ross; Grooming of Plants, Mrs. Sue McRae; and How and What to plant in baskets, Mrs. Anna Merek. Let us go and hear them.

Pasadena Branch: In last month's account of this Branch the name of the speaker was omitted, he was alluded to more than once, but his name, Clarence L. Derr, of Pasadena, was left out, by mistake, of course. Please enter this name in the proper place so that when you refer to the May issue you will have complete data. We apologise.

Mr. Harold Hart spoke on Fancy

Mr. Harold Hart spoke on Fancy Leaved Caladiums at the May meeting held, as usual, in the Pasadena Public Library. Mr. Hart took with him—to uphold his fairy-tale stories of the success he has with these tubers—a fine collection of finest specimens ever seen in that city. He also had some lovely ferns and some very well grown Rex Begonias. Of course, Mr. Hart has glass house accomodations with automatically controlled temperature and watches the humidity of the houses quite carefully, but he can produce really wonderful Caladiums at almost any time of the year.

Miss Charlotte Hoak talked for a limited time on Begonias. She promised that Mr. Carl Hagemeyer of Rusts's Nursery, one of the best growers of Rexes in California will speak next month, June, and there will be a roundtable discussion on Rexes so that any question may be answered.

Mr. A. E. Nelson, Pres. elect, and Mrs. Nelson were present, also Mr. Jack Baily, past President and Mrs. Baily now belong to this Branch since they have acquired a new residence at 504 So. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena.

Remember then: June 13th at 7:30 p.m. at the Library, with Miss Charlotte Hoak leading another of the famous roundtables.

San Gabriel Branch: Enjoyed the talk given by the popular and very interesting speaker Mr. Wm. Jonson. While he spoke on Pests and insecticides, he has many other subjects on which he holds his audiences intently.

Hollywood Branch: Mr. Sherer announced 13 new members since the beginning of the year which is fair for Hollywood but does not compare with Ventura's most successful drive to date. Mrs. Helen Sherer was appointed as Scrapbook Chairman. It was a memor-



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able evening with a large representation from the National Board of Directors honoring the speaker of the evening, Mr. Clarence A. Hall, National President of the A.B.S. He made a strong plea for lathhouses with personality, not just boxes out in the garden under and inside which a few plants could be grown to perfection but which would not display their beauty to the casual visitor to the garden unless he entered said box. Because of his love for tuberous Begonias he spoke of various phases of the culture of these beautiful plants, and we hope to publish a resume of the talk in the near future for all to read. Miss

(Continued on next page)

The North Side of The House, In The Country, S. W. Minnesota

By MARY DUNCOMB Luverne, Minn.

· All farm women love flowers and will have them in spite of the busy life they lead. They are the personification of the pioneer women who surreptitiously carried slips and seeds across the country under the most difficult conditions. So, often the country woman must have her flowers in some convenient spot unfit for the vegetable garden where she may tend them easily in spare moments. The North side of the farm house is one which is often overlooked as a possible location for a flower garden. In our uncertain climate we have found it the best possible place for Begonias, scented and variegated geraniums, ivies, sultanas and many other house plants. But there are many annuals too which are very adaptable and beautiful here.

However, to make this a productive place, one which will last some years, there will have to be some ground work done. Although this takes time it will pay in the long run. There is no weeding to be done in this planting and

BRANCH NEWS

(Continued from preceding page)

Jessie Poole, Director of the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial, brought some speciment leaves of a group of rhizomatous Begonias which she described briefly. Mr. Cocke also brought two special Begonias belonging to this group to be described by Miss Poole. This was the monthly Begonia lesson Hollywood provides for the meeting and it is proving to be a most worthwhile addition to the program.

Mr. Carl A. Muller, Sec'y of the So. Calif. Fuchsia Soc., brought a magnificent Epiphyllum in full bloom for one of the door prizes tho' the others were also beautiful. Mrs. Knecht brought a lovely potted Fuchsia all the way from Ventura. The plant sale was successful as usual, and refreshments added to the enjoyment of a very fine gathering.

watering is easily done providing the soil has been put in the proper condition from the start. Since we have made one of these North borders successfully, we know it can be done to advantage.

Usually the soil next to the house is very poor, even grass did not grow near ours. So with a garden plow we made a straight furrow about four feet from the side of the house which has narrow eaves. A house with overhanging eaves would take a wider border so as to get a little more sun. Next, all grass was removed in late April when the roots were still dormant. The soil was shaken out and the roots placed in the compost pile. The ground was thoroughly and deeply spaded and as each section was dug up, the soil was finely worked over. This was done not once but several times, especially after light rains. To this was added a little fine sand (our part of the country abounds in gravel pits left behind in the passing of the old glacial drift), some rich dirt from an adjoining corn field and sheep fertilizer from the sheep barns. All this was well blended together by the Spring rains and subsequent cultivation. By late May it was in a tempting condition to plant.

Fall sown pansy seed in the cold frame yielded enough fine, strong, budded plants for the N. W. and N. E. corner borders. Seed of white sweet alyssum, creeping zinnia and dwarf blue ageratum were planted on the North margin. At intervals, in the border itself, seed of balsam were planted and some of the new red marigolds. As a filler later on, we set in started plants from the cold frame of white and red verbena, purple robe nierembergia and red cuphia, placing white flowering plants to separate any clashing colors. The red salvia also found a place here.

When all danger of frost was over about Memorial Day, the house plants which had been carefully hardened off previously by gradual exposure found Summer homes in this North garden border. The choicer ones were left in their pots, the rest taken out and given a chance to stretch their toes. The succulents in pots were placed next to the foundation so as not to get overwatered. Scented geraniums were put in the N. E. corner so as to get morning sun. All the foliage plants did well here. This border, once made, took very little care during the whole of the busy Summer. It was restful and refreshing to look at and was a real morale builder.



Open Lathhouse Facing East. Mrs. Adam's Own Design.

Ingenuity On A 50 x 100 City Lot

By MARIA WILKES Los Angeles, Calif.

• The Adamses needed a basement and thereby hangs a tale of ingenuity and vision plus the desire and ability to do things.

When the piece-meal odd-time excava-

When the piece-meal, odd-time excavation for the basement began, Mr. Adams had to find a place for the soil. The backyard was flat, now it has a very interesting terrace at the farther end. This entailed carting in of rocks from their various field trips and the building of a retaining wall. While this was going on Mrs. Adams began to envision a really liveable, quiet, colorful garden in which the whole family could be happy at any time of day or night. Now either the adults or the youngsters may entertain without interfering with the other group. Mrs. Adams made one stipulation, she must have a lathhouse. The lathhouse on the property line facing East is not deep but deep enough to allow all sorts of shade plants plenty of morning sun yet cool enough with easy shade with lots of ventilation from late morning on. See the picture above and you have a view of just one section of this garden, it is complete in itself while it is a part of the next outdoor livingroom planthouse both part of the whole of garden. From this happy beginning another outdoor nook evolved, but this time it was different in design, yet it is still in keeping but with a solid roof, partly glassed in walls, to make a comfortable and roomy breakfast, luncheon or intimate dinner place with all outdoors for a front yard, with all the electrical wiring and attachments for day or night use. See next picture. When this became so much in demand another addition was made and so on until the entire Western boundary around the N. W. corner to the N. E. corner where the garage meets the very efficient and up-to-date barbecue which is also usable for an outdoor fireplace for groups who like to stay out tho' the night might be cool. There is room for plenty of roses and many other sun-loving plants through the open parts



How Would You Like Your Meals Tete-a-tete Here?

of the garden which has been uncommonly well designed. There are, of course, a great many shade-loving plants wherever they seem to be most natural. Lots of potted plants are arranged discreetly so that each is part of the whole whether they be on shelves in the shade or in large pots on the ground for accent plants. They have a permanency and keep on being decorative the while giving a decided "lived-in" atmosphere to the garden. At all times, there is color and interest.

The brick-laying and stone work was done at odd moments "in penny-numbers" so-to-speak, but the tout-ensemble is unified and serene. We like this garden very much and are keenly delighted when we are invited to hold one of our club picnic suppers with the hospitable Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Adams at 7617 Lexington Ave., Hollywood.

Our two pictures, plus two others were originally published by Better Homes and Gardens on December 1940 to whom we give thanks.

Question: For the past year some of my oldest and best Begonias have been failing, also some smaller ones. I washed the soil from an ailing small one and the roots had many small knots of varying size on them. I was told these were nematodes and I would lose all my begonias. Is this true? Can nothing be done for them?

- E. J. C., Hollywood.

Ans.: Nematodes are probable. Heat a large vessel almost full of water until you have maintained the temperature for some time at 120 deg. F. Then place pot in it and leave for 10 minutes at that temperature, which may be lowered temporarily by introduction of the cold matter. This is the danger line for plants, so do not have water 122. At 110 you may leave them in two hours without danger and it would prove equally effective. Try one or more first to find if they survive the ordeal. When repotting bake soil in oven at 140 or more for 30 minutes.

-Courtesy The Times, Calif.

NEW BEGONIAS IN THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDENS

T was Spring inside the Gardens, even if Winter, and snow, Lingered outside. A house full of blooming Begonias, many of them new, was enough to make one forget eventhing except the beauty before one's eyes. The wide variety in leaf and flowers was amazing, and my enthusiasm mounted, in spite of a remark from a passing Philspite of a remark from a passing rullistine—"Go right on through to the next house—there's nothing here but Begonias," in tones of scorn. Most of the new ones are so new that here have not yet been identified, so I must describe them by number. Several of these were collected in Mexico for the Gardens by Mr. T. Macdougall. There were two which were quite similar,/except that one was much larger than the other. # 157/40 has a thick, prostrate rhizome with large brown leaf scars. Between the scars, the rhizome was bright green with raised white dots. The leaves were almost peltate, with overlapping lobes, 8 x 10 inches on ten inch bright green stems fleeled with white and occasional brown hairs which lay flat on the stem. The leaf edge was sharply pointed and ruffled. The plant was not in bloom.

was not in bloom.

437/41 was a similar plant smaller,
the leaf having sx blunt lobes a white
sinus and veins, on short, thick green
stems, springing from a short thick green
rhizome. #512/43 was apparently a
The rhizome was riety of Heracleifolia. The rhizo short, thick and greenish, the less a clear deep green, an 8 pointed star with light veins, about eleven inches in diameter. It was the stem which was unusual—about a foot long bright green, and deeply 8-channeled. It is junction of leaf and stem was a lick collar of green hairs, tipped fair by reddish. A similar collar of the is found on the manicatas. The peduncles were about

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3 feet long, bright green with scattered hairs, and the flowers pale pink, quite large, with large pale green bracts.

79,354 had prostrate, curling rhizomes, with light brown leaf scars, close together, the small space between the scars filled with light green dots on the bright green surface. The leaf had a wavy edge, round, with a blunt point and debressed veins which gave a two-tone, green watered silk effect. The under side was lighter green with raised white veins,

sparsely white-hairy

Gloire Dejouy is a shrubby plant about 2 feet tall, the light green leaf, about 4 x 6 inches faintly white spotted, covered with short, curved white hairs, the veins depressed. The sinus is red and the leaf edge is ruffled, serrate and delicately red. The underside of the leaf is flushed red with raised veins set with hairs. The pink flowers are axillary on short 2-forked stems. They are good sized flowers, and I noted that above each spray of female flowers hung a spray of male flowers, to insure fertili-

zation. This variety is not new.

73,960, Kew 1935, had tall, stout green stems, white fleeked, and ringed at the nodes. The leaves were nearly round, about a foot across dark green above, lighter beneath. The hower stems were brown, about 2 feet long, the tiny

while flowers borne in wide cymes.

Perle Degard has leaf similar in coldr and form to corallina Delucerna, but much harrower, with a sharp, pointed shoulder. The plant is less erect, inclined ta lean over like dichroa.

From the roof hung the basket Begonias, the handsomest being B. glaucopylla, full of flowers. B. glabra (scandens) was next in beauty, a dazzle of white flowers and green leaves. B. foliosa was a beautiful plant, but not in bloom just then.

• The response to the request that branch secretaries advise the name and address of their 1944 officers is almost 100 per cent complete. Secretaries who have not responded are asked to send the information to the National Secretary or National President, as soon as possible.

B. Reichenheimi, an 1858 hybrid, (fuscomaculata x heracleifolia) had its rhizome curled in a complete circle. It was in fullest bloom, and not a leaf on it. This is a curious habit of this plant, as soon as the flowers appear, the leaves fall, to come out anew after the blooming season. Perhaps this is one of the reasons the plant has not been popular.

Involucrata was an attractive low, spreading plant with woody stems, brown, with raised, hard white dots and dried brown stipules. The leaves, on 3 inch stems, were dark green above, lighter beneath with raised white veins. Both sides were minutely pubescent. The nodding white flowers were a little hidden under the leaves, like those of liebmanni.

There was a handsome hybrid between cathayana and Rex Mrs. Moon, but the only sign of its cathayana blood was in the red-hairy stems, and the plush-like new leaves. Otherwise, it was just a handsome Rex.

handsome Rex.

352/43 was named only "Winter Jewel," a low, branching plant with succulent stems. The dark green leaves 1½ x 2 inches had conspictionally depressed veins which added to the dark color of the leaves The tiny buds were rose-red, the flowers pale pink. A very attractive little plant per aps a Dominican species.

Lettonica was a feauliful plant. It is heracleifolia in the stout stems, springing from the soil are bright red, green flecked, slightly white-hairy, about 2 feet long, the leaves, 8 x 12 inches, are very dang green, dull surfaced, lighter

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beneath, 7 or 8 notched, the notches about 1½ inches deep. The flowers have deep pink buds, which open into pale pink flowers, clouds of them, on 3 foot stems which are deep green, red flecked.

There were three rubro-venias—the

plain green one, the silver flecked one and the dull silver leaf, with plum colored finder surface. To the person who has but one of these, how misleading some one else's description of her plant might be! The green and silver flecked plants were much more open and rangy in growth than the silver leaf, which was decidedly shrubby, crowded with leaves.

65163, Kew 1931, was a plant which cansed me to break that commandment about coveting the neighbor's goods. It has a stout, woody, upright stem, the upper, succulent part brown-tomentose with light green spots. The leaves were the great beauty of the plant— 33/4 x 51/2 inches, very dark green with a heavy waxen texture lighter beneath with light brown veine on 3 inch brown-tomentose stems. The leaf was peltate with a wavy edge, the flowers pink on two foot brown

B. Manni is a most curious plant, about 3 feet high, with small brown woody stems. The balves of the leaves (6 x 3½ inches) are almost equal, medium green, smooth, slightly flushed red beneath. The flowers are axillary, in pairs, on short, half inch stems. Anything less like a Begonia flower could not be imagined. Each flower has five narrow petals of deep rose pink, recurved and five thick upright stamens, orange-yellow at the base, shading to crimson at the tips. The ovary is the thickened upper part of the pedice.

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Nomenclature

By HELEN K. KRAUSS Wynnewood, Pa.

(CONTINUED)

B. Richardsiana is a South African species sent to Veitch & Son by Mr. Richards, for whom it was named, in 1871. It is related to the species Dregei, suffruticosa and natalensis. The leaves are more finely cut than those of its relatives. Syn. Richardsoni.

B. Robinsoni is a Philippine species unrelated to Richardsiana and not currently under cultivation. It has been listed by Begonia growers and in response to requests for the Philippine species B. Richardsiana was received in each instance. It is quite apparent that Richards(iana, (Robinson(i), and Richardson(i) have become needlessly con-

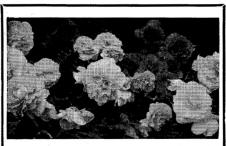
fused.

B. Richard Robinson, a McBethi seedling, was developed by A. D. Robinson at the Rosecroft Gardens of San Diego. The leaves are larger than those of the known parent. The green-silvery color, the acutely pointed lobes, the firmly serrated margins, and red sinus strongly suggest some relationship to silvador although a miniature by comparison. Since the name of this beautiful but difficult little Begonia is a combination of the previously discussed Begonia names it may have contributed to some of the confusion.

B. perle lorraine, one of Lemoine's favorites, was developed by him in 1901 by crossing polyantha? with strigillosa (syn. daedalea). The green foliage is marbled with chocolate brown and is a profuse bloomer. This Begonia was described in several French publications in 1902. Syn. Bertha von Lothringen, the latter word being the German equivalent for Lorraine.

B. Popenoei, a rhizomatous species from Honduras introduced in 1930, was named for the discoverer by Standley. It is similar to some varieties of "Florida species" which is neither a true species nor is it indigenous to Florida. In Southern Florida where this type grows rampantly out of doors throughout the year and many variations arise from year to year, makes it probable that B. Popenoei is the common ancestor.

B. lobulata, a Mexican species, determined to be the correct name for what is often called vitifolia. The latter name has been a synonym for various Begonias in the past. Hooker used the name vitifolia for a Begonia somewhat resembling our palmifolia but which differs from it in some respects.



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B. fuscomaculata, a new name for Wm. Bull's hybrid, rubella, was developed in 1883 by crossing heracleifolia with strigillosa (syn. daedalea). The authority for the change is Axel Lang, Director of the Botanical Gardens of Copenhagen, and published in Fotsch's Die Begonien, 1933. The true B. rubella which is a native of Nepal is not related to the Begonia under discussion. Syn. used in Bailey's Cyc. Hort. is rubellina.

B. corbeille de feu, meaning basket of fire, was developed by Lemoine in 1891 by crossing B. Roezli (syn. Lyncheana) with fuchsioides. It is a small leaved Begonia with glossy, ovate, bright green foliage and fuchsia-like, pendant, red flowers. Syn. Bertha de Chateau Rocher, ascotiensis.

B. Lady Waterlow, a small leaved hybrid of unknown origin, was received by the N. Y. B. G. in 1935 from Kew Gardens. It is frequently confused with digswelliana. The leaves are darker green, stiffy hairy, crinkled and harder in texture while those of digswelliana are smooth, glossy and lighter in color. The flowers are of two shades of pink and open wide while those of digswelliana are red and drooping like those of fuchsioides. Syn. Lady Waterloo, improved digswelliana.

B. Vesperia, a Viaude seedling, was developed by Mrs. Eva Gray in California. Except for its larger size and more robust growth it suggests Bruant's B. Margaritae which was developed by crossing metallica with echinosepala. Syn. improved Margaritae, improved Marguerite.

B. Roezli, a Peruvian species, was discovered by Benedict Roezl, who sent seed to Dr. Regel at the Botanical Gardens of St. Petersburg, Russia. Dr. Regel illustrated and described this species in

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Gartenflora, page 194, plate 871, 1876, and classified it under section, Rossmannia, A.DC. Seed of another species was sent to England which was named Lyncheana and which was illustrated and described in Bot. Mag. 1884, Plate 6758, by Hooker, fils

Hooker and Regel engaged in a literary controversy for several years, each one believing that only one plant was involved and that one name was a synonym for the other. Hooker was the first to note that two different plants were involved. However, Regel was not convinced until 1884 and again in 1885 when small items appeared in Gartenflora admitting that two plants were actually involved. L. Wittmack, in Geschichte der Begonien, 1885, agreed with final disposition of the controversy.

Both of these Begonias were lost to cultivation until Roezli was reintroduced in 1936, and numbered 1773. Later is was temporarily called Machu Pichu for the ruins in Peru where it had been found. Seeds or plants were subsequently sent to the N. Y. B. G. and the Grey Herbarium and two names arose for the one species. At the N. Y. B. G. the name of the species was determined to be Roezli while at the Grey Herbarium it was determined to be bracteosa and both names are in use.

In searching through all available literature on the subject and taking into consideration the contemporaneous and noted botanists of the period and the sources used by our current botanists (who are entitled to their differences of opinion, but, hoping at the same time that they do not lead us astray too often) the following information is revealing.

Regel, Hooker, Wittmack Klotzsch and Alphonse DeCandolle were contemporary and outstanding botanists of a period when new plants were being constantly introduced and much original work had to be done by them. Reference books were fewer than we have on hand today. Known Begonias in their time numbered several hundreds. Errors crept in occasionally for these men were con-

(Continued on page 344)

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CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

HELD at 417 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, Monday, April 10, 1944.

Meeting CALLED TO ORDER at 7:50 p.m. President Hall presiding.
PRESENT AT MEETING: Mr. A. E. Nelson, Mrs. J. A. Poole, Mrs. Jenks, Mr. H. Hart, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hartker, Mrs. M. Wilkes, Mrs. A. N. Hartwell, Mr. J. Baily, Mr. Murray Hawkins, Mr. George Laurence, Mr. and Mrs. Willard, Mrs. Hotz, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. McRae, Mrs. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. C. Mets, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Perley, Mrs. Rolph, and Mr. and Mrs. Clark of Inglewood. DIRECTORS PRESENT: Mr. A. N. Nelson, Mrs. J. A. Poole, Mrs. Jenks, Mr. H. Hart, Mrs. H. Harker, Mrs. M. Wilkes, Mr. J. Baily.

REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Mr. Murray Hawkins, Mr. Willard, Mr. H. Harker, Mr. Mets from Ventura, Mr. Lawrence from San Gabriel, and Mr. and Mrs. Clark from Inglewood, and Mrs. McRae from Glendale.

The President introduced the guests and wel-

The President introduced the guests and wel-

comed them to the meeting.

MINUTES of the meeting of March 13, read and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT read. Motion to accept, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN report read. Motion

to accept, carried.

EDITOR AND BUSINESS MANAGER report read.

EDITOR AND BUSINESS MANAGER report read. Motion to accept, carried.

Mr. A. E. Nelson, CHAIRMAN, WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, reported on Life Membership and the investing of funds so received in War Bonds. Held in obeyance until July meeting, at which time it may be made ready for presentation at the Annual Meeting, as an amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws, if so seen fit.

Mr. Murray Hawkins reported on activities of the SPEAKERS BUREAU.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR, Mrs. J. A. Poole, announced the request to amend the Bylaws of the Bellflower Branch. Carried over to next meeting until more information is received by Mrs. Poole.

The amended by-laws and constitution of the Hollywood Branch were offered for acceptance. Motion made to accept, carried.

Mrs. Poole reported receipt of a check from the Inglewood Branch to be used for upkeep of the A. D. Robinson Memorial.

Mrs. Poole reported on the possibility of a new branch being formed in the North Redondo area. A plea for the Branches to supply rhizomatous and fibrous Begonias for the Robinson Memorial was made, to cover natural losses in these va-

Representative Directors each reported on ac-

tivities in his or her Branch.

Harold Hart announced that the free seeds were packaged and ready for mailing to members asking for same.

Mr. Harker called attention to the wording of the masthead of the Begonian, which conflicts with Postal Laws. Motion by Mrs. Poole, seconded by Mrs. McRae that "the Masthead be changed to read "Annual Subscription Fee, \$1.50." Carried.

Motion by J. Baily that Dr. Lauder be reimbursed in the amount of \$5.00 for express charged on a plant press forwarded to Mrs. Krauss. Carried.

THE EDITOR asked permission to use certain Begonian photographs as front page material in the Begonian. She was instructed to use them as she thought best for the interests of the

President Hall announced the appointment of Mrs. Russel Bailey of San Diego as CHAIRMAN OF THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS DEPARTMENT of the Begonian. He stated that Mrs. Bailey was highly recommended by Russ Eaker and Mrs. Clark of San Diego.

MEETING ADJOURNED to the next regular meeting on Monday, May 8.

Your Questions Answered

By HELEN RUSSEL BAILEY San Diego, Calif.

Q. Can you advise where to apply for help in the cure of a brown growth in the Adiantum. In looking over the copies I have of the Begonian I can find no mention of ferns.

(From Mrs. E. K., Riverside, Calif.)

A. You missed a very good article on "Culture of Hardy Ferns in Southern California" (October, 1943—page 183) in looking over your copies of the Begonian. However, it does not answer your question regarding the Adiantum. I was unable to find the answer in any of my books so your answer has to be another of those hearsay affairs. I am told that if you will spray with a very weak solution of any good fungicide you will eventually get rid of that brown growth. But prevention is really the best cure. A maidenhair that is cut off clear to the ground at least once a year and thus allowed to make entirely fresh growth is thriftier and far more beautiful. It breaks your heart to do it - par-

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ticularly the first time — but it works. At the same time give it a good mulch of fresh leaf mold. If it needs repotting, cut off the old dead roots at the bottom as well as the top growth, sink lower in the new pot, and fill up with leaf mold. You will be surprised at the results you will get in a very short time.

Q. Do you know of any nursery where I may now find the Auratum and Rubrum lily bulbs or plants?

(From Mrs. E. K., Riverside, Calif.)

A. These lily bulbs are Japanese in origin and are therefore unobtainable at present.

Q. What books can you recommend on Begonia culture?

(From R. W. D., Houston, Texas.)

A. Your question is really one for Mrs. Crowder, our librarian, and I am forwarding it to her. Outside of Mrs. Buxton's book there are comparitively few on Begonias and most of those are out of print. So borrowing them from the A. B. S. library is your best bet.

The cultural bulletins published by the A.B.S. on Tuberous, Fibrous, and Rex Begonias (15c each) are very helpful. And you can obtain most of the back numbers of the Begonian from Mrs. Harker at 15c a copy. The University of California (Berkeley) has a bulletin "Hints on Growing Begonias" which they send upon request. If you are interested in tuberous Begonias "Tuberous Begonias" by George Otten is good. Bailey's Encyclopedia of Horticulture will undoubtedly be found in your local library. It is any gardener's best friend but is quite expensive. If their articles in the Begonian are a fair sample, we should have two very interesting and very different books when Mrs. Krauss and Mrs. Clark finish their books on Begonias. But that is in the future.

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By Dorothy Jonson, Pasadena, Calif.

By Dorothy Jonson,
Pasadena, Calif.

• A signal honor was accorded Miss Charlotte M. Hoak of South Pasadena on Friday evening, April 21, 1944, when she was given an Honorary Life Membership in the Pasadena Horticultural Society. Miss Hoak was guest speaker for the Pasadena Horticultural Society that evening having been selected by the Pasadena branch of the Begonia Society when a request was made for them to select their best speaker to address the Horticultural Society on this occasion.

As everyone knows, this Society is made up of experienced gardeners and has been in existence for more than forty years. The members desired to have someone give them a practical talk on raising Begonias and when Miss Hoak was selected to do this by the Begonia Society, of which she is a valuable and active member, the Horticultural Society decided that her long years of splendid service to garden lovers throughout Southern California entitled her to an Honorary Life Membership in their organization.

The presentation speech was made by Mr. Hector Ross, who stated that Miss Hoak was the third woman in all the forty years of the Society's history to be accorded this honor.

Miss Hoak was presented with an Orchid corsage by the Society. She gave a most delightful and interesting talk, which was highly practical as Miss Hoak's talks always are. At its conclusion, Mr. Jerry Mathewson of Campbell's Seed Store, presented Miss Hoak with a huge bouquet of roses which he had won as First Prize of the evening. These roses were grown by Mr. Adolph Laesser. All in all, it was an evening that paid a sincere tribute to the valuable contribution which Miss Hoak has made year after year to Horticulture, to Agriculture and to gardening in general.

• We wonder why we have not heard from some of our Branches the last few months? They are always so active and we know they are just as busy as the next Branch—but we would like to hear from them and from every Branch in the U. S. Will Rogers used to say: "All I know is what I read in the papers." We say, "All we can print is what you write us."

NOMENCLATURE

(Continued from page 341)

cerned with all plant families and some of the work was undoubtedly delegated to assistants. Klotzsch's major labor was on the division of Begonias into sections and his nomenclature is not as exacting as that of DeCandolle who enlarged considerably on the sectional work done by Klotzsch, in Prodromus, 1864. Both of these books antedate the discovery of B. Roezli by twenty one and twelve years respectively but all availed themselves of the results of A. DC.' and Klotzsch's labors. Furthermore, Regel in his description of B. Roezli quotes A. DC. and classifies the Begonia under discussion in section Rossmannia, A. DC. to which B. bracteosa does not belong. Regel, Hooker, and Wittmack in 1885 agreed on Roezli. Considering the early controversy it would appear that the attention of all botanists should have been called to this Begonia and had there been an error in its determination and classification it would undoubtedly have come to the surface years ago.

A Letter From Maine

Dear Editor:

I want to say that the new feature of Alice M. Clark's graphs should be very helpful. I am very interested in The Begonian as I am Director of several Begonia Round Robins sponsored by the Flower Grower.

I have Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and intend sending out No. 11 this week. I find many of our Robins are becoming members of the A.B.S. though I see only one new member this month, Mrs. O. E. Kellar of Des Moines, Iowa.

I sent a copy of The Begonian in the last new Robin when it started. It was the copy the Librarian sent to me. I did not return it as I thought it should do as much good going around in the R. R. as so many ask for copies of it and I have loaned mine.

So many are interested in the Seed Fund, too. Mrs. J. D. Newcomb of Richmond, Calif., has sent membership blanks in the Robin she belongs to. If you know of any seed sources, we certainly would like to have you tell us. We sent to Vetterle & Reinelt and hope for some success. It is late, but we still have around 20 deg. above nearly every morning. A very cold Spring.

Would the Librarian send me any book she has on Begonias? The only one I have is Bessie Buxton's.

I just wanted to say how much we all like The Begonian. Begonias must be a popular subject as there are 11 Begonia Robins.

Wishing you a very prosperous year,

Sadie May Russell, Freeport, Maine.

April 22nd, 1944.

Thank you, Mrs. Russell, for your very welcome and interesting letter. It is happy news to us to hear of so many Robins interested in Begonias, and we should greatly like to hear from you once in awhile. Congratulations on your work, and happy times.

Maria Wilkes, Editor The Begonian.

Is This the Way You Do It?

By An Amateur

(Con't. from the May issue)

• Last month I told you about the propagation of Begonias from seed and, while starting your plants from seed is like starting out on a new adventure and is the source of great pleasure and anticipation to the hobbyist because of the new variations often obtained, cuttings always produce true duplicates of the parent plant. Propagation by cuttings from leaf or rhizome are successful in some cases but that method is not used as much as the easier and quicker one of making stem-cuttings, so this month I am going to describe this more popular method to you.

Cuttings may be made at any season of the year but early Spring seems to be the best time as they root quickly then and establish themselves as mature plants during the warm Summer months. If you have a glass or cloth house with temperature control or bottom heat the Fall and Winter months are equally desirable. To successfully root cuttings a moist atmosphere, good ventilation and a uniform, mild temperature is required.

The cutting bed should be in a partially shaded and well protected location. A red clay pot, a box or seed flat may be used. The important MUST of the cutting bed is that good drainage be provided. The rooting medium preferred by most growers is three to six inches of sharp river sand free from alkali, but successful rooting may obtained in a medium of three to six inches of coarse leaf mold. It is the experience of growers that in starting cuttings in a common flower pot the ones planted close to the side of the pot are the ones that root the quickest. Sand gives good drainage, is warm and the cuttings start quickly, but cuttings should be moved soon after roots develop as sand has no food value. Cuttings started in leaf mold require less watering and the plants may be left to grow as large as desired. Cuttings may also be rooted in sand using the standard nutrient solution sand culture practice. When using this method the plants may be left longer in the sand and will develop more vigorously.

Cuttings of new tender shoots are preferable to those made from old stems. The stem should be cut just below a node (that is, a joint of the stem or the

point of emanation of a leaf), as that is where the best new roots will start. Have at least two nodes to each cutting. The lower end should be clean and be sure that you have made the cut with a good sharp knife so that there is no ragged or broken excess stem below the lower node as it will often decay and kill the cutting. Before planting remove all lower leaves then insert the cutting in the sand so that the lower node is about one or two inches below the surface. In a few of the tall fibrous types the joints, or nodes are several inches apart and the cutting likely to be top-heavy; when this is the case it will be necessary to plant deeper than customary.

Water immediately after setting out and keep moist at all times, remember — MOIST NOT WET. Too little watering will cause drying out but excess water will cause decay. Too low night temperature, below 50 degrees, will cause "damping off" if the soil is on the wet side. Good ventilation and the use of water to which a good household bleach has been added, a 4% solution is about right, will tend to prevent damping off and decay. When the nights are cool it is preferable to water after sunrise, just as the day

is beginning to warm up.

When the stem begins to show growth and the roots have formed the cutting is ready to transplant. Use a clean, moist pot in the two or three-inch size as the soil in a larger pot may hold excess water which will injure the small new roots of the plant. A small amount of gravel or broken crockery should be placed in the bottom of the pot to assure good drainage. Put some soil over the drainage material, lift the small plant from the rooting bed without disturbing the roots more than necessary, place in the pot and fill the soil around the roots so that the plant stands a little deeper than it did in the cutting bed. Press the soil down rather firmly towards the outside of the pot with your fingers, water from the top and place in a good sheltered location. A potting soil composed of equal parts of light loam, sand, compost or leaf-mold should be used. Transplant to larger pots when ever the roots begin to grow around the inside of the pot and the stem has made considerable growth. As the plant becomes stronger a richer soil may be used, one with which I have had considerable success is: one-half leaf mold or good compost, one-fourth sand and one-fourth well rotted manure

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Editor's Note: Do you like the report of the speaker as in the January issue, page 242? If so, won't you please take faithful notes and write them up somewhat in this manner so that we may all enjoy them and refer to them at leisure?

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Meeting Dates and Speakers

It would be much appreciated if the Secretaries of the Branches would send meeting data to reach the Editor NOT LATER THAN THE TENTH OF THE MONTH.

The June (Second Monday) American Begonia Society Board Meeting will take place in the Director's Room, Retail Merchants Credit Assn., 417 So. Hill, Los Angeles, Calif., June 12th, 7:45 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, June 1st Laurance Archibald, Secretary 1216 W. Chapman, Orange, Calif.

DOMINGUEZ BRANCH

Thursday, June 1st Mrs. R. L. Warren, Secy. 21718 So. Alameda, Long Beach, Calif.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

Tuesday, June 6th, 7:30 p.m.
American Legion Hall.
North California St., Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Olive Hamilton, Secy.-Treas.
515 So. Evergreen Dr., Ventura, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Tuesday, June 6th. 7:30 p.m.
Home of Mrs. McPherrin,
6317 Brockton Ave., Riverside, Calif.
Mrs. Jessie A. Topham, Secy.-Treas.,
4620 Arlington Ave., Riverside, Calif.

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

Tuesday, June 6th. 8:00 p.m. Home of Mrs. Herbert Radle, 920 Flower Ave., Bellflower, Calif. Mrs. Esther McElhinney, Secy.-Treas., 534 Darnell St., Bellflower, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH
Wednesday, June 7th, 7:45 p.m.
Social Hall, Calvary Methodist Church,
% 19th and Judach St., San Francisco, Calif.
Mrs. Theresa Ferrero, Secy.,
2183 31st Ave., San Francisco, Calif.
Speaker: Mr. Schnabel
Subject: Fascinating San Francisco

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Wonder, June 8th, 8:00 p.m.
Woman's Club of Inglewood
325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Harold S. Clark, Secretary
16181/2 W. 52nd St., Los Angeles 37, Calif.
Donation Sale Please

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Thursday, June 8th. 7:30 p.m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Mrs. Kem Weber, Secy.,
6707 Milner Road, Los Angeles, Calif.

CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS BRANCH

Friday, June 9th, 8:00 p.m.
Home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Ailman, 4404 Greenbrier Rd., Lakewood Village, Long Beach 8, Calif.
Chalmers Bower, Secy.-Treas. 1020 Belmont Ave., Long Beach 4, Calif.

EAST BAY BRANCH

Sunday, June 11th, 3:00 p.m. Glasshouse, Lakeside Park, Oakland, Calif. Dick G. Goodnow, Secy.-Treas., 2519 Milvia Street, Berkeley, Calif.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Monday, June 12th, 7:30 p.m. 42 East Market St., North Long Beach, Calif. Mrs. Jean Stocklasa, Secy., 5505 Olive Ave., Long Beach 5, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

ASADENA BHANCH
Tuesday, June 13th, 7:30 p.m.
Pasadena Public Library
Lester F. Harrell, Secy.-Treas.,
668 Bellefontaine St., Pasadena, Calif.
Speakers: Carl Hagemeyer & Charlotte M. Hoak Subject: Rexes

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

Wednesday, June 14th, 7:30 p.m. 2218 East 4th St., Long Beach, Calif. Miss Cecille Block, Secy.-Treas., 1263 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH Thursday, June 15th Mrs. Albert H. Gere, Treas., 362 Brookway, Merion, Pa.

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Monday, June 19th Tillie Genter, Secy.-Treas., 7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH
Friday, June 23rd
Mrs. Velma C. Dunn, Secretary
244 No. Ivy St., Monrovia, Calif.
Fellowship Hall,
304 E. Valley Blvd., El Monte, Calif.
Speaker: Clarence Metz
Subject: Hybridizing

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

Friday, June 23rd, 10:30 a.m.
Hall Point Loma Community Church,
Udal Street at Poinsettia Dr., San Diego, Calif.
Mrs. Merrel H. Taylor, Secy.,
2838 Chatsworth Blvd., San Diego, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, June 26th Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave., San Diego, Calif. Mrs. George S. Breidford, Secy.-Treas., 1146 Oliver Ave., Pacific Beach, Calif.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BRANCH Tuesday, June 27th Mrs. W. E. Jones, Secy., Willow Grove, Pa.

GLENDALE BRANCH

Tuesday, June 27th 329 No. Brand Blvd., Glendale, Calif. Mrs. Grace A. Dewar, Pres., 709 Milford St., Glendale 3, Calif. Program: Wm. Ross, Sue McRae & Anna Marek

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

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210 E. Anapamu, Santa Barbara, Calif.

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Miss Annabelle Sylvester, Secy., Pleasant St., Middleton, Mass.

SANTA MARIA BRANCH Mrs. Peter Mehlschau, Secy., Box 12, Nipomo, Calif.

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