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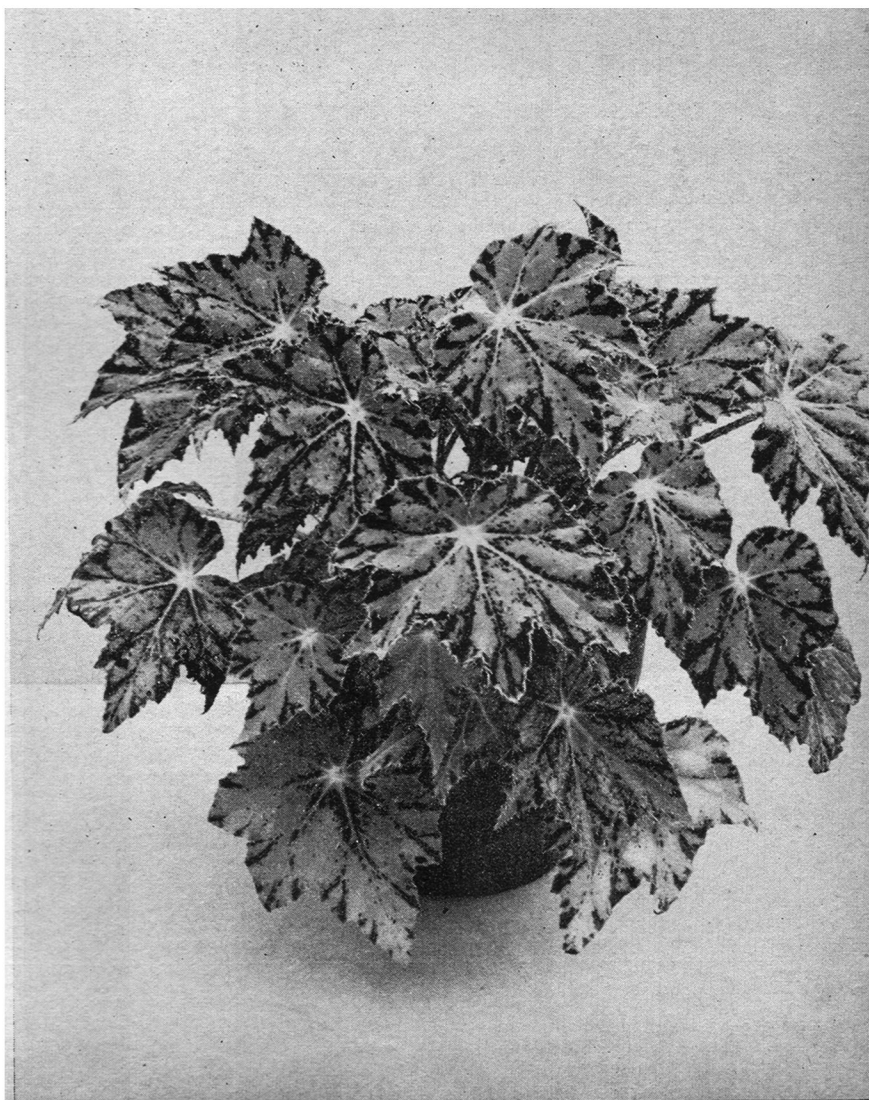
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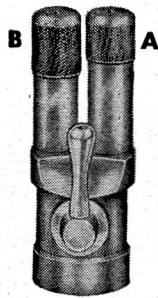
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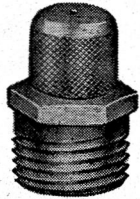


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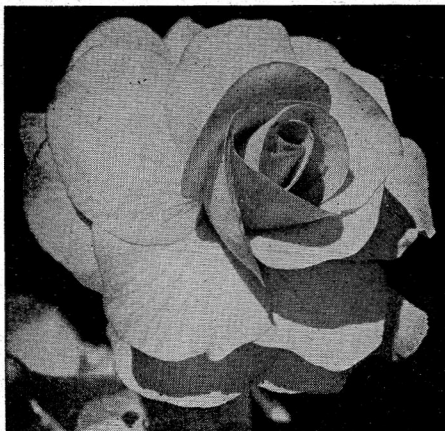
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The next Board meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held in the Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1305, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 27, 1952. Use Main St. elevator. Park lower garage, south entrance on Main Street.

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CONTENTS

Feature Articles—

BEGONIAS IN THE WINDOW GARDEN — BESSIE RAYMOND BUXTON	216
AUTUMN LEAVES — ELINOR SLOCUM INTRODUCTIONS — DOROTHY S. BEHREND'S	221
OUR COVER PICTURE: BEGONIA MAPHIL — JEAN KERLIN	222
BEGONIAS IN NEW JERSEY — MARJORIE WIHTOL	223
LEST WE FORGET — ORA M. WILSON	228
SOMETHING NEW IN AFRICAN VIOLETS — A. F. ANCIER	229
BEGONIAS IN OKLAHOMA — PART TWO — ELVIN McDONALD	230
NOW — SIDNEY SAMPSON	231

American Begonia Society—

BRANCH MEETING DATES — PLACES	234
BRANCH NEWS	226, 231
CALENDAR	233
CONDENSED MINUTES	235
CONVENTION 1953	227
CONVENTION NOTES	224

CONVENTION SHOW WINNERS	227
IN MEMORIAM	226, 229
LIBRARY NOTES	229
ROUND ROBIN NOTES	220
SEED FUND	231
YOUR EDITOR	232

Begonias in the Window Garden

Address by Bessie Raymond Buxton to the 1952 National Convention of the American Begonia Society at San Francisco, California.

After seeing the gorgeous California begonias, it is really presumptuous of me to attempt to tell you anything about growing begonias, except how we grow them in New England under radically different climatic conditions, with different soil and water. As to climate, some wag has said that New England has only two seasons—July and winter. And there is more truth than poetry in that. For years, I have kept a garden diary. The earliest record of fall frost is September 13th, and the first snow, October 10th. There is a record of a ploughshare broken on frozen ground in Peabody on May 7th, and snow on May 11th. The latest date for a killing frost was June 22nd. These are extremes, but they kill plants just the same. And, in between, there are records of 126 degrees in the sun, I grant you—but so were my begonias in the sun, although under lath. This makes a bad weather record for New England, but remember what Mark Twain said, "If you don't like New England weather, just wait a minute!"

Normally, the frost holds off until September 20th or later, and I plan to have my begonias indoors well before that time, so they can get used to their winter quarters before the heat is turned on. So potting and re-potting come before that.

First, soil: There are as many soil mixtures as there are begonia growers. This is the one I have used for years: 2 parts sandy loam; 1 part clean, sharp sand; 1/2 part old leaf mould—from red or white oak leaves, if possible; and 1/2 part old cow manure, 2 years old. Add a generous sprinkle of bone meal and another of crushed charcoal, to keep the soil sweet. I do not sift the leaf

mould—just pick out the biggest sticks of leave the roughage to aerate the soil. The use of leaf mould varies greatly in different parts of the country. A begonia grower in Montana tells me that leaf mould is rank poison for begonias. It may be that the minerals in the soil are absorbed by the tree into its leaves, and are not good for begonias. I do not know whether or not your live oaks make good leaf mould for begonias, but I remember that the late Mrs. Eva Gray used to write me about making journeys to the mountains to get leaf mould for her begonias.

Begonia leaf cuttings root best in June or early July, after the plants have been outdoors long enough to make new growth. Usually I root in sand—mason's sand—although either Mica-Gro or 1/2 sand and 1/2 peat is good. The various rooting powders are helpful. My favorite rooting place is a large glass bowl, with a cover. The bowl is half filled with moist sand—*moist*, not wet, or the cutting will rot. A white cloth is tied around the bowl to temper the light and heat. The cover is left open a crack for ventilation, and in this warm, humid shelter, cuttings root in three weeks or less. Sometimes, in summer, I set the cuttings in a flat and set this out in the garden where it is partially shaded, and get good results.

When the cutting has a strong cluster of roots it is time to pot it. I use the old fashioned clay pots, the 2 1/2 inch size for the ordinary cutting, with some stones or broken pots in the bottom, covered with sphagnum moss. Then a little soil and the cutting is set carefully, with plenty of sand

adhering to the roots for drainage. Cover the roots gently to avoid bruising, fill the pot to within half an inch of the top and settle the soil by a shake and tap of the pot.

Then some water and the baby is off to a good start. The little plants are kept shaded until growth starts, then brought in to their winter quarters early in September. The winter blooming varieties will stand south windows, as the heat and duration of the sun lessens daily, but the foliage varieties, especially those with spotted leaves, do better in northeast windows, which gives them a little early morning sun.

If you are propagating from the semperflorens types, cuttings should be taken from the basal shoots, which will root quickly and make vigorous plants. The tendency of a semperflorens tip cutting is to bloom, not root, and such cuttings keep struggling to

produce flowers. When propagating the Calla lily begonia, that desirable but aggravating plant, always propagate from basal shoots with green leaves. As the little plant grows, the white leaves will develop, but tip cuttings with white leaves die quickly. This is caused by a lack of chlorophyll, the green coloring which corresponds to the red corpuscles in our blood.

If you are propagating from the shrubby types, tip cuttings are good. Make the cut through firm tissue, not too new and soft, and not hard and woody—in fact, the happy medium, so desirable in all things. An old gardener said, "A good propagator must be a good judge of wood." Use a sharp knife to make your cuttings, not scissors (a woman's weapon), cutting below the 3rd or 4th joint. Remove the lower leaves; dust the

Turn to Next Page

Buxton Begonias in 1940 —Reprint "The Begonian", Mar. '41



cut surface with one of the rooting powders or with sulphur. Do not take cuttings from an old plant if you can avoid it, for they will lack vigor. And do not take too many cuttings from the same plant, or they will root slowly and never grow or flower well. Youth is the time for reproduction, in plants as in people. In fact, the more you study plants, the more resemblances to people you will find.

The rhizomatous types usually root easily from a section of the rhizome laid on the sand and lightly covered. Many begonias can be rooted from leaves. All the Christmas-flowering begonias are rooted in this manner, but few house plant growers succeed with them. It needs a greenhouse and a skilled grower. The leaves are set in sand in January in a shaded case with a glass cover and tended like babies. Even with the greatest care there is a heavy percentage of failures. The easiest rooting leaves I have ever found are those of *Boweria major*, although, of course, there are others.

You will note that I have not mentioned growing from seed. It is difficult under house conditions. I have done it, but I confess I do not like it. I much prefer cuttings. I believe that women who have raised children make the best seed growers. They have the patience to tend the little things for the long time necessary to grow them well. Country women, particularly, do good seed growing. Often, they are limited for money, but they have plenty of ingenuity, and they will have the beauty they crave for their homes. It was a country woman who evolved the "brick grandmother" which I am sure you all know about.

I remember driving in the New Hampshire hills, to an isolated farmhouse, where I saw the most beautiful house plants one could desire. That woman wanted gloxinias. She could not buy the plants within a hundred miles, even if she had the money, so she determined to grow them from seed, which must be started in January. The month of January, in the hill country, with no heat except wood stoves, is a hard time to start seeds which need heat. But she was determined and resourceful. She ran wires from the corners of her kitchen, crossing them over the stove, close to the ceiling, and there she set her box of seeds. And in late August she had blooming gloxinias that would do credit to any professional gardener.

Driving through northern New York, I saw a sign "Plants for sale", and the windows were full of blooming begonias, geraniums, heliotrope and others. The door had glass panels on each side of it, and each panel had its plant, in a small tin can, hung by a string to a nail. Inside, I found a little, white-haired old lady, whose bedridden husband lay in the front room, and she was keeping the wolf from the door, raising and selling plants. What courage and determination!

You will note, too, that I have said little about the rex and tuberous begonias.

The latter, gorgeous as they are, are useless for winter house plants, which are my chief interest. In summer, I have other types of plants in my garden which absorb my time and attention, altho I have grown the tuberous at times. Our New England Branch has about 130 members, only two of whom grow tuberous—Mrs. Sheehan and one in Rhode Island (under cloth.) The rexes are gorgeous, and I grow them occasionally. They live through the fall, but as the days get shorter and colder, the leaves lose their brilliant colors and fall. By New Year, they are just leafless stumps. If I am lucky enough to give them just enough water to sustain life in the dormant plant, they put out leaves again in the spring. But the house air is too dry for them. One rarely sees nice rex in Eastern houses. The best I have ever seen are at the Logee home in Connecticut. The family is out in the greenhouse all day and the thermostat is kept at 60°, which suits the rex well, but few families would find this comfortable. Pans of moist sand furnish humidity.

That New Englanders like rex is proved by the fact that two of our Branch members, walking through a city street, saw such a beautiful rex in a house window, that it quite overcame the traditional New England reserve. They rang the bell and, hat in hand, asked the mistress of the house if they might see her beautiful rex, as it was a new variety to them. The lady smiled and said yes, but added that they might find it difficult to identify, since it was made of plush!

Watering is the most difficult problem to solve. If the rooms are cool, less water is needed. Also, if you grow your begonias in glazed pots or set in jardinières, they must be watered cautiously. But those in sunny windows or hot rooms require more water. The soil must be kept moist, but never soggy-wet, and water must never be left in the saucer. As the fall days grow shorter, and the hours of sunlight less, give less water. On cloudy days I sometimes give no water, and when the winter blizzards rage and the thermometer drops, no water is needed for a day or two. When the thermometer drops to 20°, folded newspapers are put between the plants and the glass. But if the temperature drop continues, and zero is probable, the plants are removed from the window sills to a table set well back from the window, and the shades are drawn. The plants are not replaced on the window sill until the sun appears, and not then if the extreme cold continues, with frosted windows.

Chlorinated water is very detrimental to plants, and continued use of it will kill them. Since I learned, the hard way, that the Peabody water was chlorinated, I have used only rain water. If the supply is exhausted, water may be drawn from the hot water tank, and allowed to set in open containers for at least twenty-four hours. If this can be done in the open air, so much the bet-

ter. It cannot be done in midwinter, of course, but snow or ice can be melted and used after it reaches room temperature. In extreme cold weather add a little warm water to the daily drink, and some tropical kinds, such as *d'cbroa*, *foliosa*, *goegoensis* and others, appreciate quite warm water. I have found *foliosa* difficult to grow in a living room because the air is too dry. I have humidifiers on the radiators, but still *foliosa* drops its leaves. One of our New England members solved this problem by inverting a clay pot in a pan of warm water, and setting *foliosa* on the clay pot, over the water, and by this means grew a handsome plant.

Some one is sure to ask me about fertilizers, and I must confess that I do not use them. Chemical fertilizers must be used with chemical exactness, and I am not an exact person. Then, too, repeated doses of chemicals on roots closely confined in a small pot, frequently cause trouble. So I stick to cow manure and bone meal mixed in the soil, and if a fertilizer is needed, in late winter, I use cow-tea. This never burns.

The greatest difficulty in growing plants in the home is the insect pests. We cannot fumigate as the florists do, and, while spraying can be done, if there are many plants it involves much labor. Setting the plants in a tub and using a bath spray is best, being sure not to replace plants in the window until the foliage is quite dry.

Oil burners are another problem. Oily dust collects on the leaves, and warm water must be used in spraying, and even that is not entirely satisfactory, because if you get it warm enough to remove the oil, it may take off the leaves too. Gas is another handicap, and using a pilot light is dangerous, for even a slight draft from door or window sometimes extinguishes it, and gas may escape for some time before it is discovered. The only safety is to discontinue the use of the pilot light.

Begonias do not like drafts, and leaves and buds will fall in showers when they feel one. Screens may be used to avoid this, or move the plants to a better location. But think twice before you move a budded plant, for the move is resented by the plant, which frequently drops its buds.

But begonias must have fresh air, so each day, open a door or a window, somewhere, to admit the health-giving air, even in winter, being careful to protect from drafts. My husband came home unexpectedly, one winter day, and found doors and windows open. "Well", he said, "I wasn't planning on heating the garden this winter!" But the greenhouse man always opens his ventilators, unless there is a blizzard raging, and the precious heat goes out, but he knows that fresh air means healthy plants.

When plants are brought in, the *semperflorens* are very apt to develop aphids, or plant lice. The tobacco insecticides usually banish these. The ever-present mealy bugs

are the worst pest. Frequently, an apparently clean plant develops them, so it is wise to "view with alarm" all new plants, isolating them for a time until one is sure no mealy bugs will appear. There are many remedies for them, and most of them, if used strong enough to kill the mealy bugs, will also kill the plant. Then after you get rid of all the visible ones, there is the new crop hatching in the soil, which will come along later to plague you. So I cannot give you any sure cure. All we can do is "watch and spray."

Wilt is a very serious disease of bacterial origin, and as far as I know, there is no cure. If the disease is not too far advanced, I take tip cuttings and destroy the plant.

By mid-March, the sun is scalding hot at mid-day, and it is wise to put a muslin screen across the window to temper its rays. Now, more than ever, the plants need their daily fresh air. By April, I begin to put a few hardy plants, such as ivies, out in a sheltered porch, keeping a basket at hand so that they may be brought in at nightfall if the thermometer drops. But I do not put my precious begonias out then—oh no! It is late in April or well into May before any of them are put out in the big cold frame, which has board sides and a glass top, later replaced by a lath top. An old canvas tarpaulin is spread over the top at night, and rolled back during the day, and I have not lost any begonias by cold. Maybe I am like the negro woman who refused to be baptised thru a hole in the ice, and was asked "Sister, don' you trust in de Lawd?" "Yas, brudder, I does trust 'pintedly in de Lawd, but I ain a-gwin to fool wid him!"

My years of growing house plants have taught me how much the passer-by enjoys green leaves and flowers when all the world outside is covered with snow and ice. I live on an old street, in an old settlement, for Peabody was originally the Middle Precinct of Salem, and Central St. then called Gap Lane, was the original street, laid out in 1630. In those days, the houses were built very close to the street, for company and for security; even 200 years later, the houses still cling to the sidewalk, and my house is no exception, being less than 10 feet back. There is a bus stop in front of the house, and people waiting for a bus spend the time looking at the window garden. Men, as well as women, stop to look; even the truck drivers sometimes halt momentarily for a look at the bright flowers. Realizing that I have a constant audience, I plan to keep my windows interesting. In the fall, *aconitifolia*, *diadema*, the "Indian Spotted" and the rex, furnish blooms while the others are getting under way. An old Scotch gardener said of the rex, "I dinna like to see him bloom — it means he's getting ready to sleep;" and a truer word never was spoken. The cheerful little *semperflorens* can always

Turn to Next Page

be depended on for bloom. At Christmas time, I often plan a pink window and a red window. The windows are framed with English ivy, usually, attached to the wood by Scotch tape. In the center is placed one of the Christmas-flowering begonias—'Marjorie Gibbs', perhaps. On the window sill, a row of alternate pink and white semperflorens. Then fill in with whatever pink or white begonias may be in bloom at that time—*dipetala* usually is in bloom for Christmas, and *Richardsiana* and *McBethi* give a nice effect with their feathery green foliage dotted with white flowers. Pink and white candles add to the display. For the red window, if you can get 'Mme. Fanny Giron' in bloom then, it makes a lovely centerpiece. *Froebelli* is often blooming at that time, '*Lucerna*' has spectacular clusters of red flowers, 'Interlaken', 'Lugano' and the *rubras* are good. A 'calla lily' begonia will light up the sombre reds, and a row of red and white semperflorens on the window sill, and red and white candles set among the flowers will give joy to the passer-by. The whites and pale pinks have the best visibility for the window. Red, being a recessive color, has much less value, but who can resist red at Christmas?

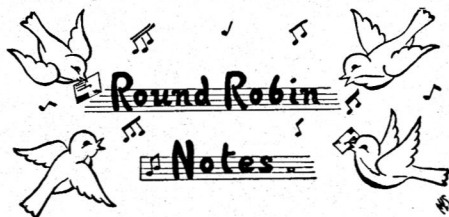
After Christmas, the rhizomatous kinds give a wealth of bloom and last a long time. *Templini*, *acuminata*, *incarnata* *Sandersi* and my namesake, 'Bessie Buxton', are also free winter bloomers.

Often, people come to the door to ask the name of a flower, or beg a slip of a new plant. Originally, my neighborhood was settled by the English immigrants, but now it is chiefly Poles, altho I can see the homes of seven nationalities from my windows, and most of them are plant lovers. A sweet-faced little old Polish woman came to the door to ask for a slip, and to bring me a slip of her cherished plant. One spring morning, when I was weeding among the daffodils, an old Jewish grandmother, a black shawl over her head, pointed to the gay flowers and begged "Give? you give me?" So I filled her hands and she spread her wide skirts and made me an old-world curtsey.

One fall day, making cuttings, and having more than I wanted to root, I asked a passing girl, pushing a baby carriage, if her mother would like some cuttings. "Oh yes", she said, grasping the bunch eagerly, and, whirling the carriage around, gave the baby a wild ride down the street. Soon she was back saying, "My mother wants some more—she says she's got lots more room!"

So flowers speak a universal language to all mankind, and my window garden is a bit of civic work, which blesses alike the receiver and the giver.

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Mrs. Perry, Penna.—Keeps tuberous begonia tubers in pots and lets them stay until ready to start in spring. Cuts tubers when well sprouted, leaving one sprout on each piece of tuber, dusting with powdered charcoal, and plants.

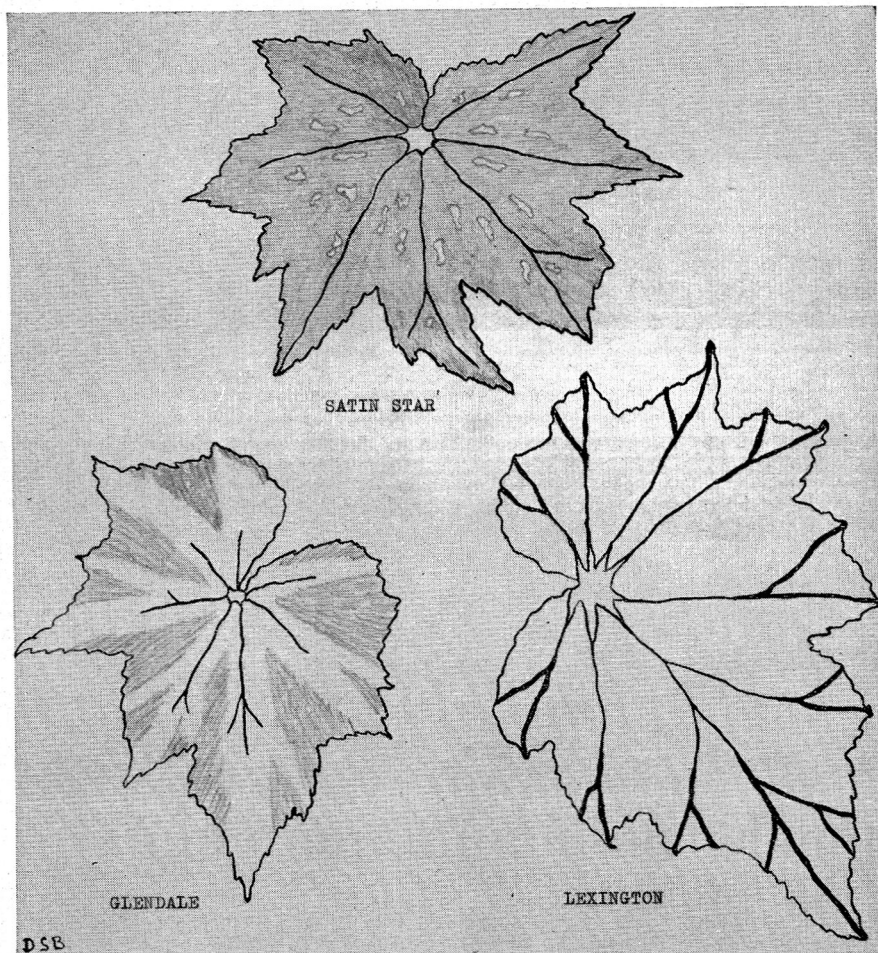
The Wimmers, Kansas—*Martiana* forms bulbils when brought into the greenhouse just before frost and stalk cut off and put in water until bulbils have matured.

Mona Ayers, Kansas City, Mo.: "Fertilizer should always be applied to the soil surface, even if plants are watered from the bottom, as fertilizer nutrients do not rise with the capillary moisture in correct balance for plants."

"A favorite way to propagate rare and unusual leaves is to take baby food cans, puncture a hole in bottom and fill container with vermiculite. Set in a shallow pan of water till medium moist, after which insert the leaf. Mason jars can be used to cover container and they can be placed in desired location, thus requiring little watering while the leaf is rooting. Check condensation frequently and lift jar occasionally to allow a quick airing."

Mrs. Mildred Knipp, Martinsburg, Mo.: Good luck using 3 lb. glass coffee jars (wide mouthed) for cuttings "I use a little sand, soil and peat moss, dampen them and put in the cutting. During the day I remove the lid and at night put it back on. Makes a handy jar as mouth is large enough for hand."

Vern Dixon, Sta. Maria, Calif.: To plant fern spores, sterilize a gallon pickle jar by boiling in hot water for 15 minutes; place jar on side and put in 1 inch deep sterilized leaf mould (put thru 1/4 inch mesh screen.) Scatter spores over this mixture. Do not plant thick for they will need room to grow. Put the lid on tightly and they will need no more moisture (This mixture must be well moistened before planting) until they are ready for transplanting—when they are about one inch high. The jar must be kept in a cool and well shaded place. Transplant into regular fern potting mixture in 2 inch pots. Set the pots in a flat of damp leaf mold or peat moss or the small pots will dry out quickly and that would be fatal to baby ferns. If you don't have a greenhouse you can place them in a tomato lug and cover them with a piece of old auto window glass to hold the moisture. Keep them in these small pots until the roots fill the pots; then transplant to a four inch pot or into the open ground, if shaded.



—Dorothy S. Behrends Drawing

Autumn Leaves - Elinor Slocum Introductions

By Dorothy S. Behrends

Begonia 'Glendale' is a beautiful new seedling to be introduced in October. The Glendale Branch is greatly honored by this gesture of good will, by a member of the El Monte Branch, and there are several good reasons for October having been chosen for the time of this introduction.

1. The autumn coloring of this new begonia makes one think of October automatically.

2. Glendale Branch is one of the largest branches in the A.B.S. and contributes unsparingly to all phases of the organization.

3. The first woman to serve from Glendale Branch as a national president of the A.B.S. will just have commenced her work earnestly at this time.

4. The originator, Mrs. Elinor Slocum, National Parliamentarian, is an active member of the Begonia Study Group of Glendale. Although she is not a member of the Branch, she makes the lengthy trip into greater Los Angeles every three weeks to better her knowledge of our beloved Begonia.

Mrs. Slocum is a busy woman, as all interesting people are busy, but her hobby of raising plants never suffers because of other activities.

Her huge specimen of Begonia 'Sunderbrucki' set seed in 1950, after she had made an attempt to pollinate it. The following begonias are the result of this attempt.

Turn to Next Page

She readily admits being an amateur and does not believe her efforts played a part in the resulting seedlings. She gives all the credit to the bees. So the begonias will have to stand as 'chance seedlings'.

By 'chance' we are all to profit by the privilege of viewing these beautiful, new begonias.

The air is hot and dry in the summer in El Monte, the winters cold and sometimes damp, so these begonias have withstood severe tests. They have been exposed to the elements with a reasonable amount of protection in the winter but have not been pampered to the extent of being wintered in a glasshouse under ideal conditions.

Begonia 'Glendale' has bright-green to bright, yellow-green leaves in broad areas surrounding the veins. A chocolate-brown area covers approximately half of the leaf surface. The difference in the greens may be adjusted by giving the plant more or less light. Subdued light produces a bright-green with black-green areas, while more light produces bright, yellow-green with chocolate-brown areas. The underside has dark-red areas, opposite the surface brown areas. The red is not as dark on the plants grown in subdued light. The over-all surface has the chatoyancy, (satiny sheen) we all enjoy on beautifully foliaged begonias. The petioles are dotted red, each dot containing white hairs.

Another beautiful begonia Mrs. Slocum produced has been named Begonia 'Lexington', the former name of the city of El Monte. Although honoring her Branch, it may also be listed as honoring El Monte in celebrating its Centennial this year. This begonia is similar to B. 'Joe Hayden' but differs in its extremely pointed leaf. The surface has the rich, green-black, red-chatoyancy that is so indescribable in some of these begonias. In addition, the veining on the outer half of the leaf is black. The underside is very dark-red and the entire leaf is of a very heavy texture. The petioles are smooth, medium-green, having light-green flecks and dark-red dots, becoming more pronounced as they mature.

Another begonia warranting registration is Begonia 'Satin Star'. This is also in the black-green, velvety class but has the distinction of being quilted. The veins are a light-green, contrasting remarkably with the satiny sheen. The mature leaves show a heavy, red outline of the veins on the surface. The underside is dark-red and the light-green veins are sparsely dotted with red hairs. The petioles are grooved, medium-green, heavily green and red flecked. Each red fleck contains a white hair. The hairs in the coma or collar are red, fading white on the tips.

All the forementioned begonias are rhizomatous and may boast having Begonia 'Sunderbrucki' as their seed-bearing parent.

OUR COVER PICTURE

Begonia Maphil

By Jean Kerlin, Glendale Branch
National Director

Begonia collectors are always on the alert for "new models", even though they cannot bear to part with any of their old favorites. Eventually it is hard for them to find space for just one more interesting specimen.

Mrs. Mable Walker, member of the Inglewood branch of the American Begonia Society, is introducing a new model for 1952. This chance seedling will add spice to any plant collection and demands no more space than one of its parents, *B. Boweri*, found in Mexico by Thomas MacDougal, introduced by Rudolf Ziesenhenné.

Begonia 'Maphil' (pronounced May-Phil) is a very colorful dwarf rhizomatous plant with a bushy habit of growth. The leaves are chartreuse to mustard yellow-green in color, suffused with deep brown markings surrounding the veins and margins. The veins are light green on the surface, flushed with red on the underside of the leaf. The sinus or eye is also light green. The obliquely shaped leaves are shallow-lobed and average two to three inches across in size; the over-all leaf texture is velvety. The

interesting point to note about B. 'Maphil' is the long eye-lashes on the leaf margin so typical of *B. Boweri*. The petioles are green with red color flecks at intervals, each fleck surrounding one hair.

Begonia 'Maphil' has been tested under varied growing conditions and Mrs. Walker advises growing the plant in a moist and humid condition and under filtered light. One of her finest 'Maphil' specimens was grown in a large glass bowl by a curtained south window. Protection from cold is essential.

Mable's husband, Phillip, is an avid Begonia fan and helped raise the beautifully colored miniatures. His enthusiasm was the prime motive for their new glass house that now is filled with all types of Begonias along with their new seedlings. The name 'Maphil' is the combination of their given names.

Hobbyists and commercial growers alike that have seen this new Begonia hybrid agree that B. 'Maphil', the technicolor jewel, will be the highlight of many Begonia collections.



—Majorie Wihtol Photo

'Washington Street'—horizontal branch 11 months from a cutting. The branches are three feet long.

Begonias in New Jersey

By Mrs. Marjorie Wihtol, Red Bank, N.J.

It is of great interest to me here in New Jersey to compare the growth of my plants with those in more tropical regions. Usually, if a plant is not visibly sick, I have no way of knowing whether it is growing well, except by photographic comparison. And so I thought it might be helpful to someone to see how mine do in a small Atlantic coast greenhouse. (Last month you saw Mrs. Wihtol's "Fernando, Costal").

Out of about 100 different varieties 10 have bloomed for twelve consecutive months: *coccinea*, 'Catalina', *odorata alba*, 'Sachsen', 'President Carnot', 'Woolly Bear', *Richard-siana*, 'Preussen', an unidentified one and one which may be 'Corbeille de Feu'.

Plants a year or more old which have not bloomed at all include: *lobata variegata*, all the *comptas*, several 'superbas', *aconitifolia* var. *Hildegarde Schneider*, *luxurians*, "alto da serra" (*laetevirides*), *Roxburghi*, *rubellina* (*fuscomaculata*), *maculata Wigbtii*, *Popenoei*, *Popenoei florida*, and 'heracleicotyle'.

Certain plants *ungrow* slowly when they fall into my hands. This group includes: *Schultziana*, 'pearlii', *rotundifolia* and '*speculata*', and our old friend "Chimborazo", who is still alive, but not feeling very well. (I almost said "seedy".) 'Pink Spot Lucerna' lost her spots and then herself

to boot, and *dichroa* is repeatedly allergic to me or mine. '*Limminghei*' bloomed once with reluctance and then fell on its face; since then they have died during or soon after rooting. *Griffithii* has done what nature rarely permits; it remains exactly as is with never a bloom and never an extra leaf except to reluctantly replace a dried one. A big bore—the handsome, static friend that you soon outgrow.

The one that is going to knock down the greenhouse is 'Alpha Gere'. With apologies to the late Mrs. Gere, her namesake is all arms and legs and can't stay in her girdle. She's beautifully in bloom now, and even that takes up too much room. I can't stake her; she bulges between stakes. My 'Elsie Frey' is superb, a constant and healthy bloomer, though the flowers do not open. '*Vedderi*' is aiming for some kind of record but has not bloomed yet, and all the 'Feastii's are good citizens. The 'Nelly Bly'—'*Margaritae*', *Haageana* bunch are wonderful until they suddenly turn up with wilt. '*Alleryi* seems impervious.

(Many readers can no doubt use these notes to compare their plants under their growing conditions in other localities.

—Editor.)

Convention Notes . . .

By Frances W. Spaulding

Hall of Flowers—Greeted at the door by a magnificent basket filled with tuberous begonia blossoms, framed by lovely arrangements courtesy of the San Francisco Rose Society and the Dahlia Society of California, Convention Registrars welcomed all comers and the Library had a table of autographed books and other material for sale manned by the Ira Allyns.

Within the inner doors color flamed from the stage filled with a giant blanket of over 3000 tuberous blossoms backed by a solid bank of 300 potted plants in full bloom donated by Antonelli Brothers and Frank Reinelt. High above, on each side wall was a giant shadow box containing a magnificent modern arrangement by Mrs. Stanley Burton, heliconias in one, yellow coxcomb in the other, with the Queen of blooms dripping from them like a string of giant gems. The 'vases' were yellow salt blocks, the hole slightly enlarged! The light from this dazzling display had to filter through and reflect itself from a "sky" starred with hanging baskets that would have shamed Babylon,—fuchsia, Lloydii, and a great "crown" of Queens suspended over the San Francisco Branch exhibit at the fore, which won the new Jack Baily Memorial Trophy for the best booth. (I think tuberous begonias is a most cumbersome, homely name for such a beautiful flower, so I insist on calling them Queens henceforth.) This sensation of the air itself being filled with blossoms persisted wherever we went—in the competition hall, where the best of all were displayed (or were they?—So many not entered looked equally superb), and in all the gardens we spent two days visiting.

Coming back to the S.F. Branch exhibit—I have seldom seen a display at a show where by looking into it for a few moments one might be transported to a quiet garden spot of prayer or contemplation yet one that did not seem a framed picture or stage setting but a corner from which the owner has just stepped away for a moment. It truly deserved the trophy.

Facing it was Sacramento's unique "Heart of California" exhibit; the delegates wore heart hats too and are to be highly complimented on their excellent support of the Convention-Show besides winning at the State Fair held the same time (which see). Great applause is also due the Humboldt County Branch for its lovely garden corner brought down the long winding Redwood

Highway to the show, and I don't think they lost a blossom.

The Gesneriaceae Family Tree traced ribboned lines to members of almost every genus in the interest-provoking exhibit of the Gloxinia Society in the opposite corner.

Down one side stretched complimentary exhibits from San Francisco City College of "Queens"; Gloxinias and assorted companion plants; San Francisco Park Department's giant tuberous mingled with rex and coleus like a rainbow; the "Managers' Exhibit" including such specimen fuchsias as *boliviana* with ornate seed clusters, and *magellanica variegata* and *Ceropegia Woodii*, the Rosary Vine, trained carefully up a pot trellis beneath a garden shrine.

East Bay Branch had given a great deal of thought to the placement of the material in its Garden Corner and each class of begonias found a suitable niche. In the opposite corner Southern Alameda County Branch had apparently slid a magic carpet under a number of square yards of woodland dell into which some begonia seeds had fallen and found a most compatible home, because here it was, complete with tiny pool into whose silt mosquito fish happily prowled.

Along that wall exhibits blended one into another against the back-ground greenery; from the natural forest to the exotic orchid garden of Papazian Orchid Company of Colma which held blossoming plants of dozens of different species of orchids up to view; from the orchids to the loveliest of rare ferns entered by Orchido Nursery; thence to a garden of rare tropical foliages, now so popular, entered by Floral Arts Nursery; blending at last into Muriel Waltz Gardens splash of rexes, fuchsias and specimen fibrous and rhizomatous begonias.

Now down the center—San Francisco Branch of the American Fuchsia Society kept cups of fresh blossoms, clearly labeled, of dozens of the best varieties backed by specimen trees, espalliers and hangers—taking off in colors from the rose and whites of our "Queens" they spiraled into the blues and purples of the color wheel to complete the spectrum.

Just back of them were a rectangle of four of the loveliest African Violet displays one could wish: East Bay Branch of the American A. V. Society set their pastels off with the grace of elegant white-painted wrought iron furniture and dis-

play tree; Phillip Wheeler Nursery featured unusual ones; and your two old friends, Edena Gardens, Mr. Thomas giving a very practical demonstration and neat charming display of A. V. gardening in the best manner, and Orchard Nursery with its dainty plants seeming to grow from a blanket of green moss, which perfectly framed the delicate colors and set off the very educational little name cards.

Don't forget the gladiolus display of Ted Noyer of Niles, too.

Two neat ideas that took a lot of work but made a great deal of difference to the displays: Mitered log borders, perfectly matched, formed subtle continuous edging for all displays. Tiny rounds of eucalyptus branches, neatly smoothed and notched by Hal Smith made the best show place card holders ever seen and Frank Rich's neat labels fitted perfectly. Incidentally the only complaint I heard about the show was that more of the plants were not labeled, whereupon labels started popping up all over.

So far we have just covered one hall. The competitive exhibits were in another building and seemed like the display section all over again, except that the plants were in sections and not in artistic settings. Here the background was the plant table and the various commercial supporters—more different kinds of fertilizers and pest controls than you see anywhere except at a State Fair, I believe, but who was right at the door to greet you? Plantsmith, of course, with his unique tiny homey little glass house full of tins and jugs of all our favorite plants growing thriftily on "Spoon-it".

Here, too, were the complimentary exhibits from far away: New England Branch, Dallas Texas Branch, Texas State Branch, Portland Oregon Branch; Les Woodriff sent *Begonia cathayana x versicolor* and *Begonia versicolor*, the hybrid showing color and characteristics of both of its beautiful parents mingled like those in ancient Chinese tapestries—surely deserving of one of those priceless descriptive names the Chinese give their children!

In the Educational Room were Mr. Johnson's exhibit, described under "The Winners" and the most painstaking collection of all, brought by car in careful wrappings all the way from San Diego by our untiring worker, Mrs. Alice M. Clark—the hairy fibrous clan, parents and children, carefully arranged in proper sequence and named—dozens of plants which I wanted a week to study and didn't have a day. This was backed by her chart of hairy fibrous, which we are going to reprint for you newcomers soon, and her famous paintings. Glendale Branch also brought beautiful plants of the Southern California hybrids recently described in "The Begonian" and Louise Schwardtfefer *originations*, among them being your Editor's namesake, 'Begonia

Spaulding', and one that will surely take its place as a topflight plant both indoors and out—the new 'Begonia Helen Krauss'—so sturdy and with such quantities of bright flowers—both of which will be described in detail in later issues.

Among the PLANT CELEBRITIES PRESENT were—

An entry by Mrs. O. P. Palstine—one of our first members!

The three-year-old apricot multiflora of the Albert family which has been a three-time winner.

The pillar seeming to hold up the roof was Ann Meyer's specimen of 'Mrs. Fred Scripps' some eight feet tall.

The stalactite that looked as if it might pull down the roof was her *dicbroa* seedling, its six-foot tresses of shining dark green just commencing to burst into rich orange bloom.

That rotund *rotundifolia* of Peter Boree of Hayward, something like three feet across on its pedestal.

And over all the lovely "Queens" in baskets and the drapery of the perfect fuchsias from the Mann gardens and the other expert growers.

FUN

The convention get-ups were noteworthy—Inglewood's jockey caps over eyelashed-glasses for the ladies and Durante-noses for the men—San Diego's begonia-leaf hats of green, suitably cut to recognizable shapes—Ventura's goodly poinsettia turn-out—and of course San Francisco's feathered Robin Hood headgear everywhere.

"Pop" Dyckman's memoirs of early days in San Francisco (1907)!

The ice-cream-eating contest should have been put on movie film, since the attitudes struck by the contestants were more amazing than the amount of cream consumed. Winner Art Mann (the challenger) was presented with a wall plaque suitably inscribed and bearing an unusual sort of head (perhaps intended to represent the shrunken head of the vanquished, South American Indian style?).

GARDEN TOURS

Of course the Carl Meyer and Art Mann gardens, having been brought to the show almost to their foundations, were closed, but the following special notes of interest were made in the dozens of others visited—each of which had its special features and individual design. Bear in mind that in this city almost everyone's home is over his garage and wall to wall with his neighbors and one enters the garden area from the street through the garage, where, at the opening of the door, the world changes from work to play, gloom to glory, greys to spectrum colors, carefully terraced, bedded, enclosed in sweet privacy or open to the far vista, all in a patch of ground that would cause most Southern Californians to despair.

Turn to Next Page

Here, then, the Armstrong's lovely rare canaries sang to the trees of whispering fuchsia bells.

Hyacinth Smith welcomed all amid terrace after terrace thick with colorful cut-flowers surrounded by "Queens" as lovely as at the show.

Marjorie May, the doll mother, greeted us on a well landscaped lawn bordered with her favorite flowers, trees and shrubs and here we saw the first of the many cinerarias blooming at this time of year in the cool climate.

The Dan Buckleys not only had a house of wonderful "Queens" but his pride, the dahlia, in all its forms, including wonderful collarettes, spilled over into his neighbor's backyard.

President and Mrs. Bob Gromm had one of the best tube-sheltered gardens ever seen—the sides tall enough to give privacy and slanting up to deflect the wind, the center open to the sun and a view of the Pacific,

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

The San Francisco Branch had as its guests at their meeting on September 3, 1952, Mrs. Bessie Buxton and her traveling companion Mrs. Sheehan, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Trowbridge, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rich, and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Spaulding.

Mrs. Sheehan showed colored slides of Historical Homes and places in New England, and some of the fine gardens including her own and Mrs. Buxton's. Mrs. Buxton gave the historical data and interesting facts about them.—*Anne Mitchell.*

an "Alsynite" type roof over the upper view terrace, a sunny sandbox for the children and green lawn bordered by "Queens" and fuchsias and other color.

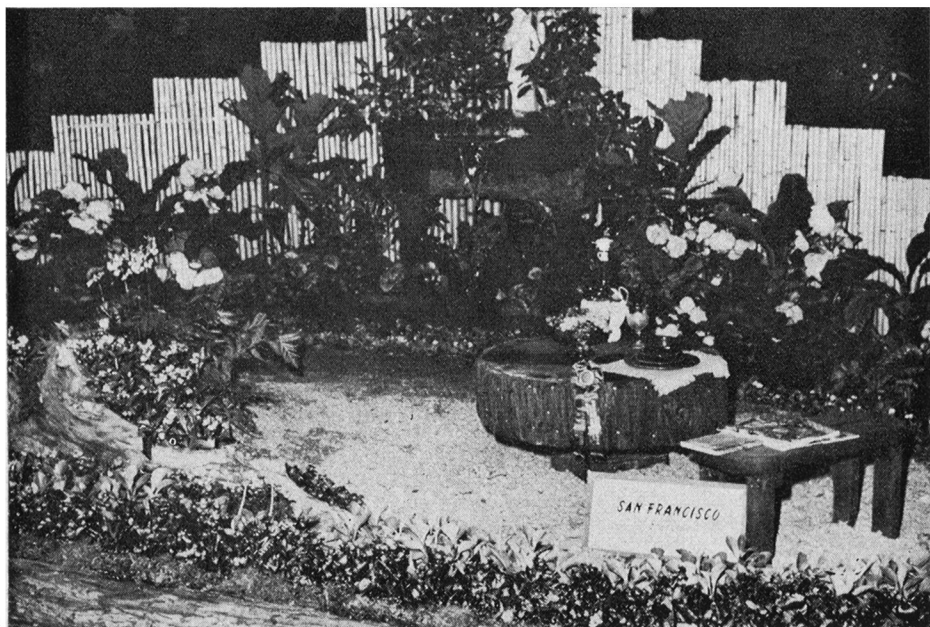
Then the Eck masterpiece (Her display of arrangements in her own ceramics gave everyone new ideas) brought one into the sunny Mediterranean with stone steps each bearing corner pockets into which were tucked tiny succulents and terraces brim full of flowering shrubs, trees and plants to color every season.

Fuchsias in the Pehrson, Jack Shahan, Swartz, and other gardens gave a series of pictures of color on a riot, reaching from bushes to trees to espalliers to hanging baskets and the roofs with "Queens" tucked between to complete the blaze. Noted—old Nonpareil in the Swartz garden had grown three stems 12 feet high with vines spreading 25 feet along the walltop! ('S'truth!) We missed a few of the gardens and will always know we missed something special.

In Memoriam

The deepest sympathy of the entire American Begonia Society is offered to Mrs. Gonda Hartwell in the recent loss of her husband after a long illness. Her steadfast good humor, kindness, and faith during this ordeal is a beautiful example to all of us.

Mrs. Hartwell has resigned as A.B.S. Secretary but we hope she will continue to visit all our meetings as a friend and counsellor.



Jack Baily Memorial Trophy Winner

—Dorothy Powell Photo

THE WINNERS



—Daniel Buckley Photo

Ann Meyer, Sweepstakes Winner
San Francisco's Lady of the Begonias

First, we must say that every single entry won the admiration and commendation of the throng of members and visitors at the 1952 Convention Show.

Perhaps the most satisfying thing to the spectators was the awarding to the lovely but nearly exhausted Ann Meyer of the fruits of her labor of love. Everyone had previously admired in awe the results of her careful work—the specimen plants which overshadowed the usual fine display of begonias — but right here we pause in tribute to the men who moved those giant plants so carefully to the show.

Ann Meyer received the Christle Geer Sweepstakes Cup for the most points; the Cal Trowbridge Challenge Trophy and its accompanying permanent cup for the best begonia in the show—the perfect, blooming

'Freddie'; the Mrs. John R. Williams Cup for the best rhizomatous on the same plant; the Effie Chapman Cup for the best fibrous begonia — a six-foot tall, three-foot in diameter *Haageana*; the Gonda Hartwell Cup for the best rex, the Brown Bulb Farm Cup for the best tuberous—a wondrous vermilion cristata type loaded with big blossoms and glistening foliage; and someone calculated that her prize money equaled that of the next six winners.

Yet this was no one-woman show; it was much too big for that. Dozens of others took home prize money, among the top winners being Lois Mann, Bill and Paulyne Meyer, John Peterson (exhibiting for the first time) Al Munson, Commander Waliszewski (leaving for Korea), D. Rosen and our old friend Emma Carleton (the first time she ever entered a show).

Mrs. Lois Mann and Mrs. Paulyne Meyer tied in flower arrangement points so will receive twin trophies in this large section, which had a whole room to itself this year.

San Francisco Branch received the new Jack Baily Memorial Trophy for their marvelous branch exhibit.

Art Mann won the Marjorie May trophy for the best hanging basket tuberous.

Esler Johnson, President of the American Gesneria Society, took home the \$25.00 National Board's award for the best educational display to promote knowledge of begonias. Not the largest, nevertheless it was an extremely clear exposition of some of the basic facts about begonias with appropriate materials and clearly readable signs and was so much admired that Mr. Johnson offered it to Vice-president Williams for use in her promotional work in securing new members and branches. This is a feather, not only in Mr. Johnson's cap but also in the new Gesneria Society's! Their exhibit in the Hall of Flowers showed the same smart appeal to the casual observer, catching and holding interest. Their publication "The Gloxinian" gave us a fine publicity article, too.

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1953

A.B.S. National Convention & Show Redondo Beach, California

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Lest We Forget

Excerpts from Mrs. Ora M. Wilson's talk to the Eva Kenworthy Gray Branch at La Jolla, California, courtesy of Mrs. Calloway.

No one can speak or think of the hybrids of the Rosecroft Gardens without a moment's pause to pay respect to Alfred D. Robinson. Mr. Robinson worked with begonias in California from 1905 to 1952 and originated over one hundred new ones for our enjoyment. He was a gentleman and a scholar and received world-wide recognition as an authority on cultivation and propagation of begonias. Truly he was the dean of propagators.

Mr. Robinson's greatest contribution is in the field of "rubras" or canes. From *coccinea* seed he created and introduced more than twenty varieties named mostly for girls. They ranged in size from dwarf 'Jinnie May' up through the medium sized, as 'Bennett Rubra' and 'Elithe', to the tall growing 'Mrs. Schinkle', 'Mrs. W. D. Harney' and the 'Shastas'. The color range is from pure white to a brilliant red.

From *albo-picta* four excellent growers were produced, but 'Annie Laurie' proved to be outstanding, hardy and a prolific bloomer, and was later used in the *dichroa* crosses.

The seedlings from 'Lucerna' were real beauties, many new in both color and form. Over twenty were created, named mostly for Alpine lakes, using Mr. Robinson's words, "to keep the family feeling and facilitate identification." In this group are found many of the dark leaved, gloriously colored ones, as 'Alzasco' and 'Code-largo', and many with unusual and interesting leaf forms, as 'Interlaken'.

Mr. Robinson made a worthwhile contribution in the rhizomatous group with 'Marian' and 'Scharstar' (*Scharffiana* x *heracleifolia*). In the hirsute group his 'Udemille' is really one in a million, and the Rosecroft 'prunifolias', both white and pink, are a credit to any garden. The *prunifolias* are the children of the venerable old mother, 'Viand', who has given us so many beautiful children.

'Richard Robinson' and 'Pink MacBeth' are real additions to the low growing, front border type, though we could wish 'Richard Robinson' to be more hardy.

'Frutescans', which Mr. Robinson grew from German seed, is unexcelled when it comes to adjusting itself to any situation. It makes an excellent hanging basket, or border plant, or it can be successfully staked for a medium grower.

To Mr. Robinson we owe thanks for many of our most beautiful rexes. He had an eye for pattern, color and texture, and he worked toward that end, as shown by

'Hilda', 'Autumn', 'Sea Nymph', 'Moonbeam' and many others. His outstanding rex crosses were with *catbayana*, and two of these, 'Kathleyana' and 'Alfreana', excel in every respect.

In 1938 Annie Robinson, wife of Alfred D. Robinson, introduced the *dichroa* blood into the canes. The idea was to bring the brilliant orange of *dichroa* up out of the glass house. The first cross with 'Annie Laurie' brought us the 'Di-anna' group—the smallest of the *dichroa* crosses. Next came the *dichroa* cross with 'Erna'. Some of these 'Di-ernas' reach a height of four or five feet, but the cross with *dichroa* and 'Shasta' seemed most successful. Even this was not up to expectations, as in no case were the flowers a pure orange. Even so, the public was so impressed, and the demand became so great for this new strain, that begonias from all three of the above groups were on the market before they were named, and thus our confusion. Some are taller, some more red, some more hardy, and in many cases it is even impossible to say whether they are children of 'Annie Laurie', 'Erna' or 'Shasta', but they are all lovely free bloomers. They all show the *dichroa* parentage in the prominence of leaf veins on the under surface and also in the orange cast in the flowers.

Mrs. Robinson also created distinctive hybrids in the tuberous field, introducing the 'Rosecroft Strain' by crossing '*riciniifolia*' with '*micranthera fimbriata*'.

All in all, the Rosecroft Gardens under the Robinson tutelage gave us some of our best in every class, tuberous, rhizomatous, and fibrous. While there are many fine new begonias on the market, it is my hope that the good old ones will be carried on and give future begonia enthusiasts the pleasure they have given me.

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Something New in African Violets . . .

By A. F. Ancier

During the last evening session of its recent Convention the African Violet Society of America, Inc., presented to Mrs. Carolyn K. Rector of San Pedro, California, the Honorary Annual Membership Certificate "in recognition of meritorious service for horticultural achievement" in developing two new strains of African Violets, the Pacific Strain and the Western Strain.

At present the following varieties of these are being grown:

Pacific Prince—Upright growth; medium sized oval leaves, upper side smooth and very dark, backs of leaves and stems deep red. Flowers brilliant violet blue, medium size, in clusters of from 6 to 8 blooms. Constant bloomer.

Pacific Princess—Upright growth; very large almost round leaves, heavily quilted and crenelated, upper side dark green. Large light green "girl" spot at base of leaf. Whether the back and stems are red will depend on the light in which it is grown. Flowers in clusters—same brilliant blue as Pacific Prince. Good bloomer; makes a very large, handsome plant.

Pacific Redwood—Rather flat growth, spooned leaves, dark green on upper side, smooth. Backs and stems red. Flowers brilliant violet blue, in clusters.

Pacific Shadows—Intermediate growth; medium sized oval leaves, upper side dark and shiny, under side lighter. Flowers brilliant medium violet blue. Although the written description sounds like Pacific Prince, the plants do not look alike.

Western Girl—Intermediate growth, leaves dark green on upper side, quilted and deeply crenelated; large light green "girl" spot at base. Flowers medium red violet, slightly bi-color. Heavy bloomer.

Western Oakleaf—Intermediate growth; smallish leaves of the "oakleaf" type, very dark and smooth on top side, under side reddish. Medium Blue flowers.

Some of these are now available, but others will not be released until next year.

(It is a pleasure to inform our readers of this national honor that has been paid our old friend who has so often contributed to The Begonian.—Editor.)

LIBRARY NOTES

One of the joys of autumn is checking the new book lists, fresh from the publishing houses, and shopping for the garden books for winter reading. Window gardeners will be delighted with some of the works being added to our library this fall, and the following are ready for your use:

THE BOOK OF THE GERANIUM by John E. Cross — the first book published on the pelargonium species in many years, will add greatly to our information on this popular house plant — published in England late last year by the Saturn Press. It contains several fine color plates, actual photographs of geranium plantings, and is a welcome addition to our literature on this plant.

FERNS FOR GARDEN and GREENHOUSE, by A. H. Macself, is a complete survey of garden ferns, hardy and tender, illustrated with fifty-four excellent plates and many line drawings.

Your librarian would welcome suggestions from the membership as to their needs for botanical literature. We would be delighted to add any material on shade plants, requested by the members, which would be of value to the majority of the membership, and we welcome any ideas which you care to present.

Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian

IN MEMORIAM

San Francisco Branch paused in the midst of rejoicing to extend deepest sympathy at the passing of Mr. Dean Bidwell, their very good member and grower.

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PASADENA 1 CALIFORNIA

Begonias in Oklahoma

By Elvin McDonald, Editor of "The Gloxinian"

The gloxinias have bloomed for all they are worth, and I'm looking forward to some very unusual ones very soon. I have had them in bloom at almost all times of the year and find them to be easy to grow and truly the most beautiful things I've ever seen or grown. I have grown them from seeds and leaves and find both methods of propagation very easy. Have also grown some African violets from seeds, and although not many germinated out of the first batch, some of them will soon bloom. One definitely has DuPont foliage, but has not blossomed yet. Have other seeds of African violets planted, and although I grow my African violets in the house, I do have most of my seedlings in the greenhouse at this time. I have also crossed many of my gloxinias and African violets and am anxious to see how some of these crosses come out.

Right now my first Epiphyllum is almost ready to bloom. Although it is just a species, *E. strictum*, I am sure it is very pretty. I have several named "epys" and I am sure they will bloom next year. I find they do well in small pots, with ample humidity. I feed mine with liquid fertilizer from March until November. During the dead of winter I just water mine occasionally and let them rest.

I had four amaryllis bloom this year. However, next year I will have around a hundred of my own seedlings bloom as well as several kinds new to me, Dutch hybrids that a friends gave to me just recently. I put my Amaryllis outdoors just as soon as it is warm enough in the spring. I use a very humusy soil that will take up gallons of water and grows them very fast. Amaryllis from seed is a very fascinating experience and one that I find to be very worthwhile.

To grow begonias from seeds I turn pint jars on their sides, put in $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of peat and vermiculite, mixed, and scatter the seeds on this. Then the lid is placed on the jar and I can forget about them for about ten days. Then I begin to look for seedlings. When they are well up I take the lid off for a few hours each day so they won't get so spindly. When they are large enough to handle I transplant them either to individual pots or to flats, depending upon the growth habits of the particular begonia. I use the same method for gloxinias, African violets and other small-seeded plants.

I have had very few bugs in the greenhouse. The first year I had some trouble with plant lice and red spider. However with some good fumigations I was rid of

them. The second year mice and slugs bothered me. I found no remedy for the slugs except to keep things a little dryer. The mice just needed some good poison, so now I am rid of both. I have had so few pests that I feel I have been very fortunate.

I have to keep a tarpaulin on the top and half of the south side of the greenhouse all the time—winter and summer—otherwise the sun would burn the begonia leaves and ruin the gloxinias and other shade plants. I plan to shingle most of the top of the greenhouse before winter this year as I feel that would look better than the tarp does.

I find that most of the begonias going out of my greenhouse into our home stand up very well to the gas heated home and continue to grow and blossom very nicely. We have been a little surprised at this, for it is certainly not so with the geraniums. I do not start many outdoors plants in my greenhouse. I do have some lily seedlings in it, and we start tomato and pepper plants in the spring.

I think that of all the joys, growing gloxinias and begonias from seed have been the two things that are so outstanding in my memory, and are the things I plan to continue to do, year after year. Most of my begonia seeds come from the Seed Fund.

I now have a quart jar of peat turned on its side planted to Philippine fern spores, my first experience with such, and I am VERY anxious to see how they grow. So, you see, there is always something new awaiting me.



—Elvin McDonald Photo

B. 'Guinea Wing'

NOW

TUBEROUS STORAGE

By Sidney Sampson, Duluth, Minn.

Our climate here is hardly long enough for maturing tubers from seed, therefore I should like to draw your attention to the method I use in storing which aids tuber development.

I bloom several hundred in my greenhouse for begonia fans, and, when digging time comes in October, I break off growing tops, dig the tuber with all the root system and soil attached and fill ordinary wash tubs with them and store them in the basement in a cool place about 50 degrees. Under these conditions I discovered that small, underdeveloped tubers will continue to grow and ripen, feeding off their attached roots and soil during storage.

Later tubers are soaked, not washed, in warm water and Fermate (about 1 teaspoon to a bucket) for about a half hour. Dry off the surface moisture and store in boxes—not too many or too deep per box—or they might sweat and become damaged. Dump out once in a while and check, before planting them.

In my previous writings I advised treating seed with "Fermate" but I have found that one can use too much "Fermate". It seems to slow up growth after germination.

Primroses like the same soil and location as tuberous begonias; you can have spring and summer bloom when they are planted together.

I will be glad to hear from Minnesotans and others having a similar climate regarding their individual problems as I am sure we can grow the best! Our climate here in Duluth is ideal, warm days and cool nights developing colour seldom seen elsewhere. Write me at 123 98th Ave. West, Duluth 8, Minn.

For your shows next year, don't wait to transplant rhizomatous in April; do it now and then you will have a good plant by show time.—*Rudolf Ziesenhenne.*

Begonia Kenworthyi, if not transplanted now, will turn red and lose its leaves. Found in the wild under deciduous trees, it blooms after dropping all its leaves.—*Rudolf Ziesenhenne.*

OH — BRANCHES! — Deadline is the 5th of the month preceding the issue! We're slipping! AND, don't forget to send the MEAT in the meeting instead of (or in addition to) the customary brief descriptions used by such media as your local newspapers. For instance, if you meet in someone's garden, be sure to tell WHY that garden was worth visiting; if you have an important local speaker, tell FOR WHAT he is noted; and if you got anything out of his speech, WHAT WAS

PROUD BRANCH— PROUD SOCIETY

New England Branch is proud to have been represented at the Convention and basks in the reflected honor of having its own Bessie R. Buxton chosen as the Convention speaker. Mrs. Catherine Sheehan of Massachusetts has been an enthusiastic member of the American Begonia Society and an active member of the Round Robins for many years. She is well known to many in California through her correspondence, and it is fine that they could have the opportunity to meet her personally. The travellers have not yet returned, but the New England Branch will be looking forward to hearing their fine reports at the October meeting.—

—*Orpha C. Fox*

The American Begonia Society officers and western members are proud to have been honored by the presence of two such fine representatives of one of its first branches from the cradle of our independence. You know, it would not be too surprising to learn from some yellowed letter someday that a sturdy "Mother" of the D. A. R. brought the first begonia to this country. In fact—wouldn't that be an interesting phase for the New England Branch to investigate? Who did bring the first begonia to this country? (Or was it some Southern Lady of the Creole country who came from the West Indies?) At any rate we feel the honor of meeting these two ladies is all ours.—*Editor.*

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

The functions of the Seed Fund will be resumed as soon as the material and records have been received by the National Board from the former Seed Fund Chairman.

BRANCH SHOWS

Thanks for all those prompt show reports sent in—some by airmail—but since so many fine pictures were included we decided to hold all of them for the November issue so we could print all playing no favorites.

Your Editor

Your Editor has received a stack of interesting mail recently which he wishes to share with you.

First, though, we want to note that, of all the publications that cooperated in giving notice to our recent convention and show, the one feller who went all-out for us was our good friend "Plantsmith"—and if you don't subscribe to his "Cabbages and Things" bulletin you are missing some of the best garden variety humor of our times. Thank you very much, kind sir!

ENGLISH SALUTE

Your Editor regrets he had already left for the North before receiving the following letter, so that he was unable to read it at the convention—

"Ivywood, Biggin Hill, Kent, England
"25th August 1952.

"Stanley Spaulding, Esq., Editor, The Begonian.

"Dear Mr. Spaulding,

"May I take the opportunity of the opening of the Annual A.B.S. National Show, to send to the American Begonia Society heartiest fraternal Greetings and Good Wishes on their Twentieth Birthday, from The National Begonia Society of England and Wales.

"Begonias have gone a long way since they were first christened 250 years ago, and both Britain and the U.S.A. can fairly claim to have played a big part in their development.

"Keen British begonia enthusiasts owe a great debt of gratitude to American Begonia Society officers and members, so many of whom have helped us rebuild war-shattered collections, and this seems a fitting moment to pay tribute to them. Keen collectors will appreciate the joyous thrills we have had in receiving from time to time air-mailed packets of rooting cuttings of begonias that were new to us. They are carefully grown on, and as soon as large enough propagating material is shared out to other enthusiasts, and such of our Public Gardens as desire. No commercial element enters, one reason being that unfortunately there is insufficient demand to make it worth while for our specialist Nurseries to work up a large collection. We are of course only a small Country compared to yours, and in all parts it is necessary to house them in a heated greenhouse. The exception is of course double tuberous begonias. Much of our climate suits these, and they are therefore very widely and well grown.

"What we lack in numbers we make up for in enthusiasm, and in sending your congratulations on the strides The Begonian has made since its early days, may we add kind remembrances to the many friends we have made in America through the American Begonia Society. Their encouragement

in our mutual interests has made the World a better place for us to live in!

"Yours Sincerely,

Fred J. Bedson, F. R. H. S.

"Founder, President and Editor, National Begonia Society."

We in this country are only too glad to have been able to help perpetuate and extend the work in this family of plants that was so ably commenced by the great English explorers and botanists of previous centuries!

THE DYCKMANS

"We wish to express our deep appreciation and sincere thanks to all the Begonia Branches for the gift they presented to us. Our enjoyment of the Convention was immeasurable, and it will be one of our fondest memories.—Yours sincerely— *Herbert and Gladys Dyckman.*"

The Dyckmans' presence was an integral part of the Convention, I would say.

MANSON HUME

"Thanks for your letter of remembrance. It sure makes one feel good, when he has friends to keep him going.

"I have been to the hospital twice since I last wrote you. For a time they thought I was through, but I fooled everyone, and the doctor said it was nothing short of a miracle how I came back. I am confined to my stomach, but I have a litter on wheels and manage to move about some. The other day I weeded the patio and walks using a putty knife. I lost much weight and have not been able to sit up since four months ago.

"Now I am on the way up again and and looking forward to working with Begonias as soon as I graduate to the wheelchair. I lost most of mine while ill and Rainbow House is falling down, but that is the kind of challenge I need to get going again.—Sincerely yours, Mans."

Your Editor doesn't feel qualified to comment on this one.

Antonelli Brothers

**BEGONIA
GARDENS**

WRITE FOR CATALOG

Santa Cruz, California

Capitola Road

★ Calendar ★

(Visitors Always Welcome)

October 3rd

Central Florida: Mrs. L. M. Donnell will discuss "Preparation for the Show."

October 4th

Raytown Missouri: NEWEST BRANCH HOLDS FIRST BEGONIA SHOW. HOW MANY OF YOU CAN VISIT THIS GREAT LITTLE BRANCH?

October 4th and 5th

Central Florida: Our Branch's *First Begonia Show* will be held in President Jane Crisler's Begoniarium, 251 Cortland Ave. Winter Park, Fla. We hope all Florida will come and as many out-of-state visitors as possible.

Missouri Branch: Second All Begonia Show! American Legion Building, Kansas City, Mo., Linwood and Paseo Streets. If you can't go to Florida, visit Missouri!—and vice-versa!

October 8th

New England: AND IF YOU CAN'T GO TO EITHER FLORIDA OR MISSOURI, COME TO THE HARVEST SHOW in Horticultural Hall, Boston! Anyone within reach of Boston shouldn't miss this show.

Annual Business Meeting will be held at this time. The House Plant Show, sponsored by the New England Branch as a part of the Harvest Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, will be in charge of Mrs. George Greenlaw of Concord, under whose enthusiastic management the two fine shows in 1950 and 1951 were staged.

October 9th

Inglewood: Our Natl. Flower Show Chairman, Frank Rich, will speak on "Philodendrons" after a jolly Pot Luck Supper. Nominations for 1953 officers will be made.

October 22nd

San Gabriel Valley: Mr. Merrill Thompson, teacher of Horticulture at Mark Keppel School, will speak on "Pruning of Shade Plants."

Glendale: Mr. Walter J. Barrows, Superintendent of Parks for Whittier, will talk on "Planning the Shade Garden."

November 6th 7th and 8th

45th Annual Autumn Exhibit, Horticultural Society of N.Y., Colonnades Ballroom of Essex House, 160 Central Park South, N. Y. (Non-members \$1.00) Proceeds go to the New York Assn. for the Blind. Special features: Australian chrysanthemums; 'mums 1/4 inch to 1 foot in diameter; enormous vegetables from Mrs. Flagler Mathews' estate.

November 7th

Central Florida: ABS Slides and Mrs. J. Gipson, speaker.



CLASSES IN NEW YORK

Another series of lectures and classes commences at the New York Botanical Garden. Address G. L. Wittrock, N.Y.B.G., Bronx Park, N.Y. 58, New York for copy of Program. Of special interest would be Field Botany, General Botany, Ecology and Plant Geography — or how about Flower Painting for Amateurs?

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BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES

(Visitors always welcome at these meetings.)

CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 6:00 p.m.
Lounge, Florida Power Co.
Winter Park, Fla.
Mrs. Martha Gipson, Secy.-Treas.
861 Juanita Roael, Winter Park, Fla.

DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, 7:00 p.m.
Member's Residences
Mrs. Russell B. White, Secy.-Treas.
919 N. Clinton St., Dallas 11, Texas

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Oct. 9, 7:45 p.m.
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward
Berkeley
C. F. Jensen, Secy.

3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Oct. 16
Jennie Baker School 12043 Exline
Jean Cross, Cor. Secy.
1304 Elm, Alhambra, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Oct. 16, 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Recreation Hall
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland

FORT ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, 2:30 p.m.
Homes of Members
Miss Lola Price, Secy.

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Oct. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central
Mrs. D. H. Bradley, Cor. Secy.
1301 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 8, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Community House, La Jolla
Tillie Genter, Cor. Secy.
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

GRAYS HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, Oct. 13, 8:00 p.m.
(March through November)
Hoquiam Pub. Library, or Messingale &
Rosenear Music Store, Aberdeen, Wash.
Alice Hardman, Secy.
The Flower Studio, Aberdeen, Wash.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Oct. 28, 10:30 a.m.
Home of Members
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following
Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.
R.F.D., Willow Grove, Pa.

HEART OF AMERICA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.
Member's Residences
Mr. George Knoupf, Secy.-Treas.
2912 Delevan, Kansas City, Kans.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Mrs. Florence F. Flynn, Cor. Secy.
1319 N. Ogden Dr., Los Angeles 46, Calif.

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, Oct. 10, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, Herman Park
Mrs. E. H. Claggett, Secy.
4415 Austin, Houston, Tex.

HUB CITY BRANCH

COMPTON-LYNWOOD

3rd Monday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Roosevelt High School Cafe
1200 E. Olive, Compton, Calif.
Mrs. Dorothy Sarson, Secy.
1108 E. Glencoe Ave., Compton 1, Calif.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Oct. 13, 8:00 p.m.
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.
Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Oct. 9, 8:00 p.m.
325 N. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Dorris Motschman, Secy.
9601 Haas Ave., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Porter Park, University & La Mesa Blvd.
Mrs. G. W. McManus, Secy.
7313 Princeton Ave., La Mesa, Calif.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Colonial Hall, 10th and Locust
Mrs. W. Cox, Secy.
3592 Lewis Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Oct. 28, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.
3340 S.W. 24th Terrace, Miami, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Oct. 21, 1:00 p.m.
American Legion Bldg., Linwood & Paseo
Kansas City, Mo.
Mrs. Mary Wood, Secy.
626 W. Charles, Independence, Mo.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.
170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Houghton Park Club House
Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach
Mrs. Beatrice White, Secy.
1411 Poppy St., Long Beach, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.
Farm Bureau Hall, 353 S. Main St., Orange
Mrs. Evie Darden, Secy.-Treas.
6701 S. Fee Ana St., Rt. 3, Anaheim, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

3rd Monday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Mrs. Lois Williams, Secy.-Treas.
Casitas del Arroyo, 117 S. Arroyo, Pasadena

PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Oct. 17, 8:00 p.m.
Dania Hall, 19 Main St.
Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.
222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Oct. 10, Members Homes
Mrs. Robert York, Secy.
3311 Fremont St., Camden, N. J.

PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Oct. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.
Mrs. George Venner, Secy.
7604 S. E. Tolman, Portland 6, Oregon

RAYTOWN MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.
7708 Sni-A-Bar Terrace, Kansas City, Mo.

REDONDO BEACH AREA

4th Friday, Oct. 24, 8:00 p.m.
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Arline Stoddard, Secy.
522 S. Guadalupe Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Oct. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Member's Residence
Mrs. Arline Porter, Secy.
4106 Adams, Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Oct. 24, 10:00 a.m.
Homes of Members

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Oct. 21, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, McKinley Park
Mrs. W. M. Kelso, Secy.
1848 Markham Way, Sacramento, Calif.

SALEM OREGON BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Oct. 7, Nov. 4,
The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem
Mrs. Loren H. Edlund
863 Edina Lane, Salem, Ore.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Oct. 27
Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University
Mrs. Phyllis Kausky, Secy.
4545 36th St., San Diego 16, Calif.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Oct. 13
Homes of Members
Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.
18655 Calvert St., Reseda, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, 8:00 p.m.
1641 Taraval St.
Mrs. Anne Mitchell, Secy.
2370 18th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Oct. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Cynthia Slater, Secy.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.
Mrs. Ada Schaefer, Secy.
1103 W. Micheltorena St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 8:00 p.m.
V.F.W. Hall, 311 Pacific Ave.
Miss Hazelle E. Oxley, Secy.
428 Davis St., Santa Cruz, Calif.

SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

2nd Friday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7th St. Entrance
Santa Monica
Mrs. S. S. Gross, Secy.
1116 S. Carmelina Ave., Los Angeles 49, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Oct. 21, 7:45 p.m.
University of Washington Arboretum
Clubhouse
Mrs. Paul Deiro, Secy.
4618 13th Ave. South, Seattle 8, Wash.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BR.

1st Tuesday, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura
Mr. Bernard Woods, Secy.
575 Evergreen Dr., Ventura, Calif.

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Oct. 16, 8:00 p.m.
Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.
Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss, Cor. Secy.
26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.

SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m.
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern
Mrs. Ernestine Hess
129 W. Hellman Ave., Monterey Park, Calif.

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Friday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Members' Homes

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Oct. 8, 11:00 a.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. Walter H. Kirch, Secy.
Clearview Rd., Glenshaw, Pa.

WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH

CLEVELAND, OHIO
4th Wednesday, Oct. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St.
Cleveland, Ohio

WHITTIER BRANCH

Mrs. Edward Lobser, Cor. Secy.
25912 Westlake Rd., Bay Village, Ohio

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH, PA.

3rd Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2:00 p.m.
Homes of Members
Mrs. J. H. Ward Hinkson, Secy.
Wallingford, Pa.

HOLDOVER MINUTES

Los Angeles, Calif. June 23, 1952
CONDENSED MINUTES meeting National Board, American Begonia Society, held in the

City Hall, Los Angeles, with President Trowbridge presiding. Meeting opened at 8 p.m.

Present for the meeting Messrs. Trowbridge, Haskell, Small, Terrell, Spaulding, Mesdames Korts, Nolan, Graham, Spaulding, Hartwell. Branches represented: Hub City, Inglewood, Southgate, Riverside, Glendale, Pasadena, Redondo Beach Area, Santa Monica, San Gabriel Valley, Parent Branch and North Long Beach. Salute to the Flag led by Mrs. White (Southgate Branch).

Statement of Aims and Purposes of the Society read by Mrs. Powell.

REPORTS

Stanley Spaulding as Advertising Mgr. pro tem. Account of Homestead Flower Grower in the amount of \$42.00 due since Sept. 1950 be turned over to a collection agency for attention; President Trowbridge to attend to this. **SO ORDERED.**

Mrs. Korts read prepared report of Membership Chairman.

After discussion it was decided to have 3200 Begonians printed for the Convention. **SO ORDERED.** Mr. Spaulding also read his report as Editor.

Check for \$15.00 given Mrs. Powell to be expended by her in her publicity articles and mats for use by the branches. Write her if you can use this material.

Treasurer Mr. Haskell read his financial report. Mr. Haskell asked to get information, to be presented at next meeting, regarding depositing of certain funds to bear interest. Treasurer receipts as follows for the Convention Fund. Parent Branch of Long Beach \$10.00; La Mesa Branch \$7.50. These to be forwarded to Convention Chairman, San Francisco.

Mrs. Korts reported on Garden Visitation—total receipts \$132.68; expense \$32.68; \$100.00 to the Society. Check for \$19.32 given Mrs. Korts to cover expense for cards, printing, mailing, etc. during her term of office. **SO ORDERED.** President expressed his appreciation to every one for their part in making the garden tour a success.

Mr. Mutschman reported on the coming Garden Visitation, July 27th, and asked everyone to get behind this visitation and work to put over a very successful tour. Letter from Mr. Meyer, San Francisco, offering a page in the Convention brochure for a library ad. with membership application, **NO CHARGE.** Thanks so much. Two banquet tickets for the Convention, mailed the Dyckmans as a courtesy from the Northern branches.

President Trowbridge reported on his and Mrs. Korts' recent visit to Mrs. Carrell regarding the lack of financial and activity reports. After discussion, motion made that Wm. Walton consult with Mrs. Carrell and report at next meeting.

Branch reports indicate no summer let-up.

Respectfully submitted,

Gonda Hartwell, Secy.

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CONDENSED MINUTES

Annual meeting held August 30, 1952, at San Francisco, California, called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Trowbridge. Past President Moore led Pledge of Allegiance. President welcomed all to convention. San Francisco Branch President Robert Gromm read Aims and Purposes of the Society.

National officers present were introduced: Messrs. Spaulding, Moore, Terrell, Small; Mesdames. Schwertfeger, Spaulding, Powell, Korts, Williams, Fort, Baker, Ashe, Talbot. President introduced Convention General Manager Carl Meyer, who received a warm ovation.

President appointed Peter Guerich, Chmn., Mary H. Drummond and Fred Browne to count ballots. (Turn to Next Page)

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CONDENSED MINUTES—Cont.

Minutes of July Board meeting read and approved as corrected.

Reports of Treasurer, Business Mgr. Pro. Tem, Editor, Publicity Director, Librarian, Slide Librarian, Membership Secretary read, summarizing year's work—see previous reports in Begonian. Present membership, 2549—loss of 48 in the year accounted reasonable because reported many societies have had heavy losses this year probably attributed to economic conditions.

President introduced Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Dyckman; received standing ovation.

Vice-presidents reported year's accomplishments, hi-lite; Mrs. Williams sent out over 780 letters, received 79.

Mrs. Schwerdtfeger presented revised Constitution of Dallas County Branch, changed as recommended at last Board meeting. Approval moved by Mrs. Korts, seconded by Mrs. Carleton; carried. Next presented proposed changed By-laws of Glendale Branch and acceptance moved by Louise Schwerdtfeger, seconded by Mrs. Powell; carried. Then read her annual report and introduced her entire committee—present for 1st time in Society's history. Mrs. Elsa Fort: Felt we were too far away for handshakes across the continent but are taking handshakes home. Reported work in East; pleaded for more study material on begonias. Mrs. David Talbot: working with Mrs. Baker in Northwest; Salem encouraged; Portland staged first show. Mrs. Lillian Ashe: Has been ill but now has many new contacts for organization work. Mrs. Sophia Baker: Round Robins expanded to 57 with 551 members, 33 directors—24 types of robins—a great year.

President received report of ballot committee:

President-elect—Glenn Motschman

Vice-president—Ruthanne Williams

Treasurer—Charles Richardson

During recognition of branches Redondo Beach Area presented an invitation to hold the 1953 convention in Redondo Beach, assuring adequate facilities.

Following other branches recognized: San Gabriel, San Francisco, Glendale, Inglewood, T. B. Shepherd, El Monte, Sacramento, Hub City, North Long Beach, Parent Chapter (Mr. and Mrs. Hixon and Charter Member Mrs. Congdon), Hollywood, Southern Alameda County, Humboldt, Petaluma, East Bay, Pasadena, San Diego, Houston, Texas (Mrs. Polly Cooper), Santa Barbara, foothill, Elsa Fort and Philobegonia and M. Gruenbaum (Mrs. Fort), New England (Mrs. Catherine Sheehan and Mrs. Bessie Raymond Buxton).

H. M. Butterfield introduced as Chairman of Nomenclature Committee and reported system of registering now has several dozen new cards filed. Be sure you register your crosses. A copy of the complete check list is now available for immediate checking of available names.

Report read by member from Mrs. Florence Carrell as Chairman of Seed Fund stating 225 members sent for seed paying \$323.50 but cash paid out was \$291.00 leaving cash \$32.50 against which were \$111.00 unpaid bills or a loss of \$78.85; that she would be responsible therefor and will settle all accounts in full; that she offered her resignation. Mrs. Alice Clark asked that a letter extending our great appreciation for the work she

has done and our keen regret at her resignation be sent. President stated new secretary would be instructed to send such a letter and that Mrs. Gonda Hartwell has resigned at the death of her husband, for which entire society was deeply grieved.

Mr. Browne, San Gabriel, moved acceptance of Redondo Beach invitation. Seconded by Mrs. Marek, Glendale; carried.

Recessed until 6:00 p.m. at which time banquet held with Dr. Paul Gilbert as Master of Ceremonies. Garden tours announced for Sunday and Monday. Father John McCluskey gave the invocation and all available space was filled for the excellent dinner.

Dr. Gilbert at evening session introduced Manager Carl Meyer who specifically thanked Show Manager Frank Rich and entire personnel of convention and show and introduced President Trowbridge.

As many were present who had not attended the afternoon session Mr. Trowbridge re-read Mrs. Carrell's resignation and explained to the group that the Board's investigation into the Seed Fund had been prompted by the lack of any reports from that Department and the importance of keeping books available for any Government officers who may request them at any time and expressed sorrow that the matter had to arise.

Dr. Gilbert introduced "Pop" Dyckman who reminisced in a very amusing manner on his first visit to San Francisco 45 years ago and the changes in it and the Society since its inception in his parlor.

Mr. Meyer reviewed the teams who had worked so hard for the convention, with gratitude.

Mrs. Bessie Buxton was introduced and gave a most charming speech which you will read on another page of this issue.

Mrs. Ruthanne Williams beautifully and formally installed the new officers and was herself installed by Mr. Trowbridge. Mr. Richards was unable to be present but was wished success in his undertaking. Glendale Branch presented Mrs. Korts with a magnificent large briefcase for her new work and she accepted the gavel, thanking the Northern Branches for a wonderful convention. Mr. Moore presented Calvin Trowbridge with a set of Bailey's Encyclopedia of Horticulture and life membership card.

Mrs. Korts introduced President-elect Motschman who thanked his electors and expressed his wish to be of assistance this year.

Mr. Meyer then thanked the American Fuchsia Society, Gesneria Society and East Bay African Violet Society and all commercial participants in the Show and Frank Reinelt and Antonelli Brothers in particular for the tremendous blanket of begonias on the show stage. He asked his committee to present the awards.

Ann Meyer won deservedly with her magnificent specimen plants the awards reported elsewhere in this issue including the Christle Geer sweepstakes cup for the most points in the show. See show report for details.

The meeting adjourned with the next board meeting to be held regularly in Los Angeles City Hall. All members are invited to come.

Frances W. Spaulding, Secy. Pro-Tem.

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