

. . . Holiday Greetings . . .

# *The Begonian*

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

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## From the President . . .

The Holiday Season is once again here and I believe that we should all give thanks that we are here on earth to enjoy life as we do. This is the time of the year that we have put our plants to rest and are preparing for the joyful days of Christmas and the New Year. It would be nice if during these days we would keep in the back of our minds the thought of resolving to forget all differences we have had, and go forth in the New Year with the thought that we will bring new life to The American Begonia Society by pulling together in an effort to make our society one of which we will all be proud.

Looking back on the old year we may all take pride in the things we have done, both individually and collectively. Begonias and The American Begonia Society have become better known this past year through the efforts of our many members all over the world, by the articles written, shows staged, and outstanding accomplishments in the horticultural field by some of our members.

The letters I have received telling of the plans that are formulating by many of the membership give me confidence that 1955 will be a banner year for The American Begonia Society. With this thought in mind, I would like to extend to all my wishes for happiness, good fortune and good growing.

—Your President

## From the Editor . . .

Many thanks for the kind words about our first new revamped Begonian. I hope the new style will appeal to you as we continue in such a vein. Surveys were taken carefully before making such a jump and from them changes were made and will continue to be made in an effort to make this the best magazine of its kind.

Christmas is with us and it has come quickly this year. It will be gone almost as quickly as it came, and a sort of hollow is left. Maybe that's our fault because we tend to set apart this day and its spirit so far ahead of anything else, not realizing that the Christmas Day of giving and happiness is for the other 364 days of the year.

This spirit we have for Christmas—this Day—is it not in memory of one who upon earth practiced the spirit we but shallowly touch on this Day, all of the days? Did He not do little things each day for everyone? Was He not cheerful? Was He not always thoughtful each day instead of just one?

We who work with beauty certainly know the value of the daily little things in making our plants grow. We know how the plants always look cheerful, and we know how hard they work in their ungossiping lives to beautify the ugly "and cheer mans careful mood." It would seem to me since we know this so thoroughly we could practice it each waking hour, with perhaps a tremendous climax on this Special Day. Then I think this Day would have much more meaning than it now does.

Mrs. Lloyd and myself took off during the months of October through December to give forty-two Christmas programs to our shade garden groups in showing how to bring the outdoors a little more inside in the old fashioned way of making this a real Christmas—making it not only in spirit but also in the physical sense. I am happy to report that our clubs are filled with good folk who feel the same way, and they with you, are the light bearers of this good spirit throughout the year.

The cover picture is the woodland piece Sassy and I made for our door, and we but wish you could come in with us, by our old organ, old fashioned red candles and holly, and sing with us about "Peace on earth and good will toward men." From our home and office to you, and you and you, a real Christmas for now and for every day.

## Let's Get Our Begonias Ready For Winter . . .

—BY LOUISE CRAMER, Pasadena, Calif.

Old man winter is on his way, but who in Southern California can realize it with the delightful sunny days present unless you feel the chill of the night and observe the declining thermometer. Now is the ideal time to repot begonias, not by bare root, but by slipping the plant with most of its old soil into a pot two sizes larger. The plant still has vitality and active roots which absorb the food contained in the new soil. When the plant awakens in the Spring from winter dormancy, active growth will begin with the roots undisturbed and plenty of food available.

A good soil mix to use is one part each of leaf mold, aged steer manure, peat and sandy soil. This may be varied by many growers but it gives me very satisfactory results because the soil provides valuable trace elements, hormones and organics. Bone meal added gives slow food.

Some Rex begonias will hold their leaves all winter, while others will drop them, leaving only a dry, barren rhizome which looks like the plant should go to the trash. Have patience. Keep this dead looking plant from drying out completely by an occasional light sprinkle of water. In the spring, tiny growth will begin to show and soon the plant will bear beautiful foliage.

Fibrous and cane type begonias also need fall transplanting to provide new food as many may only have a top leafing showing they lack food to support leaves all along the stem. After transplanting, the top may be cut off to force new growth along the stem. The top cutting may be placed in a rooting medium or in a pot to start a new plant. When new growth has come in, the plant may again be cut below the branching node. This process can be repeated until the desired bushy appearance is created.

Tuberous begonias should be watered as long as they have leaves and stems, because they are still making and storing food in the tuber for next year's. When they are ready to go dormant, they will drop their stems. Remove the stem stub and dust with sulfur. If the plant has been bothered with mildew, spray the bulb, soil and pot with a good fungicide. Let the pot dry in the sun a few days and store the pot, with the tuber in the soil, on its side in a cool dry place above freezing temperature. When the tuber is left in the soil, the root system is not destroyed, and next season many tiny roots branch from each root of this summer.

Begonias planted in the garden should be well mulched with leaves, shavings, leaf mold or peat to prevent the roots or rhizomes from freezing. If the garden plants are valuable or hard to find, they should be potted up or a cutting rooted and protected from frost. If there are not too many plants to take care of, they may be protected from frost by covering with a paste board carton. Begonias are destroyed by frost when the sun gets to them before the stems are thawed out and the heat expansion explodes the tiny cells. Do not forget the begonias will need water in the winter. If there is a freeze, a watered stem will not freeze as quickly as a dry one. Air circulation also helps prevent frost damage, but if the temperature gets too low, the tops of begonias may go, however the plant will probably come back if the roots are well protected.

One last duty is to clean up all debris and spray the plants, soil and all surrounding plants and areas with a good cleanup spray including a fungicide in the mixture. Don't forget to spread around plenty of slug and snail bait.

# Winter Blooming Begonias . . .

By MRS. JENSEN, *Bellflower, Calif.*  
*Grower of African violets and begonias*

One of the interesting features of this class of begonias, aside from winter blooming period is the variation in shades of green in the foliage. Ranging from chartreuse to a deep dark velvety green oftentimes with a distinct pattern of the two shades in one leaf.

The blossoms of this group are usually in some shade of pink and the flower spikes stand well above the leaves. Their blooming season ranges from December through May. Most of these winter bloomers belong to the rhizomatous class.

Variety commonly called Star begonias. *BH Sunderbrulhi* being one of the most widely distributed. Other in the "star" group includes *Nigricans*, *Carolinaefolia*, *Ricinifolia*, *Coral Star*, etc.

Some very interesting hybridizing has been done in some of the smaller growing rhizomatous group and have given us plants to take into the house when cold weather comes. Among the named varieties you will find are *Bow-chancee*, light green leaves with edges tipped in brown and pink flowering; *Bow-nigra* with dark velvety green pattern on lighter green ground a very lovely one to grow in a dish garden, keeping well within bounds and able to stand the dry air in the house. It has pink flowers.

*Mayphil*, small grower, very unusual in leaf pattern, chartreuse with brown markings over the entire leaf. It blends well with other indoor plants. Pink blossoms and a very heavy bloomer. There are many more that bloom in the begonia family during winter but when they are taken into the dry air of a heated house they lose their leaves one by one and the flowers fall.

# Cinerarias for Shady Areas . . .

With the first rains settling the dust and clearing the air comes the tangy feeling in the offing that winter is on its way. Rapidly the planting period for fall is slipping through our fingers and soon it will have to be sandwiched between days that are "too rainy", "too windy" or "too cold." The time to plant that bed of stock or snaps or calendula or the bulb cover or whatever IS NOW . . . And for that problem shade area that never seems to grow anything, not even weeds, now is the time to raise the bed for good drainage, incorporate a goodly percentage of humus (up to one-half) and work in a cupful of hoof and horn meal to each 100 sq. ft. of bed space. With all of this preparation things are all ready to set in a planting of cinerarias—the true queen of the shade garden area.

Cinerarias thrive in shady locations but they require good drainage and loose soil. The above treatment will answer their soil requirements unless the soil is too alkaline. In this case soil sulphur or an acid plant food should be applied in sufficient quantities to make the soil of a slightly acid nature.

While the color range of cinerarias is basically contained within the reds, purples and blues, there are several types in flower form and height from which to choose for the particular problem and taste involved. For simple maintenance in a problem spot *Cineraria Stellata* is often chosen. This variety tends to reseed itself year after year and so serves as a perennial planting. The flowers are medium in size and about 2½' to 3' in height and are often used for background planting with shorter material in front. Colors run heavy to solid dark tones. *Cremers Prize Strain* is short and stocky and has a fine color range with a medium size flower but a tremendous flower head. *Multiflora nana compacta* is a class that includes several varieties of small flowers that form a large head on very short and stocky plants. Most popular, by far, are the giant flowered strains of dwarf plants such as the *Howard & Smith strain*. A good mixture in this class will have as

—Continued on next page

# Primula Obconica in the Shade Picture . . .

The Primula family is often mentioned as being well suited for planting in shady areas of the garden. One of the finest members of this group is rapidly coming to high esteem for garden use. This is Primula Obconica which has long been used as an inexpensive house pot plant. One of the showiest of the primula family, primula obconica is relatively easy to cultivate in the garden and gives the longest show of color of any of this group. Planted through the fall a planting should give some immediate color and remain dormant through the cold weather. With the advent of warmer weather in the spring, the plants will reactivate and bloom on till summer heat. With luck some of the plants will survive and complete a full second cycle. Few plants that furnish color over a long period of time are capable of so long a life cycle.

Color range in primula obconica is limited to white, blue, red, rose, pink and salmon. Individual flowers are 2-2½" across and flower heads average the size of a saucer. Often ten to twenty flower stems will be present at one time. When the flowering is extra heavy, the plant will be helped by removing them for cut flowers. A maximum of four or five flowering stems per plant is the actual capacity of the plant if it is to retain its vigor and continue in good bloom.

Primula Obconica is a shade garden plant. It has a particularly fine root structure and requires a rich soil in humus such as peat moss or leaf mold. Excellent drainage is a must for success, so raised beds are suggested whenever the soil is heavy and tends to hold excessive moisture. Light fertilizing at weekly intervals is in order as the flower buds start and spraying is necessary to control white fly. Once in fall and again in spring the ground should be drenched with dieldrin to discourage ants and cut-worms.

Many fine plants are recommended by the California Bedding Plant Advisory Board for grouping with Primula Obconica. Due to their fairly low height which approximates one foot at the maximum, primula obconica are usually used at the front

of a bed or as an out and out border plant. At this time of the year agapanthus, cineraria, forget-me-not, mimulus, nemesia, and other members of the primula family, such as the malacoides and polyanthus, will tolerate the same conditions and will tend to extend the period of bloom. Spring plantings of primula obconica can be combined with all of the above plus calceolaria and salvia.

In buying a flat of primula obconica, if there are more than can be used for the garden, pot up the surplus. This can be done satisfactorily even though there are no greenhouse facilities, just by pushing the pots into the ground to the depth of the rim. Set a layer of sand or peat moss under and around them to insure good drainage. A pinch of fertilizer should be added every other week to keep the plants in a good state of growth. As the first flower stems appear, pinch them off to strengthen the plant. With little trouble fine specimens can be developed.

## Cinerarias

—Continued from preceding page

complete a color range as the cinerarias provide with whites, pinks, reds and even terracotta and many good two-tones. Flowers in this class are often three inches and better across although the mass flower head will not average as large as most of the smaller flowered varieties.

According to the California Bedding Plant Advisory Board little is required for fall maintenance with a cineraria planting once it is started. Plants should be spaced at one foot intervals, with watering usually accounted for by the natural rains. Inspection for aphids infestation should be made regularly and once in a while white fly or leaf miner will need to be checked. Once a month, light fertilizing beginning next spring is a commendable procedure, but do not force feed them at this time of the year.

# Christmas

## Window Garden . . .

—By BESSIE BUXTON

The days grow shorter and colder as the sun rolls southward. This month brings the shortest, darkest days, and the sun has little warmth to urge our begonias into growth. Many are resting, half dormant, waiting for the sun to turn north again to awaken them. But a faithful few still bloom for us and with these we can plan our Christmas windows.

Instead of trimming my house on the outside with ropes of evergreen and electric lights, I enjoy filling the windows with flowers. One of my front windows will be arranged in red and green, with red or white candles, the other in pink and white with pink or white candles. Vines will frame the windows. English ivy (*Hedera helix*) gives the best effect, although *Cissus Adenopodus*, *Pothos* or other vines are good. Strings may be used to hold the vines in place, or Scotch tape will hold them securely and invisibly to the window frame. A row of red and white *semperflorens* in green pots fits snugly on the window sill, and behind them on a wire plant stand the plants are placed. The lowest shelf of the stand is a bit below the window sill, so I choose tall plants for that, so that the height is properly graduated. I set smaller plants on the other shelves and take a critical look from the outside as I work to detect the errors in placing.

Begonia lovers will take pride in filling their windows with their favorite plant, to interest the passer-by as to its variety and decorative possibilities. However, no one would object to the use of other plants with the begonias, and if you have a large plant of *Poinsettia* or *Jerusalem cherry* it would make a fine center for the window arrangement. Mme. Fanny Giron has ideal color for such a window, with its dark green leaves and scarlet flowers. Getting the lady to bloom at this time of year is another story, but it can be done. The calla lily begonia is even more chancy than Mme. Fanny, but its green and white leaves flecked with scarlet flowers light up the

sombre greens of the window beautifully. If you can get a large plant of *Bertha du Chateau Rocher*, (also known as *Corbeille de Feu* and *Vesuvius*) it would make a showy centerpiece, for its form is fountain-like and the stems as well as the flowers are red. *Corallina de Lucerna* is a fairly constant bloomer, as is *Pres. Carnot*, although the blooms of the latter may prove too pink to look well with the other plants. Mrs. Robinson's *Dianna* usually has a profusion of good sized flowers, *Sachsen* and *Jinnie May* bear quantities of small red flowers, and the tall red *Rubras* would be effective at the sides.

Use as many white flowered plants as possible, for white lights up the window garden as well as it does the outside garden, especially at night, when red recedes into the background unless well lighted. *McBethi*, *Richardsiana*, *Dregei* and *Acuminata* are all good white flowered kinds. All have small flowers, (*Acuminata* has the largest) —but bear them in profusion, and they are very effective interspersed with the red flowered kinds. A plant in a hanging pot adds to the beauty of the window. If you are fortunate enough to have the white flowered Christmas cactus in bloom at this time, it would be ideal, but the flowers of the more familiar *Zygocactus truncatus* are magenta, and should not be used in this window. The white Italian bellflower (*Campanula isophylla alba*) would be most appropriate, if you can manage to keep it in bloom until Christmas. This could be done by taking late cuttings, in March or April, and pinching them back until late August, so forcing a later blooming season. Failing this, use the *St. Augustine grass*, (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*) the green and white variety. This droops gracefully and lights up well. *Oplismenus hirtellus* (*Basket Grass*) is another green and white grass, very delicate and airy in a hanging pot. The green and white *tradescantias* are good also for this place.

When the arrangement of the window satisfies you, set two tall red or white can-

dles among the plants, placing them so that the wax will not drip on the leaves. A row of small red and white candles on the window sash will add to the brilliancy of the window.

For the pink window, use a large plant of Melior, Marjorie Gibbs or any of the pink flowered Christmas begonias, (children of *B. socotrana*) for a centerpiece, and a row of pink and white semperflorens on the window sill. Mrs. W. S. Kimball is usually in bloom for Christmas and one of these tall slender plants, dripping with pale pink flowers, on each side of the window would help to frame its beauty. Corinthian pink, Annabelle, New Hampshire, the pink Rubra and Incarnata Sandersi are good pink flowered varieties for this window. The tall candles in this window should be pink or white, like the small one across the sash. A light colored screen behind the plants make a good background and gives privacy if you live in a city.

The first time one arranges a Christmas window, the material at hand must be used, supplemented by plants from the florist. For the red window, the pineapple sage (*Salvia rutilans*) is good. The foliage is light green, the small scarlet flowers borne in terminal spikes. Camellias are very lovely for either the red or the pink window, and there are red Impatiens, Plumbago coccinea, which has terminal spikes of good sized red flowers, the large flowered scarlet Kalanchoes, and the cherry red geraniums.

Additional white flowers are the various jasmines, the white Plumbago, a tall shrub-like plant with large clusters of pure white flowers, the white Bouvardia, the white Impatiens, white or pink Oxalis for hanging pots, paper white narcissus, white freesias and the familiar calla lily. Pot this in August, in rich soil, and give some bottom heat or water with warm water to force into Christmas bloom.

This year's experience will show you what you want to do next year. Choose the plants you desire and start them early. As the time for development varies in different localities, ask your local florist or the nearest

agricultural college or school, to help you about planting dates, for they know how many days should elapse between planting and blooming time. These calculations are based on normal weather, but sometimes an unusually long period of storm, cloudy weather or extremes of heat or cold defies their best judgment, and the plants come into bloom too early or too late, with consequent loss of money to the florist. Commercial growers have excellent judgment on these matters, however, and know how to increase the heat if the weather is cold, or to decrease it if the plants get ahead too fast. Home growers cannot do this as easily as the commercial men, and it is well to plan at least ten days or two weeks more than the dates which they will give you. It is a fascinating game and will materially increase your knowledge of growing plants.

*Editor's note. Like many of our good books, we like to reread them over and over. Mrs. Buxton's article appeared in 1945 in the Begonian and I thought you would find it most timely and enjoy rereading such a fine piece.*

## ★ Free Leaflets . . .

Again the Begonian offers a number of interesting pieces of literature that will help you in your gardening anywhere in the country. When you send for these you also show our prospective advertisers what we can get in interest in our magazine. Send all requests to Box 337, San Gabriel. (You can still send for the ones offered last month).

1. Interested in dry foliage and drift woods from the desert and high mountain regions of the West? This little booklet and pictures of arrangements are most unusual.
2. The Plant Tower has a catalogue sheet on description, price and how to get it.
3. Two pieces of literature on house plant care and care of African violets prepared by the planter mix folks with the 8 ingredients.

*Seasons Greetings . . .*

from the

**INGLEWOOD BRANCH**

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

First Tuesday each month. 8:00 p.m. — American Legion Hall, 3208 W. 85th St., Inglewood, Calif.

# "Easy Gardening" . . .

—By GORDON BAKER LLOYD

## LESSON 2 — "AIR AND MOISTURE IN THE SOIL"

**Air in the soil** In our chain of events in making good soil (see Nov. issue) we find next the value of air in soil. In tightly packed soils, we call them "heavy soils," air does not circulate as it should. First, certain types of bacteria must have air. Secondly, roots breathe in the soil almost as leaves do on the plant or tree. There must be a complete circulation of air in a normal method to keep our plants alive, shade and otherwise. Shade soil must be particularly built so that good air circulation takes place at all times.

When the soil gets too much air, as it does in gravelly and sandy soils, or very open soils, it is as bad as a soil getting no air at all. The big point of cultivation of soil over the years of practice, was to allow air to get into the soil, instead of bouncing off the crust. We have found in recent years that mulching practices and other such methods of non-cultivation, let air and moisture into the soil as well without disturbing roots.

Most of us have the two extremes of soil—Light and heavy. As we begin to form life in the soil, we note that these two extremes no longer exist—that air begins to circulate in the soil as it should, and that the other links in our "soil chain" begin to shape up normally. Watch this as we go along from lesson to lesson.

**How much air?** The United States Dept. of Agriculture in their books on soil and what is needed to make good soil, tell us that 25 per cent of soil must be air. I find that less than half of our garden soils contain the air needed. This air also has a lot to do with release of food, formation of humus in the soil and is indirectly related to PH control.

**Moisture in soil** How often we feel that the most important thing we can do for a plant is to keep it watered. Sure, this is important—but it is not the most important thing—no more important than air. Let's put watering in its right place and let's understand what must go into good watering.

**Heavy soil** The soils that are heavy are such not by weight, but by the lack of ease to work and "break up." Their particles are tight and are held together by moisture, so tight in fact that often they can seem damp and yet not release to the plant the water needed. You may call these soils adobe, clay and by other names in your given area. They lack what is called good drainage for if water is held around the roots of a plant too long, particularly in shade lovers, small rootlets begin to rot and big roots soon follow, causing the death of your plants.

We might also add to tie all of the "links" together, that this soil with too much water kills the bacteria or life in the soil, holds back plant food availability, and frequently changes the PH of the soil. In other words, the soil is not in a "normal" condition. We do something then to this soil to prevent excess of water, and cause a condition that makes water more available. We can never change the character of this soil from heavy to light—but we can make it workable and bring it back to a healthy state. It is in this type of soil where we use organic matter and soil conditioners to break down the soil to make it more pliable.



**Light soils** Let's call all of these soils, the soils in which moisture goes out of the root area too quickly—they are sandy soils, decomposed granite soils, gravelly soils and any soil that drains too rapidly. When we water these soils it seems that the water just disappears somewhere. We work into these soils matter to fill in between the soils particles to act as a sponge and to close up the "air gaps and holes." These soils are generally free from good bacterial action because there is nothing for the bacteria to live upon, air circulation is too great, PH is generally wrong—and we do something about it by adding manures, organic matter, compost, peat moss and other such moisture holding materials.

**How much water in good soil** The USDA in their study on soils say that our soils must have 25 percent water for a good healthy plant. This moisture is needed to dissolve plant food, for the life stream or sap of the plant, and for other reasons we won't go into now. Remember then, watering is for something else just besides to "water the plant." If you remember this you will do a better job of watering. (Watering in full will be discussed in a later chapter.)

(Next month: Food in the soil)

Questions: (If you wish to receive a certificate of accomplishment in basic gardening, accumulate these questions and their answers for an examination after each four lessons. First test, February, 1955).

1. What is meant by heavy soil? By light soil?
2. Can we make heavy soil into loamy soil?
3. If we apply good top soil to light soil, do we make a good garden soil?
4. Why is air needed in the soil?
5. What does moisture do in the soil?

## December Contest

1. Name the begonia in the picture.
2. In 50 words, tell the best method of growing this particular begonia.

### *Deadline:*

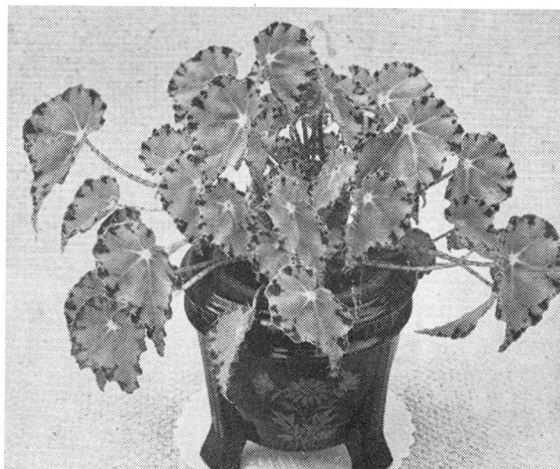
December 24, 1954, midnight.

All entries to the editor,  
Box 337, San Gabriel, Calif.

### **A W A R D S :**

For the best letter with correct identification, one of the famous Beauty two-wheeled wheelbarrows; a complete kit of Black Magic, the 8 ingredient planter mix; a full set of Cooke's Laboratory Products sprays.

The best letter will be published in the February issue, 1955.



# Armchair Gardening . . .

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND  
CLOSE OUT SALE

In order to clear our files for the January flights, we are offering a close-out on many varieties of seeds. This is a rare opportunity to grow unusual and exotic plants for the garden and green house.

Seeds from many countries have been added to the files during the past few months. For example: Tree ferns, gingers, Ti and other tropicals from the Hawaiian Islands. India, Australia, Malaya, Germany, Mexico, and South Africa are well represented.

Included in the list of fern spores are *Platycerium bifurcatum* (Australia) also known as staghorn and the flowering fern from Mexico. We do not have the space to list everything by name, but can assure you —“Never have you gotten so much for so little.”

In addition to the close-out of other genera we will include TEN varieties of begonia seeds, some have formerly sold for 25c and 50c per packet. While these seeds last, they will go for 21 PACKETS for \$2.00.

Naturally, at this ridiculously low price there can be no choice.

MRS. FLORENCE GEE,  
Seed Fund Administrator  
4316 Berryman Avenue  
Los Angeles 66, California

## -- In Memoriam --

*“Pase Usted aqui! Aqui esta su casa”  
“Enter child this is your home,” was the greeting, in Spanish, given by Kathryn Weitz to callers at her home. She has passed away and has been welcomed to the “Eternal Garden.” Mrs. Weitz and her husband H. L. Weitz were members of the Parent Chapter of the A. B. S. in Long Beach. Because attending meetings required driving ninety miles one way, Mrs. Weitz in 1937 organized and served as the first president of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch in Ventura and was also instrumental in organizing other A.B.S. branches. Our sympathy goes out to her husband and family.*

## Library Notes . . .

An outstanding book has been received and is now in stock in your Library. *BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES AND GARDENS*, by Helen K. Krauss, published by the Macmillan Co., should be in the library of every person who raises begonias either professionally or as their hobby. The book is well written in a very interesting manner and is replete with photographs and plant diagrams. It sells for \$4.00 plus postage, and if you live in California, add 12 cents for State sales tax.

Another new book has been received, *COMPLETE CULTURE OF TUBEROUS BEGONIAS*, by Dr. W. Othur Hillery, an eminent authority on begonias. This work is published by the Chieftain Press, Seattle, Washington. Autographed copies may be obtained by sending the \$4.00 purchase price direct to Dr. Hillery at 3433 Hunt's Point Road, Bellevue, Washington. The book is well illustrated with photographs of the various types of the tuberous family, and with many of the necessary steps in the culture and dividing of the tubers. To those who are trying to raise tuberous begonias, we highly recommend the study of this fine volume.

Your new Librarian wishes to call attention of both old and new members to the fact that the Library is maintained for your use. Those who are not members of the A. B. S. are cordially invited to join our Society, that you also may have the privileges of the Library. Inquiries on available books and pamphlets will be given attention and information requested will be forwarded as quickly as possible.

LUCY A. SAULT,  
Librarian.

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due to some one failing  
to send in “happenings”*

**COVER:** The door piece made by the editor is on his front door and will be seen over Gordon's Garden television show, Sunday, December 19, KABC-TV, channel 7 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lloyd's special Christmas Show. Materials used in the piece came from the Owen-Simmon's Co., 8429 Las Tunas in San Gabriel. They are the headquarters for all types of natural dried foliage, seeds, pods and burs in the Shur-Real foliage line. (Watch KABC-TV weekly on Sundays for the Lloyd's in America's only live outdoor garden show).

# ★ BEGONIA BEGINNINGS . . .

Presenting . . .

## Theodosia Burr Shepherd

In the early seventies of the 19th century, gardening in Southern California was a problem. "Water was hauled from the river and sold at two bits (twenty-five cents) a barrel) . . . Theodosia Burr Shepherd, founder of the flower seed industry of California and collector of rare plants, was a begonia enthusiast . . . In the late '75's, slips of the weedy greenish pink and greenish white semperflorens were given her; and later she acquired *Hybrida multiflora* . . . She was eager to possess the other varieties which she heard were growing in Dr. Dimmock's garden at Santa Barbara . . . When on a visit to this garden she was given cuttings of *Odorata alba*, *Edmondsoni*, and *Evansiana* . . . 1884 found her in possession of a tiny greenhouse with a handful of plants, mostly begonias, potted in tomato cans . . . Her garden was listed by Frank Wiggan, Secretary of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce as one of the "Show Places of the South." Lath houses were filled with Begonias, great bushes of them grew in shady places and semperflorens bordered paths . . . People made special trips from Los Angeles and Santa Barbara to see "Mrs. Shepherd's famous Begonias." . . . Great bushes of *Odorata Alba*, *Gilsoni*, *Fuchsoides Coccinea* and *Robusta* filled the gardens of Ventura and the town was known as the "Home of the Begonia." . . . Mrs. Shepherd listed twenty-four varieties of fibrous begonias and many un-named Rex and tuberous rooted ones in her 1891 catalogue, *Gigantea Rosea* being her novelty for that year . . . Visitors came from all parts of the world and Mrs. Shepherd shipped plants to England, New Zealand, Australia, Algeria and Hawaii. She catalogued them in 1902 . . . again in 1906, her last catalogue. In it she

listed 63 varieties of fibrous, 9 Rex, 9 Semperflorens, and many tuberous rooted begonias . . . It is regrettable that only one of Mrs. Shepherd's begonias still bears the names she gave them . . . Marjorie Daw, however, was so greatly publicized that no one has had the temerity to appropriate it as his own . . . Her large plant of Marjorie Daw was attacked by root rot . . . the disease that in time affected all of her Begonias . . . everything possible was done to save them without success . . . In a few years the famous collection was gone and eventually all plants about town succumbed; and Ventura ceased to be the "Home of the Begonia." (Excerpts from an article by Myrtle Shepherd Francis, in the Bulletin of The American Begonia Society, July, 1937.)

At the beginning of the twentieth century, or 1900, Mr. Alfred D. Robinson was beginning to get intensely interested, for I have a catalogue of his which shows a picture of "the Rosecroft Collection in 1900." Think of it—what a joy to have been collecting Begonias for 40 years!

In 1921 Bessie Buxton of Peabody, Mass., started the round robin Begonia Club.

Bessie Buxton and Mr. A. D. Robinson are given credit for much aid in increasing the membership by giving it publicity.

Mrs. Kathryn Weitz and her husband of Ventura joined the American Begonia Society, but as the trip to Long Beach was 90 miles each way, and it was always after 1 p.m. when they reached home, she decided to start a branch of The American Begonia Society which she did in May, 1937 and named it Theodosia Burr Shepherd, an early resident of Ventura and one of California's first flower and seed growers.

### *Redondo Area Branch*

WISHES YOU — AND YOURS . . .

The Happiness of Christmas . . . The Joy of Friendship . . .

The Blessings of Peace in the New Year

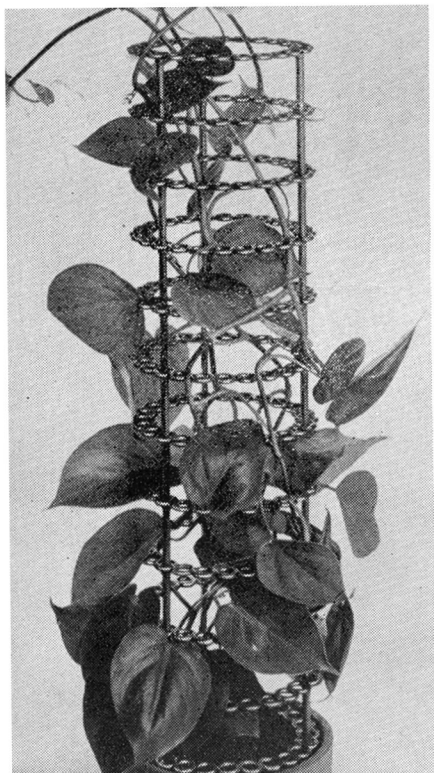
4th Fridays, 8:00 p.m. "CONVENTION HOSTS, 1955" 2308 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach, Calif.

# The Begonian Newsletter . . .

*OTHER SHADE MAGAZINES:* Hat's off to the fine work done on the monthly *Fuchsia Fan* from the California Fuchsia Society. Editor N. Trumond Peterson of Inglewood does a top job to put this 20-page magazine, on Fuchsias and related shade plants, together. The *Begonian* is also glad to hear that the California and the National Fuchsia Societies are getting together to form one big Society on Fuchsias. The new Society will be in action by the first of the year.

The *Camellia Review*, published by the Southern California Camellia Society with editor Elizabeth Beebe of Pasadena, comes out from October through April, and in July. The 28-page magazine is one of the best done on camellias—what's new in them, research, growing hints, and membership reports. The magazine would be good for any place in the country where camellias are grown. The *Begonian* adds best wishes and continual growth for both of these fine magazines.

*PLANT TOWER:* Have you had trouble getting your ivy and philodendron up a pole or trellis? Not to disparage trellis and poles of one sort or another—but there is something new and unique (see picture) that ought to help those of us who like climbing plants, begonias and other wise. This trellis comes in three sizes—for 3-inch, 4-inch and 6-inch pots. And they are inexpensive. Made of plastic in three colors of green, black and copper, they hold these plants wonderfully well. And on top of that, better growth habits are noted because light can get into the center of the plant. The rings can be built up, one on top of the other until the tower is 24-inches in height. They can also be used to add to the top of a totem pole.



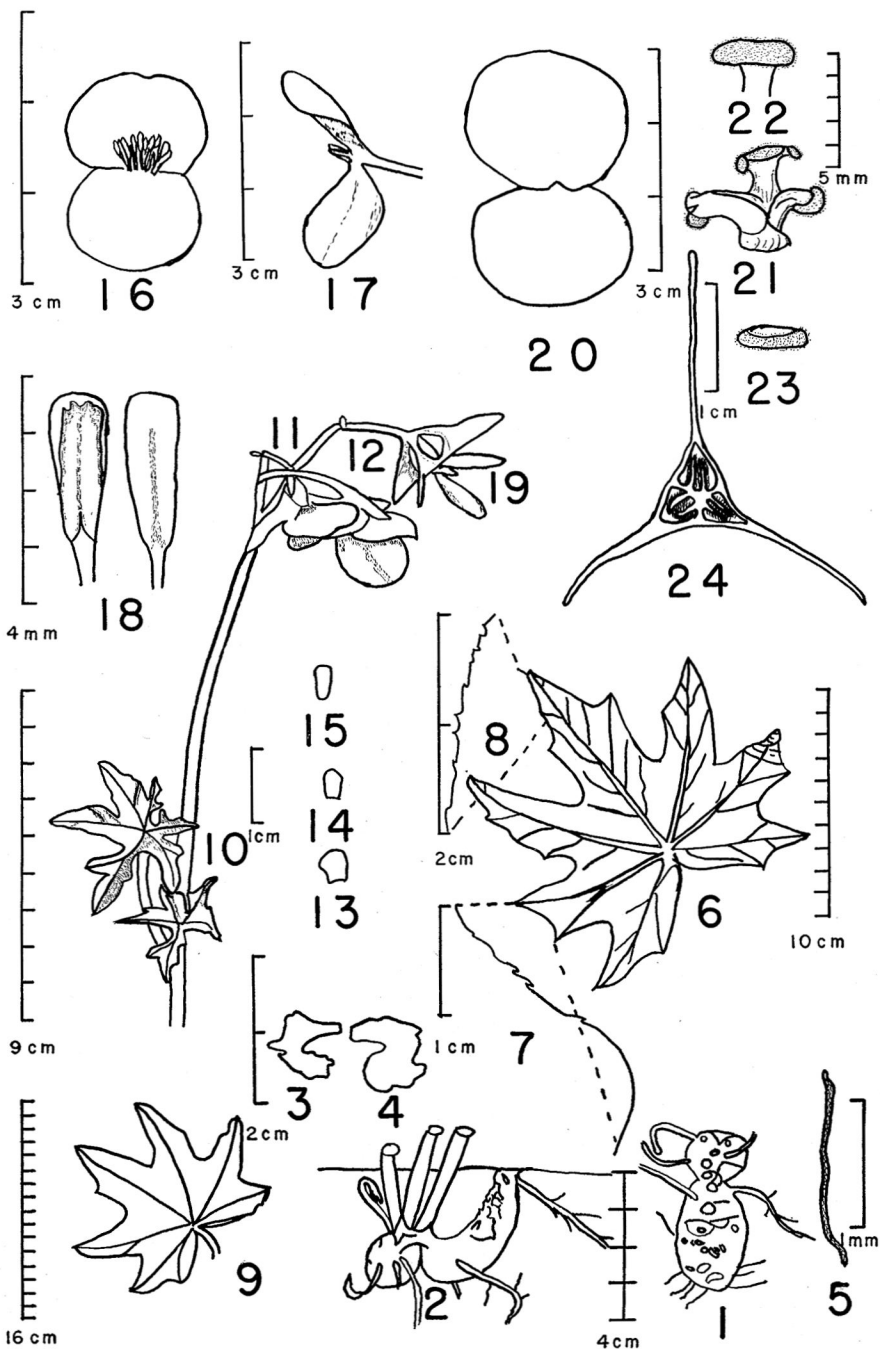
Your editor has also used the 4-inch pot rings for growing African violets. The leaves rest on the ring, but do not rot off and give better aeration of the violet crown. 12 rings are packed per set.

*HOUSE PLANT DRAINAGE: Many begonia growers, and house plant collectors, find that in bringing plants into the house it is not always possible to provide trays for them on which drainage can take place through the usual hole in the pot or container.*

*With the new planter mixes made for indoor plants, experiments have shown that no so-called hole drainage is needed. The new mixes containing 8 or more ingredients have charcoal and other materials in them to absorb harmful excess moisture, gasses and such matter, and provide for good drainage. House plants can be grown in expensive copper and brass with no fear of corrosion, or in ceramics with no drainage. The new mixes can be watered from the top and will absorb moisture throughout the entire pot area.*

*HEATING WITH GAS AND HOUSE PLANTS: There are a great number of pros and cons on the effect of artificial and natural gas on house plants. Perhaps some of the trouble attributed to gas could be charged off to poor humidity in the house, not enough light, over watering, lack of feeding. Now and again, with everything in exact good conditions, begonias give up the ghost as we grow them in our winter house heated by gas. Try a little more air in the house, which will get out extra fumes and increase the humidity of the dry air. The air that you breathe will be better for the way you treat your plants and vice-versa. This air does not want to be a swooshing wind, but indirect and one of consistency. Many thousands of glass houses are heated in California by gas and no ill effects are found if proper ventilation is practiced.*

*INTERESTING CATALOGUE: Everyone should enjoy the catalogue, 1955, of the Logee's Greenhouses of 55 North street, Danielson, Connecticut. This 50-page catalogue is half on begonias of all kinds—and The Begonian thanks them for the fine plug on our magazine and membership dues. It is found in good bold type on the last page of their most unusual and very descriptive catalogue. Ernest Kimball Logee developed the well known "Ballet," which is the finest double white in the Wax Begonias. It is in fine contrast to the bronze foliage. Plants are neat and compact. In gardens in all states, depending upon the season, we could use more of these wonderful edging begonias—and for colorful pot specimens, too.*



*Begonia philodendroides* Zies.

# Begonia

## Philodendroides . . .

—By RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

BEGONIA (section MAGNUSIA (Klotzsch) A. DC., subsection GIREOUDIA (KLOTZSCH) Wbg) philodendroides, Ziesenhenné, new species, herbaceous perennial: stem (figure 1 top of stem, figure 2 side view of stem) a creeping jointed rhizome growing under the soil, fleshy, oval,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches long,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch in depth, tip rounded, seldom branched, entire length covered with foliage; internodes about  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch long; dull surface, pod green 061/1 (the number refers to the color in The Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart); below spinach green 0960/2, smooth; lenticells whitish few; leaf-stem scars light brown (figure 1): stipules (figures 3 and 4) remaining, like paper, affixed by their top edge, growing over the front of the rhizome, one larger than the other alternately, uneven horizontally U-shaped with the opening toward the inside; right side one (number 3) tip blunt, saw-toothed, margin inside undulate, outside undulate, two-lobed at base,  $11\frac{1}{32}$  inch long,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch wide, pod green 061/3, smooth, dull, bare, nerves not distinguishable; left side one (figure 4) tip blunt, outer margin inequally undulate,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch long,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch wide; leaf stem (figure 2) dull, round,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch in diameter, 10 inches long, veronese green 660/2, dotted and striped oxblood red 00823/3, dull surface, few scattered reddish-brown shaggy hairs (figure 5)  $1\frac{1}{32}$  inch long; leaf (figure 6) leather-like, shiny, bare, spinach green 0960; below veronese green 660/2, dull, nerves prominent, few scattered reddish-brown shaggy hairs (figure 5) on nerves, leaves heart-shaped (figures 6 & 9), sides nearly equal, deeply palmately 7-lobed, lobes sometimes lobed, tips sharp pointed, base sub-arrow-head shaped, margin (figures 7 & 8) minutely saw-toothed,  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches long,  $5\frac{5}{8}$  inches wide, palmately 7-nerved, outside basally 2, laterally 1, inside basally 2, laterally 1, intervenia slightly bowed up (some of the leaves have only 6 veins and lobes but they may vary from 5 to 7 lobes and

veins): inflorescence (figure 10) a cyme, few-flowered, blooms in the fall, flower-stems some from the leaf axils, round, about  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch in diameter, 9 inches long, veronese green 660/2, dotted and striped oxblood red 00823/3, dull, few scattered brown hairs (figure 5); branches, internodes (figure 11)  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches long; pedicels (figure 12)  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch long; largest leaflet on flower-stem (figure 13) turns brown and dries quickly, papery in texture, inverted egg-shaped, slightly lobed on the outer left tip edge, tip rounded,  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch long,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch wide, secondary ones (figure 14) oblong, right tip slightly lobed, tip rounded, about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch long,  $\frac{3}{32}$  inch wide; tertiary ones (figure 15), oblong, tip rounded,  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch long, 1.16 inch wide: male flowers (figures 16 & 17) petals 2, white, thick, roundish, tip rounded, base rounded, bare  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch long,  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch wide; stamens 34 (figures 16 & 18), filaments free, about  $\frac{1}{32}$  inch long, anthers oblong, wedge shaped, tip blunt,  $\frac{3}{32}$  inch long, connective produced: female flowers (figures 19 & 20) flower-stem  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch long; petals 2, white, thick, roundish, tip blunt, base rounded,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch long,  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch wide; styles (figure 21), base  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch long, 3 styles  $\frac{1}{32}$  inch long, curved-shaped, slightly 2-lobed, stigma papillae (figures 21, 22, & 23) on tip and outer edge: capsule (figures 19 & 24)  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch long,  $\frac{13}{32}$  inch wide, inverted egg-shaped, tip rounded, base sharp pointed, green; 3-winged, largest papery, green, thin, curved downward, long triangular, tip blunt,  $\frac{19}{32}$  inch long,  $\frac{7}{32}$  inch wide at base; other two, curved downward, long triangular, tip blunt,  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch long,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide; ovary 3-celled, placenta 2-divided and carrying seeds on all sides.

Mexico, Chiapas & Oaxaca. In the foothills of the eastern Sierras. Mr. William Brooks 1951.

The leaves of this plant are similar in appearance to *Philodendron Dubium* and from this we derive its name. *Begonia*

*philodendroides* closest relative is *Begonia heracleifolia* Cham. & Schlecht. It differs from it and its varieties in its white flowers, by the wings being long and narrow, by the stipules being U-shaped and covering the blunt tip of the rhizome, by the lack of scale-like hairs on the peduncle and petioles and underside of the leaves, by the whitish, smooth, jointed subterranean rhizome which resembles a tuber, and by the leaves being less deeply lobed.

This begonia has thick, lobed, smooth, leatherly-like leaves and beautiful large flowers. It is one of the rhizomatious begonias which remains dormant from five to six months. The rhizome always grows downward and burys itself. The leaf-stems and flower stems come up through the soil. Each season the rhizome starts out anew from the old rhizome and leaves a narrow connection link between the old and new part.

*Begonia philodendroides* is easily grown and may be left in the old soil when it goes dormant. After its dormancy, it springs into growth and may then be repotted as necessary. It blooms in September, October and into November and should not be repotted or fed after that time for the plant will shed its foliage shortly and go dormant.

Of this begonia Mr. Brooks wrote in THE BEGONIAN April 1952 page 75: "In the foothills of the eastern Sierras along the line of the states of Chiapas and Oaxaca, where the blue Pacific Ocean dominates the horizon to the south, grows a begonia which has so far eluded any great amount of collecting. By virtue of growing among the very succulent roots of Sobralias, that beautiful-flowered terrestrial orchid, this begonia (which is tuberous of course, without leaves in the dry season) entering our garden unknown to us, and, when it began to grow in the spring, we found ourselves in possession of a new tuberous begonia. On first seeing it Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenné called it a "philodendron leaved Begonia," and we think the name may stay because of its being a very appropriate one."

BEGONIA (section MAGNUSIA (Klotzsch) A. DC., subsection GIREOUDIA (KLOTZSCH) Wbg.) *philodendroides*, Zies., spec. nov. Herba perennis: rhizomate repente, articulo, subterraneo, carnosio, ovali, 4.4. cm. longo, 1.3 cm. X 1 cm. crasso, apice obtuso, raro ramoso, dense foliato:

internodiis 2 mm. longis, opacis, viridibus valvaris 061/1 (Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart); subtus viridibus spinaciis 0960/2 glabris; lenticellis albidis, raris; cicatricibus hepaticis; stipulis persistentibus, papyraceis, ad rhizomatis partem superiorem annexis, et incumbentibus, inaequalibus U-formibus margine concavo intus spectantibus, alteris apice obtusis, serratis unilobatis, utringue undulatis, basi bilobis, 9 mm. longis, 1 cm. latis, viridibus valvaris 061/3, glabris, opacis, nudis, alteris apice obtusis, extus, inaequaliter undulatis, 1 cm. longis, 1 cm. latis: petiolis opacis, teretibus 1 cm. crassis, 25.4 cm. longis, viridibus veronesii 660/2, punctatis, vittatis sanguineis, balbali 00823/3, opacis, pilis ferrugineo-hirsutis 1 mm. longis, sparsim obsitis: foliis coriaceis, nitidis, nudis, viridibus spinaciis 0960, subtus viridibus veronesiis 660/2, opacis, nervis prominentibus, in nervis sparsim ferrugineo-hirsutis, cordatis, subsymetricis, palmatis 7-lobatis, lobis nonnumquam breviter lobatis, apice acutis instructis, basi sub-sagittatis, margine serrulatis 9.8 cm. longis, 14.3 cm. latis; palmatinervis nerviis 6-8 exampil gratia; extus basilaribus 2, lateralibus 1, intus palmatinervis nerviis 6-8 exampil gratia; extus basilaribus 2, lateralibus 1, intus basilaribus 1, venis primariis convexis: inflorescentia cymosa, pauciflora pedunculis axillaribus, teretibus ca. 5 mm. crassis, 15.1 cm. longis, viridibus pedunculis axillaribus, ca. 5 mm. crassis, 15.1 cm. longis, viridibus veronesii 660/2, sanguineis ballbali 00823/3 punctatis, vittatis, opacis, sparsim ferrugineo-hirsutis: internodiis primariis 3.2 cm. pedicellis 1.6 longis; bracteis primatiis decidiis celeris ferrugineis, papyraceis, obovatis, extus lobulatis, obtusis, 5 mm. longis, 3 mm. latis; secundariis oblongis, extus lobulatis, 3 mm. longis, t mm. latis; tertiis oblongis, obtusis, 5 mm. longis, 3 mm. latis: tepalis masculinis 2, albis, crassis, glabris, 1.1 cm. longis, 1.5 cm. latis; staminibus 34, filamentis ca. 1. mm. longis, liberis, antheris oblongo-cuneatis, obtusis, ca. 2 mm. longis, connectivo producto: tepalis femineis 2, albis, crassis, 1.9 cm. longis, 2.25 cm. latis: stylis 3, basi 1.5 mm. connatis, parte libera 2 mm. longis, auriculato-bilobis, fascia papillosa circumcursis; capsula 13 mm. longa, 1 cm. lata, obovata; inaequaliter trialata, ala maxima longe triangula, obtusa 15 mm. longa, basi 6 mm. lata, reliquis longe triangulis, obtusis, 11 mm. longis, 5 mm. latis; ovario 3-loculato; palcentis bilamel-latis, undique ovuliferis.



## Special Award . . .

In behalf of the Executive Committee of the American Horticultural Council, it is a pleasure to advise you of a resolution passed in recognition, in part, of the excellent exhibit of Begonias set up at our Ninth Annual American Horticultural Congress in Boston last week, and of a Citation of Merit, presented by this Council to your most honorable Mrs. Bessie R. Buxton.

The resolution referred to reads as follows:

*"BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Horticultural Council is proud of the most successful efforts of the following organizations whose members set up educational exhibits of outstanding merit for the benefit of registrants at this Congress, with special thanks to the New England Begonia Society and the American Iris Society; and deepest gratitude to the All-American Selections, American Association of Botanical Gardens Arboretums, Garden Writers' Association of America, Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Garden Club of New Jersey, Gourd Society of America, National Association of Gardeners, National Chrysanthemum Society, National Shade Tree Conference, and Northern Nut Grower's Association. The illuminated display of Ektachrome photographs provided by the Arnold Arboretum was a focal point of the exhibit hall.*

The text of the Citation presented to Mrs. Buxton by Dr. J. Franklin Styer, Chairman of the Awards Committee of the American Horticultural Council, on the occasion of the Presidents' Dinner, 28 October, reads as follows:

*The American Horticultural Council through the Board of Directors presents this Citation to you,  
Mrs. Bessie R. Buxton  
of Peabody, Massachusetts,  
for exemplary achievements as a  
Student and Champion of the  
genus Begonia.*

*Through your efforts, enthusiasm, and writings, you have added greatly to the fame and popularity of Begonias in America. We also salute you as a leader outstanding among amateur women horticulturists in our country.*

In connection with the outstanding exhibit of Begonias displayed at the Congress, special mention should be given to the work of Mrs. George Greenlaw of Concord, Mass., and set up in behalf of the New England Branch of the American Begonia

Society. This exhibit attracted acclaim from all who saw it, not only for the wide range of species and varieties displayed, but also for the educational value of the exhibit, whereby each plant was connected by a ribbon to a large map of the New World, showing the point of origin of that particular kind. Mrs. Greenlaw deserves and receives the congratulations and applause from this Council. It is a pleasure to advise you of these two honors that have come to members of your Society and to assure you that your participation in this Congress is deeply appreciated. You will be kept advised of plans for the next Congress, to be held the first week of November, 1955, and we look forward to a full representation of the Society at that Congress and an appropriate exhibit of the Society's choice.

Very sincerely yours,

G. H. M. LAWRENCE

### STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF

The Begonian, published Monthly at Los Angeles, California for October 1, 1954:

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:  
Publisher—American Begonia Society, Inc., 3734 Overland Drive, Los Angeles 34, Calif., or P.O. Box No. 2544, Los Angeles 54, California.  
Editor—Gordon Baker Lloyd, Box 337, San Gabriel, California.

Managing Editor—None.

Business Manager—Fred Brown, 917 Novelda Rd., Alhambra, Calif.

2. The owner is: American Begonia Society, Inc., 3734 Overland Drive, Los Angeles 34, California.

President—Jack E. Koobig, 2717 Monterey Street, Torrance, California.

President-Elect—Joe Taylor, 301 Anita Street, Redondo Beach, California.

Treasurer—Mrs. Marie Trowbridge, 9600 So. Van Ness, Los Angeles 47, California.

Membership Secretary—Jack MacLanahan, 3734 Overland Dr., Los Angeles 34, Calif.

Vice-President, 1 year—Mrs. Ruthanne Williams, 2160 Stacia Way, Sacramento, Calif.

Vice-President, 2 years—Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, 1450 Cantera Ave., Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Vice-President, 3 years—Fred Browne, 817 Novelda Road, Alhambra, Calif.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.  
by Gordon Baker Lloyd, editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of November, 1954.

(SEAL) WALTER T. SHATFORD #  
Notary Public in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

(My commission expires June 12, 1955)

Editor .....Gordon Baker Lloyd, Box 337, San Gabriel, Calif.  
Advertising Manager .....Emri Stoddard, 768 Avenue B, Redondo Beach, California

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For dues, Address Changes, or Magazines . . . write to Membership Secretary, Box 2544  
Los Angeles 54, California. Branch members pay dues to branch.

## Aims and Purposes of the American Begonia Society, Inc.

This Society shall be conducted on a non-profit basis, and its purpose shall be to stimulate interest in begonias and shade-loving plants; to encourage the introduction and development of new types of begonias and related plants; to gather and publish information in regard to the kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and other shade-loving plants; and to issue a bulletin which shall be mailed to all members in good standing.

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Parliamentarian .....Sam Sault  
26938 Dapple Gray Lane, Rolling Hills, Calif.

# BOARD MEETING NOTES . . .

Meeting of National Board held October 25, 1954, 7:45 p.m. at Los Angeles City Hall, President Koebig presiding. Pledge of Allegiance led by Past-president Motschman, and Aims and Purposes read by President-elect Taylor.

Minutes of previous meeting read and corrected. Correction: Motschman requested that the sentence stating number of members dropped during past year be changed, omitting number of members dropped. So ordered.

Treasurer Trowbridge reported a balance in General Fund of \$1378.93.

Communications: Letter from Dorothy Behrends stating that material she had contributed to the *BEGONIAN* in previous years could not be reprinted without her permission. Letter of congratulations from Sacramento Branch and check for fifty dollars toward Convention expenses. This was most gratefully received.

Vice-president Browne reported on completion of audit. All books found correct.

President-elect Taylor reported on progress of Rummage Sale, asked for information as to best place to hold sale.

Past-president Motschman moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, that we print in the *BEGONIAN*, the correct manner of repeating the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion carried.

Advertising Manager Stoddard, reported that the Ad for the Burkleigh Co., was printed in October without their approval so they would not make payment. Moved by Stoddard, seconded by Browne, that due to our error the Ad for Burkleigh Co., be written off the books. Motion carried.

Research Director Korts reported on visit to Sacramento Branch, brought back load of rummage.

Public Relations Director read letter from Round Robin chairman wanting to know if one must be a member of the society to belong to Round Robin. Moved by C. Trowbridge, seconded by Moore that this question be referred to a committee, this committee to check and see if there is a document in regard to the matter and bring report to next meeting. Also to report how many belonging to Round Robin are members. Motion carried. Mr. Moore appointed chairman of this committee.

Librarian Sault reported 8 books on loan, 2 books sold, 28 *BEGONIANS* sold. \$8.51 remitted to treasurer.

Membership Secretary MacLanahan re-

ported renewing members 100, new members 63, remitted to treasurer \$412.42. To cut expenses, moved by MacLanahan, seconded by Motschman, that after November issue is mailed, no further complimentary copies be sent out, but a card notifying of expiration be put in the twelfth issue sent to member. Motion carried.

President Koebig introduced new Parliamentarian, Sam Sault, member of Redondo Area Branch.

Slide Librarian Anderson reported classifying of slides almost complete, needs more slides of rhizomatous class, would like pictures of last National Show.

Flower Show Chairman Trowbridge has plans under way for entry in International Show. Thinks September issue of *BEGONIAN* should be given to Directors to give to prospective members.

Editor Lloyd again asked that all suggestions about magazine be made directly to him. Deadline for ALL material will be the 15th of month.

Past secretary Walker reported on late ballots and returned \$5.49 of \$15.00 advanced for postage.

Moved by Motschman, seconded by Moore that the \$43.87 left in the National Convention Expense Fund be transferred to the General Fund. Motion carried.

Mrs. Korts stated that Bonds should be purchased for the Life Membership Fund. \$65.00 should be added to the account. Moved by Lloyd, seconded by Moore, that the matter of the Bonds be straightened out, the \$65.00 paid, and the Bonds bought. Motion carried.

President Koebig stated he had authorized Treasurer to send money for Ad in Flower Grower Magazine. Moved by Motschman, seconded by Browne, we carry Ad indefinitely in Flower Grower Magazine. Motion carried.

Treasurer Trowbridge reported two bills from Inglewood Printing Co., one \$1628.45, one \$1534.03. She thought a payment should be made. Meeting of Finance committee called for October 31st, by chairman G. Motschman to discuss matter. Moved by Browne, seconded by Lloyd that Board authorize Finance committee to determine the state of our finances and make necessary arrangements with the printing company to pay the bill as soon as possible. Motion carried.

—ARLINE STODDARD, Secretary

# BRANCH HAPPENINGS . . .

The San Francisco Branch has had their election of officers on November 3, with Mrs. John (Hyacinth) Smith, 2479 29th Avenue, San Francisco, becoming their most able, and vivacious president. President-elect, Mrs. Donald Thomas; Secretary, Mrs. Edward O'Brien; Treasurer, Mr. Orris Ray Martin; Member Board of Directors, Mr. James Miller; and Representative to the National Board of Directors, Mr. William Damerow.

\* \* \*

From the Redondo Area Branch "News-ette" we find a notation that even though they "did it before" they can do it again because of the experience they have already had in putting on a convention. We are all looking forward to Redondo in '55.

\* \* \*

Missouri Branch of the ABS had 23 out at their last meeting in Kansas City. A demonstration by Mrs. Breshears was given on miniature rock gardening with 10 different begonias and native rocks.

\* \* \*

We want to welcome during the month of November the 63 new members that joined the ABS and the 100 renewing members during the month. You new members as you travel around the country will always be welcome by any of the Begonia Society officers and by any of the branches.

\* \* \*

Plant table: Your plant table might work a lot better if you tried to have more quality plants and not so many rooted cuttings! Branches that have tried to have 10 good plants have taken in more money than those that had a hundred odds and ends. The exception of course would be from a visiting speaker who brought many varieties for the table.

\* \* \*

The guest in our midst: Does he or she get a real welcome—just besides standing by for recognition? Why not have the president or presiding officer walk right down into the audience and shake the hand personally. It makes a difference. Keep the guests' names separate from the rest and be sure they get a special prize—or maybe something for each one of the guests. This little job of public relations paid off in one club that kept track of it—out of 47 guests they got 39 members.

Start on time, close on time: Begonia meetings are always so interesting, but they should have their limit. With busy people these days attending our meetings, none should last over two hours. Start always on time, regardless of who is out and end on time. Give a break half-way for everyone to stretch. A peppy meeting, makes for more pep and more members.

\* \* \*

Every meeting should always start with a salute to the flag. Let's not forget the new addition to our salute—and if some are not acquainted with it, remind them before the salute takes place. As a matter of decorum, have both hands free of any objects and everyone at attention before the salute takes place. We may often times be a little sloppy in holding materials and talking during the salute. Let's be respectful in this one of our few opportunities to show our allegiance.

\* \* \*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE A.B.S. BOARD MEETING

Glendale, Mr. Norris: Chrysanthemum show at next meeting.

Hub City: Next meeting Turkey dinner at home of Mr. and Mrs. Powell.

Inglewood, Mrs. Motschman: To show movies of Vetterle and Reinelt Nursery. Della MacLanahan will give Begonia lesson.

Long Beach Parent Branch, Mrs. Walker: To have dinner to make money for National expense fund.

Redondo Area, Mr. Stoddard: Gordon Baker Lloyd to present Christmas program at next meeting. Introduced Convention Manager, Joe Taylor.

Riverside, Mrs. Gillinwoter: Had show of arrangements and specimen plants, Dorothy Behrends to be next speaker.

San Gabriel Valley, Mrs. Humphrey: Speaker to be Garden Editor of Pasadena Independent, Dave Gilfilan. Held successful Canasta Party.

Southgate, Mrs. Arbuckle: Speaker to be Mr. Humphrey, will show slides of Pacific Northwest.

Whittier, Mrs. Jensen: Now meeting at Palm Park Community Center. November speaker to be Mrs. Jensen on African violets. December, Gordon Baker Lloyd will present his Christmas Program.

# BRANCH MEETING DATES . . .

(Visitors always welcome at these meetings)

## BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy.  
Kent, England

## CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, 8:00 p.m.  
Lounge, Florida Power Co.  
Winter Park, Fla.  
Mrs. Lou Mankamyer  
20 Pershing Place, Orlando, Fla.

## DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, 7:00 p.m.  
Member's Residences  
Mrs. W. H. Buntin, Cor. Secy.  
3113 Parker Dr., Dallas, Texas

## EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Dec. 9, 7:45 p.m.  
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward  
Berkeley  
Mr. Robert May  
1140 Evelyn Ave., Albany, Calif.

## EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m.  
Wilmar Women's Clubhouse  
Emerson and Isabel Sts., South San Gabriel  
Mrs. Virginia Brandon, Cor. Secy.  
3012 W. Norwood Pl., Alhambra, Calif.

## FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Dec. 16, 8:00 p.m.  
Weaver Home  
1349 E. Sierra Madre, Glendora  
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.  
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland

## FORT ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Dec. 4, Jan. 1, 2:30 p.m.  
Miss Lola Price, Secy.  
628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N. J.

## GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Dec. 22, 8:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central  
Mrs. Irma Brown, Cor. Secy.  
3633 Revere Ave., L. A. 39, Calif.

## GRAY EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

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

## GRAYS HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, Dec. 13, 8:00 p.m.  
Hoquiam Pub. Library, or Messingale &  
Rosenear Music Store, Aberdeen, Wash.  
Mrs. Jessie B. Hoyt, Secy.  
1013 Harding Road, Aberdeen, Wash.

## GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

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

## HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Mrs. Maude A. Cooper, Cor. Secy.  
1014 Havenhurst Dr., Hollywood 46, Calif.

## HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

1st Friday, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, 10:00 a.m.  
Garden Center, Herman Park  
Mrs. Grant Herzog, Secy.  
12600 Broken Bough, Houston 24, Tex.

## HUB CITY BRANCH

COMPTON - LYNWOOD  
3rd Wednesday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Rm. 19, Roosevelt Jr. High School  
1200 E. Olive St., Compton, Calif.  
Mrs. Kathryn Hodgson, Cor. Sec'y.  
813 S. Pannes, Compton

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

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

## INGLEWOOD BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Dec. 7, 8:00 p.m.  
American Legion Hall  
3208 W. 85th St., Inglewood 4, Calif.  
Mrs. Pearl Parker, Secy.  
726 W. 81st St., L. A. 44, Calif.

## LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Porter Park, University & La Mesa Blvd.  
Mrs. Lena Deem, Secy.  
9022 Grossmont Blvd., La Mesa, Calif.

## LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Fox Home at 2255 Elm Ave.  
Mrs. Alberta Logue, Secy.  
6050 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

## LOS ANGELES BRANCH

2nd Monday, Dec. 13  
American Legion Hall  
3755 Sawtelle Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Mrs. Marcia Solovy, Secy.  
9617 Haas Ave., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

## LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Dec. 14, 7:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. James A. Whitaker, Secy.  
1225 Stuart Ave., Baton Rouge, La.

## MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Dec. 28, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
Mrs. Vivian J. Ennemoser, Secy.  
1295 N. W. 54th St., Miami 42, Fla.

## MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Dec. 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

3rd Saturday, Dec. 18. Homes of Members  
Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.  
170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

## OCEAN COUNTY NEW JERSEY BRANCH

1st Monday, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, 12:30 p.m.  
Members Homes  
Mrs. Gertrude Buek, Secy.  
Box 244, Bayville, N.J.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Grange Hall  
1 block South Center of Garden Grove, Calif.  
Mrs. Evie Darden, Secy.-Treas.  
6701 S. Fee Ana St., Rt. 3, Anaheim, Calif.

## PASADENA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Dec. 8, 8:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Alva Graham, Secy.  
515 E. Centro St., South Pasadena

## PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

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

## PORTLAND, OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Dec. 24, 8:00 p.m.  
Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.  
Mrs. Altermatt, Secy.  
1104 S. E. 148th, Portland, Oregon

## RAYTOWN, MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Dec. 28, 7:30 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.

## REDONDO BEACH AREA

4th Friday (3rd Friday December only)  
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.  
Mrs. Mae Koebig, Secy.  
2717 Monterey, Torrance, Calif.

## RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.  
Shamel Park, 3650 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.  
Mrs. Ethel Prior, Pres.  
4345 Fifth, Riverside, Calif.

# THE BEGONIAN

## ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Merrel H. Taylor, Secy.  
4285 Sierra Vista, San Diego 3, Calif.

## SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m.  
Mrs. Gladys Pirkner, Secy.  
750 48th St., Sacramento, Calif.

## SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

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

## SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Dec. 27  
Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University  
Mrs. E. R. Bohe, Secy.  
3145 N. Mountain View, San Diego 15, Calif.

## SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, 8:00 p.m.  
Forest Lodge  
266 Laguna Honda Blvd., San Francisco, Calif.  
Mrs. George Leslie Kuthe, Secy.  
1095 Market St., San Francisco 3, Calif.

## SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Dec. 22, 8:00 p.m.  
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.  
Arcadia, Calif.  
Mrs. Calvin T. Adams, Secy.  
911 N. Second Ave., Arcadia, Calif.

## SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.  
Mrs. Mary Wegener, Secy.  
1611 Olive St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

## SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:45 p.m.  
Trinity Parish House  
609 Eighth Avenue  
Mrs. H. G. Bamford, Secy.  
810 W. Lee St., Seattle 99, Wash.

## SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Alice Bartlett C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura  
Mrs. Harry Fox, Secy.  
3877 Mound Ave., Ventura, Calif.

## SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Dec. 16, 8:00 p.m.  
Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.  
Mrs. Alice Zedalis, Secy.  
Don Coats Nursery, Hayward, Calif.

## SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Dec. 28, 7:30 p.m.  
Members' Homes  
Mrs. Jennie Hamilton, Secy.  
2501 Palm Pl., Huntington Park, Calif.

## TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Friday, Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Rose Hill Club  
Mrs. Leoma Caudle, Secy.  
2822 8th St., Port Arthur, Texas

## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Dec. 8, 11:00 a.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Joseph Rock, Corr. Secy.

## WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH

**CLEVELAND, OHIO**  
4th Wednesday, Dec. 22, 8:00 p.m.  
Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St.  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Mrs. Edward Lobser, Cor. Secy.  
25912 Westlake Rd., Bay Village, Ohio

## WHITTIER BRANCH

First Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m.  
Palm Park Community Center  
1643 W. Floral Drive  
Mrs. Alice Rose, Secretary  
13926 E. Close St., Whittier

## WILLIAM PENN BRANCH, PA.

3rd Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Wallingford, Pa.  
Mrs. Joseph B. Townsend, Jr., Secy.  
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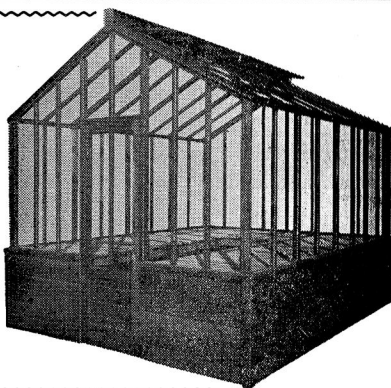
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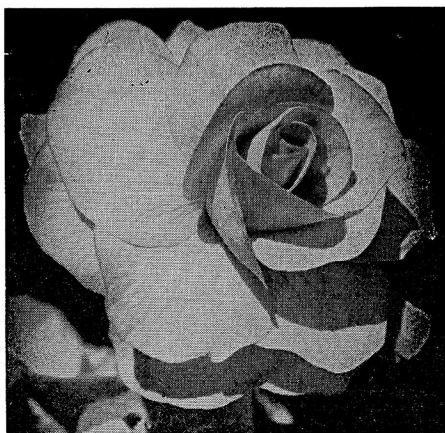
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