

# The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

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## ☆ JOBS OF THE MONTH

Prepare for less bugs next spring by spraying now for wintering pests and bugs. Use gentle spray on shade lovers.

Set out shade transplants as columbine, coral bells, foxgloves, geums and primroses. Inquire in your area as to exact date.

Prepare areas for camellias, azaleas. Get beds ready and let them settle. Plant when camellias and azaleas are in bloom to get the variety you want.

Mulch shade garden in areas where frosts are starting and heavy rains are eminent.

This month read up on and learn about three new shade plants even though you may not be able to plant them. Look up about further use of Star Jasmine as ground cover and sarcococca as full shade lover.

# From the President . . .

Although it will probably be impossible for us to visit all of the branches this year, we are going to try to attend as many as we can. Your elected and appointed officers feel that closer relationship with the membership should be stressed in order to accomplish the important task of continuing the work of their predecessor, of continually striving to make the Society one of which we can rightfully be proud.

Those of us who attend the National Board meeting and may also visit within the branches are able to more fully enjoy the friendships that belonging to a society offers. However, we are cognizant of the fact that we are missing a wealth of information and constructive criticism from our members at large and outlying branches.

We feel that THE BEGONIAN is the tie that binds us all, the definite link in holding our interest and keeping us informed of the developments within our society. Through this medium alone, can all the membership share in the horticultural accomplishments of both amateur and professional alike.

We have come a long way from the handful of people who first gathered in Pop Dyckeman's living room to dedicate themselves to the growth and cultivation of shade-plants. But our purpose has not changed. We continue to strive toward unity and knowledge, to share our efforts, and even our secrets, in growing, and creating our Begonias and shade gardens.

Your contributions to the magazine in the future will give continuity and growth to the magazine and the society. Let us all look forward to another year of development and good fellowship.

# From the Editor . . .

Editing a magazine calls upon the help of everyone of the readers of a magazine—with "letters to the editor," hints, ideas, pictures, stories and all the rest. To make our magazine interesting, everyone must take interest in the magazine. . . . This month begins some radical changes in format and ideas . . . some you may like . . . others you may question . . . you have a direct line into your Editor's office . . . so please use it instead of your "Begonia friend!" Register your thoughts on paper with me!

If you see less pictures, it's because of less budget to work with and a big deficit that must be made up. . . . As we begin to get more members and advertising, we can grow as far as we want. As a part owner of this magazine, will you help invest in its growth?

"Count your many blessings, name them one by one" goes a rousing old hymn. I have often wondered if it was written for Thanksgiving time, for its optimistic advice is certainly good for this season. In business each year we set forth the assets at a certain time . . . and maybe for us in the business of living we can cast up our account of blessings we have received throughout the year.

Assets as I think of them are many . . . home . . . our town . . . red-bronze chrysanthemums . . . the blue of the Pacific . . . old mount Baldy . . . trout fishing up San Gabriel Canyon . . . gorgeous potting mix all stored for winter potting . . . new sweet peas just planted . . . that special pink Begonia all stored . . . the loveliness of friends and roses . . . These are but a few of the good things that we could total on the asset side, and they so far outweigh the liabilities that we won't even list them.

This counting of blessings is a wholesome exercise in arithmetic . . . try it! If you really do it the chances are that come the wonderful Thanksgiving Day you will bow your head humbly in true thankfulness.

# The BEGONIAN

FOR NOVEMBER, 1954

## Ripening of Tuberous Rooted Begonias . . .

—By THE MEMBERS

*From Mrs. William C. Heginbotham, Butler County, Pa., about 30 miles north of Pittsburgh.*

We usually get frost about the middle or last of September. After the first hard frost I lift my tuberous begonias from the ground with as much soil as will cling to the roots and place close to the house in order that I may cover them if a hard frost is expected. I find the tubers keep much better if the foilage and the tops are not frozen off too soon. When it gets too cold for them outside. I bring them into the house placing them in a light, sunny room which is seldom used, and do not water them again.

When the tops have died off, I take the tubers out of the ground, shake off all the loose ground, but do not wash them. They are then spread out on a large pan to dry for a week, or until they seem to be really free of moisture. I then put them, large and small together, in glass jars which are closed tightly with proper lids and the bottles are put away in a lower shelf of the kitchen cupboard which happens to be very cool, but not enough to freeze.

I look at them carefully every week at first, to check any possible moulding, the tubers which cause the trouble are removed very promptly, but this seldom happens as the tubers have enough soil clinging to them to absorb all surplus moisture. I like to see them come out of that bottle firm and plump.

*From Leon M. Hamburger. Chicago, Ill.*

In a recent issue of THE BEGONIAN, you

ask "How Do You Ripen Begonias." I am happy to answer that question, because I think I really have something.

For years I have been storing tubers in peat moss, with a resultant loss of anywhere from 20 to 25 per cent. Last year I stored in the same room, but instead of using peat moss, I used shavings.

It occured to me that peat moss being hygroscopic, might be the cause for this big loss of tubers. Possibly my theory is right. At any rate, yesterday when I examined the tubers, I found that my loss was a little under 1 per cent! This is indeed, in my experience, remarkable. Of course, there may be other reasons for this excellent showing, and probably I will not know definitely until another year has rolled around, and I have tried the same treatment.

The question of winter storage of tubers, particularly in the north, is of utmost importance and something which the experts have not been sufficiently interested in.

*From H. B. Rooney, San Francisco, Calif.*

I notice in the BEGONIAN you had a question as to how one cures tuberous rooted begonias. I happen to be fortunate enough to live here in the area where tuberous begonias grow right out under my oaks, with no particular care except a sprinkling once a day, or if it gets a little dry, a light sprinkling twice a day. For this reason, I have a large number at the present time. Counting this year's seedlings, there will be about 800 tubers.

I leave my tubers in the ground until the first of January, then dig them, break-

ing off the stem roughly and soaking in water until the dirt is thoroughly loosened. I then put them on a screen and wash off with a hose—finishing washing off the dirt carefully with my hands so as not to bruise the tubers—then cut away the stems carefully down to the tuber. I leave them on the screen to dry several days in the sun, sulphur them thoroughly with wettable sulphur and then put them into an unheated storeroom, watching them in the spring until the little pink sprouts start, when I put them into moistened peat moss.

It may have been just luck, but I have had practically no tuber losses and I have some that are five or six years old.

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*From Mrs. F. F. Scripps, San Diego, Calif.*

While I am not as successful as I should like to be in the curing and saving of my tuberous rooted begonias, I shall answer your question and tell you the manner I have found best for me.

While the stems are still on the plants, I take them to the potting shed which is not under cover, and lay them on their sides. While the weather is still warm I sprinkle the pots, not too often, but enough to allow a little moisture to seep through the pot to keep the tuber moist but not wet.

In December I take them out of the pots, put them in flats in peat moss until sprouting begins for replanting. I do not save more than about seventy-five or eighty out of a hundred, but I still find this is the best way for me.

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*From Dorothy Bayliss, Alameda County Branch.*

When nights turn cold and days are brisk, tuberous begonia growers know that winter is coming and preparations must be made to put their tubers to "sleep."

These plants that bloom so generously all summer and into early fall, are hastened into dormancy when cold nights appear in November. Nature lets you know by the yellowing of foliage and skimpy single flowers. They should be watered very sparingly from then on until the stem dries down and breaks clear of the tuber. Two weeks perhaps should be allowed for the tuber to "ripen" and then it can be lifted from the ground or taken out of the pot and the soil washed gently from the roots. Dry in the sun, and place in open flats, one

layer to the flat. The flats may be partially filled with dry peat moss or terralite.

A good percentage of tubers will usually survive the winter left in the beds in which they have grown, provided there is sufficient drainage. However, it does not pay to take chances with choice and valuable stock.

Some growers prefer to winter the tubers in the pots in which they grew, but this usually is only successful when pots can be placed in a dry, dark location. Some contend that such treatment results in plumper and more vigorous tubers the next season. Whichever method is decided upon, see that all particles of the old stem are removed until healthy tissue shows; otherwise, if left on, they will decay and destroy the tuber.

## The Begonian is Looking For Largest Collection

THE BEGONIAN is looking for the largest collection of begonia in its membership. Will you list your varieties by name and total number and begin to mail them to the BEGONIAN Editor. We are also searching for the begonia most grown by the membership inside the house. Listing your varieties, be sure to state which ones are grown outside. Interesting prizes will be given to the 6 highest numbered collections. More about this in December.

## A "Begonian Christmas"

It's not too early to start that Christmas list—and shopping. Add to the list . . . Membership in the ABS plus the "new" BEGONIAN for Mary and Harold and Jack and Dorothy . . . Seed fund packets for Jim and Lucy—he is quite a seed grower . . . the next door neighbor might like a wrapped begonia from your own garden . . . and for yourself why not add one of the newer books from the Librarian that she has for sale . . . and for those of you that can visit one of our participants in the "Garden Shopper," and buy fog nozzle, begonias, watering equipment, sprays for shade plants and a host of other things!



# New Beauty in Popular Demand . . .

Good news for greenthumbers—something new has been added to the columbine family in the way of size and length of the stem. So seldom is anything spectacular done with the old line of perennials that we begin to take them for granted; actually the seed breeders are continually at work improving the strains and occasionally a vastly superior strain of one of the old favorites will be developed. This is what has occurred in the case of the columbine and there currently is a far better strain offered to beautify the garden. Known as McKana's hybrid strain this new columbine should be currently available as flat grown transplants in local nurseries.

Like all perennials columbine should be planted out as soon as possible so that they can develop sturdy root structures and ample reserve strength to give a good show of color next spring. With their light airy habit columbine need to make a vigorous fall growth in order to be effective next spring.

Columbine are generally considered to be a shade plant and will do best in shade or partial shade, although in many localities they will stand considerable sun. It is worth trying a few in such an exposure to see if they will work under your particular conditions. Columbine do like a soil rich in humus so make sure that there is an abundance of organic matter in the soil. Proper spacing is 1 ft. to 18" apart. It is better to have them spread out a little wide rather than too closely planted. One fertilizing in the fall plus another in the spring when the plant comes out of dormancy is all that is required to keep columbine in a good state of growth. Fertilizer should be spread about six inches away from the base of the individual plants about six weeks to two months after plants are set. About a tablespoon of a good general plant food per plant is considered about right. Work into the soil and water well.

Because of the long delay before bloom, plantings of columbine and many other perennials are often interspersed with the fall and winter blooming annuals such as nemesia, schizanthus, pansy, viola, calen-

dula or primula to give quick or immediate color during the period of dormancy of the perennial plant. These plants are shallow rooted and light feeders so that they create little competition for the heavier rooted perennials which are busy storing up reserve strength for their dazzling show of spring color.

The California Bedding Plant Advisory Board recommends the planting of a few perennials such as columbine in each home garden because of the satisfaction that is derived from a planting that is more or less permanent in nature. While the initial cost is a little higher than most annuals, the long-term return is worth the premium. And this is the time of the year for the planting of perennials if they are to give a full measure of success in the spring.

## Free Leaflets and Guides

From time to time in the interest of better gardening, and to help get more facts for prospective BEGONIAN Advertisers, we will offer a number of selected pieces of literature that we think will be of value to you in your shade gardening. Of special interest this month are the following:

"Pest control guide." This is an illustrated chart of insects and the pictures of damage that they do.

"Hawaiian Plants" . . . this guide contains a list of plants that can be bought for use throughout the USA, their growth and habits.

"Reed Fencing" . . . This is a small booklet showing the use of a new 25-ft. fencing, imported, made of reeds that has great use in the shade garden.

Write for leaflets to BEGONIAN Editor.

## WHY DO BEGONIA BLOOMS DROP?

What have you found to be the most common reason for blossoms to drop off of begonias both inside the house and outside? Best answers to these questions will be published in the January BEGONIAN. Get your answers in before December 5.

# Dear Mr. Editor . . .

Dear Mr. Editor:

I am taking the liberty of writing to you as I have a few problems in my garden and would appreciate any help that you can give me. Now then, problem 1, I simply can not do all of the digging and preparation of soil in the shaded garden and my husband, as you know—oh I forgot, you don't—but anyway, he has such a nice broad back that I just know he could do the really hard work if I could only lure him outside to do it. Then too, he is beginning to have just a little bit of a round tummy and I think the digging would help it, don't you? But my problem is that I can't get him to spend even a little time working but he will go out and admire what has all ready been done and act very proud when we have guests and always says, 'Oh, it was nothing—anyone can do it.' Will you please tell me how I can get him to prove it?

Next in desperation I have gone ahead and gotten part of the garden ready. Since I just couldn't dig the whole area I have made rows of dear little holes and they are all nice and soft and ready for my sweet little new plants. Really the holes are beautifully done and I am just sure that the little roots won't even try to push out of them. I do hope that this is recommended by the authorities when wives have to garden like I do.

Another question is this, do I put food into the bottom of the holes and then the soil and then tuck the dear little plants in all cozy or do I plant them as stated except for the food and just sprinkle some on the top about like I was putting sugar on a bowl of cereal?

Thank you so much for the help I am sure you will give me. Until I write again,

I am,

Violet Row

Dear Violet Row

Perhaps Mr. Row will "lend" his back better to the job of digging if a little is done day by day—even if its only a few feet, with the continual encouragement that the better it is done now, the less later on.

To answer your second question. Little holes may save a back ache or two, but bluntly its this way. You cannot give a plant a five cent planting and expect a million dollar plant. These "little holes" are very deceiving, particularly for shade plants.

Our shade plants with their many fibrous and fine roots, like to push at will into soil with nothing to hinder their growth—just like the ferns and shade plants you have observed in the shady woods. Often with garden soils so completely different than their natural habitat we must improve these soils, not in mere holes but the entire area.

A plant in a small hole is like a child growing up in a narrow closet or box. Comes a time when it must have more room! These plants that are planted in little holes one day reach the harder walls of the hole and then what happens? Leaves yellow, plant drops bloom, and it just doesn't grow.

Try for the entire area—and work it little by little!

You can place plant food in the bottom of your hole that you make in the soil, stirring it in, and covering it with at least an inch of soil. I think the best idea in shade gardening, is to plant your plant, let it get hold of the area in which it is growing, and then begin feeding it at the first sign of growth.

Dry plant food diluted according to direction, and liquid food diluted as to what the labels tells you, can be used as a starter solution. By that I mean you can definitely use it to "water in" or soak your plant as you plant it or them. It has been found that plant food reduces root stock used in this way.

Sympathetically

your editor

# November in the Window Garden . . .

—By BESSIE R. BUXTON

The short days are upon us now. By four o'clock the sun is far down the western sky and there is little warmth in it. The morning sun, too, lacks warmth. About four hours in mid-day, is the most the begonias get now. Special plants that I am trying to get well started before the winter's cold sets in are set on a table under a reading lamp during the evening, and growth is really stimulated. This should be done only with young plants or with those which bloom naturally in winter, for the Fall is natural resting in New England.

Begonias react very different in different parts of the country and plants which bloom freely for one person refuse to bloom at all for others. Why, people ask. That is hard to answer. Soil, water, climate and care very greatly. If your begonias do not thrive, change your growing conditions. Climate, of course, cannot be changed, but you can change your soil mixture; you can change to using rain water, using less or more than you have been using. Give more fresh air in the middle of the day, but avoid drafts. Spray your plants oftener, daily if you can, using rain water as a fine mist over the plants. Remember that the sun must not touch the wet foliage, or sunscald, thin brown spots on the leaves will result. Sunscald is one of the worst enemies of begonias. Sometimes the sunlight coming through double windows will cause this injury. The thick, leatherly leaved varieties, and haageana also are very susceptible to this injury.

Green aphid often appear on begonias in the fall. Black Leaf 40 or Red Arrow may be used in the sprayer to get rid of them. The hairy varieties are less apt to be troubled with the aphid than the smooth leaved kinds.

So far, few leaves have fallen. The spraying helps keep the leaves after the change from outdoor air to the house. If you started your cuttings in June, when they root quickly and well, the young plants get well established before being brought inside, by

mid-September at the latest, growth is not checked and few leaves fall. The recumbent types, such as Feasti, Bunchi, the manicatas and others, do not drop their leaves as much as the fibrous types, but grow handsomer daily until their late winter or spring blooming season. If you cannot give much time to your plants, these recumbent types are the kind for you to grow, for they are always good looking even with a minimum of care.

Frondosa and urophylla are lovely now, with their clusters of long stemmed white blooms, thickly set with red hairs. Sutherlandi still has its soft yellow flowers, but will soon drop leaves and flowers for its long winter nap. Dichroa began blooming last month, and will last another month or two, although a Connecticut friend tells me her plant bloomed for a full year. It is always a low grower semi-recumbent, and no other begonia has such brilliant, waxen orange flowers. It has been much used by hybridists, but so far none of its children have inherited its orange flowers. Dianna (Dichora y Annie Laurie) has its spotted leaves and long period of bloom, but the rose-red flowers do not compare with dichroa's orange glory.

Mrs. W. S. Kimball (*B. malabarica* var. *dipetala*?) has made good growth this past summer and I look forward to Christmas blooms. Last year it began to bloom just before Christmas and for five months was in full bloom. I keep it in a South window until the buds begin to show, then change it to a Northeast window where it gets only morning sun. The drooping clusters of pale pink flowers are very decorative.

*B. schulziana* was found in Haiti in 1930. It is rhizomatous, but miniature in size, the leaves shaped somewhat like *verschaffeltiana*. The green rhizome has small, hard white dots between the close-set leaf stems. It is just now coming into bloom, five stalks of pale pink flowers on red stems, the whole plant minutely tomentose. After blooming, its resting period

—Continued from previous page

will begin. It attends nicely to its own propagation, breaking up into little rooted rhizomes all ready for potting.

Begonias that will bloom this winter may now be given some fertilizer. Electra is a good quick acting kind, but I like best to use liquid manure, the color of weak tea. Water the plant first with rain water, then with the fertilizer. Never use fertilizer on dry soil or on a plant that is resting.

Do not expect too much of your begonias at this time. Day by day the light and warmth of the sun lessens, and the plants feel it.

If you can keep them green and free from pests, be content and wait for the sun to turn northward again in February. Fortunately for our gardens, a few kinds bloom in spite of winter weather. Rows of double *semperflorens* keep my windows cheerful now. The double white is the strongest grower, and is full of flowers like miniature snow balls. The blush pink is the weakest and will not bloom freely until spring. The double red is a very free bloomer and good grower. If you keep the air in your home over 50 degrees humidity and under 70 degrees heat, the flower balls will be much larger. The drier the air, the smaller the flowers will be.

## Begonias for Autumn Indoor Decorations

By *Mary Hazel Drummond*

Summer with its blooming glory has gone and autumn is upon us. More thought can be given to indoor decorative materials as the rainy season and the colder weather approaches. Let's bring indoors some of the beauty of our garden for these days.

The Begonias in many forms present wonderful color material both in foliage and bloom for the table center and other settings in our homes. Bronzy autumn hues can be arranged with such varieties of *Semperflorens* as Indian Maid, Carmen, Prima donna; Christmas Cheer and Luminosa supply the contrasting hues of green, red and white.

For taller subjects we have the *Socotrana* hybrid *Gloire De Lorraine*. Do not these names awaken and remind you of your artistic ability to get busy with your begonia plants and arrange some pleasing effects for your Thanksgiving entertaining?

# Plantly Speaking In the Shade . . .

—by JOHN S. VOSBURG

*Impatiens sultani* contributes much to many of the shaded gardens of California and particularly in Southern California. It is a succulent stemmed, even rather fleshy leaved plant growing from twelve to thirty inches high, according to variety, with an ever-blooming habit which makes it deserve all the planting space devoted to it. It is frost-tender, which means that one living in areas where frosts are usual, should be protected by having cuttings made at the Fall season to carry over and plant again in the Spring for the earliest warm weather growing. It is inclined to dominate its planting positions but it is generous enough in flower to warrant its demands. The color of the original form is a rich scarlet but hybrids and sports have increased the color range through the pinks to a royal petunia color, a lovely orange tone and a very fine white. The white seems to be quite delicate and touchy, but it is worth while if one can keep it from dying out.

The name indicates the nature of the seed pods which burst open with the slightest of pressure when ripe, making the harvesting of any seed a tricky task,

Growing requirements are not unusual. A good soil quite rich in leaf substance and ample water will produce plants with color in riotous waves. It is not a bad pot subject either, only remember it will need feeding if in a small pot, or give it a roomy pot, as this is one plant that does not like to be restricted. There are two outstanding types of Annual *Impatiens* also available. They both are charming subjects with their butterfly-orchid type of flowers. The old one that may be grown anywhere in shade is easily self-sown, the larger one which attains the height of four feet even in half day sun is very rare and seen only in collector's gardens. This last comes from Kenya Colony in Africa and must be seen to be thoroughly appreciated, it will also take shade, but in that case it might grow quite large.

# Easy Gardening

—By GORDON BAKER LLOYD

## LESSON 1 — “LIFE IN THE SOIL”

**What's Wrong with my soil?** The most common question I have had over the 19 years teaching and meeting with home gardeners, has been “what’s wrong with my soil.” How many times I have been tempted to say, it’s not your soil but you.” My feeling is that you and I have never really tried to understand what makes for good soil, or what makes for good plant growth.

Some say dig up the soil, feed it, water it and that’s it! But—there is a little more than that, simple to understand, if we but try. So for a few lessons in our new lesson series, let’s study the basic growing of plants, beginning with the medium in which they grow.

**The links in good soil** I like to think of the links in a chain, when I talk about creating good soil. A chain is as strong as its weakest link, and the same goes for the soil. There are a number of things tied together and inter-related to each other in soil building. I don’t think one should say that a certain item in soil preparation is more important than another, for the links in good soil are all inter-related to each other. One may seem of less significance than the other—but they are all important, and need to happen to make for good soil. If you decide to leave one of them out, you are in trouble. Building soil is not what I say, a teacher says, or some authority—it’s a basic fundamental and certain rules must be observed. Here are the links we are going to talk about:

—(LIFE)-(AIR)-(MOISTURE)-(FOOD)-(HUMUS)-(PH)-(TEXTURE)—

**Bacteria and life in soil** The soil we observe on the desert, the sandy wastes, and other arid areas, we say is dead. In a way it is, for it contains none of the ingredients that make for life in the soil. What is life in the soil? We look at it through the microscope and see it wriggling and we call it bacteria, molds, and a hundred other things. I don’t think we will ever be able to sort out and analyze the exact life in the soil, but we do know a little about what bacteria does.

We know that bacteria in the soil breaks down plant food and makes it available to plants. Not only the food you put around your plants, but the elements already there in the soil. This life, getting back to this chain of events, depends upon the right amount of air, moisture, organic matter and PH to keep it living and active.

When we create the right situation for life to multiply and grow, we are on the way to the soil we want. *Remember this now*—we must give the right environment for it to grow. It is not found in most of our soils, for we have neglected their basic care, radically treated them to make them perform what we want them to produce, giving little or no attention to tomorrow and the next day and what they would be like after this neglect. Hence our soils in nearly all of our yards are a “mess.”

**How much life in the soil?** There is no basic measurement of life in the soil and there is no agreement on the names of all the bacteria that make for good soil. Some years ago a doctor and I decided we wanted to give this more study, so we measured bacterial life in poor soils where plants did not seem to grow right, and in good soils where plants were doing well. We found that in these poor soils the bacteria

count was about 3,000,000 while in this particular measurement, in good soils it ran ~~20,000,000~~ or more. It proved to us that nearly every garden was away off in their bacterial count.

### Can we add life to the soil?

For fear we get the wrong idea of bacteria, I am going to be very cautious on this factor and say now that just to merely add bacteria accomplishes nothing. So many of the bacteria additives are of little value surrounded with a lot of smoke screen, that at the present we won't discuss adding bacteria. We will talk later on about adding materials that make for better bacterial action and that contain bacteria.

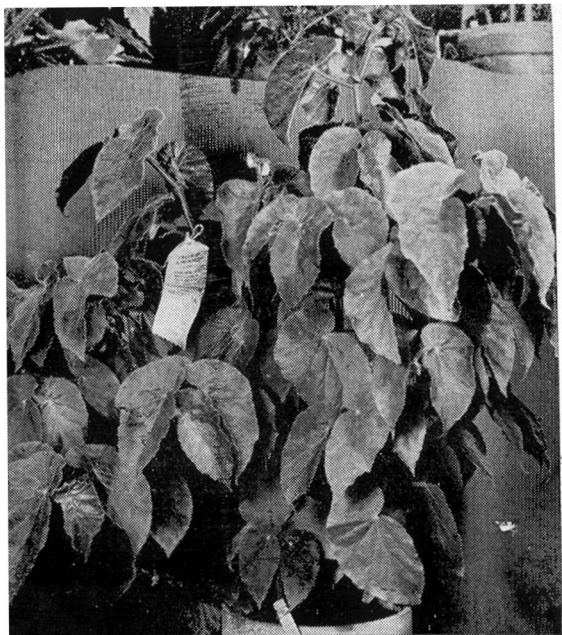
To answer this question, we can build our soil with organic matter and certain materials that will give for good bacterial counts and create releasing of plant foods in our soil so that as our soils become more normal, we will find small amounts of plant food will be used instead of the pounds that we now put on plants to make them grow.

(Next month: Air, moisture)

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 in February, 1955).

1. What are the factors that go to make for good soil?
2. Is life in the soil the most important thing for us to remember?
3. Can I build up a neglected soil over night?
4. Can I add bacteria to the soil and expect results at once?

## November Contest . . .



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

*Deadline:*

November 24, 1954 at midnight.

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

### A W A R D S :

For the best letter with correct identification, the famous two-wheeled Beauty Barrow; set of complete Cooke's Laboratory products for pest control in the home garden; 25 pounds of Gaviota's RAC for acid loving plants.

The best letter will be published in the January issue.

# "If You Can Grow Begonias You Can Grow Orchids . . .

By HANK and DOROTHY FRICKER, Temple City, California

This is the statement we make in answer to the questions of the increasing number of begonia lovers who are fast becoming interested in the hardy, outdoor orchids.

Here in Southern California, hardy orchids may be grown outdoors under the same care you give to your begonias. In colder climates they may of course be grown under glass.

Following are a number of questions most often asked us about the outdoor orchids.

## *How Many Kinds of Orchids Are There?*

All orchids may be divided into two groups; terrestrials, that grow in the ground, and epiphytes, that grow in the air. Popular among the terrestrials are the cymbidium, whose sprays of flowers will last for many weeks; cypripediums—known as the Lady Slipper orchids; solbralias; and of course the common Epidendrum O'Brienium. Best known of the epiphytes in the hardy outdoor orchids are members of the Laelia family, whose flowers range from two to eight inches in diameter, and in colors from pure white through shades of rose and orchid.

## *Where and How Should the Outdoor Orchids Be Planted?*

Under lath; in shade gardens; or under trees where they receive filtered sun or where they may have few hours early morning or late afternoon sun.

The terrestrials should be planted in the ground or in pots and epiphytes in pots, baskets, on pieces of bark, driftwood, tree stumps, or the limbs of living trees.

## *What Potting Mixtures Are Required?*

The ground orchids like a well drained soil mixture containing leaf mold, pea gravel and cold manure. The epiphytes in pots (which we do not recommend due to the danger of over watering) can be in Osmunda fibre, on rafts or bark, etc. The only potting mixture required is a pad of green moss.

## *How Much Water Do Plants Require?*

Here is the place to use your common sense. If the plants are wet—don't water.

If they are bone dry, water. In summer weather the epiphytes mounted "up" may be watered every day, as the water drains away rapidly. During the winter, twice and sometimes once a week is sufficient. During the winter try to water before noon on a sunny day. At this period of the year the plants are semi-dormant and need not be kept damp at all times. When it rains, of course you won't have to worry about watering.

## *Do the Outdoor Orchids Need Humidity?*

Yes, all orchids like humidity. In dry hot weather it is beneficial to spray the leaves of the plants or water the paths of planting around them.

## *How Much Cold Can Plants Stand?*

Certain varieties can stand more than others. Many kinds can stand occasional light frosts. Others should be protected if there is danger of heavy frosts. When buying outdoor orchids—always buy varieties that may be grown in your district.

## *Are the Plants Susceptible to Insects?*

Very few pests bother the outdoor orchid. Only infrequently is it necessary to spray with a weak solution of nicotine sulphate for aphids—which sometimes attack the tender growth of the flower spikes.

## *May Plants Be Divided?*

Yes; in three years time most plants will double in size.

## *When Do the Hardy Orchids Flower?*

Each variety has its flowering season and it is possible by proper selection, to have plants in bloom throughout the year. For a year-round collection we recommend the cymbidiums, solbralias, and cypripediums of the Laelia family for the epiphytes.

Following is a brief description of some of the best varieties of hardy outdoor orchids;

*Laelia Anceps*: Flowers from 4 to 5 inches in diameter, 1 to 5 flowers per spike, petals and sepals orchid color, throat yellow penciled in burgundy, lip a rich purple—winter blooming.

*Laelia Grandiflora*: Very large rosy or—Continued on page 278



# The Begonia Newsletter...

**WINTER CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS:** Just a wee warning to move house plants away from the direct draft of heaters. One of the worst things we have to fight in house plant care during winter is the lack of moisture in the air — in other words, low humidity. Consider containers of water in planters that will release humidity; containers on trays of pea gravel where a little water can be kept below the actual contact of the pot; use of a potting mix without soil that will hold moisture around the root area and release it into the leaf area. Most of our house plants like moisture in the air around 50—and most houses during the winter have only 15-20.

**HOUSE PLANT LIGHT:** Begonias, ivies, geraniums, and the rest of the house plants that must live inside across the country during the winter, will want plenty of light. Those that bloom will want more light than the non bloomers. By all means be sure to be able to read a newspaper anywhere in the light your house plants grow. If you can't do that—then you haven't enough light. In working with hundreds of house plants in tests, it has been found that variance in light can cause a plant to grow bushy, good color of leaf, or to grow long and lank with poor color in just a few feet of moving in the average house. Keep your plants growing with good light!

**OREGON GRAPES:** *Mahonia bealei* is one of the Oregon grapes you will want to have for mass effect or solo planting. It will take more cold than the regular common mahonia; has larger leaves; very striking effect in leaf form. It will grow slowly up to 12 feet. In most nurseries it moves very slowly and may not be found because of it's lack of "story."

**"TWO CATS AND 40 CAMELLIAS"** If you're worn out learning to grow camellias by the research method, you will enjoy this story of adventures with felines, flowers and fine cookery. Sounds different? It is! Elizabeth Crowell Councilman is one of the top camellia growers in Southern California and has put down in an informal way her growings of camellias along with the humor that is needed in plant growing. At the end of each chapter she spins a recipe that you will enjoy. \$3.00 from Exposition Press, New York, or at your local bookstore. 136 pages.

**BEGONIA'S BACKGROUND:** Likely the first begonia found in America was discovered by Father Hernandez, story of same published in a book in 1649, with the picture of the plant called *Totonocoxoxo Coyollin*. Plumier on a botanical expedition in the Antilles in 1690 found a new plant genus he called begonia after Governor Michel Begon who aided him in his find. In 1864 there were about 354 listed and now over a thousand members in the genus. One could also wonder how many forgotten varieties are still being grown, or are hidden away and forgotten in the mid-west, south and east.

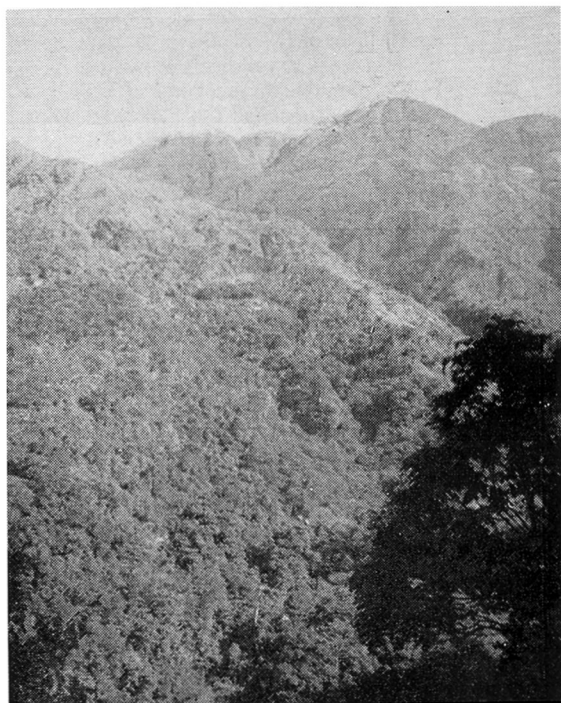
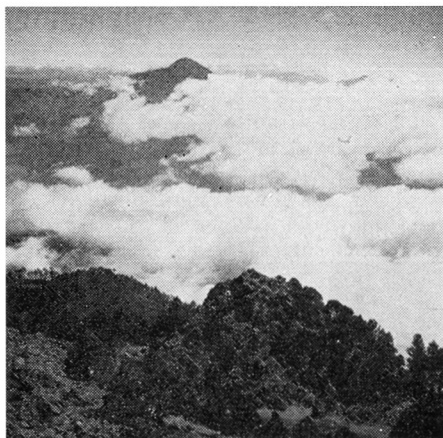
**COMPOST:** *In the southwest compost can be made and used nearly every month of the year. In the midwest, south and east, its another story come this time of the year. Right now in these areas, give the compost the last turn before winter sets in. General rules for good compost making are: Be sure to layer with a little bit of your best soil and manure, if possible, put compost for faster working in a slatted box so air can get into the compost to aid re-composition. Perhaps, even air holes in the four corners and centers will help. Keep box slightly damp, and with no bottom or top. In the southwest boxes have made compost in 4 to 6 weeks, using of course, those materials that can break down easily. The use of these leaves and lawn clippings breaking down into that good looking light-in-weight material—cannot be over-estimated. This material is just one step from humus that every garden needs, for everything from begonias to squash!*

*A RATHER UNUSUAL observation was sent to us by T. Mac Dougall of 4000 Boston Road in New York, New York. He appreciated a reference made to *Begonia Leibmanni* in a past issue of the *BEGONIAN* and thought we might enjoy some of the background of this plant and other begonias.*

*Picture with the clouds shows a view into Guatemala from the 13,000 foot summit of Vol. Tacana, Chris. The cone in the view over the clouds is 13,800 feet. Vol. Tajumulco, highest peak in Central America. The upper part of the Vol. Tacana, Chris is quite dry and is forested by one species of pine.*

*The other picture shows a view of Vol. Tacana, Chris from about 4000 feet altitude near Union Juarez/Area in center foreground, the habitat of at least 6 species of begonia that include *B. Francisi* and *B. Purpusi*. The buildings of a coffee finca are to the left.*

*This certainly gives us an idea very graphically of the area in which many of our begonias naturally grew.*



# BEGONIA HAPPENINGS

## . . FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

*(From a most interesting letter)*

"I have taken some pictures of my begonias . . . I am the trailer lady that likes begonias. I have a John R. Bebonia that is a beauty. Surely it is so different and unusual. I purchased this begonia last spring from Mrs. Schwerdtfeger.

At first I thought it would die. For a month or more it just wouldn't grow a bit. It had two small leaves and I thought, that's another hard one to raise. Then we moved to Ohio. It seemed that's what it needed because it and all my begonias started to grow.

I have taken cuttings four times since we moved to Ohio. In a trailer the light is our main problem. I have used all sorts of fertilizers and soils. I have found nothing can beat the good old sunshine. I move my plants onto the table when we get a sunny day.

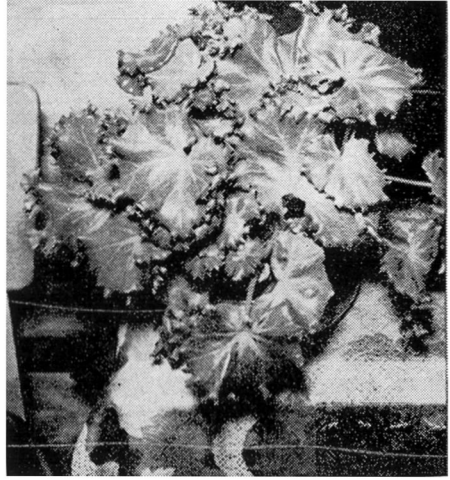
"I have lost a few begonias from lack of sunlight. With over 50 different varieties in a trailer I have to crowd them. I have a beautiful Venosa that I have cut back two times. It grew so tall it wrapped around the fluorescent light and I had to cut it back, but it has grown up again.

Also my Viande did the same. I noticed where I cut it off, there is new growth coming. Last summer it bloomed so pretty. In the picture (she enclosed several) of the five begonias, notice the bloom on John R. It grows at least two feet above the leaves. I recently took the largest leaf off and it was as large as a dinner plate.

I wish you could see this plant. It is grown in a four-inch pot. I just think it's amazing. The Feasti has 6 blooms on it at the time of the picture. It is still in bloom."

This very interesting letter was forwarded on to me. It was written by Mrs. Oscar Fricken, Camp Civitan, Marietta, Ohio.

Anyone that can grow begonias under such obstacles should encourage all of us to grow them in our usual good conditions. As your editor I want to hear from any of you that have a story—even just a hint—on how you grow begonias, interesting begonias you have observed—for this will be your page. May I hear from you shortly!



*Begonia Bunchi grown in the trailer of the Frickens in Marietta, Ohio. (photo by the writer)*

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## . . . In Memoriam

*One of the oldest, most faithful and active workers of the Parent Chapter of the American Begonia Society, Mary E. Congdon, has been laid to rest.*

*Mrs. Congdon joined the Parent Chapter in 1934 and has kept a record of its activities through all these years, for her own pleasure.*

*In the early days, every member brought a plant or several plants for the plant sale table. If you brought a friend, you brought a plant for them. Mr. Palstine, husband of the first editor of the BEGONIAN, once made this remark about Mrs. Congdon; "I never saw Mrs. Congdon enter the door to a meeting empty handed. If she had no plants in her greenhouse to bring, she went out and bought one."*

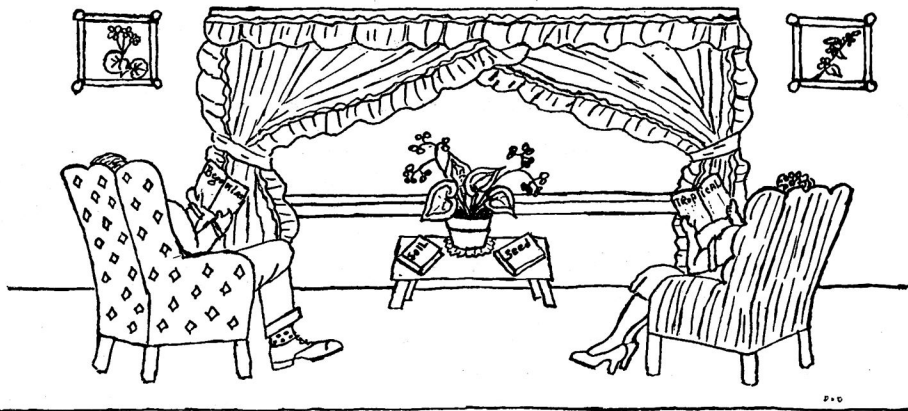
*The Parent Chapter of the Begonia Society was Mrs. Congdon's life. She was well versed in the old types of begonias, their origin and care. She had almost a complete set of Convention Badges, as she always attended the Conventions.*

*Though she has passed from our earthly eyes and her voice is stilled, the Parent Chapter she loved so well is only haunted by her memory.*

*But we know we shall all meet again in that beautiful land where there is no parting; For to life there is no death.—*

—GETRUDE WHITE

# Armchair Gardening . . .



## . . . CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND FLIGHT . . .

We offer new seed as follows:

#180B. *Fuchsiaoides* (Colombia). Fuchsia-like with small leaves and many orange red flowers. We were fortunate in securing a small amount of these scarce seed from a collector in Colombia. Therefore, those who have asked for them should send in their orders early.

#192B. *Mazae* scarce (Ziesend Henne-Mexico). The leaves are small, round with pointed tips and are of bronzy green in color—markings are brown. Flowers are pink in large sprays above the foliage. Beautiful as a basket or pot.

#198B *Echinosepala* (Brazil) Hairy fibrous—Leaves glossy dark green with dark veins and purple undersides. Flowers, pale pink and pink bearded outside. Grows to about two feet.

#197B *Nitiva* (England) Shining dark green leaved—Flowers are white flushed pink.

The above are four packets for \$100. Offer number two consists of the following:

#151A B. *Ulmifolia*.

#150B India type rex.

#155B *Incarnata* Sandersi.

#156B *Incana*.

#157B Mixed *Rubra*.

#159B *Hollyleaf*.

#169 *Dregei*.

#199B. *Longpipes petiolata* (Colombia)

—Strong, straight stems, green hairy leaves. Small white flowers are borne on long stems.

#200B *Parrica*—New species, Fibrous — Small leaves, thick stems.

#181B *Roxburghi* (Himalaya) — Large opaque hairy leaves. Flowers white and fragrant. For lath or hothouse.

The above are offered four packets for \$1.00 or ten for \$2.00. The last three named are new seed and are included in the offer.

Seed of other genera we have are of the arum family.

*Aglaonema commutatum* (as near as we can determine). These seed came from a garden in the Hawaiian Islands and according to the sender are something extra special.

*Arum Italicum*. (Green calla) Blossoms are large pale green. Leaves, arrow-shaped, dark green with white markings. After blooming large heads of brilliant orange seeds form. Pot or greenhouse culture. Outdoors in mild climates.

*Aglaonema* Special Mix.  
*Spathiphyllum* Kochii.

The above are four packets for \$1.00. Look for our special announcement in the December BEGONIAN. It concerns the 1954 flight and our January clearance sale.

MRS. FLORENCE GEE  
Seed Fund Administrator  
4316 Berryman Avenue  
Culver City, California

## . . . You Can Grow Orchids

—Continued from page 273

chid flowers, 5 to 8 inches, 1 to 3 per spike, late spring bloomer.

*Laelia Autumnalis*: Flowers 4 to 5 inches in diameter, rose orchid color, 2 to 7 blooms per spike, autumn bloomer.

*Laelia Albida*: Long lasting white flowers 2 inches in size, 1 to 7 flowers per spike, lip rose flushed, blooms in winter.

*Laelia Purpureacea*: Flowers 4 to 5 inches in size, light rose purple, autumn bloomer.

These varieties will stand light frosts for short periods; on extremely cold nights it is well to protect by placing on porch or in garage, or suspending cover above them.

*Epidendrum Marie Ames*: Flowers to 3 inches in diameter, 1 to 3 flowers per spike, petals a rich green, large snow white ruffled lip with deep green throat. Blooms in summer. Requires same growing conditions as *Laelias*.

*Cattleya Citrina*: Flowers 3 to 5 inches, brilliant yellow, very fragrant, blooms early summer. Requires same culture as the *Laelias*, but plant must be mounted upside down as flower is pendant. Protect from heavy frost.

*Cattleya Skinneri*: Flowers 3 to 4 inches in diameter, many to spike, orchid color, blooms in spring. Does best in pots, planted in *Osmunda* fibre, must be protected in winter, unless in very mild climate.

*Odontoglossum Grande*: Flowers 5 to 7 inches, 4 to 7 flowers per spike, petals and sepals a golden yellow barred with chestnut brown, blooms in autumn.

All flowers mentioned above are excellent to use as corsage flowers.

In closing may we give you one bit of advice, to bear in mind when just beginning an orchid hobby, don't be afraid of the orchid plants—pretend they are petunias, and don't kill them with kindness!

## Correction, Please . . .

Cover on the October *BEGONIAN* was taken by Glen W. Motschman—as well as the Riverside Branch Prize Winning exhibit. Gordon Baker Lloyd was listed as Editor in the October issue to acquaint readers of the change. Actual Editorship begins with this November issue.

## ABS CONVENTION 1955

The convention of the American Begonia Society in 1955 will be held in Redondo Beach with our Redondo Beach Branch as the host society. We say hats off to this active branch!

## Begonia Society Events . . .

NOVEMBER 26 . . . Redondo Branch has an excellent program featuring "Gordon and 'Sassie's' Christmas Show." Come early as the program will start at 8:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 2 . . . Whittier Branch will be featuring a Christmas show, called "Let's make this a real Christmas" with Gordon Baker Lloyd.

DECEMBER 7 . . . Inglewood Branch will have the "Lloyd's Christmas show. This program contains 7 separate parts and is a completely staged show of Christmas arrangements.

## 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, 817 Novelda Road, Alhambra, Calif.

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. Koebig, 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.

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)

## Presenting

# Herbert P. Dyckman

—*Founder of the American Begonia Society*

The ABS is the result of the enthusiasm and love for begonias of Mr. Herbert Dyckman of Long Beach, California. Some two or three years prior to the founding of the ABS, two friends of Mr. Dyckman, Mr. Carl Fisher and Mr. A. W. Wallow gave him some small plants and cuttings of begonias—his interest was aroused and soon his very small lath shelter grew to a 6x12 foot lath house, this to be replaced within a short time by an even more spacious one of 12 by 18 foot.

Incidentally, Mr. Wallow at that time had one of the largest private collections of begonias in Southern California and was the originator of the Mrs. A. W. Wallow begonia.

Mr. Dyckman and Mr. Reidman, another begonia fan, exhibited their begonias at several of the dahlia society flower shows held at Long Beach prior to 1932 where they attracted a great deal of attention and many people became interested in the growing of begonias.

As this interest grew, the thought came to Mr. Dyckman that it would be nice to form a group to make a study of these interesting plants, exchange experiences and further the interest in them. In December of 1931, he invited a small group of men interested in growing begonias to his home to talk over the idea—among those present were Messrs. Berry, Rocque, Ford, Reidman, Fisher, Kelly, Williams, and Wiley. They were all enthusiastic and in January of 1932 at the home of Clayton Kelly in Long Beach the ABS officially first came into existence with Mr. Dyckman as our first president.

The organization was first known as the California Begonia Society, but through the efforts of Mr. Kelly, who was writing to

different places in the world to secure seed of new and different varieties of begonias, others learned of the Society and soon there were members in so many different sections of the country that it was decided to change the name to the American Begonia Society.

Much credit is due Mrs. Bessie Buxton for the interest aroused in the East. Mr. A. D. Robinson of Point Loma, the Dean of Begonia growers, also gave the Society a great deal of boosting in the early days by mentioning it in his catalog.

Herbert Dyckman now resides in Long Beach at 141 West 53rd Street. His phone there is Long Beach 2-1190. Your editor, in talking with Mrs. Dyckman, found that Mr. D had been laid up for some time with the worst kind of asthma, to the extent that he can do nothing at all and is lucky to be able to sit up in his chair. She went on to tell your editor that this is the first time he has been able to be without a hobby of any sort—and naturally with his great interest in begonias and the ABS, he misses the contact.

Due to his sickness he was unable to attend the National Convention—but believe me, his heart is still with us and hopes for the best with the new National Board. Mrs. Dyckman said that with his new medicine that they may be able to get him up and around enough to go to the desert for a time. It is the hope of us all for his speedy recovery. It is the hope of your editor that you will drop him a line—and some of you near by can phone—to let him know we have not forgotten him, his fine feeling he always expressed to garden lovers—and for his untiring work over the years in the Begonia Society. Those are the folks that helped to keep our Society going and the least we can do is to remember them thusly.



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.

## OFFICERS

President .....Jack E. Koebig  
2717 Monterey Street, Torrance, Calif.

Pres-Elect,  
Ways & Means Chairman .....Joe Taylor  
301 Anita Street, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Past President .....Glenn W. Motschman  
9601 Haas Ave., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

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

Secretary .....Mrs. Arline Stoddard  
768 Avenue B, Redondo Beach, Calif.

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

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

Vice-Pres., 2 yrs.....Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger  
1450 Cantera Ave., Hope Ranch,  
Santa Barbara, Calif.

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

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Nomenclature Committee—Mrs. Bessie R. Buxton, Mrs. Emma M. Carleton, Dr. V. T. Stoutmeyer, Frederick J. Bedson FRHS, Herbert P. Dyckman, R. S. French.

Slide Library .....Mrs. Mabel Anderson  
1064 Davis Ave., Glendale 1, Calif.

Flower Show Chmn. .... Calvin E. Trowbridge  
9600 W. Van Ness Avenue  
Los Angeles 47, Calif.

Historian .....Mrs. Gonda Hartwell  
1719 Alamitos Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

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3628 Revere Ave., Los Angeles 39, Calif.

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4316 Berryman Ave., Culver City, Calif.

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768 Avenue B, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Chairman of Awards Committee  
Mrs. Dorothy S. Behrends  
1633 Golden Gate Ave., Los Angeles 26, Calif.

Editor .....Gordon Baker Lloyd  
Box 337, San Gabriel, Calif.



# BOARD MEETING NOTES . . .

The National Board met September 27, 1954, in Los Angeles City Hall. Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m. by President Koebig. Pledge of Allegiance led by Past President Korts; Aims and Purposes read by President-elect Taylor.

Minutes of the annual meeting read and approved with slight correction.

Treasurer Trowbridge reported balance in working fund \$92.46; special funds \$1064.29. Total \$1756.75.

Communications: Letter from Long Beach Parent Branch, stating Mrs. Walker had been elected Representative; letter from Redondo Area Branch saying they would like to be host to the Convention in 1955.

Budget for 1954-1955 read by Fred Browne. Moved by C. Trowbridge, seconded by Schwerdtfeger, that Budget be accepted as stated. Carried.

Convention treasurer, Taylor, reported that the Convention fund is \$460.00 in the red. Funds insufficient to repay \$500.00 borrowed from revolving fund. Several sections of netting for sale at \$26.38 each.

In answer to inquiry by Mrs. Korts, President Koebig stated the Society is \$1600.00 in dept for September Begonians. Several suggestions made for raising money to clear this debt.

Auditing Chairman Moore, reported that all books but those of the membership chairman had been audited and found correct. Audit will be finished within the next two weeks.

President Koebig introduced new officers and chairmen. Each stated their plans for the year and pledged support to the president.

Begonian Editor, Gordon Baker Lloyd, gave an outline of his plans for the magazine. Radical changes to be made, less cuts and no cover picture until we can afford it. ALL Branches to be asked for ideas for improving Society and magazine. **ALL COMPLAINTS TO BE MADE DIRECTLY TO HIM!**

President-elect and Ways and Means Chairman Taylor announced the first money making project to be a Rummage Sale. **ALL BRANCHES** to be contacted for donations.

New Business: Moved by Walker, seconded by Moore that Board accept the bid from Redondo Area Branch for the 1955 Convention. Carried.

Moved by Walker, seconded by Browne

that the secretary be instructed to write a letter, which may be mimeographed, to all former members, asking for suggestions as to ways and means of improving the Society and why they dropped their membership during the past year, and extending them an invitation to rejoin. Carried.

After discussion about reports from out-of-state Branches. Moved by C. Trowbridge, seconded by Lloyd that a letter of guidance be sent from the Public Relations Director to the Branches suggesting what the monthly reports should consist of. Carried.

Mrs. Walker stated that there was on file 22 years of minutes, in which were many motions that were important, but forgotten. Moved by Vice-President Williams, seconded by C. Trowbridge, that a committee be appointed to search the records for the entire 22 years for motions they believe should be in Standing Rules. Carried. Mrs. Walker appointed chairman, to pick her committee.

Secretary Stoddard suggested that new officers and chairmen be given written instructions each year as to their duties. Moved by Mrs. Williams, seconded by A. Stoddard that a committee of three past National Presidents be appointed to outline the procedure for each officer. Carried. Cal Trowbridge appointed chairman, to pick his committee.

Mr. Moore reported he had renewed insurance on officers for coming year. Moore commended Round Robin Chairman for her work this year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ARLINE STODDARD, SECRETARY

## Deadlines, Permissions, Etc.

*All articles, reports from branches, etc., must be sent directly to the Editor. The deadlines for all these matters will be on the 15th of each month. There can be no exception to this. All pictures must give credit as to who took them. Letters and articles received will automatically be accepted as property of the BEGONIAN and no permission will be asked for its use unless otherwise requested by the author.*

# Branch

## Happenings . . .

*Whittier Branch* reports that in October new officers were installed, with President, William Spitz; Vice-President, Anne Rose; Secretary, Alice Rose; Treasurer, Gladys Holmes; and Branch Representative, Winona Jensen.

*Sacramento Branch:* The report in the monthly "Begonia Leaf" that Mrs. Edna Korts is their October 19th speaker. The "Begonia Leaf" had a fine paragraph on the new look to the Begonian and kind words about the new editor (editor says thanks!).

At the end of the friendly news-letter is this line or two: Webster defines a friend as one attached to another by esteem, respect and affection . . . To have a friend one must be a friend!

*Program ideas* Many times your speakers come from a long ways. Why not give them the courtesy of coming on first, right after flag salute and brief welcome by the president—what speaker wants to hear all the business, and talk to a tired group? Right after your speaker, have a short intermission so he can clear his materials out and leave.

*Parking:* Why not reserve a place near the entrance for your speaker. Many women's clubs have a little sign that says "Guest Speaker." It's a little thing, but very thoughtful.

*Reception of Speaker:* Speakers four out of five times wander into a club and have one awful time finding who is who. Have someone posted to be on the lookout for him, or for her—to receive them and make them at home, and to give them the low-down on where to place their materials, find the rest rooms, etc.

*Introduction:* Speakers like to be introduced correctly. Might not it be well to have the introduction written out, with the name straight and the subject clearly given—and something about maybe who he is? A little thought put into an introduction will give you a better program!

*Why Doesn't Your Club Grow?* From actual surveys made of garden clubs during the last 6 months, here are the main rea-

sons why you lose members. Remember, this is an actual survey backed by letters and not from heresay:

1. Meetings are too long. Too much business. Why not take up the business in a board meeting and then report briefly.
2. Meetings are too much the same. The need is great for speakers to come up with a change of program. A good speaker can be assigned a subject and can do it, even though he may be known for some particular talk.
3. Free speakers are too commercial. That can be true, and if it is, remind the speaker of it gently. Perhaps some programs could be paid for if the money was saved for certain special programs.
4. Not enough information on problems in local club. If that is the case, then have a section at each meeting where all questions can be answered. Give your speaker a chance to do it, and if you cannot, assign someone of the group that has practical knowledge to do the answering. This will hold your beginning gardeners who want to learn.
5. Club is cold. This can easily happen when a group knows one another. Follow what the women's clubs do with one or more members at the door to shake hands with everyone—members and new ones alike. A warm hello is worth a million letters.
6. New members will usually attend their first meeting because they are coming to learn. Primary as it may seem to the "regulars," set aside and make a place for the beginner. Encourage and stimulate their interest with kindly, sincere help. You will be surprised, too, at how much you "old timers" will gain by participation in this activity.

These ideas may help your membership grow—and will help you to hold them. They are certainly good rules for any club to follow.

# BRANCH MEETING DATES . . .

(Visitors always welcome at these meetings)

## BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy.  
Kent, England

## CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 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, Nov. 4, Dec. 2, 7:00 p.m.  
Member's Residences  
Mrs. W. H. Buntin, Cor. Secy.  
3113 Parker Dr., Dallas, Texas

## EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Nov. 11, 7:45 p.m.  
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward  
Berkeley  
Mr. Robert May  
1140 Evelyn Ave., Albany, Calif.

## EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Nov. 18, 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, Nov. 18, 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, Nov. 6, Dec. 4, 2:30 p.m.  
Miss Lola Price, Secy.  
628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N. J.

## GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Nov. 24, 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, Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Community House, La Jolla  
Willie Genter, Cor. Secy.  
7356 Eads Ave., La Jolla, Calif.

## GRAYS HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, Nov. 8, 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, Nov. 23, 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, Nov. 17, 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, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 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, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.  
Rm. 19, Roosevelt Jr. High School  
1200 E. Olive St., Compton, Calif.  
Mrs. Kathryn Hodgson, Cor. Secy.  
813 S. Pannes, Compton

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

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

## INGLEWOOD BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Nov. 2, 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, Nov. 8, 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, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Fox Home at 2255 Elm Ave.  
Mrs. Alberta Logue, Secy.  
6050 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

## LOS ANGELES BRANCH

3rd Monday, Nov. 15  
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, Nov. 11, 7:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. James A. Whitaker, Secy.  
1225 Stuart Ave., Baton Rouge, La.

## MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Nov. 23, 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, Nov. 16, 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, Nov. 20, Homes of Members  
Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.  
170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

## OCEAN COUNTY NEW JERSEY BRANCH

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

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Nov. 11, 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, Nov. 10, 8:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Alva Graham, Secy.  
515 E. Centro St., South Pasadena

## PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Nov. 12, Members Homes  
Mrs. Robert York, Secy.  
3311 Fremont St., Camden, N. J.

## PORTLAND, OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Nov. 26, 8:00 p.m.  
Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.  
Mrs. Altermatt, Secy.  
1104 S. E. 148th, Portland, Oregon

## RAYTOWN, MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.

## REDONDO BEACH AREA

4th Friday each month  
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.  
Mrs. Mae Koebig, Secy.  
2717 Monterey, Torrance, Calif.

## RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Shamel Park, 3650 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.  
Mrs. Ethel Prior, Pres.  
4345 Fifth, Riverside, Calif.

**ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH**  
 3rd Friday, Nov. 19, 10:30 a.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Merrel H. Taylor, Secy.  
 4285 Sierra Vista, San Diego 3, Calif.

**SACRAMENTO BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7:00 p.m.  
 Mrs. Gladys Pirkner, Secy.  
 750 48th St., Sacramento, Calif.

**SALEM, OREGON BRANCH**  
 1st Tuesday, Nov. 2, Dec. 7  
 The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem  
 Mrs. Loren H. Edlund  
 863 Edina Lane, Salem, Ore.

**SAN DIEGO BRANCH**  
 4th Monday, Nov. 22  
 Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University  
 Mrs. E. R. Bohe, Secy.  
 3145 N. Mountain View, San Diego 15, Calif.

**SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**  
 1st Wednesday, Nov. 3, Dec. 1, 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, Nov. 24, 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, Nov. 11, 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, Nov. 18, 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, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, 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, Nov. 18, 8:00 p.m.  
 Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.  
 Mrs. Alice Zedalis, Secy.  
 Don Coats Nursery, Hayward, Calif.

**SOUTHGATE BRANCH**  
 4th Tuesday, Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.  
 Members' Homes  
 Mrs. Jennie Hamilton, Secy.  
 2501 Palm Pl., Huntington Park, Calif.

**TEXAS STATE BRANCH**  
 4th Friday, Nov. 26, 7:30 p.m.  
 Rose Hill Club  
 Mrs. Leoma Caudle, Secy.  
 2822 8th St., Port Arthur, Texas

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**  
 2nd Wednesday, Nov. 10, 11:00 a.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Joseph Rock, Corr. Secy.

**WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH**  
**CLEVELAND, OHIO**  
 4th Wednesday, Nov. 24, 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, November 4, 7:30 p.m.  
 Palm Park Recreation Center

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH, PA.**  
 3rd Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2:00 p.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Wallingford, Pa.  
 Mrs. Joseph B. Townsend, Jr., Secy.  
 Baltimore Pike, Wawa, Pa.

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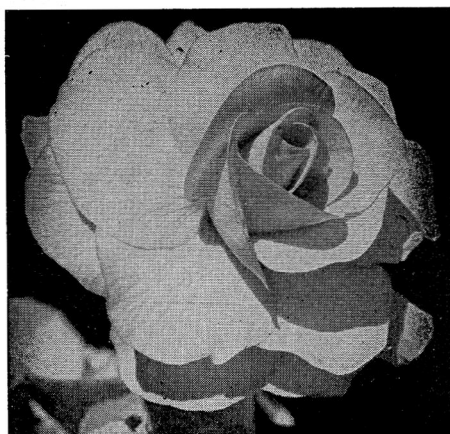
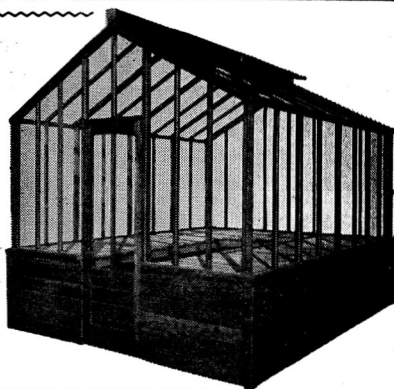
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