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Editor.....Louise Cramer, 839 Woodward Blvd., Pasadena 10, Calif. Advertising Manager.....Emri Stoddard, 768 Avenue B, Redondo Beach, Calif.

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This Society shall be conducted on a nonprofit basis, and its purpose shall be to stimulate interest in begonias and shadeloving 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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Photo by R. Rivera

Sturdy Begonia Helena

ONE OF my neighbors has been a begonia fancier for years and is the proud owner of many begonias she had collected up and down the coast of California and from commercial growers in the East. Unfortunately she became ill and for the past two years has been unable to care for her plants properly. This meant that her favorites received only hit and miss watering, no fertilizer and no repotting. Mrs. Bishop Spencer has now recovered and intends to revitalize her plants and invited me to see the remains of her once extensive collection.

Among the survivors was one plant that I became curious about because it seemed to have suffered very little. The plant structure was so unusual in that it had many leaves on very short stems so that the leaves seemed to stand out almost at a horizontal angle. The label was still intact and read *Begonia* "Helena." I was so intrigued by its beauty that I had to find out more about it and its origin. Not much had been written except to acknowledge its existence, but I finally discovered that Rudolf Ziesenhenne had been interested in *B*. "Helena" enough to write a complete description of the plant in the December 1940 issue of *The Begonian*. At that time he was Nomenclature Director.

There was a controversy about the person who originally hybridized the plant, but it was first noticed in the San Diego area of Southern California. It was also said to be temperamental to grow. Mrs. Spencer's *Begonia* "Helena" surely refutes this theory. It was a resident of her glass house where the summer heat was detrimental, and it had no heat in winter. While it would have been a spectacular plant under less adverse circumstances, the fact that it is still with us and growing testifies to its hardiness. The picture shows the plant taken in 1945 and gives us an idea of what can be done with *B*. "Helena" when you give it ordinary care.

Few people still have stock of this begonia and Mrs. Spencer plans on putting in cuttings as soon as her plant justfiles taking strong tip stock so that the begonia may be in the hands of many that will treasure it for its beauty and rarity.

JEAN KERLIN

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To COVER shade plantings in full would require several volumes, however shade plantings in the San Gabriel Valley and adjacent areas can be covered in general. The definition of a shade plant is one which thrives under semi to full shade. It is difficult to place a plant definitely in the shade category. A plant which prefers full sun near the beach may grow only in deep shade in many interior regions. For this reason the following will be a discussion of shade material in this area beginning with ground cover varieties.

GROUND COVER

A ground cover plant is one which maintains a height of less than one foot and is normally spreading in habit. Ajuga reptans is an excellent shade cover. It can be obtained in four varieties: bronze, variegated, giant, and regular. The flower is blue and is borne on a spike from early spring into summer. Helxine soleiroli, or baby tears, makes a nice creeping cover. It is noted for its quick growth sometimes being called "mile a minute moss." It requires full shade. Trachelospermum or Rbynchospermum jasminoides better known as star jasmine is adaptable to areas where some height is required. The white star shaped flower has an inviting fragrance.

BORDER

The second classification could possibly be considered a ground cover, however I prefer to class is as border material. One of the most popular is the begonia, namely the bedding variety. It comes in many colors from red to white. A nice feature is the leaf color. The red leafed varieties being vary popular. The bedding begonia does well in the sun if it is kept damp and planted in soil rich with humus. The primula comes in three species, baby (small cluster), Chinese (large cluster, large leaf), and English (large cluster), the latter being the only perennial. Arenaria verna caespitosa makes a fine, low border. It does well between stepping stones, stones or redwood rounds. Several others are lobelia, bellis, campanula, and muscari.

SHRUBS

The third and largest class probably should come under the shrubs. It would be best to list these under two headings, the first being important because of their flowers.

Number one on any list should be camellias. They can be obtained in three species: *japon*- *ica, sasanqua,* and *retciulata.* The latter being new to most people. New reticulata varieties are from hybridization and imports from the Orient. The flower is very striking, and has become very popular in the past few years. Sasanquas are mainly used for ground cover and espaliering. The third species and most well known are the japonicas. The colors range from white through pink, rose, and red; however the various flower forms are the important factor in their popularity.

Fuchsias, azaleas, and begonias are next in line, and although their forms vary, they can be considered together. Fuchsias can be obtained in a variety of colors with new hybrids being introduced each year. The different colors found in one flower make the fuchsia a valuable plant. The sepals may be red, the petals purple and the stamens pink all in one flower. Fuchsias are found in bush or hanging basket forms.

Azalea colors range from white through purple, pink, rose, and red. Flowers are double, semi-double, and single in form. Belgian indicas, kurumes, and Southern indicas are the most well known with rutherfordiana becoming well known in the past three years.

Begonias form a large group, the lower growing variety already being discussed. The two larger growing varieties are the rex and tuberhybrida or tuberous begonia. The rex probably should fall under foliage plants, because the light rose, greenish or insignificant flowers are completely outmoded by the foliage. The leaves have great variety in etched patterns of silver and gray, or with purple at times worked in with the green. The flowers of the tuberous are variable as to color and form, and marvelously intricate as to texture. They do well when used for bedding, hanging baskets, porch, and window boxes. Hydrangeas, daphne, and gardenias also are of importance.

FOLIAGE

A large part of shade material falls under foliage plants. These range from the large leafed philodendrons to the fine foliage of the ferns. Spectacular arrangements can be obtained through the use of foliage alone. There are several hundred varieties of philodendrons. Many of these are in common use, and new ones are being introduced each year. There have been several very nice large leaf varieties hybridized in the past two years. Aralias, acanthus, fatshedera, acuba, and ficus all have a definite place in the shade garden. The fern

Fuchsias for a Hot, Dry Area

FUCHSIA growing, which is a hobby with Mable Corwin, developed into a study of the culture and variety of fuchsias after many disappointments in growing fuchsias in the dry inland area of the San Gabriel Valley. Naturally she advises growers of this area to buy fuchias which have been grown in this area for some seasons because almost all of the beautiful fuchsias which grow in the cool, humid atmosphere along the Coast just collapse with our dry heat in the summer. Her favorites, the old tried and true varieties which are successful in this area, are: Upright -Cardinal, tall and all red; Rubeo, salmon; Otto, blue to purple corolla and deep crimson red sepals; and Checkerboard, single corolla with red and white turned back sepals. Basket -Utopia, rose colored with saw toothed edge petals; Anna, double red; Jack Shahan, basket or low spreading variety good for foreground, pink; Marinka, single red, good grower, takes heat very well; Queen Elizabeth, red; and Trail Blazer, double deep magenta.

At the end of February or early March, as soon as new growth buds appear, and no more hard freezing weather is expected, it is time to get out the pruning shears and start to shape up the fuchsia bushes and baskets so that when summer comes there will be myriads of "dancing ladies in gaily colored costumes." First prune out the crossing growth in the middle of the plant and thin out. Now consider whether the fuchsia is to be used in the background, and if it is, prune back about

family occupies a place of importance. Ferns range from low growing varieties from six inches to the tree ferns reaching heights of twenty-five feet. Fern Dell Canyon in the Griffith Park area is a good place to see a variety of ferns. The introduction of the Hawaiian tree ferns has added to the beauty of the group.

Many problems have arisen in the past because of a lack of knowledge concerning the planting and care of shade material. It has been my experience that the heavier the use of organic matter the better the growth. This organic material can be from peat, leaf mold, steer manure, or any other material that is decomposed to form a mulch. Organic fertilizers, because of their slow action, are the best to use. To have success with plants is to understand their processes. With this understanding, their care will be second nature.

A. R. BAYNHAM, Landscaper

two-thirds of the growth. The flowers are produced on new growth, so pruning and constant pinching are essential.

March and April are good months to plant new fuchsias. Those planted in the ground require good drainage and a loose, porous soil. A heavy soil may be loosened with sand. For potted fuchsias, Mrs. Corwin uses a mix of one part each, sandy loam, leaf mold and well rotted manure. Mulch these plants with leaf mold or manure to keep the roots cool during hot weather. This mulch also feeds the fuchsia, as it is a heavy feeder during the growing season. It likes lots of water, but must not be kept soggy. When there is good drainage, one can not water them too much.

Clay baskets or solid red wood baskets are preferred by Mabel, as she is known to her many friends, because they give better insulation from heat and cold and they do not dry out as quickly as wire baskets. If wire baskets are used, many growers now line them (inside of the sphagnum which is next to the wire) with tar paper or aluminum foil and perforate the lining at the bottom for drainage. The fuchsias growing in baskets are pruned in the same manner as the upright type except that the branches are cut back to the edge of the basket, reminding one of the boy who has his hair cut with a bowl over his head. The baskets contain the same mixture used for pot growing.

Fertilize the fuchsias when they start growing in earnest. The time can not be set, because it depends on when the fuchsia was cut back and the weather conditions. Liquid fertilizer used every two weeks, following the directions on the bottle, Mrs. Corwin recommends for baskets and pots. The plant is thoroughly watered the day before fertilizing. The fertilizer is applied until the plant is saturated and the solution begins to drip through the drainage hole. The plants growing in the ground may be fed with dry commercial or acid fertilizer in conjunction with the food received from the mulch.

Since the fuchsia blossoms come only on new growth, the practice of pinching mustbegin as soon as there are two pair of leaves on each new growth. With the thumb and forefinger, remove the center growth between the top two leaves. This will cause two new branches to grow out where there would have been only one. When these two new growths have two pair of leaves, pinch out the center

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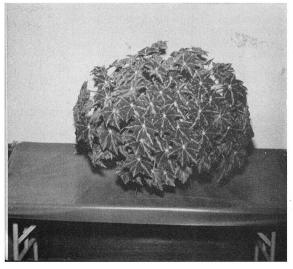
The Begonia Boweri Hybrids

BEGONIA *boweri* is a species from Mexico, brought here by Mr. MacDougall and introduced to the begonia world by Mr. Rudolph Ziesenhenne, who wrote the botannical description publish in *The Begonian*, April 1950.

Many beautiful hybrids have been grown from seed of *B. boweri*. This begonia has very dominant characteristics. Specifically, I refer to the dark blotches and hair, or eyelashes, on the edge of the leaves. All of the hybrids I have seen have such distinct markings and recognizable traits of this parent plant; they are easy to identify as *B. boweri* hybrids. The question is—which hybrid? Many of the plants are so similar they are difficult to name. Being called on to distinguish one of these plants from another so many times, I have made a study of those I know and will endeavor to pass on what I have learned.

We will take these plants in groups as they have been registered. The first three are the Walker begonias grown from B. boweri seed by the late Mrs. Mable Walker of the Inglewood Branch. Only one of this group has been publicized in The Begonian. Begonia "Maphil" was written up October 1952, page 222, with a very good picture on the front page. In this article nothing is said of the other parent so I presume it was not known. The description is good and the picture a clear example of B. "Maphil." The color of the leaves is very distinctive and seems to hold whether grown in much light or a diffused light. By the picture you can see the leaves of this plant have the dark marks along the edge as identified with B. boweri. On the reverse side the dark blotches are almost maroon red. B. "Maphil" is a very interesting plant with its odd coloring and markings and a growth

Begonia "Virbob"





Begonia boweri

habit like *B. boweri. Begonia* "Maphil" won second place in the oepn scoring judging used in the Nomenclature room at the 1954 Convention.

Begonia "Virbob," another plant of this group, has won first place in two A.B.S. Convention shows. B. "Virbob" has a much richer coloring than B. "Maphil." The petioles have so much red and the back of the leaf is deep red with just small blotches of green by the veins. At first glance, the entire plant appears red. The face of the leaf is a velvety bronze green with light green veins. The entire leaf of both these plants is sparse hairy with the famous B. boweri eyelashes on the edge. The habit of growth is similar to B. boweri, having many leaves, but as usual for me, the hybrids are much easier to grow than the species.

Begonia "Kenann" is the third one of this group and not as well known. Also, not as easy to identify as it does not have such distinct traits as the other two plants. B. "Kenann" leaves are the same chartreuse to darker green as B. "Maphil" with brown blotches on the face that are marcon red on the back. However, the leaves are not uniform in color or design of color and one must see the plants together to distinguish the difference.

The leaves of all these three begonias are the same shape, shallow-lobed with one point quite long, and all have the *B. boweri* eyelashes. All of these plants make beautiful specimens and are well worth having in any collection.

EDNA KORTS

THE BEGONIAN

Why I Am Fond of Semperflorens

ON ACCOUNT of its extreme hardiness among begonias, its diversity of foliage coloring and brilliant and colorful bloom, which may be had throughout the year, I hold the semperflorens begonias in very high esteem. I have followed sedulously on their trail throughout the years.

Going back into its history, you will find that Begonia semperflorens made its debut in the floral world riding in on the soil of a choice tropical. It was tall, sturdy, almost gangling, had shining green leaves and pale pink blossoms. In the time of Victor Lemoine, the great French hybridist, begonias of all types were coming into the gardens of Europe. This great hybridizer, with his wonderful ability to select good parent plants, seized on one of the least showy of the South Americans and developed a number of his famous hybrids from it. B. "Rosea gigantea" (B. semperflorens x B. roezli), originated in 1883, and B. "Corbeille de feu" (B. semperflorens rubra x B. fuchsioides miniata) was introduced in 1891.

If you will turn to Begonias for American Homes and Gardens (Krauss), you will find Chapter 5 headed by B. Semperflorens-Cultorum. The new name, B. semperflorens-cultorum, as proposed by the author, was first published in the Journal of the New York Botanical Garden, December, 1945. This name was proposed for that large group, commonly grown as "wax begonias," which had its inception in crosses of B. semperflorens and B. schmidtiana in 1878. She traces the chronological outline of the development of the group under eleven heads beginning with the first cross to obtain more compact forms and proceeding along the line to get an increased color range of the flowers and a variation in the coloring of the leaves, which became changed from shining green to bronzy-red leaved mutants which appeared in 1890. There was a demand for smaller and daintier leaves. Benary put out his "gracilis" group in 1894. Doubles came in about 1900 and continued being produced up to the time of 1934 and later. The calla lily begonia appeared in America somewhere before 1920. This white leaftipped mutant, resembling the calla, now has both single and double flowers. In describing this group, Mrs. Krauss gives the following: "B. semperflorens-cultorumbushy, stems succulent; leaves ovate to broadovate, not as pointed nor as asymmetric as

those of *B. semperflorens*, glossy, usually smooth, occasionally sparsely hairy, green, bronze red to dark mahogany-red or variegated green and white; flowers in small axillary clusters, single and double, white to deep red. This group is exceedingly floriferous and blooms almost continuously."

If you want to follow this interesting development through, you should make yourself a collection of all the different types of semperflorens begonias, which went into this exceedingly interesting cultorum. You can begin with the founder of the family and B. schmidtiana, both of which are now obtainable. By reading pages 75 to 80, you get a very clear idea of the progress through the years. Many fine semperflorens begonias have come from Europe to America, and you will find most of them still in our gardens. How well we know beautiful B. "Carmen" with its radiant pink flowers and B. "Indian Maid" with its deep bronzy-red flowers and scarlet blossoms. For years I have ordered my seeds from Benary, who introduced and copywrighted that begonia stumbling block, "heterosis." A year or two ago, I wrote an article on this subject in The Begonian. If you know anything about breeding hybrid corns in the Middle West, you can easily understand what Benary means by this term and you can perform the experiment for yourself. One of our leading growers in Southern Cailifornia orders many of his semperflorens begonia seed from Benary's. The grower who has charge of the begonias says they are his "bread and butter" item.

To get the best results with these begonias, in our area, we make plantings twice a year. Starting our summer one in early August and our winter one in January and February. The latter are grown under glass and are ready to transplant before the first week in May. You can get the ones suited to your use from dwarf B. "Adeline" to tall B. "Admiration" and in all colors from pure white to brilliant crimson. The August ones are sowed in a lath house and can be brought on for the Christmas trade. These easy to raise begonias are fast supplanting the more difficult ones which can only be successfully grown by experienced propagators. Mixed with ferns and other delicate foliage plants, you can "make your own" Christmas gifts with your amateur training. You should try your hand at your skill in this line and see

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Naming Cultivated Begonias

CULTIVATED begonias need recognized names to be properly identified in the trade or at flower shows and meetings where fanciers like to talk about their pet plants. If the given name has been properly registered with a qualified registration authority, then the name should confrom to the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants, which became effective on January 1, 1954.

The main purpose in properly naming any cultivated plant is to avoid duplication and confusion. For many years, botanists have followed certain rules in naming wild species and varieties of plants. These rules are now widely recognized over the world, and no matter where the plant is found or grown, this same botanical name is applied. Botanists feel they have a right to recognize the first name applied. Priority in botanical names accounts for most of the renaming of plants, although there is an early date line for such botanical names. If some plant has been properly named after that date, then the first name to be so properly given is the one generally recognized. If later study shows that a plant was wrongly listed as to genus, then problems may arise regarding the species name. If a plant has to be reclassified with a new genus name, then the old species name may also have to be re-examined to see if it has priority under the new genus name. If the same species name was previously used under the new genus name, then a new species name must be found that will avoid duplication. So botanists may prove that a new name to us has priority since, without our knowledge what is a new name to us, was actually the oldest name. There are similar reasons for being sure that a name applied to a cultivated begonia has priority and agrees in other ways with the rules of nomenclature.

Various attempts have been made to set up sets of rules for naming cultivated plants but not until an International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants was formulated and adopted by the International Congress Committee for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants working with the International Committee on Horticultural Nomenclature and Registration at the Thirteenth International Horticulture Congress in London in 1952, did the world have a good chance to procede with a widely recognized set of rules and regula-

tions. These rules and regulations formulated and adopted became effective on January 1, 1954. They are subject to change and of course each organization has the right to accept the new International Code or refuse to do so as it may decide. But the rules in the new code are so reasonable in most cases that they probably will be accepted by many plant organizations seeking to reduce confusion in plant names. The American Begonia Society already has adopted the new code and we should procede to have begonias named in accordance with the accepted rules. Any failure on the part of an individual to abide by the will of his officials in an organization can do no more than prolong the past difficulties in applying widely accepted names.

The different rules in the International Code have been previously summarized in The Begonian (see The Begonian for August, 1954). To avoid confusion with botanical variety names, the new code has adopted the word, cultivar, which is applied to a new origination in cultivation and the word variety should no longer be used for any new origination in cultivation. A name for a cultivar must now be in accordance with the Code to be legitimate. Any name that is not in accordance with the Code after January 1, 1954, will not be recognized by those agreeing to the new International Code and that fact is important. If the name is to be valid, it must have been validly published or registered. Valid publication consists of the sale or distribution of printed matter giving both the name and description of the plant in any language using the Roman alphabet. Registration by an Internationally recognized Registration Authority also is considered valid publication after the date of January 1, 1954. The name and description must be published in a dated cattalog or technical work or periodical. If a new begonia has been so described in The Begonian, that should be a valid publication. Publication in a catalog without a description or in a catalog not dated is not recognized as valid publication. The fact that a begonia breeder has a new seedling which be has named means little unless the originator has conformed with the new Code regulations.

Since the new Code is not retroactive, we still have problems with old cultivar names. "President Carnot" is a name that first was applied to a cane begonia and later the same name was applied to a rex begonia. Naturally this means confusion. Under the new Code (Art. C.9) the official registration authority may decide for which one it may be retained. I do not believe that any person or group of persons not recognized as the official registration authority has any right to decide in such cases. I understand that the name of "President" was suggested for the rex variety in this case but not by any recognized registration authority. Standardized Plant Names (1942 ed.) lists "President" as having been applied in 1892 to a cross between B. coccinea and B. olbia, so that name would not be legitimate even if it has been applied by a recognized registration authority. The recognized registration authority must operate under the new Code of rules. There may be several rules to consider in such a case if the new cultivar name is to be a valid name. The name of a country should not be attached without a qualifying word. Avoid the use of articles, such a "a" or "the" unless required by linguistic custom. Names of politically prominent persons should not be applied and that will in the future rule out the names of living presidents or kings. No name of a person should be applied without the consent of that person. The cultivar name should consist of not more than two words. Avoid abbreviations, such as Mr. or Mm. or initials. A number may be applied to a seedling until such time as a final name has been selected and adopted, and such a seedling may compete under the number attached, just the same as it would when given the final name.

Names previously applied to cultivated begonias should not be used again. This means that a comprehensive check list is needed which will show what names have been applied. Mrs. Bessie Buxton's check list of names is now being used until something more complete becomes available. I wish that all the names of Mr. Frederick J. Bedson's studies in England could be included in our check list. I hope that all the names applied to new begonia seedlings in the trade before January 1, 1954, could be included in the official check list. Any person selling and listing such names should make an effort to have these included in the official check list. Any name applied after January 1, 1954, should be submitted to the Nomenclature Committee for official registration to be sure it does not conflict with any rule in the new Code. There is no registration fee charged for this service at present, so it is a matter of showing support to the official procedure of the American Begonia Society. The danger

is that names, which do not conform or which are not legitimate and valid under the Code, will be replaced in time and that means further confusion.

The right to name a seedling begonia should rest with the person who originated the begonia and not with any customer who may have bought a plant. The originator may give written consent to another to name a plant but the plant should be properly described and name published as previously stated. Priority will continue to rule even in cultivar names as far as official recognition is concerned. It is my belief that any cultivar named after Jan. 1, 1954, should have to comply with Code rules in order to be accepted in official competitions. A step in this direction is already in effect in the American Begonia Society where competition for the Robinson Medal is involved. The nurseryman who refuses to have his new begonias registered officially will be hindering the full functioning of the new rules.

There are still problems facing the official registration of begonia names. Revised lists of registered names should be issued from time to time and made available to the public, even if a fee has to be charged to meet this expense. Workers willing and able to look after such listing and publication must be found. It becomes more and more expensive to publish any comprehensive list of begonia names. Mrs. Bessie Buxton's check list contains something like 10,000 begonia names. Who is to pay for the cost of publication and later revisions? Such questions may have to be decided by the American Begonia Society if it is to be recognized as the official international registration authority for begonias. Duties and obligations go with this honor. Naturally there will be expense so ways and means will have to be found if the registration and publication of names are to function in the future. The Begonian probably will publish a complete list of cultivar names registered to date, but it will take more and more time to list names and descriptions for publication. It will take more and more space for publication and perhaps separate leaflets may have to be issued to contain such information rather than crowd any one issue of The Begonian with such a list of registered begonias. Mistakes have been made in naming some cultivars, but with a recognition of what is legitimate and valid under the new Code, the work of the future is clear cut. Registration will be a challenge to all begonia fanciers who are willing to help avoid confusion in the naming of begonias.

H. M. BUTTERFIELD

Take Good Care of Cymbidiums

CYMBIDIUM orchids respond very favorably to a reasonably good environment and reasonable care. Enthusiasm is at its peak during the spring months when the plants are in flower. To keep these flowers in good condition on the plant for at least two months and perhaps three, requires a fair knowledge of the requirements of cymbidiums. If the plants are in pots or other containers, they may be placed in a shady spot in the patio or other location where they may be enjoyed during the long flowering period. A hot, dry breeze or dryness at the roots will shorten the life of the flowers considerably. A light water syringe during the hot part of the day will freshen the foliage and create a higher humidity around the plants. Plants in flower may be kept in the home if the atmosphere is not too dry and if water is not allowed to collect in the container the pot is placed in.

Cymbidium plants not in flower during the spring months should have attention. If the plant seems to be growing well, has good dark green foliage, and looks as if it should have bloomed, and if the compost is in good condition and the plant has not been allowed to dry out during the past summer or any other time, possibly it has not had sufficient light to mature the growths in time to start the flower spikes in the fall. Plants should receive a strong filtered light which is almost enough to burn the foliage. This creates a problem of protecting the plant from getting too dry. Dig a hole about four inches deeper than the pot and put five inches of large gravel in the bottom. Then plant the potted cymbidium so that one inch rim is above the ground and fill in with regular garden soil. This will tend to keep a more constant moisture in the compost.

Plants needing to be repotted or divided should have attention now. If they are in flower, wait until the flowers are gone or are picked. A division should have at many as possible green bulbs (bulbs with leaves) left together. If a back bulb (bulb that has lost leaves) holds other green bulbs together, leave it. Otherwise all back bulbs can be separated from the plant. Each bulb is connected with a very short rhizome and care must be exercized to cut the rhizome without damage to the small dormant eyes at the base of bulb. The front division may be potted in loose leaf mold compost or planted in the ground in a similar material. The back bulbs should be separated to obtain individual bulbs and placed in small paper sacks for about one week to heel. Then they may be planted in individual pots or in a flat in the same material used for the front division. Keep moderately moist until the bulbs have sprouted and new roots are formed, then grow as an adult plant. A flowering plant may be expected in about GLENN H. HIATT three years.

From Our Members

COLD DAY

ALL OUT OF DOORS is a sheet of ice and now is the time we here enjoy our houseplants all 200 or more of them. Like Maude S. of Jamestown, Pa., I have no greenhouse, so the plants are even in the cellar.

I'm using Eastern States Ornamental Dust and Spray Material to control mildew as I too can not find the materials suggested in the magazine.

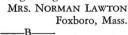
I find Impatients a wonderful foil for my begonias outdoors and am looking for hybrids of them.

It is impossible to trek off of a farm to Branch meetings and leave your young ones behind.

I am looking forward to having "lights" in

the basement for my plants, therefore, I'm trying to find out all I can about the subject before installing additional heat and lights.

By now you've guessed I'm a beginner as only 40 of my plants are begonias, most of the others being foliage plants. In summer I carry a huge vegetable and flower garden program. Iris seem to be the outside favorite and that collection is growing also.



"UNUSUAL WEATHER"

In mid-November we had an unusually early freeze, with the temperature dropping to 10°, accompanied by snow and ice, with the result that many begonias were lost. I worked

Winter Flowering Begonias

THE BEGONIAN has, from time to time, printed requests for a calendar of begonia bloom. Herewith I submit a partial list of winter bloom in the East, adapted, with permission, from the Begonia Bulletin for Eastern Fans, v. 2., no. 1, May-June, 1953.

DECEMBER

Catalina coccinea (also Jan.) Croftoni Digswelliana (also Jan.) Drosti Green Berry (rex) Gretchen (also Jan.) bugeli Illustrata incarnata (also Jan.) Manda's Woolly Bear and hybrids (also Jan.) Marjorie Gibbs Melior nitida, var. odorata nitida alba (also Jan.) Preussen (also Jan.) Rosea gigantea, also Jan. Rubra Odorata subvillosa winter jewel

JANUARY

angel wing* Bessie Buxton (also Feb.) boweri (also Feb.) cheimantha** var.

*angel wing, syn. for coccinea **cheimantha, group name for (socotrana x dregei) hybrids ED.

for three days, with the temperature about 10 degrees below freezing, trying to get my tuberous begonias taken up but by the end of the third day, the ground was frozen so solid, some had to be abandoned along with my fuchsia trees which I use as a background. I have a planting of about 600 tuberous and lost about a third of them, probably the last day when the frost had begun to penetrate. Normally, mid December makes a good time for lifting them but certainly everyone got caught with their "plants" down this season. I had taken some color slides of some multiflora borders just a few days before the freeze and thought I was going to have flowers until Christmas, as they were all blooming so well. MRS. DAVID TALBOT

APRIL, 1956

Dorothy Grant Erythrophylla Floribunda rosea (also Feb.) kellermanni limminghei (also Feb.) manicata aureo-maculata Marian (also Feb.) Orrell (also Feb.) Paul Bruant (also Feb.) Paul Bruant (also Feb.) President Carnot Rex Sachsen (also Feb.) Tea Rose (also Mar.) Templini (also Feb.)

FEBRUARY AND MARCH

dregei Ervthrophylla Erythrophylla helix incana kellermanni Lucerna maculata Manda's Woolly Bear and hybrids manicata manicata aureo-maculata nitida President Carnot Preussen Rosea gigantea sunderbruchi

This list has been compiled from reports of Begonia Club Circle No. 4, from A.B.S. Branches William Penn and Philobegonia, and from personal records of May Taft Drew, 1941-1953.

MARY TAFT DREW

FEBRUARY ONLY

Crestabruchi Joe Hayden Luwalter Marjorie Daw Mexican species Mrs. Fred Scripps Oadi Picta rosea *roezli* Rossi Tamo *ulmifolia* Weltoniensis

MARCH ONLY

Bunchi Elsie Frey Guinea's Wing Immense *venosa* Viau-Scharff

ALL FOUR MONTHS

Rubaiyat scharffi schmidtiana semperflorens single and double Viaudi

CLASSIFIED

- BEGONIAS, African Violets, Ferns, general line of plants. Seeds, Sodium Selenate, Sprays, supplies, books. Free list. Yoars House Plant Nursery, Bunker Hill, Indiana.
- A.B.S. PINS, stationery, signs. Write to Fred Browne,817 Novelda Rd., Alhambra, Calif.

Samuel C. Sault Member A.B.S. REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER PROPERTY SURVEYS; Sensible Rates 26938 Dapplegray Lane DA 6-5218 Rolling Hills, California

Did You Know:

That in an unheated greenhouse, plants will freeze more quickly than out in the open due to lack of air circulation?

That plants set on the wet ground will have less chance of freezing than those left on the bench, because damp soil absorbs more heat during the day and releases the stored up heat during the night?

Fuchsias

(Continued From Page 77)

of each. Continue this pinching till about May or until a bushy plant is created which will give many flowers.

Aphis, which may be washed off with the hose, sometimes attack fuchsias. White fly also may be found on this plant. If mealy bug finds a fuchsia, you may be sure the host is a hedge near by. If plants are good and healthy, pests usually stay away, but if they do appear a mild spray for the control of the specific pest may be used.

These plants usually are referred to as shade plants, but that does not mean deep shade, but filtered sun light. In deep shade there will be more bugs, spindlier plants and little or no bloom. The red and single varieties on the average will take more heat and sun, while the whites need more protection.

If one wishes to propagate his favorite fuchsia from the spring cuttings, he may insert the 4 to 6 inch cutting into a flat (which has 1" of peat on the bottom and then filled with sharp sand) two nodes below the sand and two nodes above. Pinch out the center of the cutting which will aid in producing roots and the new plant will have a start at being a bush instead of a long spindle. When the cutting is rooted place in a 3" pot with a potting medium of half leaf mold and half sandy loam. When the roots fill the pot, transplant to a four inch pot, using then the regular mixture Mrs. Corwin recommends for established plants.

Interview by LOUISE CRAMER



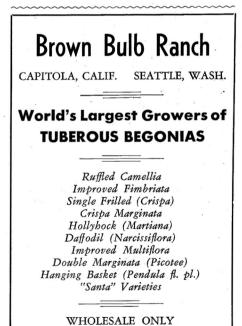
Semperflorens

(Continued From Page 79)

what you can produce for your next holiday offerings. Think of what you can do also when it comes to beautifying your gardens. The semperflorens begonias make the most wonderful hanging baskets. Planted in your borders, they grow in either sun or shade and produce an abundance of colorful bloom for a longer period than almost any other flower.

Recently, I heard an enthusiastic member of the Begonia Society saying he was getting the whole semperflorens begonia group together. Mentally, I wondered how much space he had. It would take far more than you might imagine. Our president-elect has a fondness for semperflorens begonias; so let us all turn out and see what a fine display we can bring out for our next annual convention. Here is the challenge for the ama-Anybody who really loves begonias tent can succeed with these myriad cultivars of the semperflorens tribe. In a recent catalog, I saw a new outstanding one listed as Karin or Indian Bride. It is a white flowering semperflorens with dark luminous leaves. The clear white flowers have golden centers.

CHARLOTTE M. HOAK



Available at most Nurseries and Seedhouses

From the President Begonia Viaudi

NOW IT can be told; in fact you will find all the details elsewhere in this issue. Our long awaited test gardens for new begonias are getting under way. I feel that our Society will mark this year as another one of great significance. The Research Director, Sylvia Leatherman, has done an excellent job of arranging for begonia testing in many of the world's best known Botanical Gardens and now all member hybridizers are urged to make use of these facilities. This particular project has taken several years of discussion of many suggestions from many sources and we feel certain most objections have been overcome. The one factor we are unable to overcome is that of cost, but, this too has been kept to the bare minimum. New begonias passing our testing program will receive the recognition they deserve by the American Begonia Society. Hats off to our Research Department for a job well done! Now let's all cooperate and make this project a huge success.

Please, please give our Editor plenty of time to reply to any correspondence you may have sent her. The Editor is a housewfei, mother of several children, and reporter for a newspaper. How a person can do so many things so well with the same 24 hours I have available to me is hard to figure. So again I say, please do not be impatient if your replies seem tardy; she is doing everything she can as rapidly as possible.

I do not know whether it will appear in this issue or a later one, but watch for the article from Florence Gee, our Seed Fund Chairman, about her latest begonia acquisition, seeds, that is, and is she ever excited. Florence reports that she acquired these seeds by trade, all she has to do now is obtain sea shells and LIZARDS to send in exchange. Speaking of side lights on growing begonias, how about that one—lizards and sea shells for begonia seeds? Another fine example of how our members are doing many things to benefit our Society.

The season is rapidly approaching for Flower Shows and it reminds me that if you need begonia judges write to Jean Kerlin for the list of A.B.S. accredited judges. These people have completed the A.B.S. School for Judges which required a great deal of study of begonias, and they stand ready to help to the best of their ability. Call on them and make them happy.

Again I wish to remind all member hybridizers, let's use our test gardens to their

Begonia Viaudi and Its Hybrids

THE PLANT FORUM of the Orange County Branch was conducted by the nomenclature chairman, Mr. Charles Fox, with Mrs. Lou Scalley and Mrs. Mary L. Gillingwators answering the questions asked by the leader as well as members of the audience. The members had been asked to bring plants to be discussed. After many plants had been examined, special study was given to a well grown and interesting plant, B. "Viaudi."

B. "Viaudi" is a hybrid of the hirsute group. It was produced in France in 1897 and is a cross of B. "Duchartrei" and B. "Pictavensis." It has long, narrow, dull, dark green leaves and the pure white five petaled female flowers, borne on erect two branched petioles that measured one and one-half inches across. The center of the flower has golden stamens. The red tomentum shows on the ovary and on the outside of the male flowers.

B. "Viaudi" is the parent of many of our favorite hirsute begonias.. Mrs. E. K. Gray of La Jolla used it in 1938 with B. scharffiana to produce B. "Viau-Scharff." Since B. "Viaudi" is a second generation seedling of B. scharfffiana, the new seedling inherited B. scharffana's color and hairiness of its leaves and the pale green stipules. The leaves are different in shape, being more ovate and quite flat and borne on long plum-colored stems. The flowers are cream, set with dark red hair.

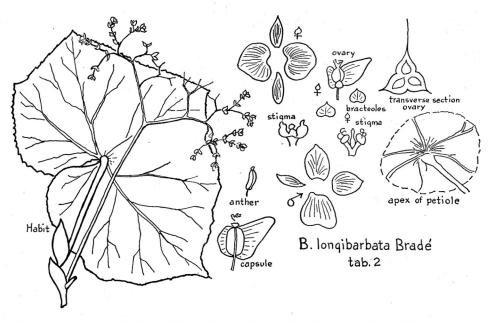
In 1937 Miss Constance Bower of San Diego used B. "Viaudi" with B. "Prunifolia pink" in a cross that produced B. "Rufida." It has a frosted appearance because it is covered with silky white hairs. The stems and the under side of the leaves are red, the upper side bright olive-green. The leaves are broad and quite one sided, with a long point and depressed veins. The texture of the leaf is rather thin and soft, causing it to burn easily. So the begonia should have only early morning sun.

Other B. "Viaudi" "children" mentioned were B. "Neely Gaddis," B. "Vesperia" and B. "Prunifolia," but the study of these had to be left for another forum.

MARY GILLINGWATORS

capacity. Let's indicate to the many botanic gardens that many members of the A.B.S. are doing much work with begonias. Let's make them holler Uncle.

JOE TAYLOR



Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

IT IS with a great deal of pleasure that we bring you these new and rare begonia seeds. B. LONGIBARBATA—Brazil. Beautiful herbaceous plant of medium height with transverse, egg-shaped, angular-lobed leaves; base heart-shaped, margins scalloped, toothed with marginal hairs. In some instances the size of leaves is 7-10 inches long and 12-16 inches wide. They are green and slightly hairy above, purplish below; flower stems are 5-11 inches high. Flowers white to pink. To fully appreciate the beauty of this plant consult drawing above. Seed are rare and should be carefully planted. \$1.00 per packet. Our sincere thanks to the Botany Department, University of California, Berkeley, for description and drawing.

No. 2. B. VENOSA—Brazil. Interesting plant covered with white scurf; leaves kidneyshaped, depressed in center. Inflorescens long and arching, flowers white with a spicy fragrance. Packet 50 cents.

For members who like to purchase seeds in collections we offer the following: No. 1. B. SANGUINEA-Brazil. Medium growth; stems reddish, loosely branched; leaves broadovate, glossy, dark green above, scarlet beneath; flowers white. No. 2. B. MAGNIFICA. Smooth, glossy species from South America. Not presently in cultivation to any great extent. No. 3. B. GRACILIS-Mexico. Tall, erect plant with glossy green leaves. Flowers are rose-pink and attached to stems hollyhock fashion. Bulbils form at leaf axils. No. 4. B. SURPRISE PACKET. Like surprises? This is a mixture of several named varieties, not enough of one kind to offer separately. All fresh seeds; mixture consists of rhizomatous, semperflorens, others. Above Collection \$1.00.

We have had requests for a list of semperflorens. Space does not allow us to list them all, but here it is in part: No. 1. B. SEMPERFLORENS RED-India. No. 2. B. SEMPERFLORENS PINK-India. No. 3. B. MIXED SHADES OF RED-India. No. 4. B. SEMPERFLORENS WHITE-Colombia. SEMPERFLORENS B. No. 5. MIXED SHADES-Colombia. No. 6. B. SEMPER-FLORENS INDIAN MAID. Dwarf. No. 7. B. SEMPERFLORENS MASTERPIECE. No. 8. B. SEMPERFLORENS ADELINE. Dwarf. No. 9. B. SEMPERFLORENS MIXED-Costa Rica. No. 10. B. SEMPERFLORENS UN-NAMED DWARF PINK. No. 11. B. SEM-PERFLORENS WILD BEGONIA-India. No. B. SEMPERFLORENS HIMALAYAN 12. SPECIES. 35 cents per packet.

Special seed for members living along the California coast. LEUCADENDRON AR-GENTEUM. Silver tree. South Africa. Proteaceae family. Widely grown in California coastal areas for its beautiful silvery and silky foliage. Trees require perfect drainage and must be kept well watered. Beautiful specimens may be seen in Carmel and Santa Barbara, California. Not hardy in other sections of the United States. Easily propagated from seed. 25 cents per packet.

We have recently received a long list of fern spores from New Zealand. After careful study we have selected the types that in our opinion will be easiest to grow. They are listed as follows: No. 1. ASPLENIUM ADI-ANTOIDES. Handsome decorative species. In its native habitat it may be seen growing on trees, rocks, or overhanging banks. Rhizomes short and creeping. Fronds 1 to 3 feet long, by 3 to 7 inches broad, dark green to brownish green. No. 2. A. BULBIFERUM. Interesting fern bearing on leaf surface a number of sporelings. If these bulbils are carefully removed with a piece of frond attached, and planted on damp leaf mold they will produce mature plants. This fern requires copius amounts of water. No. 3. PELLAEA

ROTUNDIFOLIA (round leaf). Attractive, easy to grow, small, and more or less leathery in appearance. Can stand some dry conditions. No. 4. CHEILANTHES SIEBERI. Small, quaint, little fern. In New Zealand it can be found growing on summits of rocks, in the blazing sun. The small upright fronds give the illusion of a miniature pine forest. Interesting. No. 5. BLECHNUM FILIFORME, "thread fern." An interesting climbing fern that will climb over almost anything. Stones, logs, trees, or ground. No. 6. B. DURUM. Handsome fern with dark green fronds. Not difficult to grow, but likes damp conditions. Thrives best near the sea. No. 7. BLECH-NUM-PENNA-MARINA. A beautiful, easy to grow little fern that will thrive in both wet and dry conditions. No. 8. DICKSONIA FIBROSA. Medium-sized tree fern. Closely resembles D. ANTARCTICA. Mature plants are ideal in shaded garden for overhead protection to begonias and other shade loving plants. Fern collection \$2.00 or any four for \$1.00.

Fern cultural suggestion that we have found helpful. Use a large wide-mouthed glass jar (turned on side) with tight cover. Planting medium should be well rotted, sterilized, moist leaf mold to which a small amount of soil sulphur has been added. Scatter spores on top of medium but do not cover. Place cover on jar and set aside. Do not disturb until sporelings are ready to transplant. Use same method as begonia seedlings when transplanting. Some fern spores require more time than others to germinate so give them plenty of time. If the soil seems dry, cover may be rmoved carefully and plants watered by using a very fine spray or mist.

Other genera. No. 1. BROMELIA BALAN-SAE, "heart of flame." South American terrestrial bromeliad. We have seen this plant blooming in our neighbor's garden and it is indescribably beautiful. When it is in bloom all of the inner leaves turn a brilliant flame color, the inflorescens is a tall column of pinkish flowers emerging from a powdery waxlike flower stalk. Hardy in mild climates, greenhouse culture elsewhere, will stand some frost. No. 2. B. VITTATA—Brazil. Beautiful banded foliage; dark blue flowers; glowing red bracts. No. 3. LEUCOSPERMUM NU-TANS. Proteaceae family. Africa and Australia. Beautiful shrub with red or yellow nodding flowers. No. 4. AECHMEA NUDI-CAULIS. Hardy—magnificent red and yellow flowers. Brazil. No. 5. PUYA BERTERONI-ANA. Medium-growing plant adaptable to the cactus garden. Magnificent blue and green flowering pikes. No. 6. ROHDEA—China and Japan. Amaryllis family. Foliage plant, popular as a house plant. Inconspicuous flowers, followed by large heads of berries which turn scarlet in November and stay fresh for several months. Shady location. We have a few seeds of the lovely HAEMANTHUS COCCINEUS (blood lily)—South Africa. We will include with the above as long as available. 6 packets for \$1.25.

Note: A few cultural notes on germinating bromeliad seed. Use clay pots with adequate coarse drainage in bottom. Cover with humus which should be fibrous and light. Scatter seeds on medium which has been well watered. Do not cover seeds with soil. Some means of humidity should be provided in propagating area as bromeliad seeds germinate mainly by the action of air which should be saturated with moisture. Containers of water placed in the propagating area should provide sufficient humidity.

MRS. FLORENCE GEE, Seed Fund Admniistrator 4316 Berryman Ave., Los Angeles 66, California American Begonia Society Test Gardens

RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. Begonias to be shipped under supervision of area chairman, coded. Hybridizer to contact Research Director. Research Director notifies area chairman and sends two sealed envelopes containing code. One to enclose with plant at time of shipping, area chairman places name of hybridizer and date on other and mails to Research Director to be filed for one year, un-opened.

2. Hybridizer to pay shipping expenses and to agree plant, after testing and release, remains property of test garden.

3. A hybridizer to avail himself (herself) of the A.B.S. test garden service must be a member of the A.B.S.

4. Personnel of the test gardens will not at any time answer correspondence in regard to new begonias and testing with any one except Research Director. All correspondence pertaining to new begonias and testing will be forwarded to Research Director.

5. No name will be sent with new begonias. After testing period, and begonia is approved, the name along with the registration must be submitted to the Nomenclature Director. The parentage of the begonia will be used only at the time of registration.

6. Test gardens to submit recommendation to Research Director, in turn recorded with code and forwarded to Nomenclature Director. Research Director to cooperate with test gardens and Nomenclature Director.

7. Begonias submitted must be plants grown from the original parent, parent begonia being at least one year old.

8. Testing period to be one year. Test gardens to supply reports, using code, every three months, stating ease or difficulty of culture and distinctiveness and any outstanding or bad tendencies. Report forms to be furnished by A.B.S.

9. Plants not shipped under proper procedure and with proper code will not be accepted by test gardens.

10. Any begonia which has been tested, registered and accepted will receive the American Begonia Society Seal of Approval.

11. In case the same cross is created, resulting in similar plants, begonia first recorded with code will be accepted.

12. The official publication, The Begonian, will be used for reports of the new begonias.

The above rules were approved by the National Board of the American Begonia Society on February 27, 1956. Rules to become effective April 2, 1956.

BEGONIA growers in future years are going to realize what an important part our test gardens are going to play in our begonia growing. The American Begonia Society with the help and cooperation of botanical gardens plans two phases of testing: Begonias available, for records of their growing conditions and requirements in various districts, and new begonias. New begonias may be registered with A.B.S. Nomenclature Director before testing, but they will not be eligible for the A.B.S. Seal of Approval. The testing of the new begonias should be done before nomenclature enters the picture. It is after the testing and approval that new begonias should be registered. New begonias will be tested and quarterly reports will be made of their growth and cultural requirements in various sections of the country. Testing will be done in conservatories and shaded out-of-doors protected gardens. Following the testing period, reports will be published in *The Begonian* to inform you of the begonias doing their best in your similar climatic conditions.

Begonias after a testing period of one year will then be eligible for the American Begonia Society Seal of Approval (A.B.S.S.A.). A begonia to carry this seal must be tested and then registered. This seal will be awarded to the begonias having passed a majority approval. Therefore it is advisable for a hybridizer to have his new begonias tested by several testing areas. The new begonias having proved themselves to adaptability and characteristics will bear the A.B.S.S.A. In future years, begonias carrying this seal will be recognized

January Cover Picture

THERE have been many inquiries about the cover picture for January, 1956. The picture was sent by our Eastern Public Relations Director, Elsa Fort. Maybe she or the owner of the plant could give a description of it as none accompanied the picture submitted. Some say it shows none of the characteristics of *Begonia scandens*. If no identification is available, why not send a cutting to the A.B.S. Test Identification Garden. Maybe it is a case of a commercial misnomer. Why not self-pollinate the plant and see if the new plants show up parental differences or whether the seedlings are true to the original plant.

Personally, I think it looks like *Begonia* scharffiana, which has lax stems and is a fine species to use for a hanging basket or to drape over a wall or fence. My plant, which grows over the wall is about two feet long now. This plant can be easily trained down by snapping clothes pins to obscure leaves when the plant is dry and the stems are quite inclined to droop. When the plant is watered, the weight of the clothes pins retains the stems in the downward position.

Let's hear from you Easterners about this plant.

LOUISE CRAMER

as the begonias to grow. Seeing this seal you will realize the begonia has been thoroughly tested and recommended.

Area chairmen will have an active part in our test garden procedure. They are the people who will see to it that the new begonias will go through the proper channels. They are the ones the hybridizer comes in personal contact with when he has new begonias to be tested and the shipping of these new begonias will be done under the supervision of the area chairmen. Following are the area chairmen appointed to date:

- Mrs. Pearl Bauer, 1482 Buena Vista, Ventura, Calif.; Ventura-Santa Barbara area.
- Mrs. P. P. Lee, 1852 31st St., San Diego 2, Calif.; San Diego area.
- Mrs. R. A. Maddox, 7172 Mt. Vernon, Riverside, Calif.; Riverside-Los Angeles area.
- Mrs. Elsa Fort, 6123 Cedar Ave., Merchantville, N. J.; New England and Eastern area.
- Mrs. George Wilkins, 3625 N. Fitzhugh, Dallas 4, Texas; Southern area.

SYLVIA B. LEATHERMAN Research Director

Round Robin Notes . . .

IT SOON will be Spring again and we are looking forward to working in our yards.

All kinds of annuals and perennials are to be found in the nurseries to help make our gardens beautiful, Spring and Summer. Also, we must not overlook that wonderful little book, the Seed Catalog. Almost everyone enjoys looking at seed and shrub catalogs and now is the time to get your order in for those seeds you are thinking of planting so that later the garden will be a beautiful sight. Each year, new and improved plants are on the market ranging from border plants to tall five-footers.

I must tell you how pleased I have been at all the nice letters I have received from members of the Robins and I shall answer them all, but if I am a little slow, please do not get impatient, as my mail has been unusually heavy just now. You will get an answer as quickly as possible.

I have had so many requests asking for membership in Robins from people who have never joined a Robin before. The question they ask is, "How and what do I have to do to join a Robin?" I immediately send the information and the rules to follow, also stating there is no charge to join, but the one requirement is they must be members of the A.B.S.

The members in the Robins are increasing rapidly. There is still room for more members in Rex and Fuchsias in California. Would anyone be interested in a Bromeliad Robin; also Cacti and Succulent? If so, just drop me a card.

May I make a suggestion? When the Robin is large, try placing it in a heavy envelope so that it will not be damaged in the mail. Sometimes the lighter weight envelopes get torn and some of the letters are damaged. A large manila envelope is best for heavy letters.

MARIE REED

COVER PICTURE

Begonia Kenworthyi, introduced by Rudolf Ziesenhenne, was discovered in Mexico in 1948 by MacDougall. THE BEGONIAN, 1950, has an article on this plant. The plant on front cover was grown by Isabelle Noker of Vineland, N.J. Photo by Ralph Holtsizer, Darby, Pennsylvania.

—____В_____

Jungle Garden, cover March, 1956, *The Be*gonian, was photographed by William Givens.

Leaves From Our Begonia Branches

EAST BAY

We would like to pass on to other branches the information that if you have not had the pleasure of seeing the film, "Making the Most of a Miracle," put out by the Gaviota Company, you still have a treat in store for a program this coming year. This is a sound film dealing with soil, fertilizer and food elements in growth. It is both informative and entertaining.

A very timely talk on begonias was given and we are off to another good year of begonia study and growing.

Officers for 1956 are: Pres., Mr. Forrest Huntwork; Vice Pres., Mrs. Doris Clute; Sec., Mr. Stuart Smith; Treas., Mr. C. F. Jensen; and Nat. Rep., Mrs. Virginia Smith.

-----B-----

FOOTHILL

Following a very nice jitney dinner, the regular meeting was held, with installation of officers for the year of 1956. Our National President, Mr. Joe Taylor, was with us and he installed the following officers: Pres., Mrs. Rodney D. Talcott; Vice Pres., Mrs. Cecil Houdyshel; Rec. Sec., Mrs. Byrl Harper; Treas., Mrs. R. N. Weaver; Cor. Sec., Mrs. Isabel A. Hall; Nat. Dir., Mr. E. F. Schoenig; and Membership Sec., Miss A. Esther Smith.

Mr. Forest O. Edwards of Whittier showed colored slides taken while he was traveling in Old Mexico. His photography was excellent and his pictures most wonderful.

__B___

GLENDALE

Mr. Beaufore spoke on "Begonias: Their History, Propagation, and Fertilization." He explained landscaping with begonias and told us the varieties that will grow in dense shade.

Mr. Mark Anthony of Descanso Gardens is a well known Camellia expert, having grown these lovely plants for many years. He is a members of both Camellia Societies in Southern California and well respected for his knowledge of Camellia Growing. He told the correct culture for your camellias and illustrated his talk with slides.

If you have questions on begonia growing, send to "Information Please."

HAWKEYE STATE

At the January meeting our favorite begonias now in bloom were given as roll call. A general discussion of the characteristics of the different groups of begonias followed, our hostess showing her plants as models. We read more of the *Glossary of Botanical Terms* and, again, used Alice Casson's plants to demonstrate these terms. Packages of begonia seed sent to us by friends, were distributed, each member present receiving an individual package.

Following a pot luck supper a report on the rhizomatous begonias "Freddie," "Silver Star," and "Bessie Buxton" was given. A Round Table Discussion on the planting of seed and care of seedlings followed. Those receiving seed at the last meeting reported on the seedlings.

-B-

HOUSTON

The officers for 1956 are: Pres., Mrs. A. F. Morin; Vice Pres., Mrs. W. D. Porter; Sec., Mrs. Grant W. Herzog; Treas., Mrs. E. H. Cloggett; Membership, Mrs. B. A. Russell; and Representative Director, Mrs. Polly Cooper.

R.

INGLEWOOD

Officers for 1956 are: Pres., Bert Slatter; Vice Pres., John Thieben; Sec., Hattie Bradford; Treas., Grace Yerick; and National Dir., Pearl Parker.

R

LONE STAR

Welcome, new branch! We wish you and your members great gardening success. Share with others throughout the world, your problems, success and questions on begonia growing through *The Begonian*, your magazine.

-----B-----

LOUISIANA STATE

Our club is small, but quite active. We enjoy our begonias and our meetings. We grow all varieties of begonias. Several of our members who have greenhouses are hybridizing begonias.

Officers for 1956 are: Pres., Mrs. R. L. Wilkerson; Vice Pres., Mrs. T. J. Atkinson; and Sec.-Treas., Mrs. H. E. Dorris.

MISSOURI

Started its Welfare Program with a check to the Cerebral Palsy Fund. We planned on ways of getting better acquainted with the other branches here in the Middle West. There is a standing invitation to stop and see us, if not at our regular meeting we will arrange some sort of a get together.

Mary Wood gave a good talk on winter care of begonias in the home and told of the importance of proper watering when it's 5° F. above and fires are going full blast. A good round table discussion led by Mrs. Thoman helped the members with some of their begonia problems. Mrs. Calmese displayed B. "Melrose," B. "Ruthanne," B. acetosa and B. "Otto Alfred."

____B____

ORANGE COUNTY

National President Joe Taylor installed the 1956 officers following a pot luck dinner: Robert Dudek, Pres.; Mrs. Maybelle Woods, Sec.; Lou Scalley, Vice Pres.; Darrell Bath, Treas.; and Mrs. Muriel Hylton, National Representative.

A newly formed Nomenclature and Plant Study Department headed by Charles Fox will be a monthly feature to help members gain better knowledge of their own begonias.

"Driftwood and Its Uses" was demonstrated by Mrs. Alberta Logue of Long Beach.

PHILOBEGONIA

Our program study time was used to plan our Flower Show to be held on the lawn around the home of Mrs. Elsa Fort, June 7 and 8, and open to the public June 9. The Show is to be a "Begonias and Other House Plants" exhibit. Mrs. Albert E. Burling (wife of Supreme Court Justice Burling and member at large of the A.B.S.) and Mrs. Charles A. Wolverton (wife of our State Senator) were guests at this meeting held at the home of Mrs. Stewart Holloway, Merchantville, N.J.

Our charter, encased in a clear heavy plastic, was used as the cover for the new book containing not only the complete history of the Philobegonia Branch, but also photographs of interesting places we have been and notes on things we have accomplished.

-----B-----

PORTLAND

We have been having a difficult time trying to hold a meeting as we have had the most "unusual" weather. The November and December meetings had to be postponed on account of iced roads so that our election could not be held until mid-January. The newly elected officers are Mrs. Martin Meyer, Pres.; G. R. Altermatt, Vice Pres.; Mrs. Helen Parrott, Sec.; and Mrs. J. R. Broad, Treas.

-----B-

REDONDO

All roads lead to Redondo Beach's Whoopee Party, which will provide loads of fun, plants and garden gadgets. Each person attending must bring a plant or garden gadget. Donation 50c per person.

_____B_____

RIVERSIDE

Eleven members of Riverside Branch attended the birthday party in Long Beach with the Parent Chapter. We had a most enjoyable time eating luscious hamburgers with loads of trimming, also ice cream and a beautiful birthday cake. There were three charter members present and two or three who joined at the second or third meeting. It was interesting to learn that the first members were all men, seven of them.

We were sorry Mr. Dyckman, the founder, was too ill to be there. We all signed a card to be sent to him—all sixty-two of us. We met several friends from other Branches and renewed acquaintances. Have another party, Long Beach—and "come on to our house" all of you. We'll be glad to see you any time.

——В——

SACRAMENTO

Celebrated its eighth anniversary with a dinner at the Buckboard.

Mrs. Kawczynski, who specializes in geraniums, spoke on "Green and Brown Thumbs for Shade Gardeners," and brought plants for the plant table.

A special treat: Mr. Albert Walters, former President of the Rose Society, demonstrated the proper pruning of roses.

-----B---

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

"Gardens Under the Southern Cross" were discussed and illustrated by Norvell Gillespie at the Birthday Dinner attended by representatives from many California branches and national officers of the A.B.S. Norvell Gillespie, the well-known radio and television personality and garden columnist, recently returned from an extensive tour of Australia, New Zealand and surrounding areas, recording in colored motion pictures the native life and plants. This country in the Southern Hemisphere having approximately the same climate as Southern California, has many different and unusual plants which could be grown here and be even more suitable for our "cultivated desert."

The following officers were installed by Joe Taylor, president of the American Begonia Society: Charles Lovejoy, pres., Pasadena; Clarence Johnston, vice pres., El Monte; Merilyn Jewett, sec., Altadena; James Giridlian, treas., Arcadia; Clarence Blough, Branch director., W. Covina; and Louise Cramer, National director, Pasadena.

----B------

SAN MIGUEL

Those of us who attended the regional meeting at La Jolla on Feb. II enjoyed the day very much. It was nice seeing the National Board members and missed those who didn't attend. We renewed old acquaintances and made new ones. The food provided by the Branches and the members attending was most tasteful and the plant table was a very lovely one.

We were very happy to receive our long awaited charter, which was framed and displayed at our regular meeting. Mr. David R. Roberts of the City Park and Recreation Dept. of Balboa Park was our speaker.

—B——

SANTA BARBARA

Officers for 1956 are: Rudolph Ziesenhenne, pres.; Hubert T. Jolly, vice pres.; Mrs. Marian Sanchez, sec.; Mrs. Cecilia Brines, treas.; Mrs. Mary Wegener, branch rep.; Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, study group chairman and show chairman; Mr. Ziesenhenne, nomenclature chairman; Mr. Jolly, programs; Mrs. Esther Allen, garden visitations; and Mrs. Barbara Philip, membership chairman.

Mrs. Otto Schwerdtfeger, past president of Santa Barbara Branch and national vice president of the American Begonia Society, displayed *Begonia* "Patty Bar," her new hybrid of *B*. hypatica maculata and *B*. *barkeri*. The compact, heavy-leaved plant bore strong stems of white flowers.

—-B——-

SMOKEY VALLEY

We have added new members and our old members are good workers. New officers are: Pres., Mrs. Evelyn Irving; V. Pres., Mrs. Hattie Brodine; Sec., Mrs. Dorothy Romeiser; Cor. Sec., Mr. John C. Irving; and Treas., Mrs. Yola Capell.

TEXAS STATE

The new officers are: Pres., Mr. E. Weaver; Vice Pres., Mrs. R. J. Wilson; Treas., Mrs. W. N. Foster; and Sec., Mrs. William Demland.

____B____

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Mrs. T. Fulton Linn spoke on "Spring Bulbs." Spring flowers or forced blossoms combined with begonia leaves filled the niches at the Pittsburgh Garden Center. These arrangements, made by members, were judged by popular vote only.

Officers for 1956: Mrs. Clarence Eckert, pres.; Mrs. Walter Kirch, 1st vice pres.; Mrs. William Magill, 2nd vice pres.; Mrs. Robert Beaumont, sec.; Miss Sarah Schlag, treas.; and Priscilla McPherson, publicity.

-----B----

WHITTIER

A "silent auction" was held to raise funds to meet expenses for our entry at the Whittier Community Beautiful Flower Show to be held during the early summer. We also had a short plant forum with several specimen plants to illustrate each type of begonia. Sev-

In February, Dr. Louis B. Martin of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum was the featured speaker. His lecture was illustrated with a fine collection of colored slides of the Arboretum. The plant exchange added the usual friendliness and zest to the meeting, and the refreshments served were delicious.

Mrs. Strader of the Whittier Civil Defense Corps was present and told us of the importance to each of us and our homes of the work of the Ground Observer Corps and made a plea for volunteers.

Colored slides from the American Begonia Society were featured. These slides are of particular interest to begonia lovers in that they are so informative and helpful in identifying the various types of begonias. Each slide was accompanied with a discussion relating to the plant shown and much valuable information was gleaned pertaining to the care and culture of begonias.

-----B------

WILLIAM PENN

This branch had its regular January meeting in spite of heavy sleet, ice and snow! The prolific bloom on the many plants of Mrs. George Earl DeCoursey, the hostess, added immeasurably to the drabness of the day, and made the trip to the country well worth while. The plants in good bloom were *B. scharffi*, B. "Rubaiyat," B. "Tea Rose," B. boweri, B. "Viaudi," B. winter jewel, B. "Red Rubra," B. "Catalina," B. "Digswelliana," dichroalimminghei hybrid, B. manicata aureo-maculata. Beside these many plants, B. "Mrs. Wallow," B. "Washington Street," B. kenworthyi, and B. "Margarataceae" were also in bloom, which is most unusual, and one of the few opportunities many of us ever had to see so many worthwhile specimens at their very best. Certainly a stimulating inspiration! This was a most opportune time to further the study and discussion of terminal and axillary inflorescence.

A lively round table discussion of begonias, according to classification, has been conducted at each of the meetings. This method of analysis and identification has proved to be most practical for all, and especially helpful to the newer members with unnamed plants. By keying out the plants, using a botanical chart, we will in time have each of our own plants named and identified, as well as a complete record of the characteristics of a large number of begonias. At present we are doing the

Calendar

- April 12-Inglewood Branch, 8th annual branch president's dinner, 6:30 P.M. "Trend in Modern Gardening," Philip Chandler, U.C.L.A.
- April 25—San Gabriel Branch, "Begonias" by Sylvia Leatherman.
- April 14-Redondo Beach, Whoopee Party, 8:00 P.M.
- April 27-Redondo Beach, "Begonias Are
- Born and How They Develop," Sylvia Leatherman.
- April 29-Begonia Planting Ceremony at Descanso Gardens. Potluck, 1:00 P.M., Begonia planting ceremony, 3.00 P.M.
- May 14-San Miguel Branch, "Ferns" by Sylvia Leatherman.
- May 20-Third Quarterly Meeting, Santa Barbara.
- June 7, 8, 9-Philobegonia Branch Flower Show, Garden of Elsa Fort, 6121 Cedar Ave., Merchantville, N.J. Tea served. Everyone welcome.

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MINUTES, NATIONAL BOARD, FEB. 27

Meeting called at 7:30 P.M. by Presi-dent Taylor. Pledge to the Flag given and Aims and Purposes of Society read. Secretary's and Treasurer's reports

given.

Letter read from Glendale Branch in regard to National Directors receiving recognition at National Board meetings.

Report of Branch Directors and Board members given.

Treasurer reported receiving \$43.15 from Regional Meeting at La Jolla and \$5.00 from San Miguel Branch for Presi-dent's fund.

Moved, seconded and carried that \$20.00 in Nomenclature Fund be put in General Fund.

invitation Trowbridge announced hold next Regional meeting at Santa Bar bara. Moved, seconded and carried that we accept invitation to hold the next quarterly meeting in the Santa Barbara Area.

Invitation received to hold a Begonia Planting Day at Descanso Gardens April 29th. Moved, seconded and carried that we

Planting Day at Descanso Gardens April 29th. Moved, seconded and carried that we accept date of April 29th as Begonia Planting Day at Descanso Gardens. Moved, seconded and carried that we refund \$2.50 on dues overpaid by a mem-ber, as requested by MacLanahan. Moved, seconded and carried that the book "Les Begonias" be kept in our Li-brary and a request for a loan be brought before the Board. Librarian stated a re-quest for a loan had been made by Mrs. Korts. Moved, seconded and carried that Mrs. Korts be permitted to borrow "Les Begonias." Research Director presented revised Rules and Regulations for Test Gardens. Moved, seconded and carried we accept Rules and Regulations as read and they be printed in Begonian as soon as possible. Report given by Terrell on Constitution. Moved, acconded and carried that Mr. Ter-rell be authorized to draw up a new rell be authorized to draw up a new Constitution.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:10 P.M. Respectfully submitted,

Arline Stoddard, Nat. Sec.

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APRIL, 1956

Branch Meeting Dates . .

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

AMERICAN BEGONIA HYBRIDIZERS BRANCH Called Meetings Quarterly Mrs. Daisy L. Walker, Secy.-Treas. 2425-A Silver Lake Blvd., Los Angeles 39, Calif. BRITISH BRANCH F. J. Bedson, Secy. Kent, England CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH 1st Friday, 10:00 a.m. Lounge, Florida Power Co. Winter Park, Florida Mrs. Lou Mankamyer 20 Pershing Place, Orlando, Florida DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Members' Residences Mrs. Ruth Cook 923 S. Edgefield, Dallas 8, Texas EAST BAY BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m. Willard School, Telegraph at Ward, Berkeley, California Mr. Stuart C. Smith, Secy. 3147 Stanley Blvd., Lafayette, Calif. EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH 2nd Thrsday Lions Clubhouse, 225 W. Garvey Blvd. Monterey Park, Calif. William Edwards, Cor. Secy. 1886 San Pasqual, Pasadena, Calif. FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. LaVerne Recreational Building, College Park, 2nd and D Streets, LaVerne, California Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy. 358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH 1st Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Miss Lola Price, Secy. 628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J.

GLENDALE BRANCH 4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coe, Cor. Secy. 28904 Cliffside Dr., Malibu, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH 3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m. Community House, La Jolla Mrs. Charles Calloway 1311 Torrey Pines Rd., La Jolla, Calif. GRAY'S HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, 8:00 p.m. Hoquiam Public Library, or Messingale and Rosenear Music Store Aberdeen, Washington Mrs. Jessie B. Hoyt, Secy. 1013 Harding Road, Aberdeen, Wash.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. Homes of Members Mrs. W. Ernest Jones, Secy. Welsh & Dresher Rds. Willow Grove, Pa. HAMSHIRE, TEXAS BRANCH 3rd Tuesday of each month Mrs. Peter DeYoung, Hamshire, Texas

Mrs. Peter DeYoung, Hamshire, Texa HAWKEYE STATE BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes Ruth Anderson, Secy. Underwood, Iowa

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. Mrs. Helen Ehret Murphy, Secy. 715 N. Genesee St., Los Angeles 46, Calif. HOUSTON, TEXAS BRANCH 2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m. Garden Center, Herman Park Mrs. Grant Herzog, Secy. 12601 Broken Bough, Houston 24, Texas HUB CITY BRANCH 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Mrs. L. R. Kellogg, Secy. 1120 E. 71st St., Long Beach 5, Calif. HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH 2nd Monday, 8:00 p.m. Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif. Miss Margaret Smith, Secy. P.O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif. **INGLEWOOD BRANCH** CLEWOOD BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m. Inglewood Women's Club 325 North Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif. Mrs. Hattie Bradford, Secy. 1825 W. 73rd St., Los Angeles 47, Calif. LONE STAR BRANCH 3rd Monday, members' homes Mrs. Chester Terry, Secy. 5511 Richmond Ave., Dallas, Texas LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. 2255 Elm Ave. Mrs. Alice Waldow, Secy. 2175 Cedar Ave., Long Beach 6, Calif. LOS ANGELES BRANCH 4th Wednesday, Homes of Members Mrs. Alberta King, Secy. 929 Third Ave., Los Angeles 6, Calif. LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH 2nd Friday Mrs. H. E. Dorris 3213 Eaton St., Baton Rouge, La. MIAM, FLORIDA BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Simpson Memorial Garden Center Mrs. Vivian J. Ennemoser, Secy. 1295 N. W. 54th St., Miami 42, Florida MISSOURI BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Hattie Taylor, Secy. P.O. Box 25, Raytown, Mo. NEW ENGLAND BRANCH
 3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
 Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.
 170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass. 170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.
OCEAN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY BRANCH
1st Tuesday, 12:30 p.m., members' homes
Mrs. Selma Braun, Secy.
37 Broad St., Apt. 4-D, Toms River, N.J.
ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH
2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall
Century and Taft Streets
Garden Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Maybelle Woods, Secy.
604 South Helena St., Anaheim, Calif.
PASADENA BRANCH PASADENA BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Homes of Members Mrs. Alva Graham, Secy. 515 El Centro St., South Pasadena, Calif. PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes Mrs. Robert York, Secy. 3311 Fremont St., Camden, New Jersey

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PORTLAND, OREGON BRANCH 4th Friday, 8:00 p.m. Members' Homes Mrs. Helen Parrott, Secy. 3955 S.E. Kelly, Portland 2, Oregon

RAYTOWN, MISSOURI BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Homes of Members Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.

REDONDO BEACH AREA BRANCH 4th Friday each month 2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif. Opal Murray Ahern, Secy. 1304 Poinsettia Ave. Manhattan Beach, Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Shamel Park, 3650 Arlington, Riverside, California Mrs. Olive Thaller, Secy. 1 7195 Orchard St., Riverside, Calif.

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

SACRAMENTO BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Gordon Long, Secy. 5416 Dana Way, Sacramento, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH 4th Monday Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University Mrs. Lillian Lausted, Secy. 1504 Blaine Ave., San Diego 3, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH 1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Forest Lodge, 266 Laguna Honda Blvd. Mrs. Louise Allmacher 1963 45th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH
 4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
 Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
 Arcadia, California
 Mrs. Merilyn Jewett, Secy.
 461 E. Mariposa St., Altadena, Calif.

 SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

2nd Monday V.F.W. Hall at Imperial and Lincoln, Lemon Grove, Calif. Ida M. Barker, Secy. 7591 Central Ave., Lemon Grove, Calif. SANTA BARBARA BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St. Mrs. Maria Sanchez, Secy. 1753 Glen Oaks Dr., Santa Barbara, Calif. SEATTLE BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m. Trinity Parish House, 609 Eighth Ave. Mrs. Wm. Stankman, Secy. 4116 15th Ave., Seattle, Wash. SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BR. 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Alice Bartlett C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif. Mrs. Wilma Renshaw, Secy. 560 So. Coronado St., Ventura, Calif. SMOKEY VALLEY BRANCH 3rd Thursday of each month Mrs. A. L. Romeiser, Secy. 1104 South Ninth St., Salina, Kansas SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BR. 3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif. Theodore Vierra 341 Redbud Lane, Hayward, Calif. TALL CORN STATE BRANCH Mrs. Edna Monson, Secy. South Taylor, Mason City, Iowa TEXAS STATE BRANCH Ist Tuesday night in members' homes Mrs. William Demland, Seey. 2400 19th St., Port Arthur, Texas TREASURE ISLAND BRANCH 4th Friday Miss Isabelle Sievert, Secy. 3912 Ave. "S," Galveston, Texas WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. Homes of Members Mrs. Joseph Rock, Cor. Secy. Maplewood Ave., Wilkinsburg, Pa. WHITTIER BRANCH 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive Mrs. Edna M. Hill, Secy. 8408 S. Madison Ave., Whittier, Calif. WILLIAM PENN BRANCH Ard Tuesday, 2:00 p.m. Homes of Members, Wallingford, Pa. Mrs. Ernest C. Drew, Secy.-Treas. 635 Moreno Rd., Narbeth, Pa.

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