

The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

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A Bit of the Garden of Eden

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AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be: to promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants; to encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants; to standardize the nomenclature of begonias; to gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and companion plants; to issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and to bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

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Silver Anniversary Convention

HISTORICAL Plummer Park, Hollywood, was the location of the 25th annual convention and flower show of the American Begonia Society, held Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. With the National Board hosting, and sponsored by the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Dept., more than 718 members and visitors took advantage of perfect weather and the opportunity to view the best that is to be found in the wide world of begonias.

Friday afternoon the committee was busy accepting the 135 entries that individuals and branches had groomed for this special event. There was a wonderful array of outstanding plants—on the stage and three long tables in the main room; on three smaller tables in the nomenclature area; arranged around the court nearby the entrance. Ethel Arbuckle and her clerks were kept busy listing plants and making the tickets. These clerks, without whom no competition can ever be successful but whose work is too seldom recognized were: Virginia Brandon, Alhambra; Gladys Matticket, Monterey Park; Urice Hile, Upland; Pearl Bauer, Ventura; Lillian Maddox, Riverside; Alma Harlock, Ventura; Virginia Humphrey, Arcadia; Alice Martin, Redondo Beach.

For members who were concerned with getting the show off to a good start, Saturday started early. Final positions of plants and checking of entry numbers and corresponding cards was done; judges were engrossed in a meeting which outlined the general plans and specific points. Mrs. Florence Gee arrived and summoned many helpers who set up the Seed Fund Booth; members and visitors began arriving in an ever-increasing horde, welcomed, signed, and directed by "Butch" and "Marge" Lee, San Miguel branch, San Diego. Before noon Plummer Park hummed with activity—and continued to do so while the judges were busy with their difficult task. Judges were prompt and the two hours allotted to their function were enough for the conclusions reached. That their decisions

were a Herculean task is vouchsafed by the following list of exhibitors:

Mrs. Beth Bath (14); Mrs. Margaret Buell (25); Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coe (7); Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Corwin (6); Fuchsia Land (1); Lila Hotaling (7); Don Horton (3); Alberta King (3); Mrs. Edna Korts (2); Margaret and Paul Lee (1); Mrs. Noma Levan (2); Miss Kay Thieben (4); John Thieben (47); Marie Trowbridge (1); Mrs. J. S. Randall (7); Mrs. Ruthanne Williams (1); Mrs. Grace Yerick (3); Mrs. Susie Zug (1); for a grand total of 135 entries. We must note, at this point, that all California, and especially Southern California, had been the victim, as were the begonias being groomed for the show, of a long heat wave which subsided just a few days prior to the convention. Many members mourned the passing, from show quality, of their various specimens and resigned themselves to waiting for another year to carry home an award.

During the period that the judges were reaching their conclusions the crowd increased and many availed themselves of the food offered at the snack booth. This was ably manned by the San Gabriel Branch headed by Mr. and Mrs. John Fahey, aided by Charles Lovejoy. The Society owes each hard-working member of this group a vote of thanks for his important contribution toward the success of the show. Because of them, old friends were able to meet and chat around the tables set in the sunny patio.

When the doors were thrown open at the completion of judging, the crowd surged into the room containing the entries. Judges who had completed their hard task under the leadership of Mrs. Edna Korts were: W. H. Bauer, Ventura; Mrs. Emma Carleton, Berkeley; Mary Gillingwaters, Upland; Sylvia Leatherman, El Monte; Mrs. Harry Meyer, Ojai; Irene Osborne, Ventura; Barbara Phillips, Santa Barbara; Mrs. Alexander Sim, Malibu; Bert Slatter, Inglewood; Hyacinth Smith,

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Photo by Percy Zug

The Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal Award

BEGONIA "Verde Grande," A.B.S. number 103, was voted the medal for 1957. This rhizomatous begonia is so distinctive both in shape and color that it attracts the attention of everyone who sees it. The plant, during the growing period, produces many basal leads in various stages of development. The petioles appear to fan out from each other, giving one an excellent advantage to view the breadth and depth of the plant.

The leaves are a bright delicate green, the mature leaves each having an irregular trim of blue-black along the edges. The same area on the back is a deep cinnabar red. The young leaves carry the cinnabar coloring both on the front and back of the leaves, which makes a very pleasing contrast between the two types.

B. "Verde Grande" makes a steady growth, requiring a good potting mixture with a light feeding at regular intervals. It does exceptionally well in a lath house and could be grown in sheltered gardens.

The plant on display at the convention was grown by the Kortses.

Mrs. Susie Zug, a member of Foothill Branch, was the hybridizer of the plant. Many outstanding hybrids have been produced through her efforts and they have proven to be of particular value. Mrs. Zug was presented the Robinson Medal at the 1957 convention.

Chairman of Awards E. G. ARBUCKLE

—B—

GIFT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The National Board, A.B.S., wishes to acknowledge, with thanks, the gift of money sent to help defray expenses for the 25th annual convention. The following Branches participated: William Penn, Treasure Island, Tarrant County, Elsa Fort, New England; and Mrs. Edna M. Follette.

The check and letter were sent by our new Vice-President, Nancy Alvord, president of the New England Branch, Quincy, Mass.

A Bit of the Garden of Eden

By LOUISE CRAMER

NESTLED in a desert valley overshadowed by Mt. Baldy (the skier's delight) in Up-land, Calif., is a little "Garden of Eden" fashioned by Mrs. Mary Gillingwaters. In this patio garden, begonias and other shade plants thrive under what is considered most adverse growing conditions—desert heat, frost and wind. One section of the patio is protected from direct wind by a lath and tube structure. Shade is created by tall eucalyptus with only one section directly over the benched begonias being protected from direct overhead sun by a tube roof. Humidity is created only by damping down the concrete floor. Severe cold in the open patio is opposed by the lighting of one or two citrus orchard heaters, the number depending on the number of degrees below freezing.

Mildew with this fine air circulation, light and morning sun, does not pose a problem. Insect pests are controlled by the use of malathion spray.

With love and care, Mary has grown many prize winning specimen begonias, particularly in the rex class. As a hybridizer she has to her credit many beautiful, unusual rex and rhizomatous begonias which have proved to be very hardy, easy to grow as well as being prize winners in many flower shows. For pictures and descriptions of some of her begonia cultivars see *The Begonian*, Nov. 1955, p. 241; Feb. 1956, B. "Mt. Baldy," p. 25; B. "Vigorosa" and B. "Pequena," p. 34; June 1956, B. "Cool Waters," p. 121; Aug. 1956, B. "Lakewood" and B. "Joel Gillingwaters," p. 177.

Many begonia growing friends have enjoyed not only the beauty and enchantment of the patio created by the display of large leaved, colorful rex begonias, but also the inviting charm of the home entry way framed by the older, hardy begonia cultivars and species. At the extreme

left of the porch (pictured on cover) is B. "Dorothy Grant" (B. "Thurstoni" seedling of William Grant, San Diego, 1928). This tall growing begonia has large, dark metallic green, slightly cupped leaves, red beneath, which are covered with short, soft bristly, white hair. Prominent red veins on the back of the leaf radiate from a pale green sinus. The hairy red main stem is swollen at the base of the nodes. Pale green stipules which turn dark paper brown hang on for a long time. Large two petaled flowers, held on upright peduncles which arise from the leaf axil, are white with pale pink hair on the outside of the petals. These hairs make the blooms appear to be pink.

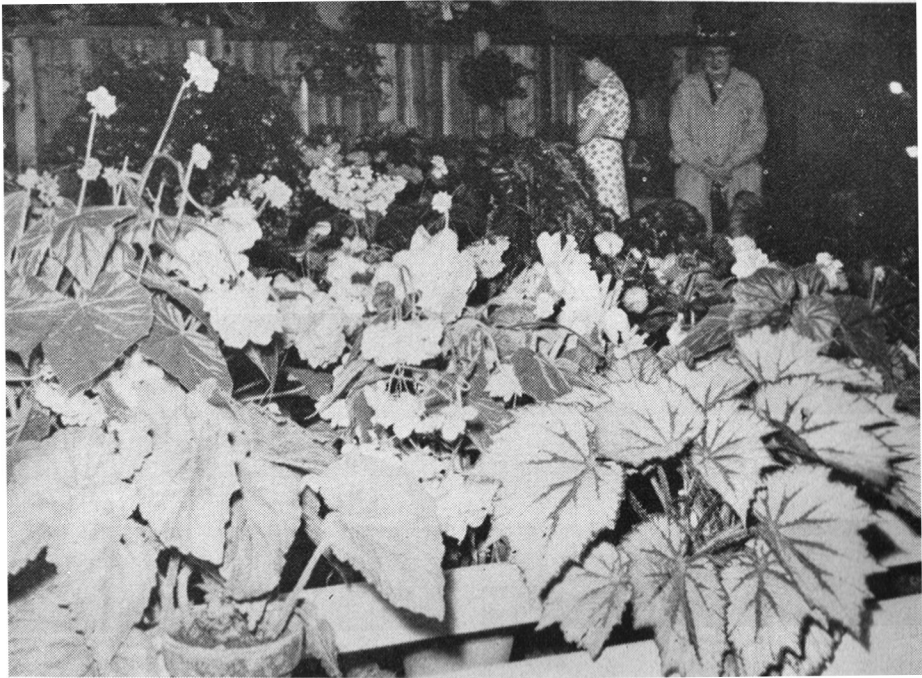
Backed by a fuchsia against the wall is *Begonia* "Gray Satin" (Gillingwaters, 1953. B. "Adrian Schmidt" x spiral rex hybrid). From this same seed pod came B. "Vigorosa," B. "Joel Gillingwaters" and B. "Concha Alta." The large, satiny, silver gray colored leaves of this spiraled, sometimes double spiraled rex is irregularly marked with dark green wedges (apex toward sinus of leaf) which are spotted with silver. The serrated edge is faintly margined with deep red which is carried to the underside of the leaf and stem. Both the stem and back of the leaf are covered with red hair.

The left post is surrounded by *Begonia* "Argentea-guttata" (B. "Alba Picta" x *B. olbia*) one of the most popular spotted leaved begonias often called the "Trout Begonia." It is of shrubby growth to about 3' to 4', with shiny, dark green leaves which are silver spotted. Flowers are greenish white although sometimes pink tinged.

Begonia "Mrs. W. A. Wallow" (grown from German seed by W. A. Wallow, Calif., 1928) with dark olive green leaves which are bronzy red beneath, enhances

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Begonia and Sheltered Garden Show



THE THEME of our Begonia Show this year, Aug. 3 and 4, was based on the desire to show choice garden scenes of both the hobbyist and interested commercial growers.

The entire Loyal Heights Fieldhouse gymnasium and stage, an area totaling about 7,000 square feet, was devoted to these garden scenes. An additional foyer area of about 2,000 square feet was used for competitive exhibits of African violets, *Episcias*, tuberous, rex and other foliage begonias, floral arrangements and compositions, and educational exhibits for each group. All this for a mere 25c admission!

There were 87 exhibitors who brought in more than 400 entries for all groups showing in the competitive exhibits.

The decision was hard to make—whether to tour the horticultural exhibits first or go straight ahead into the audi-

torium where the garden scenes were beckoning. The decision seems to lean toward the bright red flowers, which caught the eye, of the specimen *Episcias* on the tables to the right as one entered. This would then start one off up the aisles of other beautiful shade loving plants of which there were more than 100 species and varieties.

While the horticultural and decorative exhibits awed the public considerably, they were even more impressed by the garden scenes in the auditorium. They were almost stunned by the color intensity and the large number of hanging baskets of fuchsias and tuberous begonias. After they became satisfied with the initial wonderful view, they proceeded to make a detailed examination of each garden plot.

The first garden scene that met the
(Continued on Page 230)

Seeds, Seedlings and Hybrids

By DON HORTON

IN GREEK mythology one of the dieties of the sea was Proteus. He was known as a great prophet and could answer any question a man could ask. But to enable him to keep this knowledge to himself he was endowed with the ability to change into any shape.

Nevertheless, if you could surprise him in his noon slumber and keep him in capture while he tried to escape by changing into different forms you could get the answer to any question you wished.

It is because of this ability to change shape that Proteus has had a plant named after him. The genus *Protea* is so named because of the great diversity among its species. It is also the principal genus of the family *Proteaceae*, to which also belongs the silk oat (*Grevillea robusta*), the madadamia nut, and the silver tree (*Leucadendron argenteum*).

The family as a whole are trees and

shrubs and, unlike their watery namesake, are mostly xerophytes. About two thirds of that species are Australian with most of the rest found in Africa. The genus *Protea* is found around the Cape of Good Hope.

We are very fortunate in that the Seed Fund this month is offering seed of three different species of *Protea* that were obtained directly from Africa.

The flowers of *Protea* are somewhat reminiscent of those of an artichoke. The showy parts of the flower are usually rosy pink but, depending on the species and variety, vary from greenish-white to dark red. Some of the flowers reach a diameter of eight inches across and are quite spectacular.

All indications are that these plants should grow outside in Southern California but must be grown under glass in other parts of the country.

Arboretum Offers Herb Lectures

DURING the forthcoming series of six herb lectures and demonstrations to be conducted at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia on Wednesdays, from Oct. 9 to Nov. 13, homeowners will learn how to grow and use herbs for landscaping and cooking.

The herb lecture series will be given by the Southern California Herb Society, of which Mrs. Mary Darrow, of Montrose, is chairman. All speakers are members of the Herb Society, which supports its own project, the Arboretum's Herb Garden, established in 1953.

Registration forms may be obtained by writing the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc., 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia.

At each lecture, mimeographed notes will be provided. Class members will receive several herb plants for transplanting into their own gardens, according to Dr. L. B. Martin, Arboretum Plant Physiologist.

Tours of the Arboretum Herb Garden also will be featured.

Starting each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Arboretum Lecture Room, the class schedule is:

October 9: "Introduction to Herbs" by Mrs. Harold N. Wilcox of Hollywood; October 16: "Uses of Herbs in Cooking" by Mrs. Henry Wilder of San Bernardino; October 23: "Native Uses of Herbs in the Southwest" by Miss Marguerite Dumbauld of Altadena; October 30: "Uses of Herbs for Fragrance" by Mrs. Arthur D. Richardson of Altadena; November 6: "Uses of Herbs by Ancient and Primitive Peoples" by Mrs. Floyd E. Betts of Pasadena; November 13: "Uses of Herbs for Landscaping and Garden Planting" by Mrs. Fred S. Bauersfeld, also known as "Mirandy" of Santa Barbara.

Lectures on October 9, October 23, and November 13 will be illustrated by colored slides.

Convention Observations

By EDNA KORTS

PRESIDENT Cal in working clothes, setting up tables, carrying plants—everywhere at once.

President-Elect Coe on the job, helping wherever needed. No one is "Top Brass" when it comes to setting up a show and convention arrangements.

The Faheys from San Gabriel, bringing in the good food for the Snack Bar—making plans to feed the hungry horde, and coffee by the urn full.

Meeting out of town visitors, from Texas, Pittsburgh, Sacramento, San Francisco, Berkeley, San Diego, and you wish there were more.

Members bringing plants by the truck and car load; what would the show be without begonias—and many more should come.

Ethel Arbuckle and other clerks busy listing plants and making tickets.

Bert Slatter hard at work classifying and arranging.

Ruthanne Williams bringing materials for flower arrangement from Sacramento.

Florence Gee setting up her plant booth, and bringing beautiful plants by the hundreds. Did she ever work? I'll say she did.

Sylvia Leatherman and John Thieben arranging the Nomenclature room. Again trucks full of plants.

A silent auction table where visitors could bid on special begonia plants was a new feature this year.

Meeting all of the judges Saturday morning and trying to keep them from seeing the begonias until judging time.

Judges and clerks getting busy in their sections. Good to have the judges ask for score cards, and to see them scoring the top plants in a class before picking the Blue Ribbon winner. After two hours of concentrated work, all were glad to finish, and it was a *good job, well done*.

The wonderful work from judges and clerks is deeply appreciated, and the fried chicken lunch we had with Cal and

Frank serving us all iced tea was certainly refreshing.

All the fun Ethel and I had Saturday afternoon, adding scores, counting points and making awards.

Time out to visit the banquet room where Mary Hazel Drummond and her committee were decorating the tables. Wonderful tuberous begonias from Capitola met and were greeted by *semperflorens* from Southern California. What a beautiful job of decorating was accomplished, with begonias, under Mary Hazel's artistic direction.

Good food—the installation of new officers and an entertaining speaker finished a wonderful day, at the end of a very good year for the American Begonia Society.

The weather? It was Southern California perfect.

—B—

MY GARDEN

I walked in my garden
Because I was blue.
The garden was happy
All covered with dew.
Every flower was smiling,
Their heads holding high,
If they couldn't make it—
At least they would try.
Each rose was a picture
Too pretty to paint.
In fact, there was nothing
That had a complaint.
As I strolled down the path
Each shrub seemed to say
Cheer up! Nothing's wrong,
We are always this way.
And the trees as they swayed
With their heads to the sky
Were serene, and content
If they didn't know why.
I thought as I walked
From my garden away,
My blues were unfounded;
I had a great day.

JOHN SHELDON

Revised Buxton Presented to Society

By ALVA GRAHAM

PUBLICATION of the Buxton Check List of Begonias is a big event in the annals of the American Begonia Society, especially since it comes on the 25th anniversary of the Society's founding in 1932. And it is fitting that it carries the name Buxton, for our beloved Bessie Buxton, "First Lady of Begonias." The idea for such a book was hers and she worked on it, she said, ten years before it became a reality. Just reading a list of the authorities she consulted, mostly by their printed reports but some in person, shows what a herculean job she undertook. Her knowledge of foreign languages helped, as well as her acquaintance with botanists of the New York Botanical Garden. She was affiliated with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and had access to its large reference library. She credited that library staff with generous help in research, and Frederic J. Bedson, founder president of the British Begonia Society, aided by supplying names of British begonias not available here. But the real work of getting the check list in shape was hers. She called it a "partial list of begonias" of which she was "copyist only," not making any corrections "even of spelling unless they were plainly typographical."

Her finished manuscript was sent to California in the spring of 1952, shortly before the convention in San Francisco, at which she was the banquet speaker. This copy has been in constant use by Mr. Butterfield and Mrs. Carleton, of the Nomenclature Committee. To allow other members to consult the list Gladys Nolan took the trouble to type several other copies, and these have been circulated by our library.

Bessie Raymond Buxton was a New Englander, living most of her life in Peabody, Mass., where her family settled when it was just a section of Salem with only one street. Her early interest was music, but added to this was a keen love of plants and later an interest in the early



**Alva Graham and Past President
Trowbridge**

history of the region. In the early days of garden clubs she organized her own local club, became a founder member of the Massachusetts Federation of Garden Clubs, and first secretary of the National Council of State Garden Clubs. When she heard of the new begonia club in California she became one of its first out-of-state members, and encouraged it to become national in scope. She became a national vice-president, and for many years was national director of the New England Branch. She was an enthusiastic member all her life, writing for *The Begonian* and advertising the Society in her lectures and books. In recognition of her great interest she was named the recipient of the first Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, the highest honor which can be bestowed by the A.B.S.

Well known for her contribution of articles to horticulture magazines, her book, *The Window Garden*, was published in 1936 by Orange Judd & Co. of New York. However she said her first book, "really a pamphlet of 50 pages," was put out by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1929 or 1930 (she was not sure which date was correct). It was about begonias which had become her

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ABS Trophy Winners National Flower Show

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE TROPHY (best begonia in the show) awarded to V. "Virbob" exhibited by John Thieben, Inglewood Branch.

JOHN R. WILLIAMS TROPHY (best rhizomatous begonia) awarded to B. "Virbob" and exhibited by John Thieben, who also received the award for culture certificate.

GONDA HARTWELL CUP (best rex begonia). Mrs. Darrell Bath exhibited B. "Lady Laura May" and received also the award for culture certificate. Mrs. Bath is a member of Orange County Branch.

PALOS VERDE BEGONIA FARM CHALLENGE TROPHY (best tuberous begonia). John Thieben exhibited B. "Multiflora." Also received the award for culture certificate.

EFFIE CHAPMAN CUP (best fibrous begonia). B. *decalata* exhibited by John Thieben. Also the award for culture certificate.

CONNIE LEIGH HENDRIX CUP (best amateur flower arrangement). Mrs. John R. Williams for a lovely flower arrangement. Sacramento Branch.

BEST CULTIVAR AWARD presented by Inglewood Branch awarded to B. "San Miguel" and exhibited by Margaret Lee of San Miguel Branch, San Diego area; hybridizer, Charles Stark.

REDONDO BEACH AREA TROPHY (best semperflorens) won by John Thiebens.

GORDON BAKER LLOYD CUP (best seedling). B. "Heterosis F. Organdy" exhibited by John Thieben. Hybridizer, Ernest Benary.

SYLVIA AND BUCK LEATHERMAN TROPHY (best begonia grown by a juvenile) won by Kay Thieben.

SWEEPSTAKES AWARD for most points won by John Thieben.

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT won by Mrs. Noma Levan.

ETHEL G. ARBUCKLE
Chairman, Awards Committee

Round Robin Notes . . .

FOLLOWING is the report for the year September, 1956, to August, 1957, as submitted by Mrs Marie Reed, chairman:

It is my pleasure to report we have had 18 new members join the Robins, and at present I am holding nine more to be placed in Robins.

Three Robins were lost during the disaster in Louisiana, and there were also three deaths due to this calamity. In April I sent out 74 letters and 30 postcards, receiving answers from about 50. On Aug. 1, 27 more letters were mailed, not all of which have been answered at the present time. Altogether this year I have sent out 107 letters and 90 cards.

This year I have started five new Robins, all of which are doing very well, although some of the older ones have been lost to independent Robins.

MARIE REED, *Chairman*

—B—

Fall Flower Show Announced

DISTRICT 2-A, California Garden Clubs, Inc., announces its Fall Flower Show, "Autumn Harmonies."

It will be held at the clubhouse of the Hollywood Legion Post No. 43, 2035 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood; doors will be open Sat., Oct. 19, 1:30-8:00 P.M., and Sun., Oct. 20, 11:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Muriel L. Merrell, Flower Show chairman, says feature programs will be presented each afternoon at 2:30. Saturday's offering will feature the eminent bonsai artist, Frank Nagata, who will discuss "Basic Styles of Bonsai." The Sunday afternoon show will present the fabulous floral artist, Silverio Casabar, formerly head designer for the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, Honolulu, T.H. He will create traditional and exotic fashions from flowers.

Admission will be free, parking free. Refreshments and many door prizes will be offered.

Membership Report

WE HANDLED approximately 28,000 parcels of mail, almost \$5,000 of American Begonia Society money and are serving 1,912 members as the year closes.

To me these are not the significant figures. We should be interested in the fact that it cost us \$2.52 to publish *The Begonian* per member for one year. It also cost us another 47 cents to mail it to you. This cost is addressing stencils, postage, stationery, membership cards and other supplies necessary to the operation of the office, which makes a total of \$2.99. This is reduced by 33 cents per member per year by sales of advertising and we now have a per member annual cost for publishing and mailing of \$2.66 per member. Thank goodness there are some other sources of income or we would show red figures.

What can we do?

Stop and consider with me what 200 more memberships would do. Yes, we had an increase of 200 members during the past year so it is within the realm of the possible for the coming year. Our dollar balance per member year then becomes \$2.41 and we would have about 9 cents left toward other miscellaneous expense. Let us pursue this line of thought one more stop (or 200 more members) and we find our member costs reducing to about \$2.30 per year.

Realizing the effect that membership increase has on costs this office has (1) been careful almost to the point of fanaticism about correct addresses, for if a member does not get his magazine he will not renew; (2) through first class mail follow-up we have been able to trace many members who have moved. This practice has reduced the mailing returns to one or two magazines per month, and (3) we have added a final contact which is re-establishing many of the members to the active list for another year.

There are fifty plus active branches at present. We in the membership office will supply active member list informa-

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President's

Post-Convention Notes

President Coe states that he feels that the success of the Convention was through the efforts of many Committees and the Society members who participated by bringing their plants for display in the competitive classes. He thanks all of you for your enthusiastic support of this event.

—B—

Your New Officers

Bert Slatter, President-Elect

Bert Slatter is an active member of the Inglewood Branch, having served in various offices—the past year as president of that Branch. He spends most of his spare time in his glasshouse and garden and has an extensive store of plant “know-how” to share with his fellow man.

Herbert Fitch, Vice-President

Herbert is a native of Stockton, Calif., where his father was a wholesale florist. He decided early that was not the life for him and avoided all gardening possible—deciding upon electrical engineering as his lifework. However, when Herbert and his wife, Dora, moved to Sacramento in 1942 he became interested in gardening and, after a visit to Santa Cruz, started raising tuberous begonias.

Meeting with Frances Flannigan of the Sacramento Branch in 1952, instigated by her interest in heat lamps regarding growing begonias, through their mutual enthusiasm, the Fitches joined that Branch. Here they learned about the begonias not classed as “tuberous.” In no time they found themselves building a tube house.

Nancy E. Alvord, Vice-President

Unanimously elected at the Annual Meeting to succeed Kenneth Terry as vice-president, Mrs. Alvord is a very active president of the New England Branch of Quincy, Mass., serving her sec-

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Convention

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San Francisco; Mrs. Clyde Snodgrass, Ventura; Mrs. H. Webber, Santa Barbara; Marie Zachau, Inglewood; Margaret Zieshenne and Rudolf Zieshenne, Santa Barbara; Susie Zug, San Dimas.

Listed elsewhere in this issue are the 1957 Trophy Award Winners, as well as minutes of the National Board meeting held in the afternoon.

Mrs. Florence Gee's Seed Fund booth was, throughout the two days, a seething center of interest. Many visitors came seeking both plants and knowledge concerning them, and the staff competently supplied both. Mrs. Gee's helpers were Maybelle Woods, Henry Matschman, Carl Myers, Marie Zachau, Albert King, and Jean Kashkin, and each was a candidate for "hardest working member" at the convention.

The annual banquet, held in Fiesta Hall, was indeed an occasion, with places set for 172 members at tables decorated by former President Mary Hazel Drummond and her committee. Invocation was given by Dr. Rodney McQuary, pastor of Malibu Presbyterian Church. George Leslie Kuthe of the San Francisco Branch was Master of Ceremonies and, as always, displayed adeptness in this capacity.

This year's installation was made synonymous with a sea voyage by Clarence Hall, installing officer. The voyage, in the good ship *Begonia*, with our President as captain. Installed, with appropriate designations were the following: Frank Coe, president; Herbert Fitch, vice-president; Charles Lovejoy, treasurer; Mrs. Maude Smith, secretary. Joe Taylor, past national president, made the presentation of a gift from A.B.S. to retiring President Trowbridge. The gift included four bound copies of *The Begonian*. Dick Lane, of radio and television fame, gave the convention address. Presentation of awards by Mrs. Ethel Arbuckle, chairman of that committee, concluded the evening.

Interest in the show continued right

(Continued on Page 229)

Historical Note

ED. NOTE: *Although the Parent Branch of A.B.S., Long Beach, Calif., had previously participated in various local flower shows successfully, its first begonia show was held July 25 and 26, 1936. We thought it would be interesting for members to contrast reports of this first show with those of the 25th so we are reprinting, from The Begonian, the report of that beginning effort.*

Report of First Annual Show

By M. B. DUNKLE, President

OUR FIRST begonia show was a splendid success. The lathhouse at the Signal Hill Agricultural center (Long Beach) was transformed into a fairyland of beauty by the many carefully arranged exhibits and the scores of individual plants. It is estimated that there were about 1500 visitors, all of whom showed intelligent interest and pleasure in the variety and perfection of the begonias.

It is impracticable to list all prize winners, the exhibitors, or the donors of prizes, but it was a splendid cooperation of many members from Redwood City to San Diego that made an outstanding success of the undertaking. The show committee consisted of J. N. Nutter, Mgr.; Mrs. O. P. Palstine, awards; H. P. Dyckman, classification; J. S. Williams, entries; and Paul Walker, general arrangements. Judges were S. Nishida, George Carpenter, and H. S. Norwood.

The personal contacts by Society members and visitors, the interesting cultural nomenclature discussions by everyone, and the practical expressions of mutual assistance and cooperation by committee members were the real benefits derived from the Show. Society members and civic authorities all combined to make this first show a lasting memory to all who participated.

ED. FOOTNOTE: *We think Mr. Dunkle's observations are still applicable, don't you?*

Bit of Eden . . .

(Continued from Page 221)

the wall at the left of the door. This begonia with long, ovate-pointed, square shouldered leaves is sparsely white hairy. The leaf stems and veins are reddish with white hair. Erect clusters of pale pink flowers arise from the leaf axil. This begonia is a strong grower almost anywhere and seems to be pest free, says Mrs. Gillingwaters.

Right above the door is the rhizomatous hybrid, *Begonia* "Cool Waters" (*B. boweri* x *B. pyramidalis heracleifolia*). See *The Begonian*, June 1956, p. 121.

In the basket under *Begonia* "Cool Waters" is *B. mazae*, the very dark black green trailer with brownish, sinus radiating veins on taffeta sheened cordate leaves.

Just right of the door is *Begonia* "Chiala Alba" (Wm. Grant, San Diego, 1926) which is very similar to *B. "Mrs. W A. Wallow"* though *B. "Chiala Alba"* has more ruffled leaves and the flowers are pure white. This very hardy begonia likes plenty of light, but not direct sun.

In the next vertical row, top and bottom are the rex *Begonia* "Joel Gillingwaters" centered with the rhizomatous Mexican species No. 1331. This Mexican species has thick, heavy textured, bright, lettuce green, shallowly lobed leaves with a pale sinus or eye.

At the extreme upper right is the ever popular light green pointed leaved *Begonia* "Fisher's Ricinifolia" (*B. "Ricinifolia"* seedling, Calif.). It is distinguished by the red, heavy haired manica at the junction of the petiole and leaf. There is the same grouping of red hair on the prominent green veins on back of the leaf. In certain light conditions, the back of the leaf may take on a reddish color.

The tall cane *Begonia* "Superba-Azella" (*B. aconitifolia* x *B. "Lucerna, Mrs. E. K. Gray, Calif., 1926"*) is under *B. "Fisher's Ricinifolia."* This superba has a prominent red eye on the plain light green irregularly lobed leaf which is slightly red margined on the underside.

At the extreme right tall *Begonia*

haageana (Brazil, 1887), with the large hairy, metallic green leaves, bronzy red underneath has reddish haired white flowers. (According to records, the name *B. haageana* would have preference over the name *B. scharffi* by about five months. *B. haageana* described by W. Wats July 1888 and redescribed by Hooker under the name of *B. scharffi* in December 1888).

On the bench, left side is an unnamed Gillingwaters rex, while on the right is the clear green leaved *Begonia manicata* (Mexico, Linden, 1837). This makes a good house plant or basket specimen. At the junction of the petiole and leaf are manicas (collar), 2 to 4 of fleshy red hairs with white tips. There are a few red hairs on the veins prominent on the underside of the red margined leaf. Lacy sprays of pink flowers gracefully arch above the green leaves.

The Ziesenhennè cultivar, right of the bench, *Begonia* "Joe Hayden" (*B. mazae* cross, Calif. 1948) is outstanding with its rich star pointed leaves which are deep black when grown in the shade, rich dark green when given more light and bronzy when grown in the sunlight.

The heavy textured rex *Begonia* "Car-doza Gardens" (sport of *B. "Rajah,"* Car-doza Gardens, 138), completes the picture with its dark maroon edging the middle zone of light metallic green. Short bristly pink hairs are at each bulb of the pustulated leaf. The long ovate maroon center section on top of the leaf is blood red on the back of the leaf and the mid-section is light green, netted with red veins which have heavy red hair. The green stem is closely set with red hair.

—B—

Convention

(Continued from Page 228)

up to its closing at 6 P.M. Sunday—in fact, this second day many visitors came to view the plants as the event had received much publicity. Thus came to a close a most successful 25th year—one destined to help capture the public's interest in begonias, and helping the Society grow to become more useful.

Seattle Seafair

(Continued from Page 222)

eye upon entering the auditorium was one containing an eight-foot high iron standard with five arms holding huge baskets of very vivid shades of orange, yellow and salmon tuberous begonias. (It was learned that the arms were made of teeth from an old style hay rake!) A brick wall in back of it featured hanging fuchsias, an evergreen tree and upright tuberous begonias in a woody setting.

Several exhibits featured lovely garden walks on either side of which "grew" plantings of tuberous begonias and fuchsias; another showed a garden spot with a bird bath spouting water, around which floated blooms from tuberous begonias. Tiny birds were scattered among the trees and flowers. Two heliotrope trees which were very fragrant and unusual since it takes at least two years to make them into trees were in this same garden. Another had an antique lantern with bells attached to it hanging over a hobby garden of lovely rex begonias and ferns.

One exhibitor even installed one half of a 14-ft. wide attached greenhouse, bringing out what a nice addition it would be in anyone's garden. On the benches inside the greenhouse were many beautiful specimens of African violets, Achimenes, Smithianthas, Episcias and rex begonias. Hanging from the roof bars were an orange rubra begonia and an Aeschynanthus (*Trichosporum*) with its bright orangy-red flowers. The greenhouse was surrounded on either side by evergreen trees and mossy slopes covered with banks of more rex begonias and semperflorens, coleus and ferns.

One very prominent display was that of the Puget Sound Fuchsia Society featuring beautiful fuchsia trees, baskets and wall boxes. This exhibit extended about 40 feet along the wall leading to the stage. At this point you encountered several tables covered with dishes containing water to keep the fuchsia blooms fresh. Included were many of the very latest introductions.

The scene on the stage featured more large fuchsia baskets hanging above large containers of fuchsia trees among vast beds of coleus, behind which was a rustic fence. A red spotlight from behind shining on the plants made one think of the garden in the evening as the sun sets.

Passing the stage scene you came by the electric organ on which pleasing background music was played.

Next one passed a scene depicting the welcome to Seattle Seafair visitors. This contained a rowboat filled with beautiful African violets.

Nearby a cart full of tuberous begonias led the way between the fence and wall over which hung more huge baskets of fuchsias and tuberous begonias.

Directly in front of the stage on the floor was a grand display of the Seattle Park Department. From their conservatory they brought a large number of enormous rex, tuberous and Templini begonias.

The remainder of the floor area included four large garden plots having rustic fence backgrounds. These scenes featured more large displays of fuchsias, tuberous begonias, ferns, vines. One used a border composed entirely of the colorful *Streptocarpus* (Cape Primrose).

The ever popular educational exhibit featured cultural examples of a large variety of fuchsias, ferns, tuberous, fibrous and rhizomatous begonias and Gesneriads. This exhibit was one of the most popular in the show and there were many qualified persons in attendance to answer all questions.

The lovely plants and plots made the whole auditorium and foyer a wonderful place to spend several hours just wandering around "oh-ing and ah-ing." The generous use of evergreen trees and greenery created the appearance and feeling of true shade gardens.

HERB WARRICK
MR. AND MRS. JACK C. WILLIAMS

—B—

COPY DEADLINE

All copy for *The Begonian* must be received by the editor not later than the first of the month preceding date of publication.

Revised Buxton

(Continued from Page 225)

hobby just a few years before. In 1939 her *Begonias* was published by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and several editions sold out quickly before the war made further printings impossible. In 1946 the Oxford University Press of New York printed the book we know now, the favorite help of so many gardeners, *Begonias and How to Grow Them*.

The Buxton list of begonias proved so valuable to growers and hybridizers that the Begonia Society decided to bring it up to date, and five years after the First Edition, the Second has been readied for distribution on a far wider scale by printing it in a handy size for quick and constant use. Many names have been added as well as more descriptive matter included, several pages of these by Mrs. Buxton herself. The Nomenclature Director has provided the complete list of cultivars registered with the A.B.S. up to March 1957.

This second edition contains well over 10,000 names, according to a mathematically-minded reader, but some are synonyms so not that many begonias are represented. They are arranged in alphabetical order and each name occupies a line. The use of abbreviations condenses much information in that one line. The first group of letters shows the authority from which the information was obtained, and may be deciphered by consulting the list of "Abbreviations" in the front of the book. As examples: IK stands for Index Kewensis, a list, mostly of species, published at intervals by the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, England; R§ with a number shows a name registered with our Nomenclature Director. Following the name may be a brief description in self-explanatory abbreviations, such as tub for tuberous, lvs for leaves, dk for dark. Then in the case of a species, there is the name of its discoverer, place of origin and date. Cultivars, distinguished by an x preceding the name, have the name of the originator of the hybrid, place and date.

Begonias have the happy faculty of hybridizing easily, so many new ones appear every year, some distinctive enough to be named and put on the market. Plant explorers are still finding species not known before, or long lost to horticulture, as they roam the tropical and semi-tropical lands which are the natural habitat of shade loving plants. These acquisitions must be named, and of course it is not desirable to use a name that has previously been given to a plant. This is where the Check List becomes invaluable, since all the known names of begonias are gathered here in one place. They have been obtained from the journals of important horticultural societies all over the world, from America, Europe, India, and from the books and monographs written by recognized authorities, like Hooker, DeCandolle, Chevalier, Irmscher, and from garden magazines of many countries and in many languages. Translations from foreign publications are sometimes printed in English language papers, and that makes them more accessible to us. To be eligible to be included in the Check List a name must be "published in a botanical or horticultural journal known to be distributed to leading botanical centers of the world," according to the code of the American Horticultural Council. *The Begonian* is in this category.

As new names are gathered from the various sources it will be incumbent on the Society to publish supplements and new editions in order to keep the Check List up to date, but for the present this Second Edition of the Buxton Check List of Begonias is the only comprehensive compilation of the begonia names in botanical and horticultural literature, here and abroad.

Librarian's Note: Attention of all members is called to the fact that the "Buxton Check List" sales are being handled through your librarian. Price of the book is \$6.00, (\$6.24, Calif. only), and will be mailed to you promptly upon receipt of your check or money order.

MRS. LUCY A. SAULT, *Librarian*
26938 Dapplegray Lane
Rolling Hills, Calif.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

We have only meager information on the Brazil begonias listed below. None of the varieties offered here are in the literature available to the seed fund.

No. 1. B. Oxyphylla—A.D.C. Brazil. Many stemmed. Long, narrow leaves, short hairs on veins. **No. 2. B. ramen-tacea**—Pax. Brazil. Erect stems, kidney shaped leaves—10-12 nerved. **No. 3. B. salicifolia**—A.D.C. Brazil. Bushy plant, leaves widely lanceolate. **No. 4. B. die-trichiana Irmischer**—Brazil. Cane type. New name for Otto Dietrich. **No. 5. B. friburgensis Brade**—No information available. **No. 6. B. undulata—Schott**—Brazil. Syn. *B. Alba perfecta*. Tall, smooth; stems cane like, branches spreading; leaves ovate-oblong, light green, pointed, margins undulate; flowers numerous, white in compact, pendulous clusters. **No. 7. B. peltata—Brade**—Brazil. Stems erect, scurfy, few branched; leaves fleshy, peltate, white-scurfy and suggestive of felt. Flowers large, white in numerous clusters. This plant responds favorably to a light soil mixture containing organic fertilizer. 25c per packet for the above.

African Species—Tuberous. No. 1. B. sutherlandi—Slender; stems and branches drooping, green or purplish green, leaves lance shaped, toothed, bright green sometimes red petioled and red veined; flowers yellow to orange. Graceful plant popular as a hanging basket. 35c per packet. **No. 2. B. natalensis**—Tuberous species. Similar to *B. dregei* in habit, but much larger; leaves ovate green with green veins beneath; flowers white. 25c per packet. **No. 3. B. dregei x semperflorens**—25c per packet.

Miscellaneous Begonias — No. 1. B. Jamesoniana—No description. **No. 2. B. Lady Waterlow**—Distinctive variety of low, spreading habit, sparsely stiff; hairy leaves ovate-pointed, glossy dark green, margins toothed. Flowers from the leaf axils, large white on the inside and pink without. One of the best bedding begonias or may be used effectively in hanging baskets or pots. Price 25c per packet. **No. 3. B. Bessie Buxton**—An upright form of *B. erythrophylla*. 25c per packet. **No. 4. B. Mrs. Townsend**—Rhizomatous.

Leaves shallow rounded lobes, flowers deep pink. 25c per packet. **No. 5. B. phyllomaniaca**—Syn. *B. Jessie*. Distinctive foliage plant. Tall, stems and leaves produce from one to two colonies of adventitious leaflets; leaves ovate-pointed, glossy green, waved and red-tinged. Flowers pink. **No. 6. Manda's woolly bear x B. Kellermanii**—A cross by Ruth Waltzer. **No. 7. B. Evansiana rosea**—Found in China, Japan and Malaya. Hardest of all begonias. Yellow-green heart-shaped leaves, wine veined beneath, glowing flesh pink flowers in long stemmed drooping sprays. Blooms from June to October. 25c per packet. **No. 8. B. Rhizomatous mixed**—We have a huge quantity of these seeds just recently collected. We do not know the varieties included in this mixture but the collector has an enormous collection of plants therefore several rhizomatous types can be produced from a package of seed. 25c per packet.

Close Out of Choice Semperflorens Seed—This is the ideal time to start seed of semperflorens begonias. Some varieties should bloom this winter indoors or sow a little later for bedding plant in the spring. We do not have large amounts of any one variety but would like to clear our files for something different. **No. 1. B. Bois de Vaux**. Vivid rose, floriferous, pyramidal growth for winter blooming. **No. 2. B. Heterosis Tausendschoen**—Red, centifolious, compact growth. **No. 3. B. Heterosis Kathe Teicher**. Compact growth, many flowers. **No. 4. B. Heterosis Organdy**. Combination of several varieties. **No. 5. B. Heterosis Tausendschoen**—Pink. **No. 6. B. Indian Maid**. Foliage deep lustrous bronze with scarlet flowers. **No. 7. B. Adeline**—Free flowering bright pink; dwarf and compact. **No. 8. B. Burgess**—Hybrid. White semperflorens. Wonderful border plant for outdoors. Plants are uniform. 12" high with a spread of 12", leaves light glossy green, pond lily shaped flowers white with showy yellow stamens. The lime colored seed pods are as attractive as the blossoms. Blooms from May to October. The above collection is yours for \$2.00. With each complete collection we will include

without charge one packet of streptocarpus *Wilsoni* hybrids and one packet of *naegelia* hybrids—mixed colors. No complimentary packets, unless the entire collection of *sempervirens* is purchased.

Other genera. *Crinum Powellii* alba. An extremely beautiful white flowered variety. It rivals the Easter lily in beauty. The pink variety *C. Mooree* seeds are not ready at present but will be available in due time. *Crinum* seeds are large and require special mailing therefore they will be priced at 25c per seed. **No. 2. *Clivia***—Belgian hybrids. Aristocrats of the *amaryllis* family. Very wide, dark green, strap-like leaves. Flowers are large, well formed, deep orange-red and held on heavy, stiff stems. Requires deep shade. 2 seed for 25c. **No. 3. *Arum italicum*** (green calla). Foliage marbled and veined silver. Flowers parchment-like, creamy green. Bright red berries in late summer. 25c per packet. **No. 4. *Paotentilla*** (yellow) seed and description from Don Horton. Very pretty large, rock garden or front-of-border plant. Member of the rose family and related to the strawberry having bright yellow blossoms similar in size and shape to those of the strawberry but berries do not follow. Unlike the strawberry it is caulescent, growing about one foot high. Price 25c per packet. **No. 5. *Amaryllis***—American hybrids. Seed from Don Horton's collection. Many beautiful colors in this choice collection of plants. Seeds are freshly collected and should be planted immediately. 25c per generous packet.

We have received from South Africa seed of the beautiful *Protea*, namely, *P. Mellifera*, *P. Susanne* and *P. Lanceolata*. We expect information regarding the culture of this plant to appear very soon in *The Begonian*. After reading it we know you will want to grow this unusual plant. *Proteas* 25c per packet. If you wish we will mix the three varieties in one package for you. *Camellia japonica* — mixed — Fresh seed from choice name varieties, should be planted immediately. Seed are large, 4 to a packet, 25c.

Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
4316 Berryman Avenue
Los Angeles 66, California

Minutes, National Board, Aug. 31

Annual meeting of National Board, American Begonia Society, called to order at 2:00 P.M. August 31, 1957, in Long Hall, Plummer Park, by President Trowbridge. Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Reading of the Aims and Purposes of the Society.

Secretary's report read by Pearl Bauer in the absence of the Secretary. The Secretary came in later and took her place.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

Mr. Coe, Convention Chairman, gave his report and thanked all who assisted in any way.

Membership secretary Walton reported 57 new members, renewing members 139. Mr. Walton also read his yearly report in which we note an increase in membership of 200 during the year.

Mr. Trowbridge expressed great pleasure in having the Checklist of Begonias ready for sale at the Convention. He thanked Mrs. Graham for her part in having the book ready. He stated that the Librarian would have the book on sale for \$6.25.

The members of the Board read their annual reports. Branch Directors gave their reports and all reported a good attendance at the Convention. Several members were present from Texas.

President Trowbridge read a letter which included a Silver Anniversary gift of \$110.00 from the following Branches: William Penn Treasure Island, Tarrant County, Elsa Fort Branch, New England Branch. Moved by Rudolf Ziesenhenné, seconded by Fred Browne, that the Secretary be instructed to write these Branches thanking them for the gift. Carried.

Report of Ballot committee. Mr. Walton reported 317 votes cast. Officers elected were President-Elect, Bert Slatter; Vice-President Herbert Fitch; Treasurer, Charles Lovejoy; Secretary, Maude Smith.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Trowbridge stated that the office of Second Vice-President had been left vacant by the resignation of Kenneth Terry. Mr. Trowbridge recommended the name of Mrs. Nancy Alvord of New England Branch for the office of Vice President. Moved by Mrs. Lee, seconded by Mrs. Anne Merrick that the recommendation of Mr. Trowbridge be approved and Mrs. Nancy Alvord be appointed to the unexpired term of Vice-President. Carried.

Moved by Hyacinth Smith, seconded by Mr. Walton that the secretary write letters of thanks to Vetterle and Reinelt and Antonelli Bros. for the lovely blooms they sent for the Convention. Carried. President Trowbridge thanked the members of the San Francisco Branch for bringing the blooms to the Convention.

Clarence Hall, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, reported that the books were in very good condition and were correct. He thanked Mr. Walton for assisting him with the audit.

Pearl Bauer, Historian, presented the Society with a beautiful book containing the History of the Society for the past year.

President Trowbridge thanked every officer and chairman for his hard work and the support he had given him this past year.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned until 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Arline Stoddard, National Secretary

Leaves From Our Begonia Branches

ELSA FORT

Our branch held a meeting at the home of Anne Simmons this month, and seedlings donated by a member were sold. It was decided that each person is to keep a complete record of his plant and report on it at the next meeting. This will be compared with the record which is to be simultaneously kept of one older plant—every characteristic is to be noted in detail.

—B—

GLENDALE

Our speaker on Aug. 28 was Lou Waterman of Kellogg's Nitrohumus Co., who spoke on "Nutrition of Shade Plants." Mrs. Frances Cooley prepared an interesting plant lesson and there were some especially nice plants on the table.

The September meeting was a pot-luck dinner, and plans are afoot for a Plant Show in October.

—B—

MARGARET C. GRUENBAUM

Our Branch had a very busy session outlining the plans for our participation in the Doylestown, Pa., Fall Flower Show of a display of begonias. We had a good display in spite of the drought this summer which has decimated many of our plants.

—B—

HOUSTON

New officers of the Houston Branch are Mrs. Grant Herzog, Flower Show Chairman; Mrs. U. D. Porter, Treasurer; Mrs. Aaslee Russell, Secretary; Mrs. Clara Cooper, Vice-President; Mrs. A. T. Moran, Hospitality; Mrs. E. H. Claggett, President. Under the new president we have acquired three new members.

Mrs. Grant Herzog put on a flower show for members only, but we did have visitors from the city. Here in Houston we are trying different begonias out doors throughout the winter. We've tried *B.*

pyradalis, *B.* "Texas Star," *B. poponoei*, *B. dichroma* and *B.* "New Hampshire." This year we are trying *B. sunderbruchii* x *verschaffeltii*.

We met in the home of Mrs. U. D. Porter and were installed by Iola Copeland with a very beautiful service. She presented each with a corsage.

—B—

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Parent Branch had 20 members and visitors present at the regular meeting Sept. 5 at the home of the Ray Ohlsons. Sylvia Leatherman, Research Director, A.B.S., gave a graphic account of a recent tour taken by a group along the coast as far north as Eureka. As her listeners scrambled up and slid down hillsides with her in quest of ferns and kindred data, they learned about soils, moistures, and shade or sun requirements for various types of shade plants. She spoke as a grower of these types in her nursery at El Monte and displayed and spoke especially about ferns and begonias, which were furnished by her for the plant table.

Charline Hardacre proposed a new project for the members about which there will be more to tell in the future. Adelaide Brest, our new editor, also was present at the meeting.

Please remember that "Pop" Dyckman's birthdate is April 11, and his new address is 73543 Joshua Drive, Twenty-Nine Palms, Calif., where he and Mrs. Dyckman live for the benefit of his health.

—B—

NEW ENGLAND

The New England Branch met at the home of Mrs. Frederick Kingsbury to hear Mrs. Charles Scrymgeour speak on *semperflorens* and how she grows them. Plants grown from seed have more compact growth, she said. She roots cuttings in sawdust that is at least two years old,

first having dipped them in homoden powder and fermate. They are given good light but no sun at this stage. The root system develops very well in the sawdust with little or no rot occurring. When well rooted they are potted and the tips kept pinched to make well-rounded plants.

Mrs. Mercy brought a decorative and interesting plant, *Phaceolus caracolla*, called Snail or Corkscrew plant, and also displayed her handsome *B. kenworthyi* x *crestabruchi*.

—B—

ORANGE COUNTY

Rare and spectacular relatives of the pineapple — the bromeliads — will be shown and discussed at the Oct. 10 meeting of the Orange County Branch. Mrs. Dorothy Behrends of Encinitas, who judged at the flower show in July, will be paying a return visit to the Branch to speak on "Bromeliads Add Interest to Any Garden."

Meeting will start at 7:30 P.M. in the Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century Blvd. and Taft Avenue. A jitney potluck will be held at 6:30 P. M. preceding the meeting.

—B—

REDONDO AREA

Members of the Branch enjoyed a jitney pot-luck dinner followed by their regular meeting and plant sale table in the lovely patio of the Joe Taylors of Redondo. Mrs. Alice Martin, Flower Show Chairman, reported that we won First Place and Sweepstakes Trophy at the Torrance Flower Show; also held high for all to see the beautiful trophy for First Place won by our Branch display in the Hawthorne show. The Inglewood Dahlia Show also awarded us Second Place for our display, so that the winnings for four shows were two trophies, one first place and two seconds. Question and answer time followed with Ken Terry, LeRoy Borchartd, and Olin Eipper on the panel.

Redondo Area Branch is holding its Annual Bazaar on Nov. 1 at the Eagles' Hall, Redondo Beach. Many lovely gifts

for the holidays may be obtained at this annual affair and the members have been busy planning many surprises. Doors will be open from 10 A.M. until 10 P.M.

—B—

SAN FRANCISCO

Now that the City Hall Show is over, we relaxed a bit and had Orris Martin show us his colored slides of the 1940 Treasure Island Fair. Members pronounced them to be the finest they have ever seen of this colorful fair. Arthur Boissier gave a resume of the City Hall Show, and ribbons for the open gardens were given out. In accordance with the bylaws two members of a nominating committee were selected by the membership at large (the Board already had appointed James C. Miller to serve).

We owe a debt of gratitude to Ed and Linnore Carlson, Mrs. Doris Clute and Miss Bobby Johnson of the East Bay Branch, who came all the way across the bay to bring us a lovely program recently, and let us not forget the interesting display of fuchsia and begonia lore by the Carlsons, as well as our own member, Violet Roth, Marjorie May and others.

Our Garden Tour took place on the most perfect day imaginable, and due to the best publicity we have ever had (Louise Allmacher, take a bow), we had an enormous turnout. Visitors ooh'd and ah'd over the meticulous appearance and excellent material of these gardens, but what was not evident immediately was the infinite loving care that the owners bestow on them. Our thanks again to Louise Allmacher, Dan and Clara Buckley, Irvin and Dorothy Kramer, Mr. and Mrs. Orris Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pehrson, John and Hyacinth Smith, and Don and Jean Thomas, and maybe we can prevail on some of them to tell us at the meetings how they obtain their results.

The City Hall Show was an overwhelming success, larger and better attended than ever. The Begonia Society did very well indeed; winning a second prize in the group feature exhibit of the Phoenix Bird rising from his ashes in front of a

three-sectioned panel showing scenes of modern San Francisco, all conceived and put together by Dan Buckley with the help of Harold Gaetjen, Hal and Hy Smith, and Carl Olgiate. Carl also placed three other feature arrangements for us, winning a first and fifth prize for his efforts. In the begonia section, presided over by Arthur Boissier, Don and Jean Thomas won the sweepstakes award in the Amateur Class, Elizabeth Sackman won sweepstakes in the Beginner Class, and Ann Meyer received the award for the best begonia plant in the show. We were happy to meet Bill and Lillian Sharp from San Diego, and the Ramseys from Los Angeles, who came up specially to see the show.

Santa Cruz Trip was Sunday, Sept. 15. We left at 8:45 A.M. via special Grey Lines Vista Dome bus from Stonestown, visiting first the Antonellis, where we had lunch in their beautiful hanging begonia lathhouse. In the afternoon we stopped at Vetterle and Reinelt's, arriving back home about 6 P.M.

On the same day the Fourth Annual Flower Show of the Daly City Garden Club was held in the Community Center, Mission and Alp Sts., Daly City. We again placed an exhibit on two 8' tables.

John Paul Edwards will show colored slides of his Guatemala trip at the October meeting. Our installation banquet is set for Wednesday, Nov. 13.

—B—

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

Two travelogues illustrated with colored slides, one of Florida and Havana presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Welch, the other, historical Washington, D.C., its beauty in the fall, presented by Mr. Ralph W. Corwin, were shown. According to the Corwins, the parks of Washington and surrounding areas had many beautiful trees, but flowers were not grown outdoors for the public as we do here. In the historical Williamsburg gardens, only those flowers which were grown when this city was the seat of the political activity in colonial days, are now grown there.

In Memoriam

The American Begonia Society is grieved at the sudden loss of Frank S. Moore, Director of our Public Relations committee, Monday, Sept. 23. Mr. Moore will be missed tremendously, not only for his faithful performances of many offices within the society but also for his affable personality. He was President of the Glendale Branch in 1948 and national convention manager that same year, when the show was held in that city. Serving as Business Manager of the National Board in 1949, he went on to the Presidency of that body in 1951. From 1954 to the present time he served us diligently in the Public Relations field.

Mr. Moore is survived by his wife, Violet, several children and grandchildren.

†

Long Beach Parent Branch notes with sorrow the passing of MRS. LOU BEWLEY Aug. 30. She was one of our oldest members, and active in the Society for many years, contributing much to our organization.

†

MRS. GWEN GUERICH of Southern Alameda County Branch passed away Sept. 2 following a long illness that had confined her to Eden hospital and to her home at 22230 Baywood Ave., Castro Valley. She is survived by her husband Peter who was active in branch activities until his wife's illness.

Owen was a dear friend to many members, branch president in 1954 and 1955 and a faithful worker always. Indeed the loss will be great to Southern Alameda County Branch.

—B—

ARBORETUM BIRD WALKS

On a sustained and regular basis, the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum offers bird walks on the first and third Sundays of each month at 8:00 A.M.

The Arboretum, now open seven days a week, is located at 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Admission is free. Information may be obtained by phone at Hillcrest 6-5247.

Calendar

- Oct. 9—Arboretum Herb Lecture, 10 A.M., "Introduction to Herbs."
Oct. 10 — Orange County Branch — "Bromeliads Add Interest to Any Garden"—Dorothy Behrends.
Oct. 12, 13—Sacramento Branch—Garden Fair and White Elephant Sale.
Oct. 12, 13—"Fashions in Roses"—Mission Inn, Riverside. Entries up to Oct. 7.
Oct. 16 — Arboretum — "Herbs in Cooking."
Oct. 19-20 — California Garden Clubs Flower Show. "Autumn Harmonies." Saturday 1:30-8 p.m. Sunday 11-6 p.m. 2055 N. Highland, Hollywood.
Oct. 23—Glendale Branch—Joe Taylor on "General Gardening," also Plant Show.
Oct. 23 — Arboretum — "Native Uses of Herbs in Southwest."
Oct. 30—Arboretum—"Uses of Herbs for Fragrance."

Glasshouse Fund

The Fund for the Glasshouse which we hope to erect at the State and County Arboretum has now reached \$524. Our goal—\$3,000. As the fund increases more and more Branches are making plans to help with this project. Also more individuals are sending in donations. Riverside Branch has had three jitney pot-lucks and has already turned in its returns—the last of these, at Mary Gillingwaters' on Sept. 11 increased the fund by \$44.50. Other branches are selling candy and planning raffles—San Gabriel Branch has donated \$190 from various sales. Join with others to accomplish the first OUTSIDE OBJECTIVE our Society has ever sponsored. It is worthwhile to all of us, both to put the growing of begonias before the public and also tell them that there exists an American Begonia Society.

HOWARD A. SMALL, *Chairman*
A.B.S. Arboretum Glasshouse

It's a Woman Again

By LOUISE CRAMER

It's a woman again who scores in hybridizing outstanding begonias. Mrs. Percy Zug, San Dimas, with her plant *Begonia* "Silver Jewel," won the Begonia of Distinction plaque at the 1956 American Begonia Society Convention. See *The Begonian*, 1956, pages 99 and 254 for descriptions.

At the Convention and Flower Show of the A.B.S., held at Plummer Park, Los Angeles, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, under the sponsorship of the Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department, Mrs. Zug was presented with a higher honor, the much coveted Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal for her outstanding star-shaped leaf *Begonia* "Verde Grande." See p. 58, *The Begonian*, March, 1956, for description.

Susie, as she is known to her many friends, first became acquainted with begonias by the purchase of what she now calls a very ordinary green rex begonia. This single rex fascinated her, and since for health reasons she was ordered to spend more time outdoors, she began a hobby of collecting rex begonias. Raised on a farm in Indiana, she just liked to grow plants. Thus, like many fascinating plant hobbies, the begonias caused one greenhouse, then another to "burst at the seams," until the hobby turned to a business.

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The Begonian, published monthly at Torrance, California, for September 30, 1957.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher — American Begonia Society, Inc., 1415 Acacia, Torrance, California.

Editor—Adelaide Brest, 3207 W. 186th St., Torrance, Calif.

Managing Editor—None.

Business Manager—None.

2. The owner is: American Begonia Society, Inc., 1415 Acacia, Torrance, Calif.

President—Frank Coe, 28904 Cliffside Dr., Malibu, Calif.

President-Elect—Bert Slatter, 4600 Sixth Ave., Los Angeles 43, Calif.

Past President—Calvin Trowbridge, 9600 Van Ness Ave., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

Secretary — Mrs. William Smith, 536 S. Catalina, Ventura, Calif.

Treasurer — Charles R. Lovejoy, 827 Woodward Blvd., Pasadena 10, Calif.

Membership Secretary — Bill Walton, 1415 Acacia, Torrance, Calif.

Vice-President, 1 Year—Mrs. Nancy Alvord, 48 W. Merton Rd., Quincy, Mass.

Vice-President, 2 years.—Mrs. Alva Graham, 515 El Centro, South Pasadena, Calif.

Vice-President, 3 years—Herbert Fitch, 1125 54th St., Sacramento, Calif.

There are no stockholders.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent 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

By Adelaide Brest, Editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of September, 1957.

(SEAL) FRED M. HANSEN
Notary Public in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

(My commission expires June 29, 1961.)

—B—

Membership Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 227)

tion to you from our files upon your request, and we challenge you to assist in a membership increase by adding ten members to your active list during the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. WALTON

National Membership Secretary

Convention Gleanings

MR. AND Mrs. Howard Small, who head the Arboretum Glasshouse Committee, left Sept. 13 for an European tour. They are visiting London, Amsterdam, Lucerne, Venice, Rome, and Paris, and hope to send us a report on their visit to Kew Gardens.

Mrs. Gertrude White, mother of our industrious Ethel Arbuttle, has promised us an interview, giving us the detail of how she built the tubehouse for her daughter—tip for this supplied by Mrs. Frank Coe.

Fred and Linda Browne reported on their enjoyable experience while vacationing in Seattle—a part of the West so different from their own home, Alhambra. The Brownes were impressed with the climate which produces a profusion of flowers everywhere. They particularly took note of tuberous and other begonias growing in full sun, especially between rocks of retaining walls which line Seattle's hilly streets. At the Seafair they were pleased to find a fine display of seedlings, grown by a member, from the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.

The Los Angeles County Fair, at Pomona, had two outstanding begonia exhibits, one by Mary Gillingwaters of Upland, the other shown by Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Maddox, Riverside. These beautiful displays should do much to interest the gardening enthusiast in the growing of begonias.

Fern Handy, editor of Golden Gardens, publication of California Garden Clubs, was a visitor at the convention.

Kay and Johnny Thieben left immediately following the show, for a short vacation. First they visited the San Francisco Branch, and, to quote John, "They have begonias there that make us feel like dumping ours." After visiting with Carl and Ann Myers, Hyacinth Smith, and Don Thomas, the Thiebens went to Capitola, loaded with new Rex specimens. There, more room had to be made for 12 tuberous and Rudy Ziesenhenné, at Santa Barbara, traded for still more. This left the car fully as loaded, but with different

plants. Needless to say, John arrived home knowing he will be kept busy with new acquisitions for many a day.

E. J. Moses, charter member of Long Beach, A.B.S., attended, with guests.

Fibrous experimentation is being explored by Herbert Fitch, our new V.P., and he has promised to send us an article outlining his conclusions and methods.

That great State of Texas sent us several visitors: Mrs. M. F. Scribner, Dallas County Branch, Dallas; Mrs. George Wilkins, Lone Star Branch, Dallas; Mrs. L. P. Henslee, representing both aforementioned branches, also of Dallas.

J. G. Dominy, 219 N. "L" St., Lompoc, Calif., is a new member who traveled considerable distance to visit the show.

Now spending most of his time in Sonora, Mexico, where he is helping set up schools in several areas, is R. H. Terrell, of Riverside. Mr. Terrell, who spent many years as garden editor of various newspapers, is contemplating a trip to Mexico City. We hope to learn first hand of that capital's fabulous gardens.

Connie Walton, daughter of the Bill Waltons, A.B.S. membership chairman team, returned from the East Coast Aug. 30, just in time to see the show and let us catch a glimpse of her. She returns to U.C. Riverside as a junior this year.

The Hugh Hixons of Long Beach, numbered among the first members of A.B.S., report that they have two great-grandsons returning to school this month. Mrs. Hixon was A.B.S.'s first Historian.

A. B.

Your New Officers

(Continued from Page 227)

ond term in that office. Mrs. Alvord is a musician, figure skater of international renown, and is employed as a technical assistant in the microchemical laboratory at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Charles R. Lovejoy, Treasurer

Mr. Lovejoy hails from the San Gabriel Valley Branch, A.B.S., where he served as president last year and also Flower Show Chairman. Currently he has been an able Convention Treasurer, and we hope for good reports from him concerning our financial status when he returns from vacation.

Mrs. William (Maude) Smith, Secretary

Mrs. Smith can be classed as an "old-time" Californian, having migrated to this state in 1923, and lived in Ventura since 1925. She started life in Colorado, but apparently likes it "here," and is planning to stay since her daughter, Mrs. R. F. Hill, has presented her with three grandchildren, Sue-Ann, Steven, and Mary-Kay. Although she states that she is a "Jill of all trades and master of none," this statement is disproved by a rundown of her activities. These include membership and active participation in the Fuchsia Society, San Buenaventura Women's Club, Gem and Mineral Society, Ventura Fair—Floriculture Dept., First Methodist Church, The Grange, and both City and County Election Boards.

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