

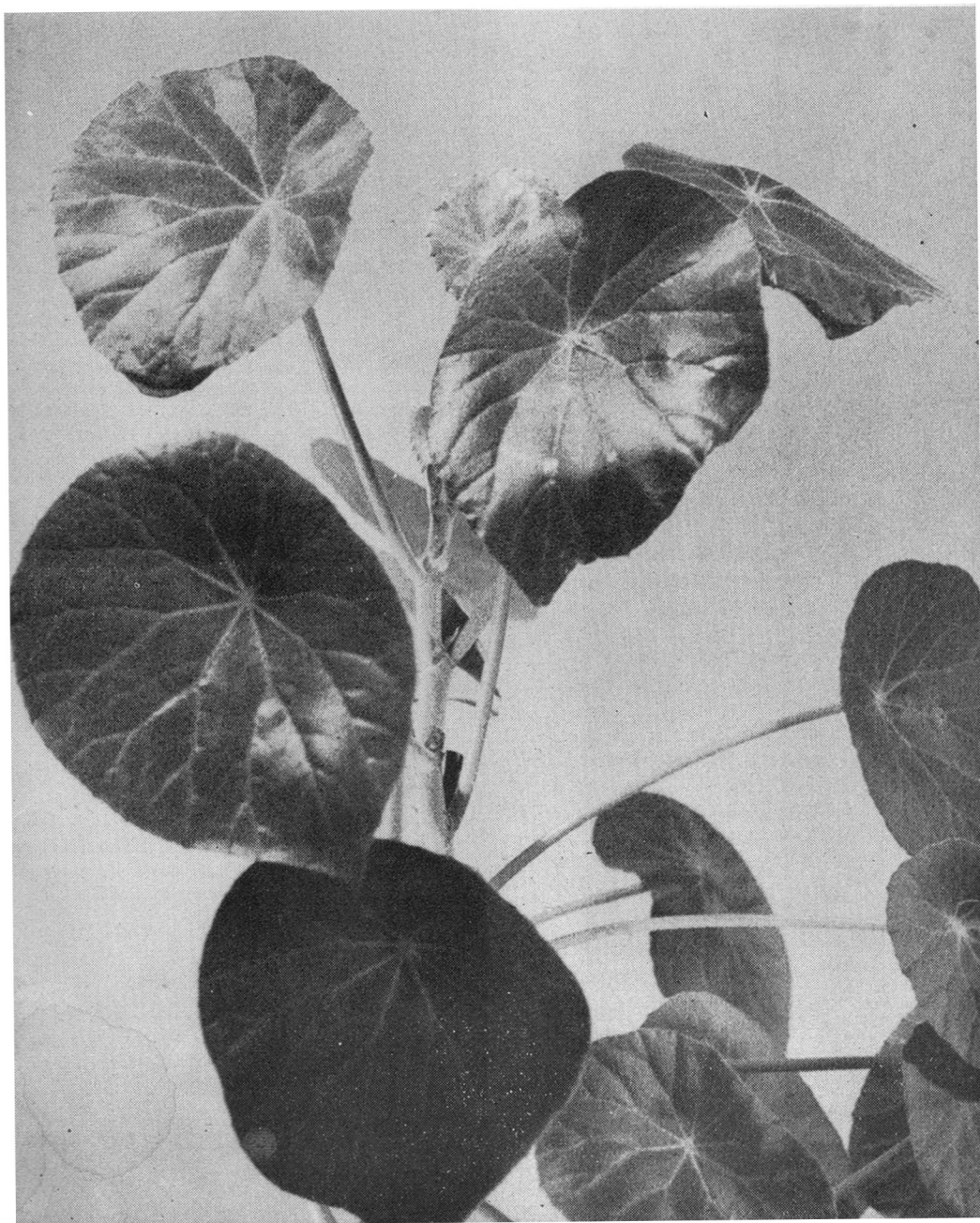
The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

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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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Tuberous Begonias

---How to Grow the BIG Ones

By ROSANNA HORTON

PROFESSIONAL secrets to help the advanced gardener, as well as simple instructions for the beginner, highlighted a recent talk by Jack Lighthart, prominent nurseryman before the Orange County branch in Garden Grove Grange Hall.

In midsummer the tuberous begonias he grows at Corona del Mar attract visitors from all over Southern California. The blossoms may reach 10 inches across. The colors in a good collection range through red, orange, yellow and white, with delicate shadings in between, like apricot. Some varieties have two colors on one flower, either a mottling or an edging called picotee.

The upright forms are gigantic versions of roses, camellias, carnations and peonies. Another unmistakable group is developed for hanging baskets. Their stems are pendulant so that when the basket is attached to the top of a shady patio somewhat smaller but more numerous blooms cascade downward.

When the begonia expert goes to work on his tubers in February he anticipates what he will have in midsummer. The dark brown, roundish object is covered with hair resembling that of a coconut. In February pink buds are beginning to sprout. The beginner may be somewhat intimidated to learn that in the phases of growth it will have this spring, it will need two types of potting mix. As a youngster it goes into a well watered mixture of one-half leaf mold and one-half peat moss. Modern practice is to cover the top of the tuber slightly with this mixture also. Watered down to settle air pockets it stays in a lighted, shady place. Whereas older

theory was to keep the tuber moist Lighthart confided that if you keep the tuber slightly frustrated for water it will make bigger roots to seek out water, and will support more top growth. Another trade secret is that he starts his tubers in a lathhouse, rather than in a greenhouse.

As the stems reach 3 to 5 inches, the tuber can move to its summer home—preferably a 9-inch pot for upright varieties. The planting medium is one-half leaf mold and one-quarter sand and one-quarter rotted steer manure. Four or five inches of broken crockery is placed at the bottom of the pot to promote drainage. Actually the beginner who has only two or three tubers to experiment with may get around the need to transplant from the starting medium to the growing medium. He can fill the lower portion of the pot with the second recipe for mixture and have a pocket in the upper layer consisting of leaf mold and peat moss. The small plant will be started in the milder pocket, and as its roots grow they will reach the nourishment needed for adult phases.

With this method in particular it is wise to remember to "water the tuber and not the pot." Although begonias love humidity, overwatering is dangerous. Lighthart said he recommended moss baskets for hanging baskets in the beach areas. For drier areas Lighthart recommends clay pots, to retain moisture longer.

Upright plants should be staked to protect the brittle stem from breaking. The stake should be driven two inches from the stem to avoid hitting the tuber. Lighthart starts a program of fertilizing the plants in May, using a liquid like

Liquinox, California Liquid Fertilizer or Likwidgro twice a month. He gave up fish emulsion when he found out it attracted sea gulls.

About six years ago tuberous plants all over the country became susceptible to mildew, and although he believes mildew is not as great a problem now, he recommends spraying with a good fungicide.

The plants may blossom as long as six months. Late in the season the large male blossoms cease to be sterile, and the plant produces smaller but virile flowers to pollinate the female flowers, which have always been inconspicuous. In October and November the grower gradually reduces the amount of water until the leaves die down and the tubers can be lifted out to dry in sun and be stored in open flats or ventilated cardboard box.

Curious sea captains and physicians did much to introduce begonias of all kinds to Europe. In 1850 the small-flowered ancestor of today's giant tuberous was found in the Andes. Other curious men in Belgium and Czechoslovakia experimented to make the first double flowers, and Frank Reinelt came to the West Coast of the United States to carry on some of the most productive research.

Lighthart said that some years ago he was a professional man who came to the beach area during summer vacations. One year he planted two dozen tubers in the shade of a cypress tree at an outlay of \$6.00. Over the summers he accumulated lathhouses until one summer he had seven lathhouses and decided not to leave. "I have had dirty fingernails and sore muscles ever since, which is the true sign of the green thumb," according to Lighthart.

Don Horton, president, presided over the meeting. Most other officers of the branch were introduced in the February issue of *The Begonian*. However, Mrs. Owen Halling was elected treasurer too late to meet the deadline for the article. She may be known to members of other branches as the gracious blonde who appeared on a national TV garden show representing the branch last summer.

Winners at New York

303. BEGONIA

First Prize: Mrs. Richard Wagner, Englewood, N.J.

No second prize.

Third Prize: Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hull, Jr., Woodbridge, Conn.

Third Prize: Torbjorn Lothman, Flushing, N.Y.

304. BEGONIA

First Prize: Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hull, Jr., Woodbridge, Conn.

305. BEGONIA

First Prize: Ida K. Herbermann, Chappaqua, N.Y.

Second Prize: Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hull, Jr., Woodbridge, Conn.

Third Prize: Dorothy M. Dengler, Hasbrouck Heights, N.J.

306 BEGONIAS

First Prize: Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hull, Jr., Woodbridge, Conn.

307. BEGONIAS

First Prize: Frederick H. and Jacqueline L. Kranz, Buffalo, N.Y.

Second Prize: Mrs. Anne Scheu Berry, New Hyde Park, N.Y.

Third Prize: Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hull, Jr., Woodbridge, Conn.

—B—

THE COMPOST HEAP

Said a cabbage leaf to a yard-grass clipping,

From the looks of those plants their owner is slipping.

Said the apple peel to his brother core,
Just cast your glance 'round the kitchen door—

Tops from an onion, a radish, and a turnip.

They'll dry in a pile, then someone will burn it.

How I hate to be garbage, said pea-pod with a smirk.

If we were all in a hole, by gosh, how we'd work.

Those poor sickley plants would have riches galore

From our COMPOST HEAP; who could ask for more?

MAMIE C. PERRY

Seeds, Seedlings and Hybrids

By DON HORTON

The Germination of Seeds

THAT a seed comes up is taken for granted by most of us—unless it doesn't, in which case it is the fault of the seed being too old when sold to us, poor weather, ground too hard, moon in wrong phase, or our slightly green thumb having browned.

Seriously, the understanding of the process of germination can aid immeasurably in getting seeds to sprout and come up. It is recognized immediately that there is a great difference in time that seeds germinate. Zinnias can come up in less than 48 hours, where columbine takes thirty days, and we are often confronted with a seedbed that we have given up, suddenly germinating great numbers of seeds after months.

A seed contains an embryo of the future plant in arrested development. The seed also contains a stored food supply to keep the seedling going until it has formed roots and leaves enough to manufacture its own food. All this package is waiting for are the proper conditions to induce it to start growth.

But nature has supplied certain safeguards to many seeds to keep them from growing until everything is ideal for the germination and the continued growth of the seedling. For example, what use would it be for the seed of a plant native to areas of cold winter, such as an apple, to germinate in the fall when it would be killed by the winter freezes? Yet conditions of moisture, heat, etc., in the fall may be the same as they are in the spring when the seed normally germinates but none come up in the fall. The seed germinates only in the spring because the seed itself must go through a period of cold before the embryo will break its dormancy.

Horticulturists have known of this habit of many seeds for some time and are able to make them germinate when

they want by artificially giving them the cold they need by freezing in the refrigerator.

By knowing the idiosyncracies of the seeds you want to plant you can make them germinate faster, or better, or at least not give up on some slow germinating kinds too soon. Iris seed, for example, has an inhibitor in the seed coat which keeps the seed from germinating. This inhibitor wears away gradually and iris seed takes two and three years, and some even longer, to come up. Only rarely do any come up the first year. Scientists have proven the existence of this inhibitor by cutting the embryo out of the seed and placing it on agar, like orchid seed are, and it begins to grow immediately. By this method I have had a seedling iris in bloom in the same length of time—or maybe even a year sooner—than it would normally germinate.

It would be difficult for the amateur to duplicate the sterile methods necessary for embryo culture—other hard to germinate plant such a roses are grown this way too—but it illustrates the necessity of patience on waiting for certain seeds to germinate.

Other seeds are delayed in their germinating because their seed coats are so hard that water cannot penetrate them to start the germination process. Many legumes are guilty of this. Seeds of the paloverde can be soaked in water for a year without germinating and yet if the seed shell is nicked with a knife, or scratched with sandpaper it will germinate over night.

Morning glories and moonflowers have hard shells that should be opened with sandpaper or some other means. It is not necessary to remove the whole seed coat, but just get an opening through it.

I never will forget the look of disbelief on the face of a super market

clerk when he asked me what I was going to sand with the sandpaper I had just bought and I told him morning glory seeds.

Many seeds cannot take in the water they need if there is salt dissolved in it. Those of us blessed (is that the right word?) with Metropolitan water which has salts in it have seen seeds that have not germinated in seed beds that have been kept moist constantly for weeks come up in a few days after a rain which leaches the salts out and supplies only pure water.

Most seeds need darkness in which to germinate but some require light. Begonia seeds, gloxinias, African violets, and bromeliads fall in this category and should therefore always be planted by just dusting them on the soil surface and not be covered or put in a dark place.

From the foregoing, which is just barely an introduction, it can be seen that the germination of seeds is a fascinating field that has its rewards both in interest and in a greater "stand" of seedlings.

—B—

African Violet Show

"ON THE WINGS OF SPRING" is the theme for the sixth annual African Violet show which opens to the public on April 24th and 25th at the Professional Women's Clubhouse, 820 Java Street, one block east of South La Brea near Arbor Vitae Street, Inglewood. The event is staged by the Inglewood chapter of the African Violet Society of America.

New varieties, on display for the first time, will be a feature of the show. Hundreds of outstanding plants, selected for perfection of form and color of blooms, will be exhibited so that visitors will have an opportunity to see the best African violets.

Exhibitors will compete for trophies and ribbons, which will be awarded by nationally accredited judges.

The show will be open Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is 25 cents.

Annual Fuchsia Show

ANNUAL FUCHSIA FLOWER SHOW, which features fuchsias and other shade plants, sponsored by the California National Fuchsia Society, will be held June 17 to 21, inclusive, in conjunction with the annual Great Western Dairy Show.

The show will be staged in the Great Western Exhibit Center, Atlantic Blvd. and Santa Ana Freeway, Los Angeles, Calif. Hours for the show are from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is free.

On exhibit will be garden displays by the California National Fuchsia Society's 30 branches, extending as far north as San Luis Obispo, featuring colorful landscaped gardens, outdoor living areas, unique ideas and natural settings.

Garden areas by other cooperating garden clubs will feature related shade plants.

Individual entries are open to the public as well as to society members. These will include hundreds of fuchsias, fuchsia blossoms, begonias, ferns, African violets, gloxinias and bromeliads. Separate classifications will be provided for novices who have not won a ribbon or trophy in any previous show and for experienced amateurs.

Displays will feature the latest in garden equipment and material for gardeners. Many garden personalities will be at the show to give advice and answer questions.

Blossoms of seedlings for future introduction, as well as 1959 introductions, will be exhibited by some of California's most prominent hybridizers. Trophies and ribbons will be awarded for the best seedling blossoms.

Miss Fuchsia of 1959 will be officially crowned by Miss Polly Campbell of Downey, last year's queen, and trophies and ribbons to all winners in the various classifications will take place Wednesday evening, June 17. The Fuchsia Queen, with her two princesses, previously selected from candidates sponsored by the Society's branches, will reign over the entire fuchsia and shade plant show.

Honoring Bessie Buxton

By DANIEL J. FOLEY

BESSIE BUXTON'S name, as well as her contribution to horticulture, will be all the greener because the New England Branch of the American Begonia Society has paid her signal honor in naming the unit for her.

My friendship with Mrs. Buxton reached back more than thirty years, and it was my privilege to know her quite well. The windows of her house at 114 Central Street, Peabody, filled with magnificent plants, were a joy to all who passed by, and helped her to become widely known throughout the North Shore of Massachusetts.

Unlike the flower-painting ladies of the 18th century, she was of a more practical turn of mind. Her monument consists of a book on house plants, two on begonias, a monumental index of begonia varieties and hundreds of articles written for leading garden magazines and newspapers throughout the country.

Once dubbed a "picture-book botanist" by a Yankee neighbor who was also interested in plants, she became famous for her stories on begonias and other house plants and the top-notch illustrations she used with them. In her writing she was accurate, thorough and delightfully easy to read. In her research she was amazingly accurate and careful and dug into things with great vigor and enthusiasm. She was known in libraries, botanic gardens, nurseries and greenhouses as a woman of indefatigable energy and warm enthusiasm, and she could get help from even the crusty and the crochety when she approached them.

Bessie Buxton was never a woman to be idle. In her early married life, she did considerable lecturing and traveled widely giving talks and concerts. A devoted church worker, she served for many years as organist of her church. One of her hobbies was the study of sea chantey and she had a keen ear for all kinds of folk music.

Because her husband was associated with one of the oldest potteries in the

United States, she wrote several articles of historical interest on the subject. Likewise, she found time to write the history of her church, which was published in the Essex Historical Collections.

As if these accomplishments were not enough for an active housekeeper, she pioneered in garden club work in Massachusetts and throughout the country as well. She led the activities of the garden club in her own city for many years, and encouraged the children throughout the community in their gardening interests. She was consulted in nearby Salem when that club was formed, and later was made an honorary member. Not only was she the first secretary of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, but she served in a similar capacity for the National Council of State Garden Clubs when it was first organized. Her interest in club activities, plus her enthusiasm for begonias, inspired her to travel as far west as California. While on a trip to Texas, she made notes from the train window on the plants she saw and later turned out a story on the subject.

Always conscious of everything that had to do with gardening and plants, she felt it imperative to document the history of old Salem gardens.

For several years she served as a contributing editor to Horticulture Magazine and turned out a memorable series of stories, many of them relating to begonias. Much of this material was later gathered in her books.

Her life was a full one and when she passed on suddenly at the age of seventy-six she was still a person of great vigor and enthusiasm, with a zest for plants equaled by few people of her generation. Many honors and tributes came to her. Among them were the Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and a similar one conferred by the American Horticultural Council. As an enthusiastic and devoted amateur, Bessie Buxton has left a notable monument in the annals of American horticulture.

Kansas Begonias

By MAMIE C. PERRY

BEGONIAS? Lots of 'em. Had so many in '51 we had to build on a room to get them inside. Now they are on 2 x 4-foot benches around three sides of the room. The benches are fitted with 2-inch deep galvanized pans. The room is all windows on the east and north sides, the deep freeze finishes out the the south side, there is a davenport on the west, and I am in the middle with my sewing machine. It is such a "happy room."

In the dining room there is a 2-foot wide shelf, 16 feet long, over some built-ins in front of three windows. In the front bedroom we have two windows together, with galvanized brackets holding six shelves, four inches wide, two inches deep and six feet long, for small begonias and violets, which do well there. There are two 54" windows in the living room and they are full of begonias. I put a long strip of clear plastic up to the south windows in winter, then I don't have to worry if it frosts. None so far this year, although it has been close to zero for ten days.

It is a real job to water and spray with plant food once a week. I don't dare let Bobo, our smart talkative parakeet, see me even pull off a dead leaf, because he pulls off any leaf (never touches them otherwise). I have found that a glove stretcher pulls off the dead leaves in the window middles in the plant room that I can't reach by hand.

Then, I hate worms and bugs, so I never put broken pots in my planting pots. I have screen wire, cut it in two and four inch strips, and cut a square off to cover the hole in the pot, covering this with a handful of rakings that have dried in the sun on a brick drive, pat down with a block of wood, and this provides perfect drainage. You know sowbugs, pillbugs and worms get into cracked pot filters, then come to the top of the pot to do their devilish work.

I haven't had them for some years. Try the screen and get out of the "crack-pot" stage. I use it for geraniums, too, which I put in cans, where they do so well and take up less room. I brought in 75 this year. They bloomed all summer, still blooming, and if they bloom themselves to death I'll just start more. I like BLOOMS. I watch (silly?) the almanac signs very closely for rooting and quick growing. The Rexall signs are the best in the world for planting.

Out home years ago we had a begonia that was to me the perfect one. Never see it in any greenhouse, but it grew tall as I (5 ft. 6) and had a bunch of red blooms large as a quart cup on the ends of its branches, but not many side branches. We got a slip some place, and no one knew the name. The leaves looked like *rubra*, but no spots. This year I am going to get a 'President Carnot' to see if it is the one.

I like 'Argentea-guttata' and 'Sachsen,' 'Corallina de Lucerna,' 'Pink Rubra,' etc., for they are never without bloom. Got the little green 'Thimbleberry' this fall; it has a very pretty bloom. I like 'Sultani' too. Rex do not live here in our climate. I get nice plants from the Merry Gardens up in Camden, Maine. They pack so well and have a nice assortment. Mrs. Ada Entzminger, who lives 23 miles west of here, at Bronson, brought me starts of some I didn't have, and took slips of some of mine she didn't have.

If this all sounds sort of "braggy" it is because I love my plants and try to give them good care. And my husband's easy chair is not close to a window so I have no kicks!

Fort Scott, Kansas

—B—

Make all good men your well-wishers and then, in the years' steady sifting, some of them turn into friends. Friends are the sunshine of life.

JOHN HAY

some background, some sort of floor, some peat moss or sawdust in which to sink your pots if you try a garden effect and possibly some trucking expense if any of the plants are too large for the branch's station wagons. We asked for an area of twelve by fifteen feet but were assigned twenty by twenty; to help us out were allowed some extra junipers to reduce the depth of the space. We may place the junipers as we wish as long as they stand less than ten feet from the rear; this rule applies to the whole amateur section in an effort to keep the aisle an uninterrupted vista of gardens. A few junipers placed strategically occupy a lot of room; we further reduced the space we would have to plant by having a flagstone terrace built around an old apple tree. This apple tree has a handsomely textured trunk of silvery gray and supplies the summer shade which is one of the two requirements for a begonia bed. The two things which we must supply here for the summer care of begonias is high shade and protection from winds, so the junipers and the apple tree cover those two most important points.

In a big show you are up against very good competition and very strong lighting so we decided to sink most of our money in a handsome terrace while we were about it and chose one of flagstone; we might have taken pine needles or gravel but not only is the flagstone good looking itself, but it gives amateurs a good firm edge to guide the line of our planting. Fortunately between all the members of the branch we had a lot of material and need only get one fine focal point as we were afraid to trust our plants to bloom at the right time. The hardest part was to get accurate lists of the plants available and their sizes; we owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our chairman, Miss Fanny McIlvain, who spent hours inspecting and listing our plant material. We had enough rhizomatous begonias in fairly large sizes to edge the terrace, forty-one running feet, and took care of the inequalities of size by putting the smaller ones on either side of the path and to the front and

the heaviest to the rear in the right hand corner to help balance.

At the front to the right Mrs. Drew, who is always interested in propagation, took charge of the cold frame and had rows of various ways of starting begonias; we were especially pleased that she collected a wedge of a leaf cutting of *B. 'Iron Cross'* with no signs of growth although it has stood upright since August, 1958, then a wedge started at the same time with two tiny leaves showing and then a small bushy plant. There were some trays of seedlings in various stages of growth, tip cutting and rhizomatous leaves laid on the surface. Back of the cold frame were a group of gray leaved plants, *B. kellermanni*, *venosa*, 'Grey Lady,' etc., which looked well against the green boundary hedge.

Filling the space between the rhizomatous plants and the junipers in the rear right hand corner were a group of plants chosen because their foliage somewhat resemble each other although the plants are very mixed. It is always an advantage to put shiny leaved plants to the back as their leaves reflect the light and add depth to the planting. Here we had *B. 'Mrs. Wallow'*, 'Chiala Rosea,' 'Alzasco,' *acutangula*, etc.; I hope it is clear that in each group we often had duplications, for since we often exchange cuttings there are apt to be a number of the more popular begonias available and it is important to make each group large enough to avoid a spotty feeling in the design. We have also learned that in our efforts to get a rich look to the exhibit we must not allow ourselves to crowd the plants; they look a great deal better if each plant is allowed to stand alone (of course if a plant has a weak side you can often use two or more plants to give the effect of one good one); also do not put all your tallest at the back and grade your plants *too* carefully to the front; they will seem more natural if you allow some of the shorter ones to separate the tall ones and this will give you a more interesting play of light and shadow.

Directly back of the path we grouped several *B. 'Lucerna'* with big plants of

'Ricky Minter' and 'Ricinifolia' at their feet; this tended to draw the eye to the rear of the terrace. Due partly to Mrs. Drew's interest for years in hirsute begonias we have a good many and quite a variety so to the left of center a big group, with a few in bloom, will fill an irregular space at the base of the junipers and provide a background for the handsome blooming *B.* 'Alto Scharff.' The hirsutes vary much in size, somewhat in shape and color and we place them by eye to look as well as possible against their green background and putting their scattered bloom away from competition with the greenhouse grown plant. We had *B. scharffi*, 'Prunifolia,' 'Nelly Bly,' several 'Alto Scharfs,' 'Vi-aude,' 'Viau-Scharff,' 'Allesryi,' *metallica*, *angularis*, *sanguinea*, a hirsute 'Venosa' hybrid, a very large plant which Mrs. Drew raised from seed, *scharffi*, 'Vesperia,' and *fernando-costae*. Beyond the hirsute group in the far left hand rear corner is the largest plant raised in the branch, *B.* 'Rubaiyat.' At least it has been known to us for some years as 'Rubaiyat.' but there is now a discussion as to whether it is correctly named. This winter it grew enormously and is now certainly six feet tall and about four feet across; it couldn't have chosen a more convenient time to grow and bloom for it fills quite a big space all the way at the back and can easily be seen in front. That plant has been well behaved and no trouble since infancy. Its light green leaves and bright pink flowers will show up well against the dark green of the background. In September the blooms would be much larger, in much more numerous and larger clusters and a very vivid deep rose.

Starting at the foot of the 'Rubaiyat' and sweeping to the left are all the blooming plants in the branch carrying a fine line of color from back to front on the left; this balances the heavier rhizomatous on the right and carries the eye over the useful but not-too-beautiful cold frame.

Those who are interested in begonias will stop to look into the cold frame but those who don't care will hardly be

aware of it although it is right in front. Some of the flowering begonias were *B.* 'Di-erna,' 'Di-anna,' 'Richmondensis,' 'Tea Rose,' 'Pinafore,' 'Joe Hayden' and hybrids, *boweri* and hybrids (these small hybrids are very popular and perfectly charming in or out of bloom), dl. *sempiflorens*, *schmidiana*, and *nitida*. In the curve of the path we saved room to show rather small plants of some of the newer begonias, *B.* 'Iron Cross,' *cucullifolia*, *rotundifolia*, *paulensis*, 'Verde Grande,' 'Calla Lily var. Maine' (this is not particularly new but difficult to grow here), and some small rex.

The plan was drawn very carefully to scale and the larger plants measured and planned for. The smaller plants used toward the front were brought to the flower show after the rest of the exhibit was in order and were combined to carry out the line first laid down by the curve of the terrace and followed by the more important plants. Many of those which we brought in were used but those that introduced a false note were sent home. To us who have pored over the plan so often and handled the plant material so lately this description seems clear; I hope that it may make it clear to others that much diverse material can be worked into an acceptable plan. The very cream of such a branch activity is to be an active participant; you learn so much about plants, techniques, mechanics, disappointments, wonderful surprises and human nature. There isn't a nicer way to put in the time until we can garden out-of-doors again; by the time that the flower show is cleaned up and we are rested up Spring will be here.

—B—

Culture Note

If you wish to raise tuberous begonias, you should get them started now. When the sprouts appear, plant the tubers in a flat and cover them with about one inch of peat moss. To encourage sprouting, put the tubers in a warm, sheltered place. It is of utmost importance that the tuber be well started before it is planted. Planting may be done all this month.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

No. 1 *B. paulensis*—Brazil. Although plant was discovered many years ago in Brazil, it is not common in cultivation. It was first grown in this country by Louise Schwerdtfeger from seed brought from Germany. Leaves are medium green, shiny and peltate, distinctively striking with its ivory-colored sinus or eye from which radiate the main veins. The radial veins are joined by cross veins which form a circle giving an interesting spider-web effect. Each spider web section is covered with short white hairs but on underside of leaf the hairs are red, showing up distinctly on an apple green background. Leaf petiole is light green covered with pinkish hairs and a small collar of red hairs appear at leaf petiole junctions. Flowers are 1½ to 2 inches in diameter and are white inside. This is a stately and handsome begonia and will add great beauty and interest to any collection. Price \$1.00 per pkt. See cover picture on October 1956 *The Begonian*—back issues available from Librarian.

No. 2 *B. circumlobata*—China. Rhizomatous with 8-9 inch leaves on tall stems often reaching a height of 14 inches. The leaves are light green, deeply lobed, the lower lobe usually larger than the others. The upper leaf surface is rough and pebbly, giving the appearance of crepe paper. Young leaves are flushed red on back, which gradually fades as the leaves mature, leaving only a red tinge on edge. When the plant is young, stems are covered with white hairs, making it appear almost white, hairs are scaly giving the plant a shaggy appearance. Rhizomes creep along the surface of the soil; growth is fairly rapid, only reaching a few inches before throwing side shoots, which results in a well filled pot in a relatively short time. Grown primarily for its beautiful, lush foliage and to achieve success two requirements are necessary—do not overwater, it likes to be dry; second keep the plant “growing on,” it does not like to be pot bound. A magnificent begonia to challenge the imagination of any collector. 35c per pkt.

No. 3 *B. rotundifolia*—Low; rhizomes slender and creeping; leaves 2½ inches, almost round with basal lobes overlap-

ping, glossy yellowish-green. Flowers pink, in erect inflorescences. Nice little plant for the house or windowsill gardener—can be used outdoors in rock work where climate permits. 25c per pkt.

No. 4 *B. Di-anna*—Small cane type with many orange colored flowers. Good bloomer and popular plant here in California. 25c per pkt.

No. 5 *B. Stitched Leaf*—Medium, rhizomatous with emerald green, lobed leaves and brown veins. Flowers pink. 25c per pkt.

No. 6 *B. Cypraea (metallica seedling)*—Erect, bushy, white hairy; leaves olive green with deeper green veins; flowers white or pale pink, pink bearded with out. 25c per pkt.

No. 7 *B. Fuscomaculata* syn. *Rubella* (*B. heracleifolia* x *B. strigollosa*) Leaves dark olive green, chocolate-spotted; flowers greenish-white in erect inflorescences. 25c per pkt.

No. 8 *B. Heracleicotyle* syn. *B. Mrs. Townsend*—Leaves fleshy, green, with seven shallow rounded lobes; flowers deep pink. 25c per pkt.

No. 9 *B. evansiana*—China. Differs from the plant commonly grown in that it has light green leaf both front and back; flowers are pink. Good hardy plant that can be grown outdoors in almost any climate. 25c per pkt.

No. 10 *B. Dicroa*—Low, spreading, leaves ovate-pointed some times silver spotted; flowers large, orange in dense clusters close to stem. Considered difficult but grows very well outdoors in San Diego, Calif., and blooms profusely during winter. 25c per pkt.

No. 11 *B. H803*—F1 hybrid by Benary, Germany. Mr. Benary has been testing plant for better foliage and blooms and as yet no name has been decided upon. The foliage is light green which remains the same color during the life of the plant, flowers are lighter in color and will not fade in sun. This is a beautiful and worthwhile semperflorans that will provide color for your garden for many months. 25c per pkt.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

***Gloxinia perennis (Maculata)* Gesneriaceae**—Brazil. Fleshy, spotted rhizome—not a tuber—bearing large downy,

bell-shaped fragrant flowers purplish blue with darker throat; basal leaves heart-shaped, waxy above and reddish beneath. 25c per pkt.

Crossandra infundibuliformis—**Acanthaceae** — Shrubby plant with glossy leaves; showy salmon-red tubular flowers with split limb, in angled bracted spike. Requires constant warmth during germination period. Seed tested 90%. 5 seed for 25c.

Aeschtnanthus lobbianus — **Gesneriaceae**—Epiphytic trailer with small dark green leaves; tubular, two-lipped flowers with hairy calyx cup dark red glistening like silk, corolla fiery-red, creamy yellow throat. 35c per pkt.

Billbergia vittata — **Bromeliaceae** — Leathery, olive-green leaves silver-banded; semi-pendant inflorescence of violet flowers and glowing red bract leaves. Very fresh seed. 25c per pkt.

FERN SPORES

Platyserium alcicorne—Fronds erect, bright green, widening to short forks, 2-3 lobed, lightly recurving, thinly hairy, young basal fronds are rounded, prolonged above into a few finger-like lobes. 25c per pkt.

Phyllitis scolopendrium cristatum — **Polyodiaceae** — 'Hart's Tongue' Rhizomatous hardy fern with simple, oblong, lush bright green fronds and crisped margins. Good outdoor fern in mild climates. 25c per pkt.

Adiantum formosum — Can make a large plant, well over two feet. Large fronds are covered very regularly with big even pinnules. 25c per pkt.

Adiantum gracillimum — Beautiful fern with the tiniest of leaflets, rich green, borne in multiples on graceful, large fronds which are produced in a densely tufted crown. 35c per pkt. Greenhouse fern.

Woodwardia radicans — Handsome fern with long, luxuriant, rich green fronds. Grown outdoors, makes a good companion plant for begonias and other shade plants. Not recommended for pot culture. 25c per pkt.

Cyclophorus lingua — (Japan, China) 'Tongue Fern' Growing from a creeping rhizome covered by reddish scales, with simple lanceolate, olive green leathery leaves, rusty—silvery beneath, borne on wiry stems. Choice plant. 35c per pkt.

The above fern spores have been

carefully collected and packaged by the grower and are guaranteed to be fresh and properly named.

A simple method for germinating fern spores is to sow on a layer of wet (not moist—WET) sterilized milled sphagnum or well rotted leaf mold contained in a large, wide mouthed jar. The lid should be screwed tightly on jar and placed in a worm location; do not disturb until sporelings are large enough to handle, the larger they are, the better chance of success at the critical time of transplanting.

Listed below are some of the begonia seed that came from Brazil a short time ago. We have not been successful in establishing proper identification from collector, however Rudolf Ziesennehenne of Santa Barbara, Calif., is growing some of them and we hope to have correct names before too long.

BRAZIL BEGONIAS—CLOSEOUT

No. 1 B. bradei Irmscher. Soft leaves covered with red hairs, with arched branches of white flowers.

No. 2 B. lubberssi Regel.

No. 3 B. salicicifolia Riedel.

No. 4 B. Angularis x.

No. 5 B. arborescens syn. *confertiflora*.

No. 6 B. No. 18855—Brazil.

No. 7 B. No. 18980—Brazil.

No. 8 B. No. 18832—Brazil.

No. 9 B. No. 18510—Brazil.

No. 10 B. No. 18151—Brazil.

Above—10 pkts. for \$1.00. Single pkts. 25c each.

OTHER GENERA

Neanthe bella — **Palmaceae** (Guatemala) Tree palm in miniature, slow growing and will flower in pots when very young. Stems bear near the top a graceful rosette of small, pinnate fronds, with narrow, dark green pinnae. Nice little plant for house or greenhouse. 5 seed for 25c.

Schlumbergera gaertneri — **Cactaceae** 'Easter Cactus' Dull green with crenate margins; star-like flowers dark scarlet, flowers in spring. 25c per pkt.

Zantedeschia rehmanni — **Araceae** — Dwarf red calla with bright green sometimes silver spotted, lanceolate leaves; rosy purple or red spathe on flaring tube. Nice pot plant or for outdoors

(Continued Next Page)

where climate permits. 4 seed for 25c.

Stenolobian velutina — **Bignoniaceae**
—Ornamental shrub with showy, yellow flowers with funnel-shaped corolla. 25c per pkt.

Greyia raulkoferi—So. Africa. Small shrub grown for ornament — flowers bright scarlet in great profusion. 25c per pkt.

Please note: We can obtain seed of *Anthurium andreaeanum* and several vari-

eties of *philodendron* however both types of seed are fragile and due to cost of importing it will be necessary to know if the demand is great enough to justify obtaining seed. When you write for seed this month, will appreciate your comments on the subject.

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

Pretty Begonia Paulensis

By LOUISE SCHWERDTFEGER

PRETTY is hardly the word to describe the exotic appearance of the lovely species rhizomatous *B. paulensis*. The veining in the large peltate leaf seems to be drawn tight giving the leaf a shirred look. The foliage is green with a bronzy tint and the leaf stem tufted with "hair" similar to the collars on *B. manicata*. These pinkish-white clumps of "hair" make it difficult to grow the plant from leaf cuttings.

B. paulensis was grown in California in 1952 and introduced at the A.B.S. Flower Show in 1953 at Redondo Beach.

The small *B. paulensis* seedling was one of six grown from seed brought over from Germany by Mrs Kew Weber in 1952.

B. paulensis was not a new begonia, having been described in the 1800s, but it was new to us in America and only through experimentation were we able to learn of its cultural requirements. It's tender, in that the leaves bruise easily and mar if water stands over night on them. *B. paulensis* grows in the usual begonia soil and is a good feeder. It prefers a cool-house to the heated glass-house. Although it requires moist medium and constant humidity as most begonias do, yet it readily adapts itself as a house plant among other happy begonias.

B. paulensis is easily grown from seed, the young plants require protection until ready for 3 inch pots. Over-watering is dangerous. Keep the seedlings in a humid, sheltered location, moist but not wet, with plenty of light and be surprised when they fill ten-inch containers with beautiful foliage and bloom for you with lovely flowers, whose large petals are backed with dense long maroon hair, held high above the plant.

(For botanical description see *The Begonian* 1956, October issue, page 222.)

B. paulensis has taken many blue ribbons in Santa Barbara shows and is always an outstanding plant in an exhibit. Do try growing this exotic begonia.

NOTE: *B. paulensis* seed are listed in the Clayton Kelly Seed Fund Flight.

Calendar

April 7—Long Beach Parent, speaker, Don Horton. Jitney potluck 6:30, usual place, Linden Hall, 208 Linden.

April 7—Theodosia Burr Shepherd branch, Louise Schwerdtfeger, "Rhizomatous Begonias" — usual time and meeting place.

April 9—Inglewood, 11th annual President's Dinner. Dr. Robert E. Atkinson, "Bigger and Better Begonias." Inglewood Women's Club, 6:30 p.m. Special plant table.

April 22 — Glendale, speaker, Don Horton, "Begonias and Begonia Hybridizing" illustrated with slides.

May 5—Theodosia Burr Shepherd— Birthday party, usual time and place.

Leaves From Our Begonia Branches

NOTE

If any of the branches have names to be submitted for the slate of National Board officers, please send to Mrs. Irma J. Brown, nat'l secretary, 3628 Revere Ave., Los Angeles 39. Do participate in our annual national election!

—B—

ELSA FORT

You will remember from reading Mrs. Alvord's article in a recent issue of *The Begonia*, that we are an inter-racial group. We also are an inter-boro group, so a perfect winter day found several of us driving up Moorestown way again to the home of Betty Johnston, our new president.

Soon the usual delicious dessert had been eaten and our regular business meeting was over.

When attractive little booklets containing our year's program were passed out, there was so much chattering the president had to tap her bell several times before we settled down to hear Elvira Roberts read an article on "Seed Sowing." There was much discussion of old versus new methods. We decided a combination of sphagnum moss, vermiculite and perlite was best to prevent damping off. Of course a bit of fertilizer would be added later and a sprinkling of semesan.

We have several members who have not been with us long, so Elsa Weber is giving a quiz on Terminology at each meeting. This is a refresher course for many of us. A little plastic box containing such beautiful male and female blossoms to be used for demonstration could have been mistaken for decorated candies on first sight.

—B—

GLENDALE

The following officers for 1959 were elected and installed for the Glendale branch: Allen Radcliff, president; Mrs.

A. R. Joyce, vice-president; Mrs. Clarence Hall, recording secretary; Mabel Anderson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Allen Radcliff, treasurer; Mrs. Thomas Cooper, national director, Mrs. Frances Cooley, members' representative. The meeting date and place remain the same.

The Glendale branch enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner and Mrs. Coralea Walters gave a delightful talk on begonias and ferns, telling also how many interesting garden decorations could be made with "rabbit foot" fern. Don Horton of Orange County branch, and a regular contributor to *The Begonian*, will be our speaker at the meeting April 22. His subject will be "Begonias and Begonia Hybridizing," illustrated with slides.

—B—

MARGARET GRUENBAUM

The February meeting of this branch was held at the home of our newest member, Mrs. Herbert Bishop, in Hatboro, Pa. She put us to shame with her "green thumb" method of starting begonias, violets and most anything she desires to grow. A very nice luncheon was followed by an interesting program by Elsa Fort Weber. She said, in part: (1) a species of begonia is one found in its natural habitat, (2) a hybrid is an offspring in nature from begonias that have been crossed and seeded, (3) a cultivar is a begonia that is "man made," (4) species bear both male and female flowers on same plant that will propagate, (5) that it takes four years from seed to mature plant.

—B—

INGLEWOOD

Robert Vargas, a member of the staff of Descanso Gardens, spoke to us on some of the many outstanding features to be seen there, at our March meeting.

Be prepared to get your ticket to the annual President's Dinner which consti-

tutes the April meeting of the branch. It is the outstanding event on our activities calendar and honors the presidents of all our fellow branches. A wonderful evening built around the theme of the Hawaiian Islands. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Robert Atkinson who will give us the latest "dope" on how to raise "Bigger and Better Begonias."

—B—

SAN FRANCISCO

We have elected the following new officers: George Leslie Kuthe, president; Elaine Jordan, secretary; Beth Sackman, membership secretary; Allen D. Sweet, treasurer; and Louise Allmacher, sunshine.

At our March 4 meeting a film entitled "Wild Flowers of the West" was shown by Mssrs. Richardson and Lunn of the Richfield Corporation. This film encompasses the wild flower life in our six Western states, and it enabled us to see how really fortunate we are to live in this part of the country, surrounded by so much beauty.

Four of our members gave short talks as follows: Francis J. Boichot, Seedlings; William G. Damerow, Tubers Planted Directly in the Ground; Hyacinth Smith, A New Way of Growing Tuberous Begonias From Seed; Louise Allmacher, How an Amateur Grows Begonias. These short talks were followed by a question and answer period which proved to be packed full of information which will help us immensely in attaining our goal of more beautiful begonias.

Jean Thomas is again going to help us by continuing her "clinic," which will meet at her home. Here we also learn much about fibrous, rex, rhizomatous and semperflorens. The clinic meetings are certainly attended by many members and anyone with a problem is welcome.

Elizabeth Banks is in charge of our library and we certainly have a variety of books for our members to enjoy.

Beth Sackman is lining up a flower arrangement and corsage making class for interested members, and their friends are welcome too.

Our present "extra project" is to get a 72-cup percolator, by saving the labels from MJB Instant Coffee and the unwinding bands from Regular MJB Coffee. Oris Martin, our program director, is handling this. He had promised door prizes to persons bringing in these wanted items. Well, we were really in for a surprise—Mrs. E. I. Pynchon had baked home made bread, wrapped it in plastic bags, and donated these loaves as the door prizes!

Any of you good friends are invited to participate in our project and send any extra bands or labels to us! Each one helps, you know. Then, come and have a cup of coffee and a piece of cake.

—B—

SAN MIGUEL

Recently San Miguel Branch had a different and interesting program. Shortly after Mrs. Edna Lowery, president, was installed, she announced that we would have a flower show but in a different manner.

It was planned that when members' plants were at peak of perfection, the branch's official photographer, Mr. Ferris Jones, would take colored slides of them. At the end of the season, all the slides would be shown.

It was a real joy to view so many plants with so little work attached. Mr. Jones had certainly covered the area well, producing many slides of various types of begonias and associated shade plants, in their own environment. No back-breaking work or worry about damaging plants. Just a real evening of pleasure.

—B—

SEATTLE

One of our members, Ed Lewis of Bellevue, talked on pruning, ornamentals, fruit trees, and landscaping subjects. Other members gave methods of growing begonias, fuchsias, gesneriads from seed. Next month there will be several short topics: starting of tuberous begonias and taking fuchsias from storage. It is still early enough for these plants to make good growth with lots of bloom here in the northwest.

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY

On Feb. 19, thirteen candles were lit and the birthday anniversary meeting was called to order by E. L. Kappler, president.

"Raising Begonias Successfully" was the subject given by Pat Antonelli of Capitola. Many worthwhile hints were given, and questions and answers were a part of his talk.

Peter Borree brought two huge specimen plants, one a sport of the Boston Fern family, the other a rex begonia with many long stemmed beautiful blossoms. He gave a short talk on the care of ferns, and many questions were answered by him.

Named begonia tubers were brought from the famous Antonelli Gardens for a part of the many nice prizes on the plant table.

While refreshments were being served many old time friends and visitors had the hall buzzing with conversation that flower lovers enjoy.

—B—

TEXAS STATE

The Texas State branch has elected the following officers for the coming year: Miss Virginia Wilson, president; Mrs. R. J. Wilson, vice-president; Mrs. Nanie McAdams, treasurer; Mrs. W. N. Foster, secretary; E. Weaver, nat'l representative.

Our branch entered a display in the Men's Garden Club annual camellia show, staged Jan. 17-18. Our display

(Continued on Page 91)

—B—

DEADLINE

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

BEGONIA VERSICOLOR (Fairy Carpet); B. CRISPULA; B. VELLOZOANE BRADE; B. FOREST OF VAUX; CANE BEGONIAS (Old and New); RARE AND UNUSUAL HOUSEPLANTS

CATALOGUE 25c

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Greenhouse a Reality

THE ARBORETUM BEGONIA GLASSHOUSE is now a reality. It gives the committee great pleasure to thank all individuals and branches who have contributed to this successful endeavor. We feel deeply indebted to the late Mrs. Leonard B. Slosson for her generosity in making it possible for us to build not only an 18' x 30' glasshouse, but the very best and latest equipped 18' x 50' house. You will all be thrilled to see this beautiful structure with its automatic heating and cooling system and newest type of foggers. If you are near the arboretum drop in and see the glasshouse. We are pleased, you will be also.

Since Mrs. Slosson agreed to give us the remaining amount needed to build our glasshouse several branches and individuals have made donations, enough to construct temporary wooden benches.

The glasshouse fund committee plus the plant screening committee, appointed by our national president, Mr. Slatter, met recently and decided that our benches should be the permanent metal type recommended by the Arboretum instead of the temporary type.

We have paid \$6060.00 for the glasshouse and have now on hand \$470.00 which is almost enough to buy sixteen benches. We still need \$250.00 to purchase the necessary benches which will be required. Let us all work together to complete this project so we may plan for a dedication program early this summer. Make your checks payable to the Arboretum Glasshouse Fund and send them to

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Glasshouse Fund Chm.
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Thank you.

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Minutes, National Board, February 23, 1959

The regular monthly meeting of the National Board, American Begonia Society, was called to order by President Slatter at 7:35 p.m. February 23, 1959.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Walton.

"Aims and Purposes" of the Society were read by Mrs. Korts.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with a correction in the paragraph relative to the medallion received from South America, striking out the words "honoring the work of the Society has done in classifying Begonias." Mrs. Leatherman stated she was not sure as yet just why the medallion had been awarded.

Treasurer Pearl Parker gave her report for the month. Report filed for audit.

President Slatter reported that he had visited several branches during the month.

Pres. Elect Lovejoy reported he had visited the Orange County Branch. He also reported having visited National Show Chairman Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger and that Mrs. Schwerdtfeger has requested that all Branch Show chairmen go over the schedule for last year, make notes of any suggested changes and mail them promptly to Pres. Elect Lovejoy. He will in turn forward them to Mrs. Schwerdtfeger. She is anxious to get the schedule made up for publication in *The Begonian*.

Vice-President Graham reported that several members have suggested to her that an Editorial Board of four or five be appointed to help with the editing of *The Begonian* and presented the suggestion for consideration of the board.

Begonian Editor Mrs. Brest requested the secretary to read her report. The secretary also read a letter from the El Monte Branch relative to the insurance action taken by the Board at the January meeting, calling attention to the fact the branches are not covered.

Membership Secretary Walton gave his report for the month showing 46 new and 142 renewing members, with total membership receipts of \$476.54.

Seed Fund Chairman Mrs. Gee not being present her report was read by Treasurer Parker showing \$100.00 turned over to the Treasurer.

Public Relations Chairman Hall reported he had received a request from the Orange County Branch for a duplicate charter. Moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mrs. Graham, that upon payment of the usual \$2.00 fee the duplicate charter be granted. Motion carried.

Librarian Mrs. Sault and business manager Mr. Thieben not being present, no reports were given for these departments.

Nomenclature Chairman Mrs. Korts reported that she had personally delivered to the printer material for the Nomenclature and Registration report and that it will be in the March *Begonian*. Mrs. Korts stated that she wished to withdraw her suggestion given last month relative to a three year term for the Nomenclature Chairman.

Mrs. Leatherman then stated that she wished to withdraw her suggestion that the Research Department cooperate with Mrs. Helen VanPelt Wilson to furnish material for Mrs. Wilson's new book on begonias.

President Slatter reported that he had attended a meeting of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors at which they discussed selling a large part of the Descanso Gardens. He stated he felt this would be a distinct loss to everyone and suggested that all members of the Society write a letter to

the Board of Supervisors, 220 North Broadway, Los Angeles 12, protesting the sale of any portion of Descanso Gardens.

Mr. Walton stated that this is the time of year we should renew our membership in the American Horticultural Council and asked the pleasure of the Board. Moved by Pres. Elect Lovejoy, seconded by Mrs. Korts, that we continue our membership in the Council. Motion carried.

President Slatter asked for discussion of insurance to cover the National Board and branches. After some discussion Pres. Slatter requested that Mrs. Leatherman act as a committee of one to bring to the March Board Meeting any information she could obtain relative to this matter.

President Slatter then presented a request from Sed Fund Chairman Mrs. Gee that Mr. Benary be thanked for the seed he has been sending to the Society. Moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mrs. Leatherman, that a letter, signed by the elected officers of the Board, be sent to Mr. Benary thanking him for the seed furnished the A.B.S. Motion carried.

Branches reporting—El Monte, Glendale, Hollywood, Inglewood, Long Beach Parent Chapter, Pasadena, Riverside, San Gabriel Valley, Ventura, West Hollywood, San Miguel and Orange County.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Irma Jane Brown, Secretary

—B—

Leaves

(Continued From Page 89)

was an 18-foot space backed by a hand-painted background which earned a ribbon of merit from the judges.

—B—

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD

Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger will be speaker on April 7, her subject, "Rhizomatous Begonias." Our birthday party comes in May, on the fifth. All types of begonias will be on display with their proper identification, and there will be a discussion of the plants displayed. Plant table and birthday cake—naturally!

On June 7 Rudolf Ziesenhenné will be our speaker. The meeting is to be held outdoors in the Foster Park Bowl, with a potluck preceding in the park adjacent to the bowl. For directions contact our secretary, Mrs. Ted Lemons, Box 678, Moorpark, Calif.

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Duke, Oklahoma
Feb. 10, 1959

Right now while I am thinking on this let me pass on a grand new idea I just happened to stumble on to this past month. I was desperately in need of a container of some kind to use to start some new begonia seeds in; everything I could think of was already full. Then—I found an old fish bowl that had a crack down one side. It is not one of the larger ones, just a small one that the children had used for a pet fish that didn't seem to like our company, anyway he didn't stay with us long.

I put about two inches of vermiculite in the bottom of it, dampened good, and sprinkled in my seed. I have received better germination and quicker growth here than any I have tried so far. And another thing that may have helped out was that I accidentally found a source of bottom heat. We and most of the other people who live in this section heat our home with butane and natural gas. It is cheap and always available here. But to get on to my source of heat. I sat a half-drunk cup of coffee on top of the Dearborn gas heater in the living room and when I went back for it, I thought—how warm and nice. Then the idea struck me. If it will do this well on a plastic cup of coffee, maybe this is my answer to the search for some kind of bottom heat for this mixture of seed pans. It works exceedingly well. Of course, it

must be a regular type of stove that never gets hot on top, just barely warm.

I have been brewing on the idea and I might try to do an article for some time. One thing that I had wondered if you might be able to use was that I am just starting on a very low cost greenhouse. I thought maybe I would take pictures of all the various stages of construction. The finished product and again when I have all my plants moved in and settled, add a few lines of facts and the total cost of this do it yourself project, and then maybe it would help some other person who was in the same fix as I. I felt I simply had to have a place to do my fooling around with plants in the winter time besides the few south windows I have. So when we launched out on a new building project at our church, I made arrangements with the fellow that was to tear down the old building, that I would purchase all the windows. I have enough for a greenhouse 12x16, all except the roof, for about 30 dollars. I have all the rest of the material new. The total cost will be less than seventy.

Sincerely,

Blanche (Mrs. Fred) Renfro

—B—

ON THE APHIS

Aphis is the leading garden pest and may appear on nearly every type of plant. They are most active in the spring and reproduce very rapidly . . . If not controlled by *properly applied* insecticides, six adult aphis may increase to a thousand in thirty days!

Though very small, the aphis has a needle-point beak to pierce a plant stem and suck out juices, thus devitalizing the plant. A leaf pierced by aphis loses cell juice and curls up. Aphis usually hide on the underside of the curled leaf and also hide inside folds of new shoots and on the tender buds between leaf and stem.

Some aphis attack roots (as the asters).

Aphis not directly contacted by insecticides can re-infest an otherwise well sprayed plant within a short time.



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Branch Meeting Dates . .

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy., Kent, England

BUXTON, BESSIE RAYMOND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. D. L. Comiskey, Secy.
Valley Farm, Dover, Mass.

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

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
Mrs. E. H. Ellerbusch, Secy.
1051 Ordway, Berkeley 6, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes
Daisy Morrow, Cor. Secy.
2821 N. Musgrove Ave., El Monte, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Community Bldg.
2039 Third St., La Verne
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:30 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
Mabel Anderson
5226 Strohm Ave., North Hollywood

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. Adolph Belsler, Cor. Secy.
Welsh and Veree Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

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. J. C. Jenks
6807 DeLongpre Ave., Los Angeles 28, Calif.

HOUSTON, TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Mrs. A. F. Morin, Secy.
2014 Commonwealth, Houston 6, Texas

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

2nd Thursday 7:45 p.m., Inglewood Women's Club
325 North Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Mima A. Rich, Secy.
2022 W. 84th Place, Los Angeles 47, Calif.

LONE STAR BRANCH

3rd Monday, Members' Homes
Mrs. George Wilkins, Secy.
2621 N. Fitzhugh Ave., Dallas 4, Texas

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Linden Hall
208 Linden Ave., Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Florence Haag
1025 Temple Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Amy Reddy Rushing, Secy.
4938 Annette St., Baton Rouge, La.

MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Mrs. Ray Rosengren, Secy.
5530 N.W. 21 Ave., Miami, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 1 p.m.
World War Memorial Bldg., Linwood and Paseo
Mrs. Hattie Taylor, Secy.
P.O. Box 25, Raytown, Mo.

OCEAN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 12:30 p.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. Anna Peck, Secy.
23 So. Gateway, Toms River, N.J.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Lionel Evans, Secy.
10381 Orangewood, Garden Grove, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

Meetings on Call, Homes of Members
Col. C. M. Gale, Secy.
40 N. San Rafael, Pasadena 2, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Ralph DeCou, Secy.
107 Potter St., Haddonfield, N.J.

PORTLAND, OREGON BRANCH

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

REDONDO BEACH AREA BRANCH

4th Friday Each Month
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Pearl Riggles, Secy.
2042 Kathy Way, Torrance, Calif.

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Geraldine Daly, Secy.
Daly's Gardens, Coventry, R.I.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Shamel Park
3650 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.
Mrs. Ethel Prior, Secy.
4345 5th St., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Chet Van Dusen, Secy.
4135 Merritt Blvd., La Mesa, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Mrs. Leslie H. Watkins, Secy.
3070 Land Park Dr., Sacramento 18, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Hard of Hearing Hall
Herbert and University
Mrs. Leah Jones, Secy.
120 Upas St., San Diego 4, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Forest Lodge, 266 Laguna Honda Blvd.
Elaine Jordan
95 Ravenwood Dr., San Francisco, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Maconic Temple
506 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Marilyn Jewett, Secy.
18324 E. Alford St., Azusa, Calif.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Constance White, Secy.
9344 Broadway, La Mesa, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.
Mrs. Rudolf Ziesenhenn, Secy.
1130 Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
Meeting locations will vary; call the secretary at
SUncet 3-7122.
Mrs. Hazel M. Starks, Secy.
6116 Greenwood Ave., Seattle 3, Wash.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Bartlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Ted Lemons, P.O. Box 678, Moorpar, Calif.

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH

3rd Thursday of Each Month
John C. Irving, Cor. Secy.
1940 Simmons, Salina, Kan.

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Strowbridge School Multi-Purpose Rm.
21400 Bedford Dr., Hayward, Calif.
Mrs. Chester Bartlow, Cor. Secy.
553 Arden St., Newark, Calif.

TALL CORN STATE BRANCH

Mrs. Edna Monson, Secy.
South Taylor, Mason City, Iowa

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m.
Homes of Members, Ft. Worth, Texas
Mrs. Joe X. Schad, Secy.
Rte. 1, Box 17, Saginaw, Texas

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

1st Tuesday Night in Members' Homes
Mrs. W. N. Foster. P.O. Box 964, Groves, Texas

TREASURE ISLAND BRANCH

4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Harold Renshaw, Secy.
2521 37th St., Galveston, Texas

WEST VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Orcutt Playground Clubhouse
21816 Lanark St., Canoga Park, Calif.
Mrs. J. H. Holley, Secy.
22126 Gault St., Canoga Park, Calif.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Albert S. Lash, Cor. Secy.
1228 Oklahoma Ave., Pittsburgh 16, Pa.

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive
Mrs. Pearl Benell, Secy.
10331 Colima Rd., Whittier, Calif.

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members
Miss Margaret Robins, Secy.
Mermont Gardens, Byrn Mawr, Pa.

(Ed.: If your Branch has elected new officers, will you send in any changes so that this record may be kept current? Please include FULL address of your secretary, Thank you.)

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Riverside: Rosso's Cactus	PY 6-0854	Antonelli's Begonias	GR 5-3734
Rosemead: Retail Co-op.	AT 6-2161	Santa Monica:	
Ross: Waltz Fuchsias	GL 3-1203	Wilson's Fuchsias	EX 4-6048
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