

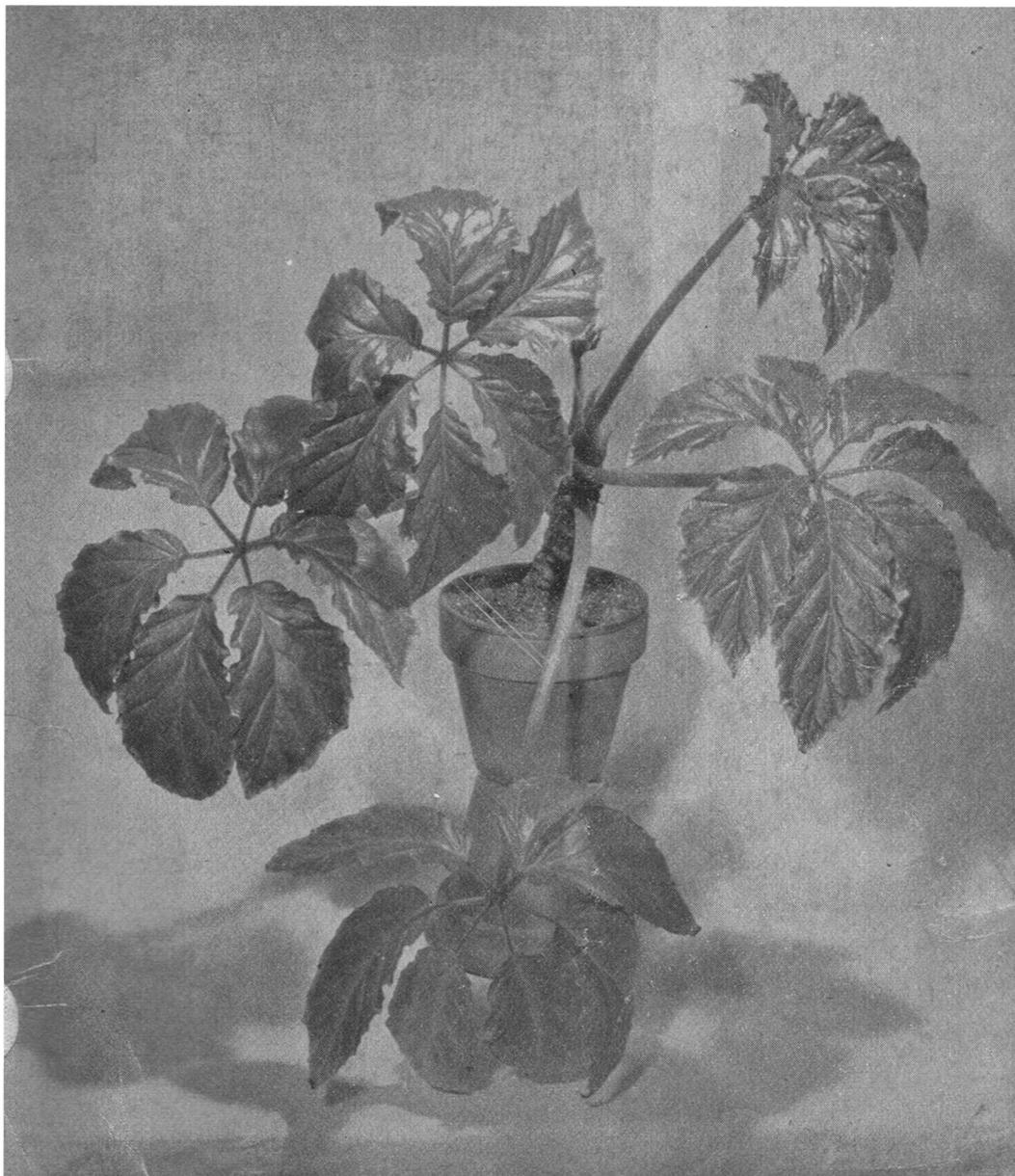
# *The Begonian*

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

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# The Begonian

Founded by  
Herbert P. Dyckman  
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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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# Begonias in Germany

By ESTHER J. EWOLDSEN

A new motto occurred to my mind while I was traveling recently in Germany. Instead of "Germany over all", it could now be "Begonias over all Germany".

It was amazing to see how many of these plants were used everywhere. Almost every window we saw contained plants. (We traveled in northern Germany, northern Switzerland, and a part of Denmark.) Many shop windows had potted plants as part of their displays. It was not unusual to see flowers in flagmen's stations at railroad crossings.

I saw many begonia species in these window gardens, even a few tuberous, doing well, too. Tuberous multifloras seemed more popular than the large flowered type of tuberous. Rex begonias in gorgeous colors and tuberous 'Elatior' in several colors were offered in many florists' shops.

But by far the most popular and striking was *Begonia semperflorens*. Either by themselves or in combination with other flowers, these made wonderful shows. The trend was toward the dwarf types, and the plants were well grown and literally covered with flowers. Sometimes the foliage could scarcely be seen.

In the milder, moister climates, as compared to central and southern California, these begonias grew beautifully in full sun without sunburning. I think this fact was the result of good plant breeding which produced more sun-resistant plants.

Set off by green lawns, they were stunning in large masses or small beds of one color, as borders to other flowers, in planters on the streets or at doorways, or in window boxes glowing with their bright loveliness. I can still see the red ones in large, shallow, white containers in the streets, pink ones edged with blue lobelia in window boxes, tall red ones at the rear of a window box with white balcony petunias spilling over the sides, white or scarlet ones edging walks or confined within dwarf boxwood hedges. In

the parks, which are numerous even in small towns, there were beds and borders of *semperflorens* begonias as well as other flowers.

It was my good fortune to visit the growing grounds of Mr. Benary, an outstanding plant breeder with a strong interest in *B. semperflorens*. In his seed trial gardens for annuals, each variety of seed is tested for purity of strain before being listed in his catalog.

There were his own *semperflorens* begonias. Foremost was his 'Tausendschoen' white. Parent stock was being hand pollinated and protected from other contaminating pollen. These darlings were under lath.

Others were in the open and were breath-taking in their variety, abundance of bloom, and uniformity of growth. They were white, pink, and red, each color in tall, medium, and dwarf habit of growth; and under each of these nine divisions there were from three to eight named varieties, each slightly different in size of flower, shade of color, character of leaf, or habit. When I considered that four to ten years were required to breed a particular type true, it was with great appreciation that I stood admiring the display.

Among those I saw were: 'Blitzstrahl' (Flash of Lighting), 'Essen', 'Leuchtfunk' (Sparkler), 'Luminosa' (Luminous), 'Luzifer' (Lucifer), 'Blutenmeer' (Sea of Bloom), 'Primadonna', 'Schnee' (Snow), 'Hexe' (Sorceress), 'Weisse Perle' (White Pearl), 'Niedridge Indianerin' (Dwarf Indian Maiden), 'Dornröschen' (Thornrose), 'Rosabella', 'Tausendschoen' (Thousand Beauties) in white, pink, and red. With the seeds of these and other fine varieties available to us, it is to be hoped that American gardeners will make greater use of these little jewels. They will repay the little care they require with a wealth of flowers and color.

(Continued on Page 11)

# Babysitting in Tenbyten

By ELSA FORT

What busy days these are in Tenbyten! So many pots of interesting seedlings—most from the Seed Fund and some from my own stock. It is such a thrill to see the true leaves appear on the rare ones, which have been part of the Seed Fund's most commendable project.

Iron Cross was so limited, and so cherished, and from my little packet I have six lovely plants. Long before the true leaf was larger than the end of a little finger, the markings showed and the whiskers were all bristling. It is now in a thumb pot and in about two weeks will be shifted to the next size. It is a thrill to grow a begonia so worthwhile.

*B. vellozianna* came up as thick as hair on a dead dog's back. Such a job it was to transplant them to larger quarters. I have found that a shallow eight-inch bulb pan is ideal for the first spotting out, and I take several plants, perhaps ten or twelve, and plant them in one spot when they are too small for planting in thumb pots. Then I again lift and separate them.

For the planting mixture in such an instance I use two parts oak leaf mold, one part Bacto peat, and one part compost, all well mixed. I have about four inches of broken crock in the bottom and I sometimes throw in a handful of turkey grit to fill in the open spaces. I set this pan in a saucer filled with wet sand and pebbles, and I water constantly from the bottom. Over the top I use a bell cover elevated on two plant markers for ventilation. The pan is placed in some filtered sunshine during the morning hours for I have found that if no sun is given there will be rotting of the little plants.

*B. hirtella* has been shifted to a two-inch pot after having been sown last January. It seems to be happy in Tenbyten and shows its love by growing by leaps and bounds. It is such a strong grower that it went from the starting pan directly to the thumb pots.

For my starting mixture this year I have used sifted leaf mold, shredded sphag-

num, and some sponge-rock. The container was an oblong plastic refrigerator box, about four inches long, three inches wide, and four inches deep. I keep the lid on tightly and watch the progress of the plants as they grow.

When they are about half an inch high I open the lid and give them a weak solution of Atlas Fish Emulsion. I do this about every ten days. Just a few drops around the edge of the container, so it will run down the sides, is all that is necessary. The lid is kept closed all the time.

All my seeds are started in the kitchen window, and many of the newly transplanted plants are kept in the kitchen where I can watch them. I am careful not to overwater. When the true leaves appear, they can take harsher treatment, but watering is the most important factor in raising successful plants from seed.

Many Rex are such babies in Tenbyten. In April I planted leaves a new way. I cut the stem about two inches long. Then, using a starting vitamin B, I wrapped the leaf stem in very damp green sphagnum moss, and put this in one of the plastic pint boxes in which berries are shipped. I put the box with the leaf in a plastic bag with no holes in it, sealed the top airtight, and hung it in a window.

New plants will start in about ten days when leaves are planted this way. However, my experience has been that wedges rot, while the entire leaf with stem attached gives many plants.

By green sphagnum moss I mean the moss just as it comes from the bogs and not moss that has been used as root wrappings by the nurserymen. I can obtain mine from our New Jersey bogs.

After the Rex plants are well rotted and the leaves well formed, they are potted in pure leaf mold, not sifted. They grow so fast that they are soon ready for the three-inch pots.

(Continued on Page 16)

# Rexes I Have for House Plants

By VIRGINIA I. WITHEE

Before delving into the performance histories of Rex begonias as they proved themselves for me, first let us explore possible reasons for the failure of some of them.

Some Rexes have tuberous begonia in their ancestry, such as 'Winter Queen' I understand, making them more tender and susceptible to various weaknesses, especially in the colder regions of our country. For instance, they must adjust to varying temperatures and air conditions because our homes are heated with fuels that are not to their liking, such as fumes from oil. (But it must be remembered that these conditions affect all kinds of begonias, as well.) These begonias demand extra special care, requiring more steady warmth and higher humidity.

It might be that some Rexes just prefer greenhouse conditions, while others grow poorly because they are naturally weak; for others the adjustment from their original environment is difficult. In all cases except a few, extra attention brought them through. But in a few cases, some didn't make it no matter how they were doted over. For them—never again. Having Rexes that seem to be hosts for mildew and various other troubles is just not worth all the trouble and fighting. On the whole, however, the troublesome Rexes are a very small percentage.

All the Rexes I mention are by the names as I know them.

I think I am safe in beginning the performance data by saying that the most noble and regal of the Rexes in performance in every way is that robust beauty, 'King Edward'. It seems that no matter where he may hold court, his are the perfect royal robes.

The burnished burgundy beauty of 'Red Berry' is enhanced by its glistening leaves. It adjusted to the climatic change from the deep south to my area with no trouble. It propagates easily.

'Prince Charming', which is somewhat similar to the pattern of 'Cathayana', was

up and down like an umbrella during our prolonged hot humid spells, but as soon as it would cool a bit, its leaves were as upright as could be desired. Because of this fault, we have not propagated this one.

'Berry's Autumn', a muted dark green and brown, has no complaints in any way that I can see. It propagates easily.

'Doty' is a sweetheart, with its beautiful large, pointed, spiral leaf of grass-green, heavily speckled with silver. Yet there are times when the propagation is difficult, possibly because the wedges do not like hot, humid weather.

'Scarlet O'Hara' has no quarrels with weather and her dress is superb in tones of red and green. It propagates easily.

'It' is vigorous and cooperative, but it must have plenty of air and sunshine—air to prevent mildew and sunshine to produce bloom. It has green and white leaves. It propagates easily.

'Robin', an upright type, is a vigorous grower and has to have sunshine to bloom well. It is dark brown-red, speckled silver, and the leaves are maple-shaped. It propagates easily, especially from cuttings.

'Mikado' seems to be very temperamental and requires doting over. Unless it receives lots of fresh air and sunshine, this one acquires mildew. It is beautiful with its rose-purple margin and center on silver. It propagates easily.

'Countess Louise Erdoedy' is generally a superb grower. Sometimes she seems to resent long spells of humid weather, especially if cool, but this might be because her dense growth prevents air from circulating through it to advantage. Too, she has a dense growth of hairs on the leaves and spirals, tinged with deep rose. She propagates easily.

'Merry Christmas' is glorious in its green, red, and silver colors. It is a robust grower in every way and propagates easily.

'Ranee', a colorful sunburst of red, green, rose, and silver, is a massive grow-

*(Continued on Page 16)*

# Begonia Boweri and Its Country

By T. MACDOUGALL

It is nearly ten years since Rudolf Zieshenne described this little begonia and introduced it to cultivation. During this period it appears to have become well liked and widely spread in begonia circles.

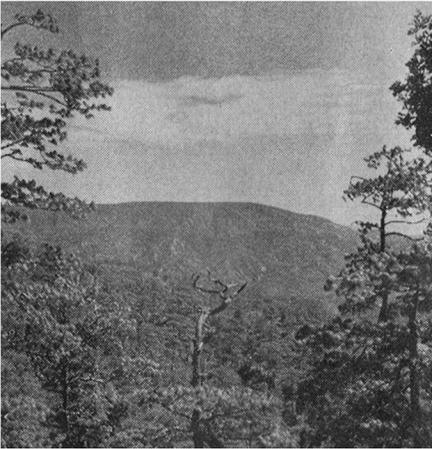
The original discovery was limited to a few scattered plants in a very small area. Since that time, however, my fur-

ther explorations have somewhat extended the known habitat range, so that the species may now be described as "locally common". However, the known habitat area is still very limited, not to say isolated.

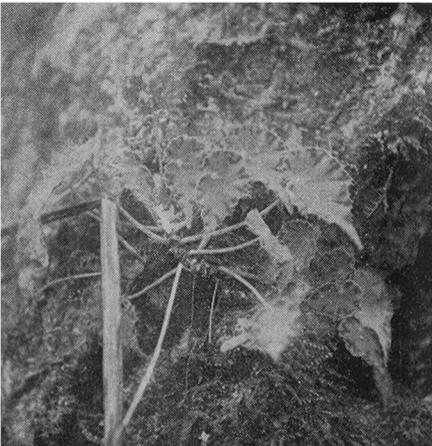
During my early years of explorations in southern Mexico, I spent much time in the New York Public Library, reading books pertaining to the region. One of the most informative of these was *Survey of The Isthmus of Tehuantepec*, by Cayetano Moro, published in London a century ago.

At one point, don Cayetano's investigations had taken him to the pine covered table top of Cerro Atravesado, north of Nilttepec, Oaxaca. He mentioned a ridge that connects the north end of Cerro Atravesado with the southern slopes of the Sierra Madre, and remarked that they wished to climb the high peaks of the sierra, but that gathering clouds and threatening weather caused them to desist.

Later, we were to find that this was the most accessible route to those same high peaks, Cerro Azul. And on this same connecting ridge we discovered *Begonia Boweri*.



Cerro Atravesado, seen from the west.



A typical *B. Boweri* in a rock crevice. The begonia looms large among the many other rock plants.



*Begonia Boweri*, of more typical leaf pattern, sharing a rock pocket with ferns and other dwarf plants.



A dark leaved form of *B. Boweri* growing in a crevice on the perpendicular face of a rock. Eastern exposure, partially shaded by trees.



*Begonia Boweri* on the trunk of a *Brahea* palm. The wilted look is from being brushed against by one of us.

The prevailing north winds of the dry season bank clouds over the high parts of the Sierra Madre. The clouds usually extend over the north end of Cerro At-ravesado, and also blanket the connecting ridge. Thus the habitat of *Begonia Boweri* may be described as cloud forest bordering on dry (pine) woods.

We do not find *Begonia Boweri* on the slopes of the Sierra Madre, and it is some distance, both horizontally and vertically, after leaving the Boweri colony, before we meet our next species—*Begonia hispida-villosa* (Zies).

*Begonia hispida-villosa* accompanies us up the sierra to perhaps 6,000 feet altitude. Above this, we find a scarlet flowered *Pinguicula*, growing on wet rock faces and cliffs. This, too, is a "begonia".

Meanwhile, as we climb, the forest becomes more and more gnome-like, and much of the time we walk along low horizontal branches, heavily padded with mosses, ferns, and bromeliads. We are traveling "blind" but making good progress, and I am thinking, "If our luck continues, we should reach the top in good time". Then suddenly we emerge into the brilliant sunshine to find ourselves overlooking a flower-studded elfin forest. Beyond this there stretches an immense area of virgin rain forest, unin-

habited, unexplored, and practically un-trodden by the foot of modern man.

This area, the eastern top of Oaxaca east of the soque village of Santa Maria Chimalapa and north of the Sierra Madre, is the largest unexplored single unit in Mexico today. With the accelerated growth and development of modern Mexico, it is difficult to see how this wilderness area can remain indefinitely unexploited. When this happens, the loss will be irreparable.

(You will note the use of the name "begonia" applied to a *Pinguicula*. In the soft Spanish pronunciation, the word is even more euphonious and this may partially explain its application to genera other than begonias. Other plants which, in Mexico, may receive the name "begonia" include *Episcias* and *Peperomia maculosa*.)

\* \* \*

## Cover Picture

Grace and beauty of form is shown by this specimen of *Begonia caroliniaefolia*.

Photo by KARI BERGGRAV.

\* \* \*

# Fluorescent Tubes for the Sheltered Garden

By DOROTHY S. BEHREND

For approximately eight years, avid shade gardeners have been using burned-out fluorescent tubes to build shelters. These shelters protect against the heat, cold and winds.

The tubes are vacuum and are therefore insulated.

When they are placed tightly together on a pitch, they shed water well. But they are not water tight.

On hot days they keep the area cooler. On cold nights they help retain the accumulated warmth of the day. They always slow up or divert the wind.

They may also be used as lath, placing them half an inch apart. I used shingle nails to keep them separated, with reinforcing laths laid and fastened across the ends, to keep them in place during a wind storm.

The pitch of the roof should be enough to encourage the rain or dew to run the length of the tube, rather than installed flat to permit moisture drips.

Many gardeners have used their ingenuity in placing these tubes to suit their own particular needs. However, a few suggestions are in order.

Tubes come in four, five, six, and eight foot lengths. It would be wise to accumulate enough tubes prior to building the framework, so that materials come out even. The five-foot lengths are approximately two and one-half inches in diameter, while the average tube is about one and one-half inches.

When they are laid horizontal on the sides (or in an upright position) of a structure, they can be quite tight. When they are placed in an upright position, the top ends of the tubes may be placed in a "trough" of the framework, while the bottom ends may be placed directly in the ground. The metal ends are the only things that will rust away.

In such construction, a lean-to may be effected easily by using the eight-foot lengths and merely sinking the ends deep-

er into the soil at the lower height of the structure. The tubes may be cut by sawing with a hack saw.

Complete glasshouses, for growing plants, have been constructed of these tubes. One simple design, using the eight-foot lengths, is the lean-to type.

In making a house sixteen feet long, a framework is first constructed so that the eight-foot tubes may be placed end to end. A rain gutter, as used on eaves, should be suspended under the lower end of the row of the upper tubes. By installing a downspout on this gutter, the rain run-off will not cause undue drip or water damage. The roof should always have a pitch, to keep from having heavy drip problems. The lower row of tubes on the roof will not need a gutter if the tubes are arranged to extend a few inches beyond the wall of the structure.

When a gable roof is desired, the eight-foot lengths fit very well under an inverted V at the peak of the gable. By using two strips of six-inch sheeting, there will be enough space to reinsert any tubes when necessary. By covering this sheeting with roofing paper, a very neat, well insulated roof is obtained, whether on a glasshouse or patio.

Most of us have growing plants in our patios and use a hose with which to water them and hose off the floor. So what little rain leaks through the roof is of little concern.

However, some growers have wanted a water tight roof and have used corrugated fibreglass panels. This is fine, providing a vent is installed near the peak of the roof, so that the heat may be dispelled during the heat of the day in the hot summer months. This type of roofing is not insulated and tends to become overly warm for tender plants.

When these tubes were first created, a gas was contained in them which has since been outlawed. They now contain a pow-

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# The Greenhouse That Just Grew

By EDNA M. STEWART

For years, I had wanted a greenhouse. I bought hotbed sash and storm windows at every farm sale within driving distance.

The winter of 1954-55 I had more than 400 plants in my house, on window sills, shelves and tables. There were plants of all kinds: amaryllis, azaleas, gardenias, geraniums, fuchsias, begonias, African violets, coleus, and many others. More than 200 pots were upstairs, and the water was down one long flight. Did you ever try to water hundreds of plants on high shelves without spilling?

One bright day in early May, I went out to feed the chickens—and on into the empty half of the chicken house (we were gradually getting rid of the chickens). Sun was pouring through the windows on the east and the south, and it was nice and warm. What a fine place to set some of my plants—just a few on the floor, for a few days!

Suddenly I thought of my accumulated hot-bed sash, and the fact that this lovely building was twelve feet wide. Then I realized that I had a cement floor, and water and electricity already installed and working. Why not replace the roof with hot-bed sash and have a greenhouse? A carpenter said it could be done.

We took out the roosts, removed the roof, and took off the siding half way to the ground. The carpenter put on the hot-bed sash roof, and put windows in the sides. He also made benches from the old sheathing boards and siding. Of course, I had to buy 2" x 6" rafters to support the sash, a few other boards, and nails. But the house was already divided with wire and insulite.

There I was, with my first greenhouse, twelve feet wide and thirty feet long. You can be sure it didn't take me long to fill it.

We had some cold, rainy weather that May. So I swiped the oil stove from the

garage—and burned up \$150 worth of oil the following winter. As that was rather tough on the budget, I bought the boiler the church had for sale. A neighbor located a used stoker, and another friend found some used pipe for us. The man who trained his bird dog on our farm told us how to set up the boiler and piping, and when we bought some supplies from his furnace business, he loaned us a vise, pipe cutters, and threaders.

Meanwhile, the chickens had departed and the other half of the building was dismantled. But no more hot-bed sash for the roof—it leaked. I thought of what I had read about fiberglass, investigated nearby sources, and bought corrugated fiberglass to put in place of the sash.

With the sash we extended the front of our new section of greenhouse with glass to the floor, giving us a second growing area under the bench.

The benches are made waterproof with a tarpaper lining, and the 34-inch-wide center bench has both tarpaper and polyethylene, which last two years. All benches hold about two inches of sand to create humidity, since the floor is cement.

Two overhead lines of 1½" pipe carry water from the boiler to the front of the house; the return lines are under the benches, giving some bottom heat. The thermostat is usually set at 55°, but it is raised to 65° or 70° on extra cold nights. A temperature alarm rings at 45° if anything happens to the electric stoker. Of course, things can go wrong. Once a pin sheared off in the stoker, and my husband had to make a new one. But that's what keeps life from getting monotonous.

Now I have my greenhouse—sixty feet long, twelve feet wide—big enough to hold a lot of plants. It has never been empty.

# Which Rex Begonia?

Which of the many glorious rex begonias have proved most satisfactory for eastern house and greenhouse growers? The early ballots are in, and are here sum-

marized. Mrs. Marion DeCoursey reported for the William Penn Branch; from Tarentum, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Mark Stewart sent a detailed list.

|                                 | Good in<br>House | Good in<br>Greenhouse |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Abel Carriere (rex type) .....  | x                | x                     |
| Axel Lange .....                | (poor)           | x                     |
| Baby Rainbow .....              |                  | x                     |
| Bella .....                     |                  | x                     |
| Captain Nemo .....              |                  | (mildew)              |
| The Clossen group .....         |                  | (impossible)          |
| Curly Fireflsh .....            |                  | x (dormant, winter)   |
| Curly Silver Sweet .....        |                  | x                     |
| Dew Drop .....                  | x                | x                     |
| Ember .....                     |                  | (mildew)              |
| Fireflsh .....                  | (poor)           | x                     |
| Glory of St. Albans .....       |                  | x                     |
| Grandis .....                   |                  | x                     |
| Green Berry .....               | (poor)           |                       |
| Helen Lewis .....               |                  | x (dormant, winter)   |
| Helen Teupel .....              | x                | x                     |
| Iron Cross (rex-like) .....     | x - in terrarium | x                     |
| It .....                        | (med. difficult) |                       |
| Joel Gillingwaters .....        | x (so far)       |                       |
| King Edward .....               | x                | x                     |
| Lavender Glory .....            |                  | x                     |
| Lavender Ruffles .....          | x                | x                     |
| Madame Grosse .....             |                  | x                     |
| Magnifica .....                 |                  | x                     |
| Maiden's Blush .....            |                  | x                     |
| Merry Christmas (Ruhrtal) ..... | x                | x                     |
| Mulberry .....                  |                  | x                     |
| Oregon Sunset .....             |                  | x                     |
| Pacific Sunset .....            |                  | x                     |
| President .....                 |                  | x                     |
| Princess of Hanover .....       |                  | x                     |
| Queen of Hanover .....          |                  | x                     |
| Rajah .....                     |                  | x                     |
| Silver King .....               |                  | x                     |
| Silver Queen .....              |                  | x                     |
| Silver Sweet .....              | x                | x                     |
| Thrush .....                    |                  | x                     |
| White Jade .....                |                  | x                     |

Also from the William Penn Branch: "When this Branch was organized six years ago, one of the first things our charter members were told was that it was difficult, almost impossible, to raise rex begonias in the house around Philadelphia. California had superb rex begonias; in New England, fine rexes could be raised; but somewhere through the center of Connecticut ran an east-west line, south of which good rex begonias could not be counted on. With all the begonias which we had admired and the still larger number we didn't know by sight or name, we ignored the rex; and to this day, we raise very few. If this pooling of experience tells us which rex are reasonably tough and which of the newer hybrids are less demanding, many more members will be encouraged to try growing one of the most handsome house plants."

## INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW IN NEW YORK

"Flowers of the World" will be the theme of the forty-third International Flower Show scheduled for March 5 to 12, 1960, in the New York Coliseum.

Co-sponsored by the Horticultural Society of New York, Inc. and the New York Florists' Club, Inc., the show will feature all branches of horticulture and floriculture.

Branches and individual members may obtain Schedule of Entry Blanks and promotional materials without charge upon request to the International Flower Show, Inc., Essex House, 157 West 58th Street, Suite 212, New York 19, New York.

## Begonias in Germany

(Continued from Page 3)

I visited several public gardens where many different plants and flowers were beautifully displayed. In Zurich, several acres were devoted to a summer-long flower and garden show, located on two sides of a lake, with an aerial tram connecting the two areas. It was a garden in Paradise.

"Planten und Blumen" in Hamburg was a flower lover's dream, with flowers grown in a lovely setting of winding paths, lawns, trees, and water features.

The "Palmengarten" in Frankfurt was a gem, not so large but very choice, with plants cared for to perfection. In the large palmhouse, Rex begonias were used as a ground cover. These were in pots sunk into the soil. About six or eight kinds were used. Visualize the beauty under the palm growth of a dozen or more identical Rexes, each with ten to twenty fine, brightly colored leaves. Then a turn in the path opened a view of another group with a different leaf pattern and color.

The main conservatory was composed of eight separate glasshouses, all opening from the central entrance house, and each

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of these smaller houses contained a different class of plants. There were a fern room, an orchid room, a cactus room, a water-plant room, a begonia room, as well as rooms for many others. All rooms were filled with beautifully grown plants, with a wide variety in each class.

In the begonia room there was a fine collection of plants, most of them labeled for identification. Among them were: *B. raja*, *B. crispula*, *B. acida*, *B. longi-barbata*, *B. goegoensis*, *B. hispida*, *B. incana*, *B. Mexicana*, *B. hydropetala*, *B. imperialis*, *B. venosa*, *B. manicata aureo-maculata*, *B. credneri*, and *B. rhizocaulis*.

Having seen all this, is it any wonder that I returned home inspired to grow better begonias?

# Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

## No. 1—*B. Rex hybrids*—

Crosses from American and German rex begonias. Some of the most beautiful spirals and others have been used to produce the best plants and you are sure to be happy with plants from these seeds. Seeds were furnished by a friend in Garden Grove, California, who has a greenhouse full of gorgeous rex begonias. 50 cents per pkt.

## No. 2—*B. Fl. hybrid 'Jewelite'*—

A new strain of bronze leafed double semperflorens. A hybrid that will produce 75 per cent doubles, semi-doubles, and crested types, and all have the characteristic dark foliage and hybrid vigor. Excellent for pots or borders in the shade garden. Flowers are pink. Seeds germinate readily but require uniform moisture and warmth. 50 cents per pkt.

## No. 3—*B. picta*—

India. Described as having plain green leaves. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 4—*B. longifolia*—

Herbaceous. From India. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 5—*B. deliciosa* syn. *B. Bhotan species*—

Medium, bushy, smooth; branches frequently angle off from thick red joints and if near the soil, will send out roots. Leaves deeply palmately lobed, dark olive-green, heavily gray-spotted, red beneath. Flowers large, fragrant, soft pink, usually in two-flowered inflorescences. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 6—*B. incana*—

Stems thick, erect, scurfy, few-branched. Leaves fleshy, peltate, white scurfy, and suggestive of felt. Inflorescences arching, flowers numerous, white, drooping, and of good size. Plant responds well to organic soil and fertilizer. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 7—*B. dezii*—

Spelling is probably incorrect as there is no reference to a begonia by this name in any references available to the seed fund. 25 cents per pkt.

India begonia seeds require more time to germinate than other varieties and plants have been known to appear six months after seeds have been sown.

## No. 8—*B. sutherlandii*—

South Africa. Tuberos. 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 and suitable for hanging baskets. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 9—*B. 'Pink Parade'*—

Beautiful dichroa hybrid by Mrs. W. D. Nisbet (Conn.) Flowers are salmon pink. Prime leaves are heavily silver spotted. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 10—*B. Coral rubra*—

Tall cane type with silver spotted leaves and large clusters of coral-red flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 11—*B. Tuberosa floribunda*

Choice tuberous type produced from crossing giant double tuberous and multifloras. Mixed. 25 cents per pkt.

## No. 12—*B. Lloydii pendula*—

Fl. pl. For pots and hanging baskets. Showy doubles in a wide range of colors. 25 cents per pkt.

## FREE SEED

From Brazil, seeds identified by collector as *B. 'Ricky Minter'*. We know that this is a hybrid; therefore it would seem unlikely that it would be found growing in the forests of Brazil. We are under the impression that it is *B. manicata crispata*, as this variety is widely grown there. The above-mentioned seeds were forwarded to the seed fund by the Post Office Department, having been recovered from a plane wreck en route from Brazil. The letter was badly damaged but we can not determine damage to seed. Naturally we can not offer them for sale. No charge for anyone who wishes to try them.

Many, many fresh gloxinia seeds.

Please send postage if other seeds are not requested.

## FERN SPORES

### **Athyrium goeringlanum pictum**—

Japan. Small tufted fern with pretty, variegated fronds, which are spear-shaped and pinnate, the segments toothed, stalks wine-red, and a band of gray down through the frond. Considered rare. 35 cents per pkt.

### **Polypodium meyenianum**—

Bear's Paw Fern. Distinctive epiphyte with thick, paw-like rhizome covered with brown hair. The long, pinnate, glossy fronds have broad barren segments on the lower part, while the upper third bears narrow, fertile pinnae with prominent sori on their pearly margins. 25 cents per pkt.

### **Cyrtomium falcatum**—

Holly Fern. Handsome pinnate fronds on brown, scaly stalks. The leathery, shining, dark green leaflets are ovate, slender-pointed, and very durable under adverse conditions. 25 cents per pkt.

## HETEROSIS SEMPERFLORENS BEGONIAS

Now is the ideal time to plant seeds of these hardy and colorful begonias. No other begonias will give so much color with the least effort, as will the varieties we list below. Here in warm, dry California we have had them growing in our garden for many months and they are still beautiful and bloom in great profusion.

### **B. Tausendschon red**—

Dwarf. Clear red color and compact growth. One of the best for outdoor bedding. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. Tausendschon pink**—

Bright pink with a profusion of blooms over a long period of time. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. 'Lucifer'**—

Brilliant scarlet flowers with deep bronze foliage. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. 'Organdy' mixture**—

Shades of red, pink, and white. This outstanding begonia blend has been granted honorable mention and was given special award by the American Begonia Society. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. 'Sleeping Beauty'**—

Dwarf with many pink flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. 'Matador'**—

Formerly known as B. H803- Benary. Green leaved, red flowered. Received highest award at this year's International Horticultural Exhibition at Dortmund, Germany. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. 'Andy'**—

Fl. hybrid. Extra dwarf, uniform, six inches. Luminous pink. 25 cents per pkt.

### **B. 'Pandy'**—

Fl. hybrid. Companion to above. Luminous red. 25 cents per pkt.

## GREENHOUSE PLANTS

### **Aechmea tillandsiodes**—

Bromeliaceae. Colombia. "Red, white, and blue plant." Red bracts. White fruit which turns brilliant blue. Plain glossy green leaves. 25 cents per pkt.

The following Vriesia seeds have been imported from another country and some are not known here. Therefore, we can find no description in reference books we have on the subject.

### **V. erythroductylon**—

Found growing in the rain forest of Brazil. Flattened spikes green in center, curving out to spreading, cockscomb-like. Rose-pink tips. 25 cents per pkt.

### **V. fenestralis**—

Brazil. Compact rosette of broad recurved leaves arranged spirally; yellow-green leaves ornamented by numerous dark green lines and a network of cross lines, purplish circles underside. Sulphur flowers scattered on pale spikes. 25 cents per pkt.

### **V. blokii**—

No description. 25 cents per pkt.

### **V. Rubida**—

A hybrid. No description. 25 cents per pkt.

### **V. neoglutinosa**—

No description. 25 cents per pkt.

### **V. perfecta**—

No description. 25 cents per pkt.

### **Rechsteineria leucotricha**—

Gesneriaceae. Brazilian Edelweiss. The stout, densely matted, white (later brown) hairy stems carry one or two whorls of three or four large ovate leaves; densely covered with shimmering, long, silvery-white hair, with margins entire or obscurely crenate. Slender, tubular, inflated flowers soft coral-pink, orange-red

inside the lobes, and sometimes marked with crimson. 35 cents per pkt.

**Peperoma maculosa**—

Santo Domingo. Ornamental, fleshy species with long, pendant, narrow-lanceolate leaves to seven inches; waxy bluish gray-green, with silvery-green to ivory ribs. Petioles prettily spotted red-purple. Spikes to one foot long. 35 cents per pkt.

**Coleus**—

Mixed. All popular colors and color combinations, mostly fringed leaved. Choice plant for shade garden or pot culture. Requires plenty of light but not hot sun. 25 cents per pkt.

**Aristolochia sturdivanti**—

Rooster Vine. Flowers more than one foot across, splashed with velvety crimson, with a tail three feet or more in length. Requires a warm greenhouse and ample room. 25 cents per pkt.

**OTHER GENERA**

**Zamia—Cycadaceae floridana**—

'Coontie'. A dwarf plant with underground tuber-like trunk, sending up many slender, pinnate, leathery, dark green leaves to two feet long and somewhat twisted; segments with margins revolute and without mid-rib. Beautiful large seeds. Seeds should be cleaned and covered with a mix of one part sand, one part peat, and one part sponge-rock. Remove outside covering. Four seeds for 25 cents.

**Chamaedora sieffritzii**—

Graminifolia. New. Mexican decorative palm of tomorrow. Loveliest of the Chamaedoras. Grows in sun or shade, and is reported to withstand minimum

temperatures in the twenties. Fairly rapid grower and nice for indoor planting. Five seeds for 25 cents.

**Clitoria ternatea**—

Vine with dark blue double flowers about two inches long, sometimes streaked with lighter blue. Soak seeds in warm water before planting. 25 cents per pkt.

**Jacaranda mimosaeifolia**—

A foliage plant of value for its graceful fern-like leaves. Useful in all stages of growth and easy to grow from seed. Violet-blue flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

We will appreciate hearing from anyone who has seeds of begonia, shade, or greenhouse plants. The seed fund is in need of all types of seeds.

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## FOG—A MENACE TO GREENHOUSE PLANTS

By W. WILLETTS, F.R.H.S.

In industrial areas especially, fog can play a predominant part in the destruction of many valuable greenhouse plants. Where dense fog persists for any length of time, one of the first essentials the grower must keep in mind is that the amount of light available to the plants will be greatly diminished, and steps must be taken to help the plants through a critical period.

The chief aim is to reduce to a minimum the moisture content at the plant roots and in the atmosphere, keeping in mind the fact that, during the absence of adequate light, plant life naturally slows down to a mere existence. Only plants which show signs of distress (flagging) should receive water.

All ventilators should be closed at the first sign of fog, cracks under the door and broken panes should be stuffed with paper, and the house entered only when it is absolutely essential.

Some plants are more susceptible to the effect of fog fumes than others, the notable sufferers being Begonia 'Lorraine' (very susceptible), the Pteris family (Ribbon Fern), Salvias, and the chrysanthemum. All plants bearing white blooms should be suspect, as smuts will quickly mar the beauty of the blooms.

Where fog does penetrate to the greenhouse—and it would require a hermetically sealed house to keep all the fumes out—the temperature should be stepped up by at least five degrees. The little extra heat will help to drive the fumes back. An additional measure which can be taken is to place on the greenhouse path a saucerful of liquid ammonia. In houses of large extent, one saucerful to every 1,000 cubic feet of space will be required. If fog does get into the house, the ammonia will attract and absorb the fumes, and the danger will become practically negative. Re-fill each saucer each day the fog persists, to replace the am-

monia lost through evaporation. Users will find that this is quite considerable.

Immediately the fog has dispersed, open the ventilators to give the plants a much needed tonic of fresh air. Continue the normal practice of watering, and hose down the interior of the house to remove the sooty deposits left by the fog. When carrying out the latter operation, disconnect all spouts leading to internal water tanks to prevent them from being contaminated.

## PHILODENDROIDES HYBRIDS

By ED SHERER

Some time ago, I visited a plant collector who had brought a lot of philodendrons out of Mexico. I spotted a plant in his greenhouse and asked him what it was. He said he thought it was a begonia, and it had come along in some soil around some philodendrons, but he did not know from just what part of the country.

I talked him out of a start and took it to Rudy Ziesenhenné. We split it. He grew his part on and sent the plant to the Missouri Botanic Gardens for identification. They informed him that it was an unknown, unnamed species. Because of its philodendron-like foliage, we named it *Begonia philodendroides*, and Rudy wrote it up for THE BEGONIAN.

This was an odd plant, being dormant about six months out of the year. But the heavy, shiny foliage attracted me. So after many attempts, I had it set a seed pod—using pollen from another Mexican species, *B. mazae*. I grew many seedlings, but most had the long dormancy, so I discarded them and kept the six that grew along. They grew very well, both outdoors and indoors.

One day I put some rooted cuttings under my artificial lights to hurry them along; and they did so well, and made such beautiful plants, that I tried them all under the lights. Three of them do exceptionally well. I have given only a few to friends here, and want to send some East to be tried when the weather warms up in the spring.

## Rexes I Have

(Continued from Page 5)

er, robust and gorgeous, which is easily propagated.

'Curly Stardust' can have so many shades of purple, dusky rose, and green, it creates a tapestry pattern. A strong grower, it, too, propagates easily.

'Fire Flush' is prone to be temperamental. It requires some sun and lots of bright light to keep it from becoming leggy, and needs rich nourishment and always plenty of water. From infancy this Rex should have soil constantly damp. It is an exceptionally heavy feeder and is easily propagated.

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## Fluorescent Tubes

(Continued from Page 8)

der and are no more dangerous to have around than any other glass. Broken glass of any kind is to be avoided. These tubes are not easily broken because they are strong, due to their shape.

Factories, markets, and large buildings use many of these tubes and usually throw them away. They may also be purchased in good amounts from fluorescent tube dealers. Make inquiries and build a sheltered garden.

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From the SAN DIEGUITO CITIZEN,  
by permission.

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## Babysitting

(Continued from Page 4)

July is the time of year for cuttings. The begonias are outdoors under the trees, loving the air and rain and sunshine through the leaves, and I am getting ready for the winter in Tenbyten. Cuttings are being taken, and they are just put in a pot which may be handy and which I put in just ordinary compost. I know this is contrary to all good advice, but for me—well, they seem to like it and grow. I put the pots in flats filled with peat moss and keep them elevated on three-inch pots to keep out the slugs

(if possible), and then put the flats under the trees. The old plants, unless they are specimens, are disposed of, for I have found that the young plants are much more satisfactory and give much more bloom. Sometimes it is heart-breaking to give up the old plants, but youth is always with us.

Grooming plants is usually a chore, but young plants require less work to keep them in a beautiful condition. Being young, the leaves do not want to drop, nor do they discolor as much as old leaves. And the plants can be shaped as wanted with nice shapely stems, usually with a beautiful color, and not brown and dried-looking as on the old plants. This advantage is especially true of the canes and Rexes. I do not keep a Rex longer than two years unless I am willing to groom it and nurse it to become a huge plant for exhibition. Then I have found that a young plant, nursed and well fed, will give more beautiful foliage. Sometimes when I want an exceptionally fine Rex, I will plant two babies in the same pot, and by watching the way the leaves grow from the stems, a well rounded plant can be grown.

Often I wonder what Tenbyten, with its lovely A.B.S. sign over the door, would say if it could speak. I always hear pleasure when I go in the door and see all the beauty of the begonias and watch the babies grow. I experience a special thrill to see the new varieties coming along in the little pots.

Tenbyten is such a wonderful baby sitter.



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## BEGONIAS BLOOM IN CANADA

By OSCAR S. GREEN

On the western prairies of Alberta, where I live, the temperature varies from 100° above zero in summer, to 40° below zero in winter, and growing begonias under these conditions requires considerable care.

Semperflorens begonia varieties which are bedded out successfully elsewhere can not be used for that purpose, but must be grown as pot plants. I grow the tuberous kinds in pots, and put them outside in the summer in a lath-house where they receive full sun until ten o'clock in the morning. The pots are lifted in the fall at the end of September and brought inside to ripen off for the next year's growth.

I have grown nearly two hundred varieties of begonias, both species and hybrids, and at present have about seventy-five kinds. I purchase most of my seeds from the Society's Seed Fund.

The most popular winter-flowering begonia here is 'Lady Mac'. 'Sunderbruchii' would be popular, except that it attains too great a size for a house plant. Most of the older rex varieties do well as house plants. One of my favorites is B. 'Iron Cross', and I predict that once it becomes better known, it will be highly popular. All the *B. Boweri* hybrids do well as house plants for a short period of about two months, then they start to get long and leggy from lack of enough direct sun.

When you consider the length of life, the variety of flower and leaf forms, and the various sizes of begonias, there is a surprising lack of knowledge here about these useful and decorative plants. Very few plants can make as brilliant a display as a lath-house full of tuberous begonias in summer.

## MEET THE AUTHORS

THE BEGONIAN strives constantly to interest readers from every locale and to present articles that reflect a variety of experiences, ideas, and conditions.

In accordance with this policy, contributors to this issue represent growers from a wide area.

Esther J. Ewoldsen, Dorothy S. Behrends, and Ed Sherer are writers in Calif.

Elsa Fort in New Jersey, Virginia I. Withee in Rhode Island, Edna M. Stewart in Pennsylvania, and T. MacDougall in New York represent the eastern part of the country.

More distant points of view are offered by Oscar S. Green of Alberta, Canada, and W. Willetts of England.

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## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

### Bits and Pieces

Two beautiful begonias with odd names . . . Hazel's Front Porch . . . in Ventura . . . Ora Wilson's Back Yard . . . in San Diego . . . both colorful rubras . . . The best fertilizer for *any* plant . . . T.L.C. (tender loving care) . . . Now a combined School of Judging . . . begonia and fuchsia fans learning together under A.B.S. VP Edna Korts . . . The Exotica arrived . . . waited a year for it . . . it's wonderful . . . get one . . . write Lucy Sault . . . our Librarian . . . excellent introduction by our own Bernice Brilmayer . . . Just heard two things that are bad on the heart . . . running upstairs . . . running people down.

Articles by Dorothy Behrends are wonderful . . . slanted to the beginner . . . and who isn't? . . . and now a new Begonia book . . . for the beginner . . . look for it later this year . . . peeked at the MS . . . fills a big need . . . it's TOPS . . . Doubleday will publish . . . author, A.B.S. Eastern Editor, Bernice Brilmayer . . . A breath-taking visit . . . to the Maddox Garden . . . in Riverside, California . . . all show plants . . . and to the Alexander's in Redondo Beach . . . a garden that is part of the home . . . exquisite . . . lively . . . see it . . . Heard Mr. Terrell report A.B.S. Board doings to his Branch . . . masterful job . . . He's off to Mexico again . . . He traveled over 800 miles . . . to attend last National Board meeting!

Are you growing begonias under fluorescent lights . . . fun to experiment . . . not new . . . Saw tuberous begonias . . . orchids . . . vandas . . . cymbidiums . . . cattleyas . . . calceolarias . . . schizanthus . . . *in May* . . . all in full bloom . . . at Chelsea Flower Show . . . grown under lights . . . See where N.Y. TIMES tells about begonias . . . last October . . . and names our Membership Chairman . . . good response . . . Looking at two Ricky Minters . . . one crisped and frilled leaf margin . . . the other very plain . . . no frills . . . Haven't got too many . . . but just heard . . . best place to put your troubles . . . is in your pocket . . . the one with the hole in it . . .

Begonia leaves alternate . . . most vines

twist . . . counter-clock-wise . . . reverse them . . . they will insist on going the other way . . . why? . . . A polypodium knightii . . . growing in tiny wire basket . . . fronds hanging six feet . . . a prize-winning beauty . . . grown by Art Strandberg . . . of Inglewood, California . . . Sylvia Leatherman . . . with loss of words . . . to express herself . . . great reception . . . given her by our Eastern Branches . . . and members . . . and her glowing reports of them . . . and their begonias . . . Don't forget . . . give 'em T.L.C. . . . they'll respond . . . everything else does . . . HAPPY NEW YEAR!

CLARENCE HALL  
*President*

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALL SHADE PLANT JUDGING CLASS

The California National Fuchsia Society and the American Begonia Society will co-sponsor an All Shade Plant Judging Class to be known by the above title.

A Committee with members from both organizations has been appointed and plans are being considered for a centrally located meeting place.

Lectures will be given on judging fuchsias, begonias, ferns and many other shade plants.

Anyone may attend these lectures and receive a mimeographed copy of the lecture upon payment of the set fee. Anyone wishing to become an accredited *Shade Plant Judge* must attend all lectures and pass a test on these lectures. Those wishing to specialize in certain types of plants will receive limited cards stating their qualifications after passing a test on their chosen types of plants.

We are desirous of having a list of those wishing to attend, so please send your registration, including name and address, to one of the following chairmen. You will be notified of *time* and *place* of lectures.

Send your registration immediately as the first lecture will be in January.

### CHAIRMEN:

Mr. A. R. Joyce—California National Fuchsia Society.

Mrs. Edna L. Korts—American Begonia Society.

# Leaves From Our Begonia Branches

ELSA FORT

Several members of our Branch attended a meeting of the Area Branches in the rooms of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society to meet Mrs. Sylvia Leatherman, Research Director for the American Begonia Society.

Mrs. Leatherman told about some of the difficulties encountered by begonia growers in California. We found that each section of the country has its own problems.

As she told of her trip to Brazil, she showed slides, including one of *B. luxurians* growing six feet tall by the roadside, an interesting sight, for the name *luxurians* is synonymous with the word trouble for most of us.

Mrs. Allen showed good slides picturing begonia flower parts. Mrs. Marian Buck was hostess when Miss Lola Price gave a report of this meeting. Mrs. Marion Thompson conducted a written quiz on begonia terminology.

Happy New Year!

## EL MONTE COMMUNITY

Officers elected for 1960 are as follows: Mrs. Daisy L. Morrow, president; Jimmie McElroy, vice-president; Miss Lenore Schroeder, secretary; Mrs. Etta Jess Berk, treasurer; and Mrs. Gladys Mattucket, national representative.

## GLENDALE

New officers for the coming year were elected as follows: Mrs. Roy Joyce, president; Mrs. Thomas Cooper, vice-president; Mrs. Ray Anderson, recording secretary; Mrs. Lue Walters, corresponding secretary; Frank Sobas, treasurer; Alan Radcliffe, national director; Mrs. Frances Cooley, membership representative.

## INGLEWOOD

At the November meeting, Frank Rich, well known commercial artist and photographer, showed slides taken on his trip last summer into the Mexican jungle. The pictures were unusual—not only because of their great beauty, but because

such trips are seldom taken during the summer as the winter months are much more comfortable for the traveler. Orchids, bromeliads, begonias, philodendrons, and many unknown plants were shown.

We were interested in listening to the many adventures encountered by Mr. Rich on this trip. From the comments in the audience, it was easy to tell who were adventurous in spirit and were stay-at-homes.

Pictures taken on his most recent trip in October will be shown at a later date.

## LOUISIANA CAPITAL

Officers for 1960 are: Mrs. E. Watts, president; Mrs. J. B. McCullough, vice-president; and Mrs. Leslie C. White, secretary-treasurer.

## ORANGE COUNTY

Meetings of this Branch will continue to be something of a family affair following the recent election of officers, who assumed their duties in December.

Mel Westerdahl is president, with Mrs. Westerdahl the secretary, succeeding Mr. and Mrs. Don Horton, who held these offices last year. Other new officers include Mrs. Horace Woods, vice-president; Mrs. Mabel Ragel, treasurer; and Don Horton, national representative.

## PHILOBEGONIA

The November meeting was held at the home of Mrs. William Bailey, outgoing president.

A letter was read from the Entomological Department of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., stating that nematodes of the genus *Meloidogyne* and *Helicotylanchus* were found in soil and plant specimens submitted to them from plants brought to our October meeting. They suggest the use of VC-13 as a possible killer of these nematodes, but advise burning the infected plants and disposing of the earth in the garbage. Earth from the pots should not be thrown in the garden where nematodes may live, as they have a very persistent hold on life. All pots

should be sterilized.

## SAN FRANCISCO

Mrs. Alice Black, president of the African Violet Society, and a panel of two other members gave us a wonderful talk on African violet culture at our regular November meeting. These three ladies each explained her own pet method of taking care of these loveley plants and answered numerous questions.

Timely tips on begonias were given by members of our Branch. Hyacinth Smith discussed tuberous begonias, Ann Meyer talked about rex begonias, and Jean Thomas spoke on fibrous begonias.

Officers for 1960 were elected at this meeting and installed at our installation banquet Wednesday evening, November 18. Officiating for the ensuing year are: Orris Ray Martin, president; Isadore Charles Gold, president-elect; Elaine Jordan, secretary; and Allen Sweet, treasurer.

## SEATTLE

Branch officers elected for 1960 are: Mrs. Jack Williams, president; John McCone, president-elect; Mrs. Carl Starks, secretary-treasurer; Cyrus Johnson, national representative; Herbert Warrick, past-president-director; and Mrs. Edythe Gadzuk, director.

## SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY

A bountiful table was set at the potluck dinner at our November meeting, with many members and guests present.

"Taproots to the Living Waters" was the title of an interesting film shown by

### **BEAUCARNEA RECURVATA**

Elephants Foot Palm

An unusual palm for container growing. Noted for the large bulbous stem base and long graceful curving leaves.

We have a small supply of good plants with a bulb diameter of 3 to 4 inches. Ready to display as specimens.

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Postpaid anywhere in U.S.A.

**GOLDEN BIRD TROPICALS**

Route 1, Richfield Road, Yorba Linda, Calif.

Arthur C. Ames, who also answered many questions.

A plant table was conducted by Peter Borree.

During 1960 our officers will be: H. J. Bolyard, president; William Simon, vice-president; Mrs. J. F. Slutter, treasurer; Mrs. Ava Hocker, recording secretary; Mrs. Chester Bartlow, corresponding secretary; and E. L. Kappler, national director.

## WEST VALLEY

The December meeting marked the second anniversary of the West Valley Branch. Members and their families celebrated by having a Christmas dinner of turkey and all the trimmings. Gifts were exchanged by drawing numbers.

Clarence Hall, national president, installed these newly elected officers: Ralph Susmark, president; Mrs. Fay Storm, vice-president; Joe Tanatka, secretary; Mrs. Rose Marie Susmark, national representative, first half of year; and Mrs. Manuel Correia, national representative, second half of year.

## WILLIAM PENN

Recently elected officers are as follows: Mrs. Ernest C. Drew, president; Mrs. Robert H. Bolling, vice-president; Mrs. H. Rowland Timms, secretary-treasurer.

## CALENDAR

Jan. 7—Westchester Branch. Sylvia Leatherman, Research Director of A.B.S., will speak and show slides of begonias and ferns seen on her recent tour of the eastern United States.

Jan. 12—West Valley Branch. Sylvia Leatherman will be guest speaker. Her topic will be "Begonia Fun" or "New Begonia Aspects". She will also supply the plant table from her nursery. Visitors are always welcome.

Jan. 14—Inglewood Branch. "Landscape Design for the Shade Garden" will be the subject of a talk by Phillip E. Chandler, instructor of landscape design.

## Minutes, National Board November 23, 1959

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

Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Mrs. Lucille Thompson.

Aims and purposes of the society were read by Vice-President Korts.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with a correction that the balance on accounts receivable (advertising) should have been shown as \$93.00, the wrong figure having been copied in October minutes. President Hall stated that the convention books had been audited, were found to be in order, and the surplus money turned over to the Treasurer.

Treasurer Leoti Fisher gave her report for the month, Report filed for audit.

Membership Secretary Schlanert read a letter from the Southern Fanciers Cactus Ass'n., offering copies of their publication for distribution to any of our members that are interested. Secretary Schlanert gave his report for the month showing 38 new and 117 renewing memberships with a total income of \$391.50 and expenses of \$35.52.

Seed Fund Chairman Mrs. Gee not being present, her report was read by the Secretary, showing \$105.55 remitted to the Treasurer.

Past President Slatter not being present his report was given by Vice-President Korts: that all books and reports on the convention had been completed; that Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenné had requested the National Board to send as many back numbers of THE BEGONIAN as possible to the California Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park; that he, (Mr. Ziesenhenné) had supplied them with back numbers 1950 through 1959. Mrs. Korts read a list of the numbers needed to complete their file. Motion made by Mrs. Korts, seconded by Mrs. Graham, that as many of the magazines as available be sent to them. Motion carried.

Vice President Korts reported that she had visited the San Gabriel Valley Branch this month and enjoyed a very nice meeting, and that she had delivered the original copy of the Buxton Check List to the Arboretum as per motion made last month. She also reported that she had ordered a new supply of Begonia pins, five of which will have a chip diamond and be priced at \$7.00 each.

Business Manager Thieben gave his report for the month showing November advertising of \$75.50; received and paid to the Treasurer \$62.30.

Public Relations Director Mrs. Arbuckle stated that she had not yet received all of the necessary information from the proposed Knickerbocker Branch and could not complete the necessary papers; that she had received a mem-

bership roster from the Westchester Branch and will order their Charter prepared. Mrs. Arbuckle also stated that she now had 19 names of gardens to list with the Living Gardens Magazine. Motion made by Mr. Schlanert, seconded by Miss Fisher, that the list of 19 be submitted and if additional names are received later they can be added. Motion carried.

Research Director Mrs. Leatherman gave a report on her recent eastern visit. She visited the Elsa Fort and Philobegonia Branches in New Jersey, the Margaret Gruenbaum and William Penn Branches in Pennsylvania, and found all of them very interested in their A. B. S. work. These four branches are planning a joint show in September of 1960, location to be announced later. Mrs. Leatherman suggested that if any A. B. S. members plan a trip east next year she thought it would be well worth their while to try and arrange to visit this show.

National Librarian Mrs. Sault gave her report for the month and stated that the new issue of *Exotica* will soon be available.

Branches reporting: El Monte, Glendale, Inglewood, Long Beach Parent, Pasadena, Redondo Beach, San Gabriel Valley, Ventura, Westchester, and Whittier.

As Chairman of the Judging Class, Mrs. Korts reported that she had attended a meeting of the California National Fuchsia Society and explained to them the suggested arrangement for a joint judging class; that they approved of the idea and appointed a committee to work with the A. B. S. to form such a class. President Hall requested Mrs. Korts to select a committee of A. B. S. members to work with her.

At the request of President Hall, Mrs. Korts recommended that the Herbarium Specimens sent to the A. B. S. by Vice-President Alvord be donated to the U.C.L.A. Begonia Library.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
IRMA JANE BROWN  
Secretary

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Verdes*

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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. Jane Scalzo, Secy.  
1126 Keeler Ave., Berkeley 8, Calif.

## EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes  
Miss Lenore Schroeder, Secy.  
1828 So. 7th St., Alhambra, 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 Belsor Cor. Secy.  
Welsh and Verree Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

## 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. W. I. Como, Secy.  
Box 220 E. RR No. 1, Dickinson, Texas

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 8:00 p.m.  
Los Amigos Club, Lolefa, 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, Secy.  
1025 Temple Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

## LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Homes of Members  
Mrs. Leslie C. White, Secy.  
3013 Addison 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  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Mrs. Hattie Taylor, Secy.  
P.O. Box 25, Raytown, Mo.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.  
Garden Grove, Calif.  
Mrs. Mel Westerdahl, Secy.  
16422 Heim Ave., Orange, 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. Edwin Stiles, Secy.  
6737 Harvey Ave., Merchantville, N.J.

## REDONDO BEACH AREA BRANCH

4th Friday each Month  
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.  
S. E. Sault, Secy.  
26938 Dapplegray Lane, Rolling Hills, Calif.

## RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members  
Miss Ruth Harrington, Secy.  
372 Lloyd Ave., Providence, 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, ALBERTO, BRANCH**  
 3rd Friday, 1955, Army Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Janet Van Cullen, Secy.  
 4116 Merritt Blvd., La Mesa, Calif.

**SACRAMENTO BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center  
 1330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.  
 Mrs. Ollie M. Peir, Secy.  
 2776 19th St., Sacramento 18, Calif

**SAN DIEGO BRANCH**  
 4th Monday, Hajd of Hearing Hall  
 Herbert and University  
 Mrs. Phyllis Kinsky, Secy.  
 4843 36th St., San Diego 16, Calif.

**SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**  
 1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Parent Lodge, 866 Laguna Honda Blvd.  
 Mrs. Forrest Lee Jordan, Secy.  
 78 Ravenwood Dr., San Francisco, Calif.

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**  
 2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.,  
 Los Angeles State & County Arboretum  
 801 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.  
 Mrs. Alice Adams, Secy.  
 911 No. 2nd Ave., Arcadia, Calif.

**SAN MIGUEL BRANCH**  
 1st Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif.  
 Mrs. Ruth Brook, Secy.  
 7181 Central Ave., Lemon Grove, Calif.

**SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**  
 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.,  
 Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.  
 Mary Wegener, Secy.  
 1611 Olive St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

**SEATTLE BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.  
 Meeting locations will vary; call the secretary at  
 SUNset 3-7192.  
 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 Lemmon, Secy.  
 P.O. Box 678, Moorpark, Calif.

**SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH**  
 3rd Thursday of each Month  
 Mrs. Robert Nease, Secy.  
 410 South Phillips, Salina, Kansas

**SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH**  
 3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Crowbridge School Multi-Purpose Rm.  
 8140 Bedford Dr., Hayward, Calif.  
 Mrs. Chester Bartlow, Cor. Secy.  
 883 Arden St., Newark, Calif.

**TALL CORN STATE BRANCH**  
 Mrs. Elna Monson, Secy.  
 South Taylor, Mason City, Iowa

**TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH**  
 2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m.  
 Scott Hall, Ft. Worth, Texas  
 Mrs. James O. Burdick, Sr., Secy.  
 3211 Azle Ave., Fort Worth 6, Texas

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

**WESTCHESTER BRANCH**  
 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Westchester Women's  
 Club,  
 8020 Alverstone St.,  
 Los Angeles, Calif.

**WEST VALLEY BRANCH**  
 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 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. Walter M. Cowles, Secy.  
 1139 Mellon St., Pittsburgh 6, Pa.

**WHITTIER BRANCH**  
 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive  
 Anne L. Rose, Secy.  
 1255 Ramona Dr., Whittier, Calif.

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Ernest Drew, Secy.  
 635 Moreno Rd., Narberth, Pa.

**BRANCH SECRETARIES**  
 Notify Editor promptly of changes in this listing.

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