

In this biennium the Arboretum has introduced Arctotheca calendula, a large, yellow, daisy-like flower that makes an excellent ground cover on hillsides; and Cassia splendida, a 10-12 foot evergreen shrub native to South America that produces clusters of large, showy flowers, but very little seed, a fact that at first seemed to preclude its introduction until the Arboretum staff developed a propagating bench which, together with certain chemical growth regulators, made it possible to propagate the plant vegetatively. The technique was passed on to the nurseries which in turn were enabled to make this outstanding Cassia available to the public.

At South Coast Botanic Garden a new, yellow "Palos Verdes" marguerite was introduced to the nursery trade following its discovery in 1966 on the grounds of the garden.

## EDUCATION

The programs and services of the Education Division are supplied by Youth Education, Adult Education, and Information sections, various staff specialists, and a small but significant corps of volunteers. Altogether this staff has not been enough to meet the ever-growing demand from school districts, the public, and various special-interest groups. As an example, requests are so numerous for school field trips that schedules are already being made for 1969. The Division hopes to improve this situation through continuing effort to cultivate volunteer aid, through the development of new courses of instruction in association with academic institutions, and by various forms of automated instruction.

Youth Section - Workshops: Year-round classes concerned with plants, gardening, nature and art. Held outside regular school hours; intended as an enriching extracurricular experience.

|                     | Arboretum   |        | Descanso |        | South Coast |            |
|---------------------|-------------|--------|----------|--------|-------------|------------|
|                     | 1965-6      | 1966-7 | 1965-6   | 1966-7 | 1965-6      | 1966-7     |
| School grades       | 1 through 9 |        | 1-9      | 1-8    | *           | 5-6        |
| Workshops           | 38          | 31     | 24       | 22     |             | 1 (summer) |
| Students registered | 505         | 365    | 383      | 291    |             | 12         |
| Subjects            | 15          | 12     | 14       | 10     |             |            |
| Cities represented  | 17          | 16     | 7        | 9      |             |            |

\* Pilot program of 10-week workshop with 12 students



**Youth Section - Field Trips:** Plant science, nature, weather, and California history for elementary grades. Scheduled in cooperation with school districts; conducted during school hours by Information Section tour guides and trained volunteers. Intended as an experience for teachers as well as students.

|          | Arboretum |        | Descanso |        | South Coast |        |
|----------|-----------|--------|----------|--------|-------------|--------|
|          | 1965-6    | 1966-7 | 1965-6   | 1966-7 | 1965-6      | 1966-7 |
| Trips    | 497       | 471    | 151      | 179    | 36          | 58     |
| Students | 17,128    | 16,546 | 5,464    | 6,084  | 1,198       | 1,744  |
| Teachers | 534       | 527    | 245      | 269    | 58          | 63     |
| Cities   | 58        | 71     | 16       | 19     | 9           | 7      |



#### Arboretum -

4th graders on tour of historical area, stop at Indian wickiups with volunteer information aide, Mrs. John Arozena, to hear factual stories about Gabrielino Indians and their wickiup homes. Tour was one of 968 scheduled school field trips conducted by Arboretum staff members or trained volunteers during the 1965-7 biennium.



## Youth Section

Arbor Day, March 7: Annual event commemorating the birthday of Luther Burbank and National Conservation Week.

1966

- Arboretum - 1,550 children attended, all receiving a tree seedling, Cassia leptophylla.
- Descanso - 870 children attended, all receiving a tree seedling, Tabebuia chrysotricha.
- South Coast - Dodonaea viscosa were given to 225 people.

1967

- Arboretum - 1,163 children attended, all receiving a tree seedling, Cassia carnival.
- Descanso - 1,100 children attended, all received a tree seedling.
- South Coast - 500 persons attended, 700 seedlings were given during the day.

The Southern California Edison Company provided tree booklets for all the children attending these events.

Volunteers

The value of volunteer aid in teaching, conducting tours, working in greenhouses, registration, lesson planning, and other matters related to education services cannot be overestimated. A look at the following figures tell why:

- Arboretum - During the 1965-6 period volunteers gave 397 hours to teaching; 116 hours to greenhouse and garden maintenance.  
During the 1966-7 period 8 workshop teachers gave 467 hours of help, including teaching; 80 hours were given to work in the Junior Museum, registration and lesson planning, and planning for special instruction for EMR (Educable Mentally Retarded); 60 hours to propagation and maintenance.
- Descanso - 89 hours of volunteer aid in 1965-6; 89 hours in 1966-7.
- South Coast - In 1966-7 the entire School Tour program and Youth Group tours were conducted by volunteers who gave a total of 110 hours, including their own training. Another 30 hours was given to the preparation and teaching of an 8-week pilot course.



Adult Section - Courses designed mainly for the home gardener, but also for the professional. Conducted in association with the Pasadena City College Extended Day Program and the UCLA Extension Division with instructors from those institutions and from the staff of the Department.

|                       | Arboretum |        | Descanso Gardens |        |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------|------------------|--------|
|                       | 1965-6    | 1966-7 | 1965-6           | 1966-7 |
| Classes               | 10        | 10     | 6                | 5      |
| Subjects              | 8         | 8      | 3                | 3      |
| Attendance - 28 weeks | 1,948     | 1,486  | 1,714            | 1,795  |

### Gardener School

A 42-week course (1965-6) conducted four hours a day, five days a week, provided intensive theoretical and practical training for 25 students, among whom were mature gardeners seeking to upgrade their knowledge and techniques, and young men who were dropouts from formal school programs. In its five years of operation the school has seen better than fifty percent of its graduates acquire full-time jobs in gardening or horticulture.

## PUBLIC SERVICE

Each of the facilities of the Department serves as a kind of horticultural clinic to which the public may bring its gardening problems for analysis and prescription. The Arboretum particularly is active in this regard owing to the presence and availability of its research staff and the staff's involvement with such matters of common interest as herbicides, pesticides, air pollution, plant propagation, and fertilizers.

The extent of the service is considerable.

At the Arboretum, the office of the plant taxonomist is currently identifying plant material at the rate of approximately 3,000 pieces each year. The offices of the turfgrass and fire-retardant plant specialists—the Arboretum is probably unique in having such specialists on its staff—have increased their daily contact with the public by 30% in this biennium, an increase that may be attributed to population growth accompanied by home-owners' desire for lawns, and growing awareness of the fire hazard in the chaparral-covered hills of the southland.

Other offices of the Research Division are in similar, if not always as frequent





Dimond, Donald S. 1961. "Education." *Biennial report* 1965-67, 8-11.

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