

NEW PRESIDENT

AT A MEETING of the Board of Trustees of the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation last June 9th, Paul L. Saffo was elected president of the Foundation, succeeding Ove Hoyer. According to Foundation bylaws, Dr. Saffo, a medical doctor who has been a member of the Board since its inception in 1961, will serve for a term of one year. Among the new president's objectives are an increase in membership and a broadening of the organizational base so as to involve more members in Foundation activities.

SOIL SCIENTIST

DR. WADE L. BERRY, a specialist in soil science, has joined our research staff to lead a project aimed at recycling the millions of tons of sewage water and sludge produced by our industrial cities.

The project expects to achieve this worthy objective by determining the capacity of plant roots to absorb the pollutants in effluent water and by determining the horticultural practices that will make it possible to use quantities of sludge in the growth of selected plants.



Dr. Wade L. Berry

Dr. Berry comes well equipped to take on these tasks. A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, his most recent work was in the Department of Plant Sciences at U.C. Riverside where, as Assistant Professor of Plant Physiology and Assistant Plant Physiologist, he divided his time between research and teaching, with major emphasis on research.

The new project, a joint effort of two County departments, Arboreta and Botanic Gardens and Sanitation Districts, will use 17 acres of land near Whittier Narrows as the field test site, and the research facilities at the Arboretum for the laboratory work. As Dr. Berry points out, oceans and landfill sites are limited in their capacity to absorb sewage water and sludge. If the work is successful, these pollutants can be safely reintroduced into the land on a continuing basis.

MEMORIAL BOOK FUND

Some of the most eloquent photography of the late Ralph D. Cornell is contained in the colorful booklets depicting the flowering plants of Southern California published jointly by Los Angeles Beautiful, the California Arboretum Foundation, the Southern California Horticultural Institute, and the Theodore Payne Foundation.

The publications committee for these booklets, led by Dr. Samuel Ayres, Jr., has long been striving to publish a single, hardcover book covering the many aspects of the subject. At a recent meeting, the committee decided that it would be appropriate to dedicate this projected book to Mr. Cornell. To bring it to reality, the California Arboretum Foundation has established a memorial book fund to which Mr. Cornell's many admirers are invited to donate.



1972. "New president." *Lasca leaves* 22, 53.

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