

with orchids and bromeliads that made up the CAF entry in the mounted plants division hung near a 30-foot waterfall.

The main CAF display in the lath house integrated three division entries into one large exhibit. Each of the three entries was complete in itself but was designed to enhance the other two. Potted bamboo, cycads, and raphis palms arranged around the 20-by 20-foot redwood deck were part of the entry for dramatic landscaping. Plants in the hanging container entry including ferns, coleus, and succulents were suspended from the glass and redwood structure over the deck. In the flowering plants division, arrangements of bromeliads, anthuriums, orchids, begonias, and pink vinca added splashes of color.

Two place settings arranged on the grass mat covering the deck were used to establish the entire display as a comfortable spot for a backyard picnic. "What we tried to do was create an elegant but informal atmosphere that the average home gardener could duplicate," said Earl Ross, Arboretum nurseryman, who, along with John Provine,

Arboretum superintendent, constructed the displays.

Although results of this year's judging were not yet available at press time, both Mr. Ross and Mr. Provine hope to do as well as last year when with three entries, CAF exhibits took first place in two divisions and a third place in the other.

LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY MEDAL

DR. MILDRED E. MATHIAS, a long-term friend of the Department, has been given yet another award to add to the long list of professional commendations she has received during her career as a systematic botanist. At their annual meeting in September, the American Horticultural Society presented Dr. Mathias with the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal, the highest honor the Society can bestow upon an individual.

To qualify for the award an individual must have made significant national contributions in at least three areas of horticultural activity. Dr. Mathias' have been in writing, plant exploration, and administration. Her books include *The Wonderful World of Ornamentals*, *Color*

for the Landscape, and *Checklist of Woody Ornamentals*. Plant exploration trips have taken her to Costa Rica, the Amazon, and Southeast Asia. When she retired after 18



Dr. Mildred E. Mathias

years as director of the botanical gardens at UCLA the Board of Regents named the gardens in her honor.

Dr. Mathias, the first woman to receive the medal since it was initiated 22 years ago, is regarded as one of the nation's foremost authorities in botanical taxonomy. The medal is meant to reward a pioneering spirit in service, rather than pure achievement, although Dr. Mathias has excelled in both areas.

Now Professor Emeritus of Botany at UCLA, she has authored numerous books in her field and offered leadership to many horticultural organizations. One of the fortunate organizations to benefit from Dr. Mathias' efforts is the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum where she began her long association in 1950 as a member of the editorial committee of *Lasca Leaves*. In 1958 she was appointed to the first of three three-year terms as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Arboretum Foundation. She continues as an honorary member of the board and generally maintains a lasting interest in the Arboretum.



CAF entries have garnered many prizes at the Los Angeles County Fair in the past. This exhibit won a first place ribbon.



1980. "Liberty Hyde Bailey medal." *Garden* 4(6), 4.

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