

Dorothy Hansell, for 17 years contributing editor and then editor in chief of the AABGA Quarterly Bulletin; and to Douglas Ritchie, an Ohio State student, for his outstanding scholarship in horticulture. Finally, Dr. Richard A. Howard of the Arnold Arboretum and new president of AABGA, presented Francis Ching, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, a specially potted imperial bonsai, *Chamaecyparis obtusa*, a cypress-like evergreen, for "our deep appreciation of a wonderful time at the meeting."

The next day, which still was only the third day of the meeting, was spent at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia, and included a brief description of the functions of the Department by Francis Ching and four of his division heads, followed by a tour of the grounds and luncheon in the Demonstration Home Gardens with the California Arboretum Foundation serving as host. An afternoon symposium on education programs at arboreta and botanic gardens was chaired by Dr. Lee Lenz, director of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. The panelists were Jacqueline Broughton of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden who spoke on "The Role of the Botanic Garden in Youth Education"; Dr. Roy L. Taylor, director of the Botanic Garden of the University of British Columbia, who spoke on "The Role of the Botanic Garden in Graduate Education"; Elizabeth Scholtz, director of the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, who spoke on "The Role of the Botanic Garden in Adult Education"; and Dr. Richard W. Lighty, coordinator of the Longwood Program at the University of Delaware, who spoke on "The Role of the Botanic Garden in Horticultural Education."

The final day was spent on a tour of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden under the guidance of D. Katherine Muller, director. After lunch, conferees wandered

about on their own, then boarded the bus for the trip back, first stopping off for a look at the historic Santa Barbara Mission, some unusual plants at Orpet Park, and a pause long enough for some of the inlanders to dip their feet in the Pacific Ocean.

For the duration of the meeting, conferees, when they had the chance, could look at educational exhibits set up by eight of the participating gardens.

It was, as we said at the beginning, a busy four days, and if the conferees were a bit weary at the end they knew their time had not been wasted and they would return to their own gardens with memories of sights and discussions they would mull over in the weeks to come.

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### DESCANSO TRAM

The Clark tractor that draws the tram at Descanso Gardens has been overhauled and its carburetion system converted to the burning of propane instead of gasoline. This makes the second Department tram that has switched from gasoline as a fuel, one Arboretum tram having been converted early in 1969. Propane, or more properly, liquefied petroleum gas, is a mixture of several gases, principally propane and butane, with propane the main ingredient. It is transformed under compression into a liquid to facilitate transporting and storage. It becomes a vapor when used in internal combustion engines. It offers several advantages over gasoline, notably less pollution of the air. The almost complete combustion of LPG, or propane, results in lower exhaust fumes and less carbon monoxide than that coming from gasoline-powered vehicles. In addition to introducing less pollution into the air, better combustion causes engines to last longer and require less maintenance.





1973. "Descanso tram." *Lasca leaves* 23, 66.

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