



The Pool House.

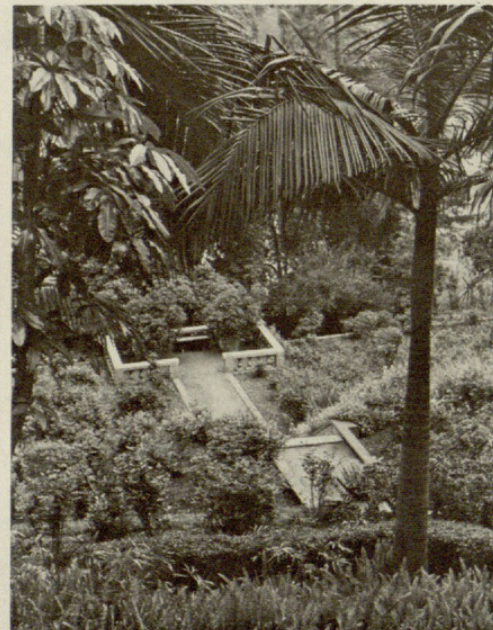
travel a lot and were only in California about two months at a time, there has been an endless stream of parties given by the hospitable Mrs. Robinson from that day to this. To complement the gardens and accommodate extra guests a pool house, designed by William Richards, was added in 1924.

Mrs. Robinson wanted a typical California garden and planted olive trees, pomegranates, and persimmons. These did well for awhile but within ten years all were gone for want of a hotter, drier climate. She started to collect tropical plants and, with the help of Charles Gibbs Adams, obtained many plants from the government. There are now dozens of *Howea* palms growing in the gardens and Mrs. Robinson says they are all progeny of the first one she planted. She obtained other tropical plants from the Popenoe and Coolidge Nurseries and Mr. Popenoe and Mr. Coolidge would often come to visit her. The tropics have thrived and Mrs. Robinson has seven men working full time to take care of the lush gardens and grounds.

Joseph Winchester Robinson, founder of Robinson's department store, was Mrs. Robinson's father-in-law. She remembers that on her first visit to the store with her governess at age five she bought \$5.00 worth of handkerchiefs. Hankies in those days were very cheap and her mother was

appalled at the quantity she brought home and made her use every one of them. Mrs. Robinson has never felt the same craving for handkerchiefs since that day. After the death of his father, Harry Robinson headed the store until he died and then Mrs. Robinson was in charge for 17 years until it was sold to Allied Department Stores.

In recognition of Mrs. Robinson's bequest to the California Arboretum Foundation, the Board of Trustees is going to hold a reception and dinner in her honor in the Demonstration Home Gardens on September 10th. We hope that many members will join us that evening and enjoy the privilege of meeting this remarkable lady who will be celebrating her 98th birthday on September 21.



A view of the garden.

AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE STUDENTS TOUR ARBORETUM

On Friday, March 15, the Arcadia Rotarians hosted the American Field Service students who are spending this school year in the homes of West San Gabriel Valley Rotarians. After a luncheon at the Flamingo-Ramada Hotel, the students were given a spe-

cial tour of the Arboretum grounds by the Horticulturist, John Provine. Highlights of the day were when the girls were presented with stalks of cymbidium orchids and pictures of the group were taken by the local newspapers as they toured the Coach Barn.



Back Row: Alf Erik Skille (Norway), Alvin Aquino (Philippines), Thora Press (South Africa). Middle Row: Bernard Lamour (France), Paivi Anneli Karvette (Finland), Yoshie Yamamoto (Japan), Peter Kraehenbuehl (Switzerland), Stephanie Malach (England), Ana Arfinengo (Peru). Front Row: Luis Alvarez (Spain), Marcos Queiroz (Brazil), Ulrich Geilinger (Switzerland).



1975. "American field service students tour Arboretum." *Newsletter California Arboretum Foundation* 1974:May, 2.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/161528>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/144082>

Holding Institution

Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

Sponsored by

Missouri Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Permission to digitize granted by rights holder

License: <http://creativecommons.org/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.