

ARBORETUM FOUNDATION ACQUIRES 678 LITHOGRAPHS OF VARIOUS ORCHIDS

The Louis M. Boyle collection of 678 framed lithographs of orchids was purchased by the Foundation in June. The funds for this purchase were contributed by a generous benefactor of the Foundation who desires to remain anonymous. Some of these Boyle orchid pictures are now on display in the Administration Building of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. When additional display facilities are available at the Arboretum, other orchid lithographs will be exhibited.

In addition to the permanent display of these pictures at the Arboretum, the Foundation Orchid Committee, whose chairman is Mr. Robert Casamajor, is considering establishing a loan arrangement so that part of the collection may be displayed in public buildings throughout the Southland. It is possible that a portion of the Boyle pictures could be used as a traveling collection by schools and libraries for display. Consideration is also being given by the Orchid Committee to a loan plan for members of the Foundation. Largest of the Boyle collection are 154 framed lithographs, 22 by 29 inches.

Mr. Boyle, a retired Los Angeles industrialist who died in 1953, had made Cymbidium orchid growing his hobby since 1937 when he sold his business. He wrote three books about orchids. He founded what was known as "Cymbidium Orchidtown" at El Rancho Rinconada, which was his home in retirement at Ojai. There he displayed Cymbidium orchids exclusively.

IN MEMORIAM

The Foundation membership will be sad to know that Mr. Dewey Nelson, Historical Curator at the Arboretum, passed away on June 17th after an illness of about two years. Dewey was born in Hawthorne, Wisconsin, in 1908 and lived in California for thirty years. During this time he became steeped in the history and lore of Rancho Santa Anita. At the time of purchase of the Arboretum site, Dewey became the first curator of the Hugo Reid adobe and "Lucky" Baldwin's "Queen Anne Cottage" and Carriage House. A charter member of the Arcadia Historical Society he was considered one of the top authorities on Rancho Anita historical matters. He drew on this knowledge freely in participating in the development of the Historical Section at the Arboretum.

His friends will remember him as a kindly person whose entire life and thoughts were dedicated to the Arboretum. It is gratifying to know that Dewey had an opportunity to see the Arboretum scarcely a month before his passing and was extremely well pleased with its development.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Hilma Nelson of Los Angeles; one son, Harold of Salt Lake City; one daughter, Connie Armitage, Salt Lake City; two brothers, Einar and Conrad Nelson; and one sister, Mrs. Edith Hannawalt, all of Los Angeles.

At the June meeting of the Historical Committee of the Foundation, a Dewey Nelson Memorial was established for those who might care to contribute. The form of expression of this memorial is now being planned.



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