



LOS ANGELES STATE and COUNTY ARBORETUM

291 No. Old Ranch Road, Arcadia, California

R. J. SEIBERT, DIRECTOR

Telephone: DOuglas 7-3444

July 5, 1955

Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles 12, California

Gentlemen:

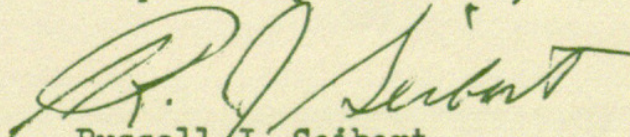
It is a pleasure to submit herewith the second Annual Report of the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, County of Los Angeles.

With sincere regrets, the submission of this report will terminate my official capacity as Arboretum director for this Department. It is hoped, however, that in my new capacity as director of Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, I may continue to share with you a feeling of real accomplishment through the development of a potentially great Horticultural institution.

In this age of mechanical, chemical, electronic and atomic miracles, we need not fear a decline in the powers of nature. Rather, that a feeling of closeness to nature through Horticulture and Gardening shall be one of the potent stabilizers of our civilization. The veracity of this statement is fully evidenced by the fact that home gardening is the "No. 1" hobby of the American today. In a climatically unique area such as you have in southern California, your honorable board may consider with pride, the great part you are contributing to the expansion, understanding and enjoyment of ornamental horticulture. Through the Arboretum and its program over the coming years, every resident of Los Angeles County shall stand to gain culturally and spiritually a better peace of mind.

May I take this opportunity of expressing deepest appreciation to my staff in whose hands the writing, compiling and assembling of the following report will fall, as will the operation of the Arboretum until the installment of my successor. I consider it one of the highlights and privileges of my experience to have worked with this team of men and women who have always looked upon their positions as careers not "jobs" and held the aims of the Arboretum above those of self.

Respectfully submitted,


Russell J. Seibert,
Director

RJS:P



Seibert, Russell J. 1955. "[Director's letter]." *LASCA miscellanea* 3,

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