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## With Grateful Acknowledgement

There is, always, a gap between the objectives of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and its capacity to achieve them. We are, in Pogo's words, faced with insurmountable opportunities—there never are enough resources to do all that should be done. That gap is not as wide as it might be because of the generosity and support of individual donors, foundations, and private industry. These voluntary donations make it possible to extend the work of the Division into problem areas beyond those for which public support is available but in which there is the promise of significant benefits for society.

The importance of donations, even to publicly supported institutions, is clearly evident in the history of the University. The University itself was established following the offer by the private College of California to give its property to the state if it was used to establish a university. Gifts from individuals led to the establishment of three of the University's campuses: the Lick Observatory, the San Francisco Medical Center, and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, the Kearney Foundation of Soil Sciences, and the Slosson Funds are other examples of significant additions to the Division's capabilities resulting from private donations.

Happily, there is also a continued flow of important smaller contributions from hundreds of companies, foundations, societies, associations, and individuals enabling us to address many problems and projects that would not otherwise receive adequate attention. The more than 1,100 contributions for fiscal year 1976-77, reported in this issue of *California Agriculture*, from 627 donors, add up to almost \$3 million. The largest number of contributions, 381, falls in the under-\$500

category, and the largest percentage of the total, 32 percent, falls in the \$2,500—\$10,000 range.

This is an appropriate time and place to acknowledge another kind of support from the private sector. One example is the massive year-after-year commitment of voluntary leadership in the 4-H Program. The monetary value of the more than 22,000 adult leaders' time and other service contributions is not calculable, but these leaders are indispensable to the operation of programs serving 107,000 California young people.

Another example of non-cash support is the long-established practice of our cooperators' voluntary contributions of time, labor, land, animals, crops, and facilities for research and extension programs. These "in kind" contributions are essential to the Division's present level of operations. During one eight-month period, the Division research program used an estimated 11,900 acres of privately owned land; 144,000 livestock animals; and 525,000 laying hens. Combined with other contributions in labor, materials, and machinery, the total non-cash contribution for research alone during that period was valued at nearly \$15 million.

Gifts and donations make it possible to develop programs earlier, with broader scope or with added flexibility or with an extra dimension, beyond the provisions of governmental funding programs. The importance of this support, from the agricultural community and from many sources outside agriculture, has been demonstrated almost daily in past years. Increasing need for scientific problem-solving and rising costs of that undertaking emphasize the importance of the non-governmental support represented by gifts and donations. We gratefully acknowledge this past support and look forward to the continuation of this generosity.