



NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY - EDITED BY MELVIN R. GIBSON

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY, PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

Volume 4, 1967
Number 3

Annual Meeting. The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Society will be held on the campus of the University of Iowa, July 23 to 26, 1968. This represents a change from the original dates for the meeting to accommodate those members wishing to attend the IUPAC Symposium in London, July 8-13. Local Program Chairman David P. Carew indicates that the ASP meeting will include a symposium on "Biosynthesis of Natural Products." President Maynard W. Quimby, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, has appointed the following committees for the 1968 meeting: Local Program: David P. Carew, Chairman, Louis C. Zopf, University of Iowa, and Rolf S. Westby, Eli Lilly and Company. Scientific Program: Heinz G. Floss, Chairman, Purdue University, Ara G. Paul, University of Michigan, and Gordon H. Svoboda, Eli Lilly and Company.

Committee Appointments. President Maynard W. Quimby has appointed the following committees for the year or other periods as indicated: Publicity Committee: Jerry L. McLaughlin, Chairman, University of Washington, George H. Constantine, Jr., Oregon State University, John D. Leary, St. John's University. Membership Committee: Elmore H. Taylor, Chairman, University of Tennessee, Julia F. Morton, Miami University (2nd year of a 2-year appointment, Frank L. Mercer, St. Louis College of Pharmacy and Science (1st year of a 2-year appointment).

FIP Meeting. F. H. L. van Os, University of Groningen, reports that during the next congress of the Federation Internationale Pharmaceutique at Hamburg (Sept. 1-6, 1968) the Section for the Study of Medicinal Plants will present a symposium on "Plants with Antineoplastic Action." It is planned that the presentations (7-8 lectures) will be published as soon as possible after the meeting and sent to all members of the section. Professor van Os is secretary of the section.

Japan Meeting. Isao Inagaki, Nagoya City University, writes that the annual meeting of the Pharmacognostical Society of Japan was held Oct. 28 and 29 at Gifu College of Pharmacy. Pharmacognostical and chemical papers were presented on Scrophularia oldhami, Geranium nepalense, Thuja orientalis, Cassia alata, Perilla frutescens, Carthamus tinctorius, Acanthopanax sciadophyleoides, A. spinosum, Trichosanthes cucumeloides, Peria cocos, Magnolia obovata, Angelica gigas, Sambucus chinensis, Glycyrrhiza, Securinega, Akebia, Rheum, Scopolia, Corydalis, Aconitum, Primula, Lysimachia, Dryopteris, Hydrangea, and others. Also symposia were held on the application of the phytotron and tissue culture to pharmacognosy and on the cultivation of medicinal and perfume plants.

British News. An unidentified member at the University of Manchester submitted the following items: In January 1968, a two-day symposium will be held at Chelsea College of Science and Technology, London, on "Quantitative Thin-Layer and Paper Chromatography." The symposium has been organized jointly by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and the Society for Analytical Chemistry (Thin-Layer Chromatography Group). Of those chairmen of the Symposium, two will be pharmacognosists, E. J. Shellard, Chelsea College of Science and Technology, and J. W. Fairbairn, University of London. Papers will be presented by J. W. Fairbairn, W. E. Conot, Liverpool College of Technology, E. J. Shellard, and others.

The British Pharmaceutical Conference was held in Blackpool Sept. 10-15, 1967. Papers on senna, opium, and Cannabis were among those presented to the scientific sessions.

On Jan. 8,9, 1968, a symposium on "Plant Growth Regulators" will be held at the School of Pharmacy, University of London. This will be organized by the Phytochemical Society and the Pesticide Group of the Society for Chemical Industry.

French Colloques. R. Paris, University of Paris, reports the following: March 31, 1967, Angers (France), Colloque sur les plantes médicinales. Inauguration d'un Centre national expérimental. June, Versailles, Journée d'étude sur le Pavot.

Drug Plant Garden List. Ara der Marderosian, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, 43rd Street and Kingsessing and Woodland Avenues, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, has assembled a list of forty-one drug plant gardens which exchange seeds. He will supply this list to members at no cost on request.

Poisonous Plants Volume in Preparation. Bruce W. Halstead, Director, International Biotoxicological Center of the World Life Research Institute, 23000 Grand Terrace Road, Colton, California 92324 announces that he is directing the preparation of an exhaustive encyclopedic monograph on the Poisonous Plants of the World. The work is sponsored by a grant from the National Library of Medicine, NIH. Persons interested in this project or wishing to submit reprints, data, illustrations for inclusion in this definitive work are invited to correspond with Director Halstead. The monograph will include botanical, taxonomic, medical, public health, pharmacological, chemical, and historical data. The work will be comparable in size and format to the Halstead volume Poisonous and Venomous Marine Animals of the World.

Dues are Due. ASP Treasurer Leonard R. Worthen, College of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881, wishes to remind members that 1968 dues are now due. Active members in the U.S. and Canada, \$15; active members in other countries, \$10; associate members (students), \$2.

Northeastern Facility. Northeastern University has recently acquired a greenhouse of approximately six thousand square feet adjacent to its suburban campus at Burlington, Mass. This will be used by the department of biology for research but will also be available for pharmacognosy research, reports Fred A. Barkley. Adjacent to the greenhouse is a twenty-five acre plot set aside for ecological and other experimental work.

Poisonous Plant Slides Available. Rittenhouse Book Store, Inc., 1706 Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, report that they are the United States distributors of a set of forty, 35-mm color transparencies of poisonous plants and fungi. These are supplemented by a commentary prepared by Ara der Marderosian. This adapts this Society of Great Britain set for use in the United States and Canada. The price is \$15.

Information Exchange. John K. Brown, University of the Pacific, suggests that the Newsletter initiate an information exchange section on plants. ASP members could indicate their interest in obtaining information on certain plants. Other members could lend their assistance as their experience and background warranted. Editor's Note: If there is sufficient interest in this suggestion, it will be instituted on a space-available trial basis.

Article Recommended. Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Pittsburgh, recommends to the attention of ASP members who have not read it, "Vortragstagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung" in Deutsche Apotheker-Zeitung, 107 Jahrgang, Nr. 21, 25, 5, 1967.

Grants. H. G. Floss and James E. Robbers, Purdue University, have been awarded a USPHS grant of \$144,888 for studies on the "Biosynthesis of Ergot Alkaloids." The grant is for a three-year period. In addition, Floss has been awarded a one-year grant of \$5,800 from Eli Lilly and Co. for studies on "The Biochemistry of Ergot Alkaloid Formation." . . . Marvin H. Malone, University of Connecticut, has been awarded a grant of \$32,724 for the first year

and \$43,954 for two subsequent years by the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases for the study "Anti-Inflammatory Evaluation of Cryogenine." Cryogenine is obtained from the Mexican plant *Heimia salicifolia*. . . . The Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Pittsburgh, has been awarded \$1,734 from the Jane Olmstead Thaw Bequest, University of Pittsburgh, for research on "Antileukemic Substances from Plants." This brings the total amount awarded to the department for this project since 1963 to \$36,555. . . . The Army has renewed a grant (\$21,500) to Heber W. Youngken, Jr., University of Rhode Island, for his work on malaria.

Personal. Varro E. Tyler, Purdue University, has been appointed External Examiner in Pharmacognosy at the University of Singapore for a three-year period beginning this fall. He plans to visit Singapore in late January, 1968, and may vacation in Thailand, India, and Lebanon on the return trip. . . . Heber W. Youngken, Jr., University of Rhode Island, has been named Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs of the University. He was named to this position to fill a vacancy which followed the appointment of the Vice President to the position of Acting President. Dr. Youngken continues in his position as Dean of the College of Pharmacy in addition to his new assignment. . . . Dr. Youngken gave a talk, "Drugs from the Sea" at the Medical Writers Institute at the Princeton Club in New York City, October 23. . . . Alvin B. Segelman recently received the M.S. degree in Pharmacognosy from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and has been appointed Instructor in Pharmacognosy at the University of Pittsburgh. . . . Florence H. Pettler, a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh, has returned recently from spending one year in Iquitos, Peru, where she conducted natural product research as an employee of the Amazon Natural Drug Company. . . . Hildebert Wägner and Hans-Peter Hörhammer, Institut für Pharmazeutische Arzneimittellehre der Universität München, have returned recently from a one-month yacht cruise in the Mediterranean in the Grecian Islands. . . . H. G. Floss, Purdue University, gave two invited papers, one on "Ergot Alkaloid Biosynthesis" at the Annual Meeting of the German Botanical Society in Gottingen, and the other on "Biosynthesis of Coumarins" at a symposium on "The Biosynthesis of Phenolic Compounds" sponsored by the German Society of Biological Chemistry. He also visited several European laboratories engaged in biosynthetic studies. . . . In early summer Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Pittsburgh, lectured in Berlin, Halle, and Prague. . . . Edson F. Woodward, who joined Stein, Hall & Co. in March has been appointed to the position of manager, natural gums. He will supervise sales of gum arabic, karaya gum, gum tragacanth, locust bean gum, stractan, and other natural gum products for the food and drug industries. Before joining Stein, Hall & Co., he was product manager, gums of Morningstar-Paisley, Inc. . . . Lynn R. Brady, University of Washington, has been promoted to professor of pharmacognosy. . . . Madhukar G. Chaubal, University of the Pacific, attended the summer institute in isotope technology at Oak Ridge for eight weeks. . . . At the University of Rhode Island: Leonard R. Worthen has been appointed chairman of the Department of Pharmacognosy, John T. Tashiro has been appointed assistant professor of Pharmacognosy, Neil W. Hamon has been appointed an instructor, Hans Bohrman, University of Saarbrücken, is a postdoctoral fellow for the academic year, and Cesar Lau-Cam spent the summer in Peru collecting plant material for his research. . . . Egon Stahl, Institut für Pharmakognosie und Analytische Phytochemie der Universität des Saarlandes, erhielt von der Medizinischen Fakultät der Universität Giessen den Ludwig-Shunk-Preis für seine Verdienste um die moderne Arzneipflanzenforschung. Ausserdem wurde ihm auf dem diesjährigen IUPAC-Kongress in Prag am 4. Sept. die goldene Talanta-Medaille für seine hervorragenden Arbeiten auf dem Gebiet der Analytischen Chemie insbesondere der Dünnschicht-Chromatographie verliehen. . . . Professor Stahl reports "Vor einigen Wochen erschien die 2. Auflage des Handbuchs der Dünnschicht-Chromatographie mit etwa 1000 Seiten. Darin sind die Probleme der modernen Analytischen Phytochemie berücksichtigt. . . . Kenneth Redman, South Dakota State University, was chosen by the South Dakota Pharmaceutical Association to receive the A. H. Robins Co. Bowl of Hygeia award in recognition of his contributions to civic and community affairs. Dr. and Mrs. Redman were guests for three days of the Robins Co. in Richmond, Virginia. . . . George Digenis, formerly of the American University, Bierut, Lebanon, has joined the staff of the University of Kentucky. . . . At Ohio State University: Lester A. Mitscher has joined the Department of Pharmacognosy and Natural Products after a number of years at Lederle Laboratories where he directed a group studying the chemistry and biochemistry of microbial products, particularly antibiotics. Dr. Mitscher earned a B.S. in pharmacy at

Wayne State University (1953) and his Ph.D. from the same institution (1958) where he was a graduate student of Carl Djerassi. . . . J. David Phillipson, Lecturer in Pharmacognosy, Chelsea College of Science and Technology, is spending one year as a research associate. He is working in the area of alkaloids. Paul L. Schiff, Jr., completed his Ph.D. in August and now teaches pharmacognosy at Butler University. Norbert A. Pilewski completed his Ph.D. in December, 1967, and is now teaching pharmacognosy at Duquesne University. . . . E. John Staba, University of Nebraska, has resigned his position to accept an analogous appointment on the faculty of the University of Minnesota effective next summer. The University of Minnesota will appoint an additional assistant professor of pharmacognosy in September, 1968. Applications may be submitted to Dr. Staba. . . . Sidney J. Stohs, University of Nebraska, is accepting applications for a position in pharmacognosy at that institution. . . . It is with sadness and sympathy extended to their families that we report the death by heart attack of C. C. Albers, University of Texas, September 4, 1967, and Mrs. Ludwig Hörhammer, Munich.

Books. A number of persons recommended Ethnopharmacologic Search for Psychoactive Drugs, Proceedings of a Symposium held in San Francisco, Calif., Jan. 28-30, 1967, Edited by Daniel H. Efron (Public Health Service Publication No. 1645, Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Wash., D.C. 20402, 1967, \$4). Anwendung von Isotopen in der Organischen Chemie und Biochemie, Band 1, Bestimmung der Isotopenverteilung in Markierten Verbindungen, by H. Simon and H. G. Floss (Springer-Verlag, 1967, \$13.50). Norman R. Farnsworth reports that the classical work Die Heilpflanzen der Verschiedenen Völker und Zeiten, 1898, has been reprinted and is available from Werner Fritsch, Ungererstrasse 174, München 23, Germany. The cost is DM 128 or about \$32. . . . Phillip Babcock, Rutgers, recommends the following: A Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns, by J. C. Willis, 7th Ed., revised by H. K. Airy Shaw (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1967, \$18.50); The Particle Atlas, by W. C. McCrone, R. G. Draftz, and J. G. Delly (Includes an excellent section on pollens and fibers with illustrations and techniques of analysis) (Ann Arbor Science Publishers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1967, \$125.00); The Actinomycetes: A Summary of Current Knowledge, by Selman A. Waksman (Ronald Press, 1967, \$12.00); D-Glucose und verwandte Verbindungen in Medizin und Biologie, by H. W. Bartelheimer and W. Thorn Ferdinand (Enke Verlag, Stuttgart, 1966, DM 228); Reagents for Organic Chemists, by Fieser and Fieser (This is an essential reference work for every laboratory. It contains an excellent collection of information on a wide variety of reagents that is often difficult to find.) (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1967, \$19.95); Biosynthetic Patterns in Microorganisms and Higher Plants, by H. Grisebach (E. R. Squibb Lectures on chemistry of microbiological products.) (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1967); Phenolic Compounds and Metabolic Regulation, by B. J. Finkle and V. C. Runeckles (Phenolic regulators of metabolism in both plants and animals.) (Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1967, \$7.50); Task Force Report: Narcotics & Drug Abuse, by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice (Sup. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1967, \$1.00); Babcock also recommends the article "Biosynthesis of Tropane and Opium Alkaloids, Its Biochemical Aspects" by ASP member Antonin Jindra in Vol. 13, 1967 of Acta facultatis pharmaceuticae bohemo slovenicae. . . . Leonard R. Worthen, University of Rhode Island, recommends Drugs and Pharmacy on Stamps, by George Griffenhagen (Volume 2 of the American Topical Association, Medical Handbook Series) (ASP member Varro E. Tyler is author of one chapter of this book) (Jerome Husak, Executive Secretary of the American Topical Association, 3306 N. 50th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216, \$5.00). . . . F. D. O'Connell, West Virginia University, recommends the following: Psychotropic Drugs and Related Compounds, by E. Usdin and D. H. Efron (U.S. Dept. of HEW, Public Health Service Publication, No. 1589, 1967, \$2.75); An Introduction to the Alkaloids, by G. A. Swan (Blackwell Scientific Publications, Edinburgh and Oxford, 1967); Thin-Layer Chromatography, Technique of Organic Chemistry Vol. XII, by Justus G. Kirchner (Interscience, 1967); Biosynthesis of Small Molecules, by Georges N. Cohen (Harper and Row, 1967). . . . George H. Constantine, Jr., Oregon State University, recommends the following: Comparative Biochemistry of the Flavonoids, by Harborne (Academic Press, 1967, \$16); Terpenoids in Plants, by Pridham (Academic Press, 1967, \$12.50); Ciba Symposium Study Group publications published by Little, Brown and Co., 1967 -- #22 Gonadotropins, \$3.50, #27, Human Adrenal Cortex, \$3.50. (Editor's Note: Incomplete information on books represents the way this material was submitted. Please include complete author names, publishers, and prices.)

(Books continued in the next issue)