



NEWSLETTER

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

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY, PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

Volume 5, 1968
Number 3

Annual Meeting. Philip Catalfomo, Oregon State University, reports that the 1969 annual meeting of The American Society of Pharmacognosy will be held at Oregon State University, Corvallis on August 18-22. This week was selected to immediately precede the International Botanical Congress in Seattle. A symposium on "Marine Biomedicinals" is scheduled for the Corvallis meeting. Featured speakers will include: Heber W. Youngken, Jr., University of Rhode Island, "The Potential of the Seas to Provide Materials of Biomedical Import"; Ara der Marderosian, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, "Current Status of Marine Biomedicinals"; H. K. Phinney, Marine Algologist, Oregon State University, "Marine Macro- and Micro-flora -- Variety and Availability"; J. E. McCauley, Department of Oceanography, Oregon State University, "Marine Fauna"; O. C. Liu, Northeast Marine Health Sciences Laboratory, Narragansett, Rhode Island, "Antineoplastic and Antiviral Agents from Marine Organisms"; P. R. Burkholder, Lamont Geological Observatory of Columbia University, "Antimicrobial Agents from the Sea" (with G. M. Sharma); B. W. Halstead, World Life Research Institute, "Marine Biotoxins: A New Source of Medicinals."

Several mailings to ASP members are scheduled in future months. Anyone wishing advance information prior to receiving these mailings should address George H. Constantine, Jr. for information on local arrangements and accommodations and Philip Catalfomo for information regarding the scientific program. Their address is Department of Pharmacognosy, School of Pharmacy, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331.

A call for papers will be sent out later, but abstracts will be accepted any time. In addition to the symposium, original research papers will be presented by other members of the Society. If enough papers are received in the general area of marine pharmacognosy, a special session will be arranged for these.

Kilmer Prize Competition. Jerry McLaughlin, University of Washington, wishes members to be reminded of the Kilmer Prize Competition sponsored by the A.Ph.A. to which ASP contributes annually \$200 in cash to the winner. The A.Ph.A. makes available up to an additional \$200 to enable the prize winner to attend the meeting of the A.Ph.A. The award is given each year for the best paper based on research in pharmacognosy by a member of the graduating class of one of the accredited colleges of pharmacy. This year the committee judging entries is: Chairman, Leonard R. Worthen, University of Rhode Island; David P. Carew, University of Iowa; and E. John Staba, University of Minnesota. Inquiries regarding this prize should be addressed to Dr. Samuel W. Goldstein, Executive Secretary, A.Ph.A. Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2215 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20037.

Chinese Book Available. Dr. Wen-Yah Koo, School of Pharmacy, National Taiwan University, has generously made available thirty copies of her book *A Study of Chinese Drugs* as a gift to thirty colleges of pharmacy in this country. These are now in the office of the Editor of the Newsletter. They will be sent upon request on a first come, first served basis. Please enclose \$1 with each request to cover postage and handling. The book is written in Chinese and generously illustrated with photographs and drawings. It is paper bound and includes 419 pages.

Volatile Oil Films. The Newsletter has previously reported the availability of the Fritzsche films "Essential Oils of Africa" and "Essential Oils of South America." The following have not been reported previously: "Essential Oils of the Mediterranean," "Essential Oils of Central and North America," and "Essential Oils of the West Indies." These 16 mm. sound-color films with commentary and musical background are available on loan without charge from Fritzsche Brothers, Inc., 76 Ninth Avenue, New York, New York 10011. In ordering these, first request the "Film Request Forms" for each specific film which the company requires accompany the loan request.

British Pharmaceutical Conference. The British Pharmaceutical Conference was held in Birmingham from September 9-13, 1968. Among the forty-one papers presented, a few which might be of interest include one on the gas-liquid chromatography of heteroyohimbine alkaloids found in *Mitragyna* species from Chelsea College, University; one on the gas chromatography of the volatile oil of fennel fruits from the Brunswick Square School of Pharmacy, University of London; and one on the pharmaceutical applications of vapor-controlled, thin-layer chromatography from the University of Groningen, The Netherlands. This report was submitted by Keith Swann, University of Manchester.

Japan Meeting. Isao Inagaki, Nagoya City University, reports on the annual meeting of the Pharmacognostical Society of Japan which was held August 31-September 1, 1968 at Kyushu and Fukuoka University. The chemical and pharmacognostic studies were reported on *Crocus sativus*, *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*, *Berberis asiatica*, *Anhalonium williamsii*, *Lema minor*, *Cyperus rotundus*, *Nepeta glechoma*, *Astragalus mongholicus*, *Dryopeteris crassirhizoma*, *Acanthopanax sciadophylloides*, *Lyonia ovalifolia* var. *elliptica*, *Arhillea sibirica*, *Anodendron affine*, *Poria cocos*, *Periploca spium*, *Panax ginseng*, *Acroscyphus spherophorides*, *Rumex*, *Lonicera*, *Smilax*, *Lindea*, *Aconitum*, *Angelica*, *Chrysosplenium*, *Anaptychia*, *Parmelia* and others. Reports on the tissue culture of *Scopolia parviflora*, *Datura tatula* and the separation of symbiot of lichens were also given. A symposium was held on the cultivation, constituents and pharmacology of *Bupleurum falcatum*.

Rhode Island Conference. The Department of Pharmacognosy of the University of Rhode Island will host a Food and Drugs from the Sea Conference sponsored by the Marine Technology Society, August 24-27, 1969. Announcements will be made available at a later date.

Dues are Due. Treasurer Leonard R. Worthen wishes to remind members that 1969 dues are now due and payable. Members in the U.S. and Canada should send in their \$15 and others \$10 to the Treasurer of ASP, College of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881. Prompt payment of dues saves the Society the expense of further payment notices and the administrative expenses of handling the mailing lists both in the Treasurer's office and the Newsletter office.

Richtman Archives to Auburn. George M. Hocking, Auburn University, reports that the University recently acquired the Richtmann Archives from the University of Wisconsin. This collection of 815 file cases occupies 304 feet of shelving. Included are a great variety of literary materials including pamphlets, reprints, newspaper clippings, theses, manuscript notes, photographs, advertisements, catalogs, etc. furnishing much data on crude drugs, active principles, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, etc. The collection is especially rich in biographical, bibliographical, and historical data. It was primarily intended as a bibliographic source and the beginning for the preparation of theses in the field of pharmacognosy. W. O. Richtmann (1876-1947) was active in teaching and research at the University of Wisconsin for a considerable part of his life.

Mississippi Garden. The Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Mississippi, has established three drug plant gardens this year. These include a ten-acre site on campus, a five-acre site in the Mississippi Delta near Greenville, and a twenty-acre site north of Biloxi near the Gulf Coast. These gardens are being utilized for growing drug plants for classroom and research purposes.

Pittsburgh Lectures. Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Pittsburgh, reports the following special lectures were given at his university: Dr. I. Ognyanov, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, who is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin, in October presented a lecture entitled "The Chemistry and Stereochemistry of *Vinca herbacea* Alkaloids." Dr. Ognyanov and his group have contributed all of the definitive isolation and chemistry studies on the *Vinca herbacea* alkaloids. Prior to the Pittsburgh visit, Dr. Ognyanov gave the same lecture at Ohio State University. ASP members Hildebert Wagner and Hanns-Peter Hörhammer, Munich, in July presented lectures at Pittsburgh on "Characterization and Biological Activity of the Antihepatotoxic Principle of *Silybum marianum* and the "New Methods in Pharmacognosy Research." Recently Dr. G. David Phillipson presented a lecture "The Chemistry and Stereochemistry of the *Mitragyna* Alkaloids." Dr. Phillipson has been at Ohio State University for a year and recently and has returned to England.

Information Requested. Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Pittsburgh, is interested in documenting secondary plant constituents which have been named in honor of people. Any ASP members who know of such examples and have full references to document these are asked to contact Farnsworth, 512 Salk Hall, School of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213.

M.S. Program at West Virginia. The School of Pharmacy, West Virginia University, has instituted a graduate program at the M.S. level. The degree offered is a Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Specialization or major concentration may be in the areas of pharmaceutics, pharmacy administration, pharmacy, pharmaceutical chemistry, or pharmacognosy.

North Dakota Project. North Dakota State University has announced a project sponsored by the Department of Defense entitled "Control of Vectors Through Interference with Normal Processes of Insect Physiology, Reproduction and Behavior." This inter-disciplinary program is designed to investigate the effectiveness of plant extracts, bacterial metabolites and other natural products in insect control. The participants will also search for innocuous chemicals manifesting specific teratogenic effects or transient interference with insect development. Biochemical, chemosterilant, genetic, and pharmacological effects of all promising agents will be studied. Where feasible, a comparison with radiation-induced effects will be made. During the 1968-71 period two research associates will be employed and between 15 and 20 graduate research assistants. The following are the participating departments: entomology, bacteriology, biochemistry, genetics institute, pharmacognosy (Leo J. Schermeister, Professor of Pharmacognosy), pharmacology, graduate school, and USDA Metabolism and Radiation Research Laboratory. Further information may be obtained from Dr. M. Sayeed Quraishi, Morrill Hall, North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota 58102.

Personal. At the University of Rhode Island Humbert Meunier has been appointed assistant professor of pharmacognosy. He received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the URI in 1967 and spent last year as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Wales. N. V. Vijayaraghavan who received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the URI in 1968 has been appointed as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacognosy at the URI for the 1968-69 school year. . . .At Massachusetts College of Pharmacy Raymond W. VanderWyk has been appointed Director of the Division of Pharmacognosy and Allied Sciences and Chairman of the Department of Biological Sciences. John D. Leary has been appointed associate professor of pharmacognosy and botany, and Benjamin R. Hershenson has been promoted from instructor to assistant professor at MCP. Hershenson received his Ph.D. from MCP in June. Leary and Hershenson will accept graduate students at the M.S. or Ph.D. level in the areas of phytochemistry, biosynthesis of natural products, and allied areas. VanderWyk accepts graduate students at both levels in the area of microbiology. . . .Benjamin R. Hershenson, MCP, is currently preparing the index to the findings of Siri von Reis Altschul and Richard Evans Schultes, Harvard University, dealing with the field notes of 6000 species with medicinal implications. The field notes were compiled from over two and a half million herbarium sheets examined at the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University. . . .Heinz G. Floss has been appointed to head the Department of Medicinal Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences, Purdue University. He assumes direction of the department from Gustav E. Cwalina who has been acting head of the department for the past two years. The department includes the area of pharmacognosy. . . .Dr. Yusuf J. Abul-Hajj, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin has been appointed assistant professor of pharmacognosy at the University of Minnesota. . . .ASP member George P. Hager, University of North Carolina, has been named to a three-member team which will survey pharmacy facilities and teaching methods at the University of Saigon during November and December of this year. The visit is being sponsored by the United States Department of State through the Agency for International Development. . . .ASP member David Perlman has been appointed dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin. Dean Perlman has a twenty-five year record of antibiotic research both in industry (mainly the Squibb Institute) and at the University of Wisconsin. He will continue to teach the antibiotics section of the pharmacognosy courses at Wisconsin. . . .William I. Taylor resigned his position as director of biochemistry at Ciba to become Director of Fragrance Research at International Flavors & Fragrances. . . .Arthur E. Schwarting, University of Connecticut, is currently on leave for a semester at the Institute of Pharmacognosy, University of Munich. He is conducting research and advising in the research projects of others. He has been invited to present lectures at a number of West German universities. . . .William Kelleher, University of Connecticut, reports that Professor Hans Grisebach of the Institute of Plant Chemistry, University of Freiburg, was a visiting research professor at Connecticut during the months of September and October. He presented a series of lectures on the biosynthesis of aromatic compounds, flavonoids, macrolide antibiotics, and branched-chained sugars. His visit was sponsored by a grant from the Gustavus and Louise Pfeiffer Foundation. . . .ASP member Zinon B. Papanastassiou, Arthur D. Little, Inc., died during the summer. . . .H. R. Shough, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee, has been appointed assistant professor of pharmacognosy in the Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Utah. . . .Georgia Persinos, Research Pathology Associates, spent July doing field work in Peru, Columbia, and Brazil. Her trip took her from the headwaters of the Amazon in Iquitos to the mouth of the Amazon in Belem. During a few weeks in November she did field work in Peru and Columbia. . . .Dr. Ronald D. Garrett, formerly assistant professor of biochemistry, University of Tennessee, has been appointed assistant professor on the pharmacognosy staff, University of Texas. . . .Norman E. Foster retired as chief chemist, Dallas District, Food and Drug Administration in August. He is currently assistant professor of pharmacognosy, Southwestern State College. . . .Julia F. Morton, University of Miami, was awarded the A. W. Morrison Memorial Award by the Southeast Florida Pharmaceutical Association in recognition of her fourteen-year service as a consultant for poison control centers; community service in presenting educational displays, lectures, and television demonstrations of poison plant hazards; and the preparation of the poison plant wall charts. The Award is made in memory of Dr. A. W. Morrison who was a leader in Florida pharmaceutical activities. . . .Julia F. Morton spent a month during the summer doing field work in Curacao under a NIH grant. . . .Helmut Dose, a long-time ASP member, died this fall according to a report from Norman Farnsworth, University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Dose has been in ill health for some time, but followed the activities of the Society through its publications. He has bequeathed the Society \$1000. . . .Dr. Waqar Bhatti has been appointed a research associate at the University of Pittsburgh. His work involves mainly the isolation and characterization of antitumor agents from selected plants. . . .Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Pittsburgh, was in Germany for three weeks in November where he presented lectures at the University of Munich, Free University of Berlin, and Schering AG, Berlin on the subjects "The Status of Natural Products in the American Prescription Market", "Searching for New Drug Plants in the Amazon Jungles", "False-Positive and False-Negative Saponin Tests", and "Isolation and Structure Elucidation of Hörhammerinine and Hörhammericine." He also presented two lectures at the University of Minnesota on October 25 on "The Search for New Drugs in the Amazon Jungles" and "Approaches to the Discovery of New Drug Plants." The Massachusetts College of Pharmacy Alumni Association recently presented Farnsworth with the Alumni Achievement Award at the annual alumni banquet of the College. Farnsworth indicates that he has just published an extensive review on anticancer plants (Pflanzen als Quelle neuer Arzneimittel gegen Krebs, *Pharmazeutische Zeitung* 113 (35), 1293-1307). A limited number of copies of an English version of this paper are available by writing to the author, 512 Salk Hall, School of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213. . . .Norman J. Doorenbos, University of Mississippi, lectured on steroids at the School of Pharmacy, Columbia University, October 28.

Books and Articles. Norman E. Foster, Southwestern State College, recommends **Toxicants Occurring Naturally in Foods**, Publication No. 1354, National Academy of Sciences (National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 1966, \$6). . . Ara der Marderosian, PCP, recommends **Drugs from the Sea**, Transactions of the Symposium, University of Rhode Island, 1967 (Marine Technology Society 1030 15th St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20005, 1968, \$12) and the article "Special Symposium on Drug Abuse -- Marihuana" in **J. of Secondary Education**, 43, 196-240 (May), 1968 (Obtain from journal editor, 1205 Murchison Dr., Burlingame, California 94010, \$.70). . . Charles I. Abou-Chaar, American University of Beirut, recommends **Lehrbuch der Pharmakognosie Auf phytochemischer Grundlage**, 2nd Ed. by Ernst Steinegger and Rudolf Hansel (Springer-Verlag, 1968, DM 78) . . . F. Santavy, Palacky University, Czechoslovakia, recommends **Dictionary of Australian Plant Genera. Gymnosperms and Angiosperms** by Nancy T. Burbidge (Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1963). . . Julia F. Morton, University of Miami, has an article "Medicinal Plants -- Old and New" in Vol. 56, No. 2, April, 1968 **Bulletin of the Medical Library Association**. This journal may not be regularly reviewed by the membership. . . George M. Hocking, Auburn University, recommends **Japanese Drug Directory, JAPTA List, 1968** (Yakuji Nippon Ltd., Tokyo 101, Japan); **Praktikum der Pharmakognosie** 4th Ed., by Robert Fischer (Springer-Verlag, Vienna, 1968); **Heilpflanzen-Lexikon fuer Aertze und Apotheker** by Braun (Gustav Fischer, Stuttgart). . . Elmore H. Taylor, University of Tennessee, recommends **First International Conference on Vaccines Against Viral and Rickettsial Diseases of Man** (Pan-American Health Organization, Pan-American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office of the World Health Organization, 525 23rd Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20037). . . P. Tétényi, Institute of Medicinal Plants, Budapest, recommends the lectures and communications to be published in **Herba Hungarica** of the Hungarian Conference on Medicinal Plants held in August. . . Keith Swann, University of Manchester, recommends **Quantitative Paper and Thin-Layer Chromatography** edited by E. J. Shellard (Academic Press, London, 1968, 42s, 6d); **Bibliography of Pharmaceutical Reference Literature** by Magda Paztor and Jerry Hopkins (Pharmaceutical Press, 1968 25s); **Prufung Von Drogen** by Martin Luckrev (Gustav Fischer Verlag, Jena, 1966, 55s). . . John Leary, MCP, recommends the article by I.D. Spenser "The Biosynthesis of Alkaloids and of other Nitrogenous Secondary Metabolites," Chapter VI in Vol. 20 of **Comprehensive Biochemistry** (Florkin & Stotz, Editors). Leary also recommends other chapters in this volume. . . ASP member Ben Charles Harris calls our attention to his book **Kitchen Medicines** (Third Printing) (Natura Publications, 237 May Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01602, \$3.00 paper, \$3.95 cloth). . . In a recent conversation with Lynn Brady, University of Washington, he mentioned the Peterson Field Guide Series. These are primarily aimed at the lay audience, but readers of the Newsletter might be unaware of their wide acceptance. Of the eighteen volumes now in print, readers might be particularly interested in the following: **No. 10 A Field Guide to the Ferns and Their Related Families (Northeastern and Central North America)** by Boughton Cobb; **No. 11 A Field Guide to Trees and Shrubs (Northeastern and Central North America)** by George A. Petrides; **No. 14 A Field Guide to Rocky Mountain Wildflowers** by John J. Craighead, Franck C. Craighead, Jr. and Ray J. Davis; **No. 17 A Field Guide to Wildflowers (Northeastern and North-Central North America)** by Roger Tory Peterson and Margaret McKenney. These volumes are published by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts and usually sell for under \$5 each. . . The Editor believes the following might be of interest to readers: **Plant Immunity (Biochemical Aspects of Plant Resistance to Parasitic Fungi)** by L. V. Melnikii and O. L. Ozeretskovskaya (Plenum Publishing Corp., 1968, \$12.50); **The Vitamins: Chemistry, Physiology, Pathology, Methods, Vol 1** by W. H. Sebrell and R. S. Harris (Academic Press, 1967); **Structure & Function in Cytochromes** edited by K. Okunuki and Martin D. Kamen (University Park Press, 115 Chamber of Commerce Building, Baltimore Maryland 21202, 1968, \$29.50); **Comparative Biochemistry and Biophysics of Photosynthesis** edited by K. Shibata, A. Takamiya, A. T. Jagendorf, and R. C. Fuller (University Park Press, 1968, \$19.50)

Chromatography Book. Two ASP members, Authur E. Schwarting and James M. Bobbitt of the University of Connecticut, in collaboration with Roy J. Gritter of IBM have recently published **Introduction to Chromatography** (Reinhold Book Corporation, 1968, \$3.95). This book will be a fine and inexpensive paper-bound book for every laboratory using this technique. It is an excellent introduction to the subject and contains many practical tips from persons who have obviously made practical use of the techniques. The book's recognized omission is any discussion of paper chromatography.

Grants. The Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Mississippi, has received the following grants: "Undergraduate Equipment" from the National Science Foundation, for research on "Domestic Sources of Tannin" from Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, for research on "Natural Products" from the U.S. Public Health Service, for research on the "Chemistry of *Rhus glabra* and *Rhus copallina*" from Mallinckrodt Chemical Works. These grants were for \$3900; \$19,000; \$99,800; and \$9600 respectively. . . At the University of Minnesota E. John Staba received a renewal of a grant entitled "Production of Medicinals by Plant Tissue Cultures" in the amount of \$23,361 for a twelve-month period. The Department of Pharmacognosy at the University of Minnesota received a grant of \$1325 from the American Cancer Society to initiate a project entitled "Phytochemical and Pharmacological Survey of Minnesotan Aquatic Plants." Mrs. Grace Su, a graduate student, is the primary recipient of this support. Also at Minnesota, Miss Grace Kwei Lee of Formosa has been awarded the biennial Bernie Gestie Fellowship of \$2000 from the Delta Kappa Gamma Chapter of the Minnesota State Teachers Association. Miss Lee is a doctoral student in pharmacognosy. The fellowship is awarded to the outstanding female graduate student from abroad who intends to apply her training for teaching and research in her country. Herbert Jonas, University of Minnesota, has been granted \$1000 by the Graduate School for the continuation of his studies on the effects of growth regulators on medicinal plants. . . At the University of Rhode Island a grant concerned with "Botanicals as Potential Antimalarials" in the amount of \$17,500 has been renewed by the Walter Reed Army Medical Research Institute, DOD. . . Vincent dePaul Lynch, St. John's University has recently received a \$183,000 grant from the United State Public Health Service for the development of a baccalaureate program in toxicology.

(Books and Articles continued in the next issue)