



# NEWSLETTER

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SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

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Connecticut Symposium. There will be a symposium on the Chemistry of Natural Products at the University of Connecticut on August 2nd and 3rd, 1971. The invited speakers will be Dr. T. J. Mabry (Botanical Chemistry); Dr. H. M. Fales (Mass Spectral Techniques); Dr. Gloria Lyle (Circular Dichroism and ORD); Dr. T. M. Harris (Polyketide Biosynthesis); Dr. L. M. Jackman (NMR Techniques) and Dr. E. von Rudloff (Chemistry of Essential Oils). Anyone who would like additional information should write to the Organizing Committee, 3rd Natural Products Symposium, School of Pharmacy, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut 06268.

Election Results. The Tellers Committee of the ASP states the following results of the recent election:

Vice-President - Dr. Ralph Blomster  
Executive Committee Member - Philip Catalfomo  
Proposition of merge with the Academy of  
Pharmaceutical Sciences - Defeated

Notice of Symposium Cancellation. "Drugs from the Sea" Symposium originally proposed for August 22-25, 1971 at the University of Wisconsin under the auspices of the Marine Technology Society has been cancelled.

International Congress. The Society of Systematic Zoology and the International Association for Plant Taxonomy have joined forces to develop an opportunity for botanical/zoological interaction at the international level by sponsoring the First International Congress of Systemic and Evolutionary Biology. Because of the diversity of ecological situations and the presence of experienced, enthusiastic biologists, the University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado has been chosen as the site of the Congress on August 4-11, 1973. Program plans, at this point, encompass interdisciplinary symposia and contributed paper sessions. Correspondence may be addressed to Dr. James L. Reveal, Department of Botany, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20740.

ASP Member Receives Academy Honor. Professor Doctor Egon Stahl, Director of the Pharmacognosy and Analytical Phytochemistry Institute at the University of Saarlandes, Saarbrücken, Germany, has been selected to receive an honorary membership in the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the FIP meeting in Washington, D. C., September 7-12, 1971. Dr. Stahl will be joined by five other internationally famous scientists who have been selected to receive this honor. Professor Stahl's recognition reflects his many scientific achievements, not the least of which is his contributions to thin-layer chromatography.

Necrology. Word came only recently of the passing of Dr. Wasicky on August 9, 1970. His widow, Dr. Marianne Wasicky, states that he died of respiratory complications. Dr. Wasicky was born in Silesia, February 6, 1884. He acquired the degree Doctor of Medicine from the University of Vienna, and later became Professor of Pharmacology at the same institution. About the time of the take over of Austria by Hitler, Dr. Wasicky migrated to the New World and became Professor of Pharmacology and Pharmacognosy at the University of Sao Paul, later becoming Research Professor of Experimental Pharmacology there. Later, he was appointed Director of the Institute of Biochemical Research and Professor at the University of Santa Maria in the state of Rio Grande do Sul (1959). During his long life, he carried out numerous researches, published many scientific papers, and was the author of the celebrated "Lehrbuch der Physiopharmakognosie". The most complete biography (by Fuchs) of the deceased will be found in Scientia Pharmaceutica 21: 224; 1953. This was prepared on the occasion of Wasicky's 70th anniversary.

Pharmacognosy Colloquia at FIP Meeting. Friday, September 10, 1971, has been selected for the pharmacognosy colloquia at the FIP meeting. In the morning, the theme for the colloquium will be "Factors Affecting Natural Drug Activity". Professor Stahl will be one of the speakers during the morning session. The theme for the afternoon colloquium is "New Knowledge of Biologic Control Mechanisms Related to Natural Products". The three presentations which will provide the focus for this colloquium are "Control of Reactions by Living Cells" by Dr. Earl R. Stadtman, Chief, Laboratory of Biochemistry, National Heart and Lung Institute, National Institutes of Health; "Mechanisms and Regulation of Prostaglandin Biosynthesis" by Dr. Charles J. Sih, School of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin; and "Cell-Free Biosynthesis Studies of Streptomycin" by James B. Walker, Department of Biology, Rice University. It is anticipated that the ASP business meeting will be scheduled to follow the afternoon colloquium.

Canadian Symposium. The Medicinal Chemistry Division of the Chemical Institute of Canada will hold a "Symposium on Natural Products of Medicinal Interest from the Sea" on May 31st thru June 2, 1971 at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Symposium participants include: J. J. Denton (The Search for Drugs from the Sea); D. A. Rees (Structure, Conformation and Interactions of Some Polysaccharide Sulphates from Seaweeds); P. J. Scheuer (Recent Developments in the Chemistry of Marine Toxins); B. W. Halstead (Marine Pharmaceuticals - Opportunities and Frustrations); R. G. Ackman (Isoprenoid Fatty Acids of Marine Origin and Their Significance in Human Diets); J. S. Webb (Structure and Activity of Antibacterial Bromo Compounds from Caribbean Sponges); D. R. Idler (Sterols from Molluscs). General papers on Medicinal Chemistry will follow the Symposium. Interested parties should make enquiries to Dr. R. A. Heacock; Divisional Organizer of Medicinal Chemistry Division; c/o National Research Council; Oxford Street; Halifax, Nova Scotia.

International Biotoxicological Center. The International Biotoxicological Center of the World Life Research Institute, 23,000 Grand Terrace Road, Colton, California 92324 has recently been designated as an official International Reference Center for Documentation on Marine Biotoxins for the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. The IBC maintains the largest collection in the world of reprints, manuscripts, art work, photographs, books, and specimens of poisonous marine organisms.

Authors publishing scientific or popular articles on poisonous plants or animals, regardless of the language are encouraged to send copies of their articles or books to this documentation center. The IBC is able to provide reference, bibliographic, and documentation services on a cost basis. The IBC operates on a non-profit basis and its services are available to anyone in need of them. Dr. Bruce W. Halstead serves as the director of the IBC.

Grants. Dr. Joseph Schradie, Director of the Medicinal Plant Collection and Chairman of the Faculty Advisory Board of the Arboretum, announces the receipt of a \$20,000 grant from the Elsie and William Knight Foundation to the R. A. Stranahan Arboretum of the University of Toledo. Dr. David Perlman, Dean, University of Wisconsin, has received a \$30,000 NIH grant to continue his studies of the bioconversions of clinically useful antibiotics. Professor C. J. Sih, University of Wisconsin, has received a \$7,500 grant from G. D. Searle and Co. to investigate microbial transformations of organic compounds and a \$30,000 renewal of a grant from the NIH to continue his studies of the metabolism of steroids and prostaglandins. Dr. George Hatfield, Washington State University, has received a grant from the State of Washington Medical and Biological Research funds for the "Study of the Biosynthesis of Hispidin."

Personal. Dr. Bryce Douglas has been appointed Vice-president and will direct all of Smith, Kline and French's Human Pharmaceutical Research and Development. Dr. William I. Taylor of International Flavors and Fragrances has been named Vice-president of Research and Development. Professor Dr. E. Steinegger, University of Bern, has been nominated as an honorary member of the Polish Pharmaceutic Society. Dr. and Mrs. George Hatfield, Washington State University, are the parents of a son, David Nathan, born February 24, 1971. The Department of Pharmacognosy and Medicinal Chemistry, Purdue University, sponsored a Colloquium in Natural Products on March 5th and 6th. The ninety participants at the meeting were from the University of Illinois, Ohio State University, the University of Wisconsin, and the Eli Lilly Company, as well as from Purdue. Dr. Marvin Gorman of the Eli Lilly Company presented the keynote address, entitled "Anticapsin; A Fermentation Products Dilemma." Dr. Robert J. Suhadolnik, Albert Einstein Medical Center, visited the Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, Purdue University on January 14th and presented a lecture on "Biosynthesis of Nucleoside Antibiotics." Dr. Larry Robertson, who recently completed the requirements for a Ph.D. in Pharmacognosy at Purdue University, has joined the staff of the School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi as Assistant Professor of Pharmacognosy. Dr. Sidney J. Stohs, University of Nebraska, has been elected to the Liaison Committee of the University of Nebraska. This committee is a group of senior faculty who work on University problems with the Administration and the Board of Regents. Dr. Tony Swain is now Director of the new Laboratory of Biochemical Systematics (Chemotaxonomy) at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England. He is also currently Honorary Research Fellow in Phytochemistry at the Harvard Botanical Museum. Professor Richard E. Schultes, of the Harvard Botanical Museum, has been elected to membership in the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. John H. Trestrall, III while serving as a volunteer with the U. S. Peace Corps put into operation a small research laboratory for natural products research, with emphasis on alkaloids. Persons interested in this operation should address inquiries to Dr. Julian Banzon, Department of Agricultural Chemistry, University of the Philippines, College of Agriculture, Laguna, Republic of the Philippines. Dr. Jonathan L. Hartwell, Head Natural Products Section, Drug Development Branch, CCNSC, National Cancer Institute and Dr. Harry B. Wood, Jr., Chief, Drug Development Branch, CCNSC, NCI, visited the Department of Pharmacognosy at the School of Pharmacy, University of Tehran in February for a discussion of Iranian Medicinal plants.

Potpourri. "Work Expands so as to fill the time available for its completion" - Parkinson's First Law. Dr. Richard Schultes has brought to our attention that Richard Spruce's: "Notes of a Botanist on the Amazon and Andes" - a classic that has long been unavailable has recently been reprinted by the Johnson Reprint Co. This two-volume work is available for \$40. He also notes for our Francophiles, "Phantastica" by L. Lewin has just appeared as a French pocket edition from Petit Bibliotheque Payot, 106, Boulevard Saent-Germain, Paris (6<sup>e</sup>). A revision of the material presented in the Pharmacognosy undergraduate program is underway at the University of Wisconsin, School of Pharmacy. Professor David Perlman and the curriculum committee would appreciate receiving syllabi of courses presently offered in other schools.

1970-1971 Committees  
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Local Program Committee (1971 Meeting) - Ralph N. Blomster, Chairman; Jack K. Wier

Scientific Program Committee (1972 Meeting) - James E. Robbers, Chairman; Donald J. Abraham; Norman R. Farnsworth; Lester A. Mitscher

Local Program Committee (1972 Meeting) - Jack L. Beal, Chairman; Jack K. Wier

Special Committee on Academy Affiliations (Discharged upon completion of information for ballot mailing) - Gordon H. Svoboda, Chairman; E. John Staba; Leonard R. Worthen

Special Committee on Drafting Position Paper on Pharmacognosy (Activity in abeyance by mutual consensus of Committee and Executive Committee) - E. John Staba, Chairman; Albert T. Awad; David P. Carew