



NEWSLETTER

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History of the Plant Science Seminar - A "History of the Plant Science Seminar" has been compiled by Dr. Anna Koffler Wannamaker. The 466-page manuscript covers chronologically the period 1923-1959 and is based on old files and records transmitted to the A.S.P. as the successor organization of the Plant Science Seminar and on published reports of annual meetings.

A special committee charged with reviewing the document has reported that it contains interesting historic information which is worthy of preservation. The Executive Committee has approved a proposal to make bound xerox copies of the unedited manuscript available at cost upon subscription prior to January 10, 1973. The estimated cost of preparing xerox copies, using both sides of the sheet and binding the volume in library buckram, is in the \$30-35 range. Reservations and purchase orders for copies should be placed with Dr. Jack K. Weir, School of Pharmacy, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, prior to the January 1973 deadline. Payment will be due upon receipt of a statement after copies are prepared and the actual costs are known.

Erratum - The editor erroneously reported in the last issue of the Newsletter that Dr. Mahabir P. Gupta received his degree from the University of Washington. Dr. Gupta received his degree at Washington State University as a student of Dr. Melvin R. Gibson. My apologies.

Personal - Dr. John K. Brown, University of the Pacific, presented a paper, "Some Street Drug Identification Programs in the United States and Representative Analytical Results", at the 30th International Congress on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence in Amsterdam. Dr. Nouri Y. Mary, Brooklyn College of Pharmacy has been promoted to the rank of Professor of Pharmacognosy. Dr. R. E. Schultes, Harvard University, spent two months during the late spring in Brazil, Peru and Colombia where he delivered several lectures on hallucinogens at the Esiole de Medicina of Sao Paulo and also collected thirty-six species for chemical analysis. Dr. T. Swain, Director, Biochemical Systematics Laboratory, Kew, spent May in Cambridge, Massachusetts lecturing and setting up screening programs. Mr. Luis Aguirre, National University of Colombia, Bogota will spend two years at Kew and in Reading University in association with Dr. T. Swain. Dr. Julia F. Morton of the Morton Collectanea, spent the summer in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles and in Venezuela studying folk medicine plants and other materials used by victims of esophageal cancer. Dr. Frank J. Steele has received the 1972 Creativity Award from International Personnel Research. He has also been appointed a member of the Board

of Editors of the Chemical Formular. Prof. E. J. Shellard, Dr. Keith Brain and T. D. Turner attended the Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung Symposium on "New Methods in Phytochemistry". Dr. Elmore H. Taylor, University of Illinois, has been appointed Assistant Dean of Curricular Affairs, Dr. Harry H. S. Fong has been promoted to Professor of Pharmacognosy while Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth was elected Chairman of the Ebert Prize Committee of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences and was re-elected Chairman of the Council of the Society for Economic Botany. Dr. Orval Mullen, a recent graduate of the Ohio State University, has been appointed Assistant Professor of Pharmacognosy at the University of Minnesota. Prof. J. W. Fairbairn, School of Pharmacy, University of London, presented two lectures in May, "Some Recent Work on the Role of Alkaloids in Plants" and "The Plant Kingdom as a Source of Drugs" at both the University of Stockholm and the University of Oslo. He also presented "Cannabinoids and Alkaloids from Plants Producing Psychotropic Effects" at the 4th Latin-American Congress on Pharmacology and Therapeutics in July at Caracas, Venezuela. Dr. G. Blunden, Dr. F. Perks and Dr. W. W. Binns, School of Pharmacy, Portsmouth Polytechnic, visited Brittany, France with Etab Boennec and Alorganic Ltd., to view collection and processing of maerl. Dr. G. J. Persinos is now assistant director of the Bergstrom Toxicology Laboratory which was opened earlier in the year by she and her husband, Dr. Roger H. Bergstrom. Dr. C. D. Hufford who recently received the Ph.D. degree from the Ohio State University has joined the faculty of the University of Mississippi. Dr. Pedro Huerta, a recent graduate of the School of Pharmacy, University of Texas, has joined the faculty of Southwestern State College. Dr. Heinz G. Floss, Purdue University, was an invited participant of the 4th European Symposium of Bio-Organic Chemistry in Gregynog Hall, Wales where he presented a paper on "Stereochemistry of Tryptophan Synthetase and Some C-Methylation Reactions". He also visited several Universities and research institutes in Germany, Czechoslovakia and England. Mr. John B. Griggs has been appointed librarian at the Lloyd Library and Museum. He succeeds Mrs. Corinne Miller Simons who retired from that position in June.

Grants - Dr. Joseph Schradie, University of Toledo, as Director of the Medicinal Collection of the R. A. Stranahan Arboretum and Chairman of the University Committee for Academic Development of the Arboretum, announces a \$10,000 development grant for the Arboretum from the Elsie and William Knight Foundation. Dr. S. J. Stohs, University of Nebraska, has received a \$6,600.00 grant from the Nebraska Heart Association for his studies on cardenolide metabolism. Dr. Andrew T. Weil, Research Fellow in Ethnopharmacology in the Harvard Botanical Museum, has received a grant from the World Affairs Institute to study native medicinal uses of hallucinogenic plants. Julia F. Morton, Morton Collectanea, has received a \$58,174 NIH contract renewal to continue the search for "Possible Plant Causes of Esophageal Cancer". Drs. P. Catalfomo and G. H. Constantine, Oregon State University, have been awarded a \$21,000 grant, associated with the O.S.U. Sea Grant College, to study "The Chemistry of Marine Fungi and Marine Invertebrates". A \$14,740 N.S.F. grant has been awarded to Southwestern State College for "Toxicity Studies and Identification of a Natural Pesticide from Salsola kali (tumbleweed)". Dr. H. G. Floss, Purdue University, is the recipient of two grants (\$49,063 and \$25,000) from the National Institutes of Health for "Stereochemistry of Enzyme Reactions" and "Reactions, Enzymes and Control of Secondary Metabolism", respectively. Dr. William Remers, Purdue University, has received a Public Health Service Grant of \$18,583. Professors C. J. Sih, R. B. Morin and R. A. Ellison, University of Wisconsin have received support (\$75,000) from the Agency for International Development for their program on prostaglandin

synthesis and biosynthesis. Dr. David Perlman, University of Wisconsin, has been awarded \$9,500 from Hoffmann-LaRoche, Inc. to support his research program on microbial transformations of organic compounds; \$28,000 from the NIH Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his study "Antibiotics from Mycoplasma" and \$12,400 from Schering Corporation for antibiotic research. Dr. R. B. Morin, University of Wisconsin, has received an NIH grant of \$52,362 to study "Characterization of Host-specific Toxins" and a \$5,000 grant from Hoffmann-LaRoche, Inc. to support antibiotic research. Two grants have been received by Dr. C. J. Sih; \$7,500 from Miles Laboratory in support of his research on prostaglandins and related compounds, and \$28,000 from NIH in support of his study "Enzymic Studies on Steroids and Prostaglandins". Dr. D. B. Northrop, University of Wisconsin, has received \$28,000 from NIH for his program on "Kinetics of Enzyme Activation by Divalent Metal Ions". A study on "Chemistry and Pharmacology of Biologically Active Marine Substances", by Professors R. B. Morin, R. A. Ellison and C. F. Ryan is being supported by an allocation from the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Program. A National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Disease grant of \$48,000 has been awarded to Drs. C. J. Sih and R. B. Morin to study "Penicillin Biosynthesis and Related Peptide Chemistry". Dr. Emmanuel B. Thompson, University of Illinois Medical Center, is the recipient of a \$43,616 grant awarded by the Division of Extramural Research and Training of the National Heart and Lung Institute for the "Isolation and Characterization of the Pharmacological Action of the Antifibrillatory Substances in the Roots of Pteryria terebinthina". Dr. C. Richard Hutchinson, University of Connecticut, has been awarded an NCI-HEW grant of \$42,772 for a study on "Metabolism of Naturally Occurring Antitumor Compounds".

Books - Many members of the Society have recommended the book John Uri Lloyd, His Life and His Works - A Biography by Corinne Miller Simons, Librarian Emeritus of the Lloyd Library and Museum. John Uri Lloyd, 1949-1936, internationally famous manufacturing pharmacist, novelist and author of numerous scientific treatises on American drugs, drug plants and chemistry, was the founder with his brothers of the Lloyd Library and Museum, owner of the former Lloyd Bros. Mfg. Co., Inc. and exponent of Eclectic Medicine. The book will be published in a limited edition at \$15.00 per copy postpaid and may be ordered from C. M. Simons, U.S.P.O. Box 23154, 4122 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223. Prepayment is requested.

Other books and materials mentioned are: a punched card system for teaching analytical microscopy of vegetable materials by Fish and Nelson is being published by the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. It consists of a set of cards (60 drugs 4.40) and a teaching manual (0.75); "Flesh of the Gods" edited by Peter T. Furst (1972, Praeger Publishers, N.Y.); "Plants in the Development of Modern Medicine", edited by T. Swain (1972, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass.); "Drugs and Foods from Little Known Plants: Notes in Harvard University Herbaria" by Siri V. R. Altschul (1973, Harvard University Press). For our mushroom hunters the following books and slides are available from Deutscher Apotheker-Verlag., 7 Stuttgart 1, Postfach 40, Sortimentsabteilung, Germany: Die Pilze (1972, DM 98 with 112 color pictures); Pilze Mitteleuropas (1971, DM 16, 80); Pilze, die nicht jeder kennt, (1972, DM 6, 80 with 112 color pictures); 600 Pilze in Farben (Lange and Lange, 1970, DM 18). Color slides of mushrooms, Pilze der Heimat I (11 Bilder, DM 22) Pilze der Heimat II (9 Bilder, DM 18) as well as unbreakable models of different mushrooms (ca DM 30 ea) are also available from this firm.

Potpourri - Professor J. W. Fairbain visited the University of Ife, Nigeria this spring as external examiner in pharmacognosy and while there discussed the the future of the Degree in Pharmacy with the Dean, Dr. Egil Ramstad. This

meeting should explain the whereabouts of Dr. Ramstad to those who wondered about him. "Dr. Livingston, I presume". Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth was the recipient of the "Teacher of the Year - 1972" award presented by the Junior Class, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois. That was the year that was or Pedagogy doth hath rewards. A exhibit of nine varieties of flowering periwinkle plants with an explanation of their medicinal value, designed by Dr. Frank A. Crane, University of Illinois, won a gold medal in the 1972 Chicago World Flower and Garden Show. The Medicinal Plants section of the F.I.P. recently organized a very successful ten day trip to Turkey. Starting in Izmir, they made their way inland to Pamukkale and south to Antalya and Abanya and returned to Istanbul. Since this is the last year for the legal production of opium in Turkey, they were fortunate to view fields of poppies as well as fields of Cannabis being grown for fiber. Archeological sites at Pergamon, Didyma, Pieone, Hierapolis, Ephesus, Side and Aspendos were visited. Messes T. Plowman and T. Lockwood spent several months studying Brunfelsia and Datura in Panama, Colombia and Ecuador. The abstracting organ, Excerpta Botanica Section A (Gustav Fischer Verlag, Stuttgart) has two sections of importance to pharmacognosists: A-8 dealing with phytochemistry, chemotaxonomy and plant serology; A-9 which deals with pharmacognosy. Abstracts are in German, English, Spanish and French, depending on the nationality of the abstractor. Sections D-1: Herbaria, botanical gardens, museums and meetings; D-2: Biography, personalia and bibliography; and D-3: prehistory and ethnobotany may also be of interest. Dr. Eloy Mandrile has reported that the Confederation of Pharmacy and Biochemistry of Argentina held a meeting in July in LaPlata, Argentina which contained several sessions of pharmacognostical interest. These included the topics: "Pharmacognosy of Hallucinogens and Alkaloids of Fungi and Mushrooms", "Pharmacological Action of LSD", "Pharmacognosy of Marihuana", "Pharmacological Action of Marihuana", "Mixtures of Hallucinogens from Higher Plants", "Psychiatric Aspects Following the Use of Hallucinogenic Drugs" and a panel discussion concerned with drug abuse.

The editor would like to take this opportunity to thank the many correspondents who have taken the time to respond to the call for news. In fact, over double the number of usual reports were received. Those of us involved with the Newsletter are gratified by the response but would like to be greedy and ask that more members avail themselves of the chance to report on the doings in their laboratories and also to call to our attention books and films which might be significant. If the correspondents would include Author, Title, Publisher, year published and Cost of the books that they report, it would make the data more meaningful to the interested readers.

Speaking of books brings to mind the story of three professors of literature, from London, who while returning from a luncheon, encountered several ladies of pleasure who were strolling en masse. "What might one call such a congregation?" mused the first professor, a Shakespearian specialist: "A flourish of strumpets?"

The second professor, being an authority on the novels of Anthony Trollope, naturally contributed "a chapter of trollops."

The youngest professor, being the least specialized called the ladies "an anthology of pros."

Which, as Henny Youngman would say, "reminds us of a friend, a young English scientist's first visit to the States. Unfamiliar with the city he, in his ignorance, sought lodging in the red-light district. His money, however, was as green as his outlook and the Madam offered him a room for the night. When we questioned him about his accommodations at lunch the next day he replied"! "Well the room wasn't very pretentious, you know, but gad, what maid service!"

To protect yourselves from further outrages, as our reminiscing, we suggest that the membership avail themselves of the memorandum and thus fill the space with news.