



# NEWSLETTER

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Honorary Membership. The Society awarded honorary membership to two distinguished scientists at its annual meeting in Jekyll Island, Georgia, Dr. Jonathan L. Hartwell and Dr. John J. Willaman. A brief biographical sketch for each of the awardees follows:

Dr. Jonathan L. Hartwell

Born February 21, 1906, Boston, Massachusetts. He received his B.A. (1928), M.A. (1929) and Ph.D. (1935) degrees from Harvard University. From 1929-1931 he was a research chemist at E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co., 1935-1937 he served as a research chemist at Interchemical Corporation and from 1938-present he has been affiliated with the National Cancer Institute as research chemist, Chief Research Communications Branch and Head, Natural Products Section, DDB, DR&D. Dr. Hartwell has been the author of numerous papers on synthetic organic reactions and the effects of extracts and compounds of natural origin on induced tumor systems in animals. He has been interested in and published widely in the area of screening for anti-tumor compounds and organic chemistry in approaches to tumor chemotherapy. Since 1947 he has published numerous articles on the active compounds of Podophyllin and in 1967 started publishing his encyclopedic work "Plants Used Against Cancer. A Survey." which has recently been completed.

Dr. John J. Willaman

Born October 7, 1889, Brodhead, Wisconsin. He received his B.S. degree from University of Wisconsin (1912) and his M.S. (1914) and Ph.D. (1919) in Plant Physiology from the University of Chicago. During 1913-1916 he was an instructor in agricultural biochemistry at the University of Minnesota, assistant professor from 1916-1923, associate professor from 1923-1928 and professor from 1928-1929 at the same institution. He served as chief of the division of chemistry at the N. Y. Experimental Station 1929-1930; as a biochemist at Rohm and Haas Co., Inc. 1930-1940 and then as Chief, of the Plant Products Lab., Eastern Utilization Research Division, Agriculture Research Service, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture from 1940 until he retired in 1959. He was a Rockefeller Foundation Fellow at the Imperial College, London and the Biochemical Institute, Stockholm from 1927-1928. He has made notable contributions to phytochemistry over a period of many years. He became an expert in pectin chemistry at Minnesota and on going to

the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory established a plant chemistry laboratory. During the period 1950-1960 he was associated in the screening of the Plant Kingdom for substances suitable for the synthesis of cortisone and also developed screening procedures for alkaloids, flavanoids, tannins, sterols and biologically active substances. Another significant contribution to phytochemistry has been his compilation on "Alkaloid Bearing Plants and their Contained Alkaloids".

Kilmer Prize. The 1973 Kilmer Prize for the best paper based on research in pharmacognosy by a member of the graduating class of an accredited college of pharmacy was presented, at the annual banquet, to Mr. Patrick J. Davis of the University of Iowa. Mr. Davis' paper was entitled "The Metabolism of N-Carbobenzoxy-2-Tryptophan by Chromobacterium violaceum. Production, Isolation and Characterization of the Unusual Metabolite, 2',3'-Dehydro-N-Carbobenzoxytryptophan."

Fourth Congress. The IV Conference of the Pharmacognosy Section of the Hungarian Pharmaceutical Association, with limited international participation, was held at Tata from May 30 to June 2. It covered a wide range of research interests in pharmacognosy and in two sections about 70 reports were given on a wide variety of medicinal plants.

Mycological Nomenclature. A standing nomenclature committee has been established by the International Mycological Association to study specific problems in nomenclature and to propose changes at the 1975 Botanical Congress. Actively interested persons are encouraged to serve on or more special committees. Interested persons may correspond to Dr. R. P. Korf, Plant Pathology Herbarium, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. 14850 U.S.A.

Computerized Botanical Data. The American Horticultural Society, Plant Records Center has announced the availability of a new service, using computerized data files, to provide information relating to plants cultivated within North America. More than 200,000 records are maintained representing living plants cultivated within major North American botanic gardens, parks and arboreta. The basic information regarding any desired taxon -- collection(s), where grown, date of acquisition, and original source(s), can be provided for a minimum service fee of \$10.00. This service provides a source for researchers to refer to in order to locate specific plants and the center can direct scientists to desired living plants. For additional information regarding this service please contact: Richard A. Brown, Director, The American Horticultural Society, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121, Plant Records Center.

Necrology. Dr. E. F. Steinmetz passed away on Christmas Day, 1972, in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. He was the publisher of two serials, Acta Phytotherapeutica, and the Quarterly Journal of Crude Drug Research. He was the author of several lexicons, Vocabularium Botanicum (1947), Codex Vegetabilis (1947), Drug Guide (1959), Materia Medica Vegetabilis (1957) and Piper methysticum (1969). At the time of his death he was a bachelor in his 70's.

Personal. Professor J. W. Fairbain was awarded a Doctorate in Pharmacy, honoris causa, from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, June 1973, in recognition of his work on anthraquinones, the function of alkaloids in

plants and studies on Cannabis sativa. He has also been appointed Chairman of the Working Group on Papaver bracteatum, U. N. Division on Narcotics. Kenneth Redman, College of Pharmacy, South Dakota State University, retired July 1, 1973 as Professor of Pharmacognosy Emeritus after 42 years of teaching in pharmaceutical education. Included in the various awards and citations on his retirement was Honorary President of the South Dakota Pharmaceutical Association. Drs. Alvin B. Segelman and Richard E. Schultes presented lectures at the "Psychoactive Drugs" Seminar at the Roche Laboratories. Dr. Frank R. Stermitz, Colorado State University, has been awarded a Senior Fulbright-Hays Scholarship to lecture and conduct phytochemical research at the Department of Plant Biochemistry of Buenos Aires. Dr. Bent E. Neilsen, Royal Danish School of Pharmacy, was a visiting lecturer last spring in the department of pharmacognosy, University of Georgia. Dr. David P. Carew, University of Iowa, served as Visiting Professor at the Facultad de Farmacia of Universidad Central de Venezuela in Caracas, Venezuela during the month of June. He was involved in natural products. The Pharmacy College is developing a Natural Products Research Laboratory and is presently studying plants native to Venezuela. Dr. Maynard W. Quimby, Research Scientist and Professor Emeritus, Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Mississippi has been elected a Fellow of the A.Ph.A. Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Drs. Michael Corbett and Larry Robertson were each promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Pharmacognosy at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Stewart A. Brown has been appointed Dean of Graduate Studies at Trent University, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Ralph L. Lyon, a recent Ph.D. recipient at the University of Illinois, has joined the Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Rhode Island as Assistant Professor. Mr. Steven Zelenski, who received his Ph.D. from the Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Rhode Island is currently a post-doctoral student in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Laurence H. Hurley is currently Assistant Professor of Pharmacognosy at the University of Kentucky.

Grants. Dr. Yuzuru Shimizu, University of Rhode Island has received a renewal of a grant for \$14,000 from the Office of Water Resources to continue his work on the effect of chlorination of organic molecules in water. A Sea-Grant award in the amount of \$33,499 has been made available to the Department of Pharmacognosy, University of Rhode Island, to continue investigations of marine organisms for potential medicinal agents. Dr. Larry W. Robertson, University of Mississippi, has received a \$60,000 two year grant from the National Institutes of Health for a study on the "Microbial Transformation of Cannabinoids". Professor J. W. Fairbain has been granted a further Medical Research Council post-doctoral grant for work on Cannabis. Dr. C. J. Sih, University of Wisconsin, is the recipient of an \$11,500 grant from the Miles Chemical Company in support of his program on prostaglandins and \$33,383 from the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases for "Biochemical Studies on Steroids and Prostaglandins". Dr. David Perlman, University of Wisconsin, has received a grant of \$10,500 from the Schering-Plough Corporation in support of his work with aminoglycoside antibiotics. He has also a grant from the Warner-Lambert Research Institute of \$15,000 in support of his program on antibiotics from unusual organisms and \$20,000 from Hoffmann-LaRoche supporting studies on L-sorbose metabolism. Dr. R. L. Mower, University of California at Berkeley, will be supported by a \$13,000 grant from the USDA to study biologically active products formed during certain cases of hyperparasitism of ergot. Dr. George M. Hatfield, Washington State University, has been funded by the National

Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, for \$25,000 for a study "An Investigation of Coprinus atramentarius". A grant from the Nebraska Heart Association has been provided to Dr. Sidney J. Stohs, University of Nebraska, to study the mechanisms of protection of PCN from Digitalis toxicity. Drs. R. B. Morin and C. J. Sih, University of Wisconsin, have been funded \$42,317 by the National Institutes of Health to study "Penicillin Biosynthesis and Related Peptide Chemistry", and Drs. R. B. Morin and R. Durbin have been awarded \$38,086 by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences in support of their program on "Characterization of Host-Specific Toxins". Dr. D. B. Northrop, also of Wisconsin, has received a \$24,717 grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to study "Kinetics of Enzyme Activation by Divalent Metal Ions".

Books. The following books have been suggested by the membership as ones that may be of interest: The Botany and Chemistry of Hallucinogens by R. Schultes, A. Hofmann and B. Kugelmass (Charles C. Thomas, \$14.75); Common Poisonous Plants of Utah and the Intermountain West by N. G. Michalopoulos (available from Educational Media, Inc., P. O. Box 11274, Salt Lake City, Utah for \$1.75 per copy); Drugs and Foods from Little Known Plants. Notes in Harvard University Herbaria by S. vR. Altschul (Harvard University Press); Drug Analysis by Chromatography and Microscopy edited by Egon Stahl (Pierce Chemical Co. \$22.50 hard cover and \$17.50 soft cover); also available free of charge are the AMAC Handbook, Methods and Reagents for Amino Acid and Protein Chemistry and Handbook of Silylation and Other Techniques for Gas Phase Analysis (Pierce Chemical Co., P. O. Box 117, Rockford, Illinois 61105). These es-Sciences de l'Universite de Grenoble (Novembre 1972): "Le Nepal ecologie et Phytogeographie. Mise au point d'une methode cartographique d'etude des montagnes tropicales". J. F. Dobremez; Bibliographic du Nepal (3 vols.); tome 2: Botanique", J. F. Dobremez, F. Vigny and L. H. J. Williams, edition CNRS 1972. (These books are available from J. F. Dobremez, Laboratoire de Botanique, B. P. 53 Centre de tri, 38041-Grenoble).

Pot-Pourri. Dr. Michael Corbett, University of Mississippi, spent two weeks in August collecting research materials at the International Undersea Laboratory which is located on the west coast of Puerto Rico. Dr. George M. Hocking, Auburn University, School of Pharmacy, Auburn, Ala. 36830, who reported the passing of Dr. Steinmetz has noted that the two journals will not be continued and he feels that the publication of one or both should be continued as they were publishing articles and drug plants and contributing to our fund of knowledge in these two areas. He would be pleased to hear from any of the membership who have any suggestions or possibly offers in the way of supporting efforts for continuing publication. The Census Bureau reports that for every man who lives to be 85, there are seven women. But by that time it's too late. You should work 8 hours and sleep 8 hours, but not the same 8 hours. There is no fool like an old fool - You can't beat experience. Marriage is an institution that teaches a man regularity, frugality, temperance, forbearance and many other splendid virtues he wouldn't need if he stayed single.