



# NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY - EDITED BY RALPH N. BLOMSTER  
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

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Summary of the 1974 Business Meeting - President William J. Kelleher called the meeting to order and addressed the assembled members concerning events of the past year. He noted that this was the fifteenth anniversary of the Society. The following reports were presented and accepted:

Secretary - Minutes of the 1973 Business Meeting were distributed. No members were known to have become deceased during the year.

Treasurer - Total assets as of June 30, 1974 - \$21,556.53.

Auditing Committee - Treasurer's books are in order.

Awards and Funds Committee - No report.

Editor of "Lloydia" - For 1973 issue, number of manuscripts submitted (65) is relatively high. Cost of publication is at an all-time high - about a 50% rise from 1971. Need exists for a thorough study of the financing of the Journal.

1973 Scientific Program Committee - Six invited speakers comprised the symposium, "The Chemistry and Biological Activity of Natural Toxins." Fifty-two contributed papers were presented.

Publicity Committee - "Drugs Topics" desires articles on Clinical Pharmacognosy. For further information, write to Dr. Elmore Taylor, 916 Waverly, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 60137.

Membership Committee - Active members-364, associate members-10, honorary members-5. This is about 15% below the all-time high membership in 1969.

Patron Membership Committee - Benefactor-1, Sustaining Member-1, Patron Members-7.

Nominating Committee - The following were placed in nomination:

Vice President - George H. Constantine, Jr.  
Sidney J. Stohs

Executive Committee Member - Georgia J. Persinos  
Hildebert Wagner

There were no nominations from the floor.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee - No recommendations.

Honorary Membership Committee - Albert Hofmann and Kurt Mothes recommended for honorary membership.

Lloydia Prize Committee - Recommended against awarding a prize for the best paper contributed to "Lloydia" each year.

ASP Emblem Committee - Recommended two designs for selection of the official emblem of the Society. One of the designs was selected by vote of the members present. (It is currently used on some of the official stationery of the Society.)

1975 Annual Meeting Committee - A joint meeting with Die Gesellschaft fur Arzneipflanzenforschung at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, July 27 through August 2, 1975. Symposium topic - "Natural Flavors and Odors."

1976 Annual Meeting Committee - To be held at Lake Telemark Lodge near Cable, Wisconsin - a lovely resort with fine facilities at reasonable cost.

Election of the 1974-75 Nominating Committee - The following were elected: Lynn R. Brady, Harry H. S. Fong, John P. Rosazza.

Resolutions Committee - Appropriate resolution were presented to express the gratitude of the Society to those persons who contributed to this very successful Symposium and meeting.

Installation of New Officers - President Kelleher installed the new officers and relinquished the chair.

President - Leonard R. Worthen  
Vice President - Philip Catalfomo  
Executive Committee Member - Jerry L. McLaughlin

President Worthen adjourned the meeting.

Second Joint Meeting ASP-GFA - The 1975 Annual Meeting of the Society this year is to be a joint meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy and Die Gesellschaft fur Arzneipflanzenforschung. The University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy at Storrs, Connecticut, is to be the host institution and dates for the meeting are set as July 27 to August 2, 1975.

The call for papers will go out in March, with a deadline of May 15th. A preliminary notice, which will contain the list of speakers and their topics will be sent, to the whole membership of both Societies, at the end of January 1975.

All papers and lectures are to be presented in English with the Symposium topic to be "Natural Flavors and Odors". Also there will be two or three major lectures on "Advances in the Field of Alkaloid Chemistry".

Officials for the meeting are:

Liaison Committee - W. J. Kelleher, University of Connecticut  
E. Mechler, University of Tübingen  
Scientific Committee - J. M. Edwards, University of Connecticut  
H. Friedrich, University of Münster  
Ladies Committee - A. Rother, University of Connecticut  
S. M. Edwards, Storrs, Connecticut  
Local Committee - R. P. Collins, University of Connecticut

Dues Notice--Problems and Difficulties - The Treasurer has informed the Editor that the response to the call for payment of dues has been inordinately slow this year and that there has been some uncertainty as to the dues structure. To clear the air with regard to this difficulty, President Worthen has informed us that dues are \$15.00 for all Active Members and \$2.00 for Associate Members. Payable to the Society through Dr. Frank O'Connell, Treasurer, School of Pharmacy University of West Virginia, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506.

New Officers - The Tellers Committee certifies the following to be the result of the recent election:

Vice President - George H. Constantine, Jr.  
Executive Committee Member - Georgia J. Persinos

Botanical Codex - A committee has been appointed by President Worthen to consider the feasibility of the establishment of a Botanical Codex. This committee, chaired by Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth, will report to the Society at the next Annual Meeting.

New Members - Our Society is no different than any of the myriad of other scientific societies who are actively seeking new members and you will find a copy of a membership application enclosed with this Newsletter. Please use it! Convince your colleagues and students of the worth of being a member of our august cody. Frenesey's Law, which applies to teaching institutions, states that "a chimpanzee, as long as he keeps his mouth shut, can graduate from an institution of higher learning. However, if we keep our mouths shut, we will not induce our colleagues into graduating into the ASP. Make noise, make the Society visible.

Philip Morris Science Symposium - The Second Philip Morris Science Symposium will be held in Richmond, Virginia on October 30, 1975. The theme of the Symposium will be "The Recent Chemistry of Natural Products, Including Tobacco". Speakers are: Dr. Melvin Calvin, The University of California, Berkeley; Dr. A. Ian Scott, Yale University; Dr. Richard E. Schultes, Botanical Museum, Harvard University; Dr. Thomas S. Osdene, The Philip Morris Research Center; Sir Derek H. R. Barton, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London; Dr. Ernest Wenkert, Indiana University. Lord Todd, Master of Christ's College at Cambridge University will preside over the Symposium. Invitations will be extended to persons who express an interest. Of course, the number of invitations will be limited to the capacity of the facility. Inquiries should be directed to: Nicholas J. Fina, The Philip Morris Research Center, P.O. Box 26583, Richmond, Virginia 23261.

Drug Sources - In this issue, the Newsletter is initiating a new service to ASP members. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to buy crude drugs both for instructional and research purposes. Starting with this issue the Newsletter will carry a list of drugs which have been found difficult to obtain in reasonably small quantities. If members know of sources of these drugs, they are invited to write to the person needing them with a carbon copy of the letter to the Editor of the Newsletter. In the following issue of the Newsletter, the sources of the drugs will be printed for the benefit of all ASP members. Filed Newsletters can be an important source of information regarding future crude drug needs. Members are invited to send the Editor names of drugs for which they can find no source.

Dr. Melvin R. Gibson, College of Pharmacy, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99163, is interested in knowing sources of the following in 10-20 lb. quantities: Strophanthus (whole seed); Nutgall (whole) and Cartagena Ipecac (whole drug).

Clinical Pharmacognosy Articles Sought - Elmore H. Taylor, Chairman of the Publicity Committee writes that the editors of Drug Topics would like to receive articles of a clinical or patient-oriented nature from ASP members. There is a new and growing reader demand for clinically oriented papers and Drug Topics feel that some pharmacognosists could contribute in a meaningful way to this series. If you have an article or series of articles on some widely used natural drug product, immunologicals or antibiotics, or other appropriate areas, we encourage you to submit it for possible inclusion in some future issue(s) to Elizabeth W. Buruchian, Senior Associate Editor, Drug Topics, Oradell, New Jersey 07649, Telephone (201)262-3030.

Society for Economic Botany Meeting - The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Society for Economic Botany will be held at the School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland at Baltimore on June 15-18, 1975. Dr. Robert E. Perdue has organized a two-day Symposium "Plants and Cancer" which will give attention

to carcinogenic and co-carcinogenic plants, as well as drugs of plant origin that may be useful in chemotherapy of cancer. Topics slated for the Symposium are:

History of the National Cancer Institute and the Plant Screening Program - Dr. Saul A. Schepartz

The Folklore as a Tool in Predicting Sources of Anticancer Drugs - Mr. Richard W. Spjut

Procurement of Plant Materials for Anticancer Screening - Dr. Robert E. Perdue, Jr.

Preparation of Plant Extracts for Anticancer Screening - Mr. Francis B. Coon

Bioassay of Plant Extracts for Anticancer Activity - Miss Betty J. Abbott

Methods of Chemical Fractionation to Isolate Active Agents; Methods of Characterization of Active Agents - Dr. Monroe E. Wall

Types of Anticancer Agents Isolated from Plants - Dr. Jonathan L. Hartwell

Lower Plants as a Source of Anticancer Drugs - Dr. John D. Douros

Distribution of Anticancer Activity in Higher Plants - Dr. Arthur S. Barclay

Novel Plant - Derived Tumor Inhibitors and Their Mechanisms of Action - Drs. S. Morris Kupchan and John W. Mallet

Preclinical and Clinical Pharmacology and Antitumor Drugs from Plants - Dr. Richard H. Adamson

Clinical Evaluation of Drugs from Plants - Dr. Stephen K. Carter

Case History: The Genus *Cephalotaxus*, Source of Homobarringtonine and Related Anticancer Alkaloids - Dr. Cecil R. Smith, Jr.

Carcinogenic and Co-Carcinogenic Plants and Their Active Constituents - Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth

Questions relating to reservations and submission of contributed papers should be directed to: Dr. Ralph N. Blomster or Dr. Karl Heinz Rösler, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, 636 W. Lombard Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

XII International Botanical Congress - The Congress will be held in Leningrad July 3-10, 1975 and all correspondence should be addressed to: XII International Botanical Congress, 2, Prof. Popov St., Leningrad 197022, USSR.

Personal - Dr. Yuzuru Shimizu, University of Rhode Island, has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Gordon Research Conference - Marine Natural Products Section. Dr. Akio Kobayashi formerly of Kyoto University has been appointed a Research Associate at the University of Rhode Island. Dr. E. John Staba, University of Minnesota, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the Journal of the Tissue Culture Association and has been granted a patent for the production of allergens by plant tissue culture technique. He was an invitational participant as was Dr. David P. Carew, University of Iowa, in the U.S. Republic of China Cooperative Science Program Seminar on Plant Tissue Culture and Cell Culture. Dr. Yusuf Abul-Haji, University of Minnesota, is currently on sabbatical at the University Hospitals of the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. Dr. C. Richard Hutchinson has joined the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy as Assistant Professor. Professor Vladimir Prelog of the Swiss Federal Institute, Zurich, presented the 1974 Rennebohm Lecture at the School of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin. Dr. Byron G. Skarbis, University of Thessalonica, has been appointed Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Dr. George H. Aynilian, formerly of the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy, has joined Abbott Laboratories in North Chicago, Illinois.

Dr. Julia Morton, University of Miami, was presented the 1974 achievement award of the National Woman's Farm and Garden Association at their 60th Annual Meeting. Dr. Siri von Reis Altschul has been appointed Honorary Curator of Ethnobotany at the New York Botanical Garden and also Honorary Research Associate in Ethnopharmacology at the Botanical Museum of Harvard University. Dr. Charles L. Winek, Duquesne University, has been appointed Editor of the American Association of Poison Control Newsletter. Dr. Florence P. Segelman received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh and is now a Research Associate at Rutgers University. Dr. Alvin B. Segelman has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Pharmacognosy at the same institution. Dr. Wu-Nan Wu has returned to Ohio State University, College of Pharmacy after spending two years post-doctoral at the University of Florida School of Pharmacy. Dr. Sidney J. Stohs, University of Nebraska Medical Center, has been selected as a Fellow of the Mid-America State Universities Association and has been promoted to Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacognosy and Medicinal Chemistry.

Grants - Dr. Jack L. Beal, Ohio State University, has received a three-year grant from NIH totaling \$68,700 to continue his phytochemical study of the genus Thalictrum. Drs. Lester A. Mitscher and Jack L. Beal have received a grant from NSF to enable a cooperative research program between the pharmacognosy and natural products laboratory of Ohio State University and the laboratory of Tetsuji Kametani of Tohoku University. Dr. C. J. Sih is being supported by a \$38,610 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for his program on "Penicillin Biosynthesis and Related Peptide Chemistry". Dr. Yusuf Abul-Haji, from the Graduate School, University of Minnesota, for the development of a diagnostic procedure for the differentiation between hormone-dependant and hormone-independent breast tumors. Dr. Orval Mullen, from the American Cancer Society to study Soluble Tumor Antigens and Immunity. Drs. John M. Cassidy and Heinz G. Floss, Purdue University, \$30,000 from National Cancer Institute for the sixth year of work on the synthesis of ergolines as potential prolactin inhibitors. Dr. Stephen R. Byrn has received two three-year grants from the Public Health Service--one for \$91,076 entitled "Structural Studies of Physiologically Active Agents" and the second for \$68,203 entitled "Solid State Reactions in Medicinal Chemistry". Dr. Jerry L. McLaughlin, Purdue University, has received a \$30,494 grant from the National Institute of General Medicinal Sciences to work on a project "Cacti as Drugs of Abuse". Dr. William A. Remers received \$17,594 from Public Health Service to study "Antitumor Agents; Synthesis of Mitomycin Antibodies". Drs. Heinz G. Floss and John Cassidy, \$5,000 from Eli Lilly and Co. to support work on "Exploration of a Route for the Preparation of Lergotriole"; Heinz G. Floss and Ching-jer Chang, \$54,414 from the National Institutes of Health for the second year of a project "Studies on Biologically Active Microbial Metabolites". Dr. Heinz G. Floss received a four-year renewal of his project "Stereochemistry of Enzyme Reactions" from the National Institutes of Health in the amount of \$150,000. Dr. Ali Shafi, from the Iranian Ministry of Sciences, received two grants--one to establish Papaver bracteatum tissue culture and the second to study Russian Thistle Allergens in Iran. Dr. David P. Carew, University of Iowa, has been awarded \$5,000 from Eli Lilly and Co. to support ASP member Robert Krueger as an Eli Lilly Pre-doctoral Fellow. Drs. D. H. Rich and R. D. Durbin, University of Wisconsin, have been awarded a grant of \$31,168 from NIH to research "Synthesis, Conformation and Mode of Action of Tentoxin". Dr. David Perlman, University of Wisconsin, is the recipient of grants in the amount of \$38,000 from NIH to support his studies on "Inhibition of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> binding in Tumors"; \$10,000 from Hoffmann-LaRoche, Inc. to support his program on microbial oxidations of organic compounds and \$25,000 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease to support his program on "Antibiotics from Mycoplasma". Drs. C. J. Sih and H. W. Whitlock, University of Wisconsin, have

received a grant from NIH for \$89,000 to study "Biological Modifications of the Ansamycins". Dr. Michael Corbett, University of Mississippi, from National Cancer Institute, \$35,463 for "Thiamine Mediated Formation of Hydroxamic Acids"; Dr. Norman J. Doorenbos, \$17,989 from S. B. Penick and Co. for "Investigation of Papaver species" and \$98,535 from the FDA for "The Isolation and Chemical Identification of Compounds Produced in Stressed Potatoes". Dr. Charles D. Hufford, University of Mississippi, \$37,260 from National Cancer Institute to study "Antitumor Agents from West African Plants". Dr. Jack Rosazza, University of Iowa, an NIH grant in the amount of \$66,152 for his work on "Microbial Transformations of Natural Antitumor Agents".

Aid Sought - The chairman of the Membership Committee requests that the members send him the names of people who work in our wide and varied fields who are not now members of the Society. If you are afraid to ask a colleague to fill out the enclosed membership form, or if you know of people in the field, but don't know them personally, send their names to the chairman, Dr. Philip Catalfomo, Oregon State University School of Pharmacy, Corvallis, Oregon 97331 and he will forward a letter explaining and extolling the views of the Society.

Books - La Pharmacopee Senegalaise Tradetionelle by J. Kerharo and J. G. Adam. (Vigot Freres, Paris 370 F, 1974). A very thorough analysis of the traditional Senegalese Pharmacopeia, with the major portion of the book devoted to medicinal and toxic plants (550 species). 500 Plants of South Florida by J. F. Morton (E. A. Seeman Publishing, Inc., Miami, Florida, \$9.95, 1974). It will serve as a guide to the best of ornamental plant materials to be encountered in Florida. Poisonous Plants a 16 mm film which runs for 26 minutes has recently been released. This color and sound film illustrates 65 common plants which cause allergies, dermatitis which could be harmful if injected. It is on loan for a rental fee of \$25.00 or may be purchased for \$175.00. The Quarterly Journal of Crude Drug Research is being reactivated after being merged with Acta Phytotherapeutica. The new publisher is Swets and Zeitlinger, B. V., of Lisse, Netherlands and the new editor is G. M. Hocking of Auburn University. The book History of Coca, - "The Dwine Plant of the Incas", by W. Golden Mortimer, which has been unavailable for years, has been reproduced as a facsimile by And/Or Press and is available for \$50.00 (leather-bound, \$19.95 (deluxe clothbound) and \$8.50 (paperbound) from And/Or Press, 3431 Rincon Annex, San Francisco, Ca. 94119. There are available from Dr. Bernice G. Schubert, some 25-50 copies of USDA Tech. Bulletin 1234, "Alkaloid-Bearing Plants and Their Contained Alkaloids". They are available from Dr. Schubert at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. 02138, but because of lack of help, Dr. Schubert will not be able to process very many requests at one time.