



NEWSLETTER

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SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

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Annual Meeting: The 1976 annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy will take place at Telemark Lodge, Cable, Wisconsin, on July 11-16. A symposium entitled "Naturally Occurring Antitumor Agents of Clinical Interest" will be presented with the following speakers and topics:

- Dr. Hamao Umeyawa - "Recent Studies on Bleomycin"
- Dr. Federico Arcamone - "Chemistry and Biochemistry of Antitumor Anthracyclines"
- Dr. S. Morris Kupchan - "The Maytansinoids: Novel Antileukemic Ansa Macrolides"
- Dr. Koert Gerzon - "Chemical Modification of Vinblastine for Medicinal Evaluation"
- Dr. James Kutney - "Studies on the Synthesis of Dimeric Alkaloids"
- Dr. Heinz G. Floss - "Ergolines as Potential Prolactin and Mammary Tumor Inhibitors"
- Dr. Susan Horwitz - "The Mechanism of Action of Selected Naturally Occurring Antitumor Agents"
- Dr. Milan Slavik - "Natural Products in Cancer Chemotherapy, An Overview of Clinical Studies"

Abstracts of not more than 200 words, excluding the title, should reach the Scientific Program Committee not later than May 15, 1976. These should be sent to Prof. John M. Cassady, School of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana 47907. Abstracts should be typed, double space, on a single sheet with the title and authors set out as follows:

Example heading: BIOSYNTHESIS OF ERGOT ALKALOIDS. H. G. Floss, J. M. Cassady, and J. E. Robbers, School of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences, Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana 47907.

Society Officers: Officers to be installed at the annual meeting will be:

Vice President - Heinz G. Floss
Executive Committee Member - Paul L. Schiff, Jr.
Secretary - Jack K. Wier
Treasurer - Lee C. Schramm

cc: S. Nickel
L.C. Weener

Dues Notification: A plea has been entered by the Secretary and the Treasurer and is duly noted. The Society has voted to increase the dues to twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars per annum. Please make sure that new membership applications are changed. Also remember the increase when you pay your own dues. There has been a problem noted this year with distribution of the Newsletter to the membership. It seems that when addresses were provided from the Newsletter membership files to send notices for the Annual Meeting our files provided a large number of names that did not jibe with other lists. Therefore, we wish to solicit a small favor, a mere bagatelle, as it were. Please look among your valuables and make sure that you are a CARD-CARRYING MEMBER of the Society. If you are not, you may reinstate yourself by sending \$25.00 to the Treasurer: Dr. Frank O'Connell, School of Pharmacy, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506.

First International Congress for Research on Medicinal Plants: This congress has been organized under the auspices of:

Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung, Phytochemical Society of England and International Association for Plant Tissue Culture

and is to be held at the University of Munich (BRD), September 6-10, 1976. The meeting will consist of two series of Plenary Lectures:

Section A: "New Natural Products with Pharmacological or Therapeutic Activity"

Section B: "Plant Tissue Culture and its Bio-technological Application"

Plenary lectures of Section A: (1) Screening methods in medicinal plant research; (2) Tumor inhibiting natural products; (3) Natural products acting on liver; (4) Plant mono-, di- and sesquiterpenoids with pharmacological or therapeutic activity; (5) Chemistry of new alkaloids with biological or therapeutical activity.

Plenary lectures of Section B: (1) Somatic hybridization and fusion; (2) Cell cultures and secondary products, Part I; (3) Catabolism of Xenobiotics; (4) Instrumentation and general techniques; (5) Biotransformations; (6) Biochemistry, physiology and regulatory aspects of plant cell cultures; (7) Cell cultures and secondary products, Part II; (8) Regeneration.

Inquiries regarding Section A may be addressed to: Dr. P. Wolff or Prof. H. Wagner, D-800 München 2, Karlstr. 29, Institute für Pharmazeutische Arzneimittellehre and for Section B to: Prof. E. Reinhard, D-7400 Tübingen, Auf der Mogensletle 8, Pharmazeutisches Institut.

IUPAC Symposium: The 10th International IUPAC Symposium on the Chemistry of Natural Products will be held at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand August 23-27, 1976 and will cover six main aspects of Natural Products Chemistry. Further information is available on request from the Symposium Secretary: Associate Professor P. K. Grant, Chemistry Department, University of Otago, P.O. Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Society for Economic Botany: The 17th Annual Meeting of the Society will be held from June 13-16, 1976 on the University of Illinois Campus, Urbana, Illinois. This meeting will feature a Symposium entitled "CROPS (Cultivated

Resources: Origin and Potential for Society)" with the following topics scheduled:

1. Potential Wealth in New Crops: Research and Development
2. Plant Introductions - A Source of New Crops
3. Potential for Development of Wild Plants as Row Crops for Use by Man
4. The Current and Potential Economic Value of Plants and Drugs Derived from Them
5. Nonfood Uses for Commercial Vegetable Oil Crops
6. New Industrial Potentials for Carbohydrates
7. New Evidence for the Tropical Origin of New World Crops
8. The Requirements for a Green Revolution
9. How Green can a Revolution Be?
10. How Far Can We Go?
11. Dioscorea--The Pill Crop
12. The Impact of Evolutionary Diversification of Terpenoids on Forest Products Utilization
13. Naturally Occurring Insecticides: Present Status and Future Prospects
14. Heva Rubber--Past and Future
15. Coffea--with special emphasis on Coffea arabia
16. Problems and Research in Horseradish

The meeting will be highlighted by the Presidential Address "Americas Crops-- A Bicentennial History" to be presented by Dr. Walter Hodge and by a Panel Discussion: "Major Crops of the Midwestern U.S., Current Thoughts on Origins, Present Status and Future".

Registration forms, details for local arrangements and other information is available from: Dr. David S. Siegler, Department of Botany, 289 Morrill Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

Phytochemical Society of North America: The meeting will be held August 8-11, 1976 on the campus of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. "The Structure, Biosynthesis and Degredation of Wood" is the subject of the symposium. Topics and speakers are:

- Wood Ultrastructure in Relation to Chemical Composition - W. A. Cote
- Biosynthesis of Cell Wall Polysaccharides - Deborah Delmer
- Biosynthesis, Structure and Significance of Cell Glycoproteins -
D. T. A. Lamport
- Biosynthesis of Lignin and Related Monomers - G. G. Gross
- Wood Transformations During Aging - W. E. Hillis
- Microbiological Degredation of Lignin - T. K. Kirk
- Microbiological Degredation of Wood Carbohydrates - E. T. Reese
- Changes in Wood Resulting from Insect Attack - B. D. Mullick
- Chemical Resistance of Wood to Injury and Pathogenesis - P. E. Kolattukudy
- Problems and Prospects of Utilization of Wood Extractives - H. L. Hergert

Information concerning local arrangements are available from: Dr. V. C. Runeckles, Program Chairman, Department of Plant Science, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. U6T 1W5, Canada.

Personal: Dean Noel Ferguson, on retiring from the University of Houston after 26 years as dean, has assumed a position with Universidad Automono de Gualdalajara where he is setting up a series of laboratories to evaluate native Mexican drugs. Dr. David Slatkin has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. Dr. Julia Morton (University of Miami) has been elected to Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society and Dr. Norman Farnsworth (University of Illinois) has recently been elected a Fellow of the Linnean Society (London). Professor J. W. Fairbairn has been awarded the Harrison Memorial Medal of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. He also delivered the Harrison Memorial Lecture entitled "Phyto-availability and some of its Problems". Professor Emeritus Fr. J. Mathiesen, now aged 89, has published his anatomical work on Danish browncoals in Biol. Sk. Dan-Vid. Selsk. Professor Mogens Wellendorf has resigned from the chair in botany and pharmacognosy at Copenhagen. Dr. R. G. Benedict (University of Washington) has recently spent a week at Oregon State University as visiting lecturer, while Dr. Norman Farnsworth (University of Illinois) has attended a special symposium on Antifertility Plants held at the Rockefeller Foundation, has been invited to participate in a Symposium on Antifertility Plants sponsored by the World Health Organization in Mexico City and has recently served as a member of a special Natural Products Program evaluation group at the Drug Research and Development Branch, NCI. Drs. Arthur E. Schwarting (University of Connecticut) and Lynn R. Brady (University of Washington) have been appointed consultants to the Food and Drug Division OTC Panel on Miscellaneous Internal Preparations. Drs. D. Perlman and C. J. Sih (University of Wisconsin) are faculty for the American Society of Microbiology workshop (May 2) on "Methods of Studying Microbial Transformations of Organic Compounds".

Grants: Dr. S. S. Lamba (Florida A & M University) has received a grant in the amount of \$40,000 from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to study Microbial Transformation of Nucleosides. At Purdue University, the following grants were received: Drs. John M. Cassady and Stephen R. Byrn, \$35,027 from the Public Health Service for "Chemical-Antitumor Activity of Iacones and Epoxides"; Drs. W. A. Remers and John M. Cassady, \$19,849 from Bristol Laboratories for the "Synthesis of Anthracycline Analogues as Potential Tumor Inhibitors"; Dr. H. Floss, from NIH, \$30,976 to support the 5th year of a study on "Stereochemistry of Enzyme Reactions" and Drs. Floss and Chang, \$85,258 from NIH to support the 3rd year of "Studies on Biologically Active Microbial Metabolites". Gifts and grants that have recently been received by the University of Wisconsin include: Dr. C. R. Hutchinson, \$27,479 from NIH to study "Biosynthesis of Brefeldin A and Jasomic Acid", \$32,096 from NIH to investigate "Biogenic-C-13 Enrichment of Natural Product Drugs" and \$54,974 from NIH to fund "Metabolism of Naturally Occurring Antitumor Compounds"; Dr. D. Perlman, \$12,500 from General Mills Chemicals, Inc., for "Microbial Transformation of Steroids" and \$1,500 from New Brunswick Scientific Company to study "Microbial Production of Antibiotics"; Dr. D. B. Northrop, \$59,000 from NSF to encourage a program on "Kinetic Isotope Effects in Enzymic Reactions" and \$24,547 from NIH to Dr. C. L. Amidon to support his study of Substrate Binding to the Proteinase Enzymes.