



# 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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New Officers - The Teller's Committee, after completion of the vote tally in the 1976 election, certifies the following results:

Vice-President - Dr. Harry H.S. Fong  
Executive Committee Member - Dr. John P. Rosazza

Annual Meeting - The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy will be held at the Olympic Hotel, Seattle, Washington on August 11-13, 1977. Plenary lectures scheduled are:

"Correlative Microbiological Assays in the Detection and Quantitation of Antitumor Agents and Other Physiologically Active Compounds" by Dr. L.J. Hanka, The Upjohn Company.

"Tumor Immunology, Particularly as it Relates to Immunotherapy of Neoplastic Disease" by Dr. K.E. Hellstrom, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

"Microbial Transformations of Natural Antitumor Agents" by Dr. J.P. Rosazza, The University of Iowa.

The Scientific Program Committee is soliciting 15 minute contributed papers on topics related to Natural Products. Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be sent to the Scientific Program Committee by June 1, 1977. These should be sent to Dr. Larry W. Robertson, College of Pharmacy, The Ohio State University, 500 West 12th Avenue, Columbia, Ohio 43210.

Meeting - Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung. The Society will hold its 25th annual meeting on September 12-16, 1977 at the Eidgenössischen Technischen Hochschule in Zurich, Switzerland. The plenary lectures will highlight I. "Fort-schritte in der Isolierung und Analytik von Naturstoffen" and II. "Iridoide Pflanzenstoffe." Plenary lectures are in German and the contributed papers may be in German, English or French. Reservations may be made with Prof. Dr. O. Sticker, Pharmazeutisches Institut, ETH - Zentrum, CH-0892 Zurich, Switzerland.

Mycological Congress - The Second International Mycological Congress will be held at the University of South Florida at Tampa, August 27th - September 3, 1977. Further information may be obtained from Dr. Melvin S. Fuller, Secretary, Department

of Botany, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia or from the Program Chairman, Dr. Henry Aldrich, Department of Botany, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611.

Symposium on Genetics of Industrial Microorganisms - The American Society of Microbiology is organizing the Third International Symposium on Genetics of Industrial Microorganisms (GIM-78) which will take place at the University of Wisconsin, at Madison, June 5-9, 1978. Further information and registration material may be obtained from: Dr. R.W. Sarber, Executive Secretary, A.S.M., 1913 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

International Seaweed Symposium - The Ninth International Seaweed Symposium will be held in Santa Barbara, California on August 25-28, 1977. The subject of the Symposia will be "Algae in Pharmaceutical Science" and will be published as a monograph to *Botanica Marina*, by Verlag, Walter de Grayter, Berlin, New York in June, 1978. Further information may be obtained from: Dr. Michael Neushul, Secretariat, Maine Science Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106.

Audio-Visual Materials - At the 1975 annual meeting of the Society, Dr. K. K. Chen, world renowned pharmacologist presented two lectures on Chinese Materia Medica at the College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois. These educational lectures were videotaped and are now available as colorvideo cassettes in two parts. Part 1: Ephedra and Ephedrine, and Part 2: Toad Venoms. The two lectures were prepared as an audiovisual teaching aid for students and faculty in the health professions and are available at cassette-replacement cost. Inquiries should be directed to Dr. Edward S. Muka, Department of Pharmacognosy and Pharmacology, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at the Medical Center, P.O. Box 6998, Chicago, Illinois 60680.

Necrology - Dr. S. Morris Kupchan died, of cancer, October 19, 1976 at the age of 53, at the Sidney Farber Cancer Center. Dr. Kupchan was an internationally known cancer researcher who was noted for his research on anti-tumor compounds isolated from plant sources. He was a native of New York and was a graduate of the City College of New York and Columbia University. He taught at Harvard University and at the University of Wisconsin prior to his recent position of professor of chemistry at the University of Virginia. Among his many honors were: honorary doctorates from Hakkaido University in Japan for his "new and original approach to chemistry of cancer control"; and the University of Upsala in Sweden for "outstanding contributions to the field of natural products chemistry." He was the recipient of the Ernest Guenther award of the American Chemical Society for his program in natural products chemistry. He will be sorely missed.

Personal - Dr. H.D. Hollis Showalter has joined Parke, Davis and Company in the firm's research laboratories after two years as an N.I.H. Postdoctoral Fellow at Rich University, Houston. Dr. Michael Corbett has left Midwest Research Institute to assume a position as Associate Professor in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Miami. Dr. Mahabir P. Gupta (University of Panama) was an invited participant in the Latin American Seminar on Natural Products which was held in Bogota, Columbia. Dr. Mahmoud Elsohly, formerly of Pittsburgh, has joined the Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Mississippi and Dr. Farouk El-Ferally has moved from the Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and is now Assistant Professor of Pharmacognosy at the School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi. Frank J. Porkony, Emeritus Professor of Biology at the Columbia University

College of Pharmacy was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa from that University. Dr. Charles L. Winek (Duquesne University) has been appointed to the editorial board of Forensic Science. Dr. Keith Brain is currently on a two year secondment to the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of El-Fateh, Tripoli, Libya and is setting up a research program on Libyan medicinal plants and a marine biomedical survey in collaboration with Dr. Gerald Blunder of Portsmouth. Professors D.B. Northrop and C.R. Hutchinson (School of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin) have received Career Development Awards for the 1976-81 period from the National Institutes of Health. Professor D. Perlman, of the same institution has been elected to the office of Chairman-elect of the Division of Microbial and Biochemical Technology of the American Chemical Society. Dr. Ies Cunningham has left the Department of Pathology, University of Utah to accept a position of Senior Microbiologist at Bioquest, Cockeysville, Maryland. Dr. Frank R. Stermitz, Colorado State University is interested in obtaining 50-100 mgm. of authenticated Banisteriopsis inebrians or Banisteriopsis Caapi plant material (roots, stems, or leaves but not extracts). He is currently preparing a formula index for "The Encyclopedia of the Alkaloids" volumes 1 and 2. Anyone desiring a copy should write to him directly.

Grants - Dr. Carlton E. Turner (Research Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Mississippi) announces the receipt of two grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. A one year grant of \$175,000 for the cultivation, extraction, separation and isolation of cannabinoids from Cannabis and a three year grant of \$101,000 for the investigation of alkaloids in Cannabis sativa L. Dr. Frank R. Stermitz (Colorado State University) was awarded a three year grant of \$58,133 to study "Antitumor Compounds from North American Plants". The Organization of American States has provided a \$45,000 grant to Dr. Mahabir P. Gupta (University of Panama) to carry out a systematic study of Panamanian Flora. Dr. Michael Corbett (University of Miami) has two grants from the National Cancer Institute: one, a two year renewal of \$34,000 for "Thiamine Mediated Formation of Hydroxamic Acids" and the second of \$65,000 for a two year study of "Aplastic Anemia and Chloramphenicol Metabolites". Dr. David Perlman (University of Wisconsin) has received the following grants: \$37,745 from Schering to study bacteriophages for Micromonospora; \$39,914 from NCI for studies on "Microbial Metabolite Inhibition of Tumor Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> Binding"; \$12,000 from Hoffmann-LaRoche to study enzyme oxidations of organic compounds; \$47,000 from Roussel-UCLAF to study new methods of selection of organisms for fermentations; \$4,000 from Abbott to study antibiotics from Mycoplasma; and \$14,000 from General Mills Chemicals Inc. to study microbial degradation of sterols.

Books - Members of the Society have recommended the following books to be of interest to the membership: "Bibliography of Investigated Indian Medicinal Plants" by M.A. Iyengar, available from Dr. M.A. Iyengar, Professor of Pharmacognosy, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal - 576119, India at a price of \$12.00 (postage paid); "Agricultural Pharmacy", Third Edition, 1975 by K. Redman, is available from Student Association Bookstore, Brookings, South Dakota 57006 at \$6.00 per copy. "Herbal Pharmacology in the Peoples Republic of China" compiled by the Committee on Scholarly Communication with the Peoples Republic of China and printed by the National Academy of Sciences, Printing and Publishing Office, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20418, \$8.00; and from the same group "Plant Studies in the Peoples Republic of China, \$7.25. Both volumes are trip reports of the American Plant Studies Delegation which toured the Peoples Republic of China under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences. "Marihuana, An Annotated Bibliography" by C.W. Waller, J.J. Johnson, J. Buelke and C.E. Turner has been released by Macmillan Information Press, a division of Macmillan Publishing Company, Inc., 866 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10002 for

\$14.95. "Herbs and Spices" by Julia F. Morton, available for \$1.95 from Golden Press, New York. An excellent undergraduate textbook in Pharmacognosy has made the scene, succinct, well-written and viable, it covers the area extremely well for a small book. "Phytopharmacy" by Keith Brain and Malcom Ross, published by Pitman Medical and available in this country, it should be reviewed by all who are involved in undergraduate courses of Pharmacognosy.

Potpourri - There have been some suggestions provided to the Editor for various projects etc. One of the few that would stand perusal by the postal authorities is a suggestion that we provide a roster of the membership with a brief compilation of their major research interests to help new investigators and members become aware of the interests of the less prolific writers amongst us. For example, John C. Doe, Salanaceae University, Chemotaxonomy (Salanaceae), Microbial transformation, tissue culture. If you feel that a project of this type would be worthwhile or if you have some other suggestion would you please so note on the enclosed report form. Some quotes from Les and Febiger that seem apropos to the moment. "Middle age has been said to be the time of a man's life when if he has two choices for an evening, he takes the one that gets him home earlier" - Alvan L. Barach. "Champagne: a beverage that makes you see double and feel single." "Committee: a body that keeps minutes and wastes hours." Some excerpts from Audio-visual Communications for those in Academia: Any instructional continuum: a lecture that runs way overtime; Audio Tutorial: An instructive obscene phone call; Behavioral Hierarchy: A system reflecting the fact that teachers can get away with more than students can. Due to a number of factors, there have been delays in the publishing and distribution of the Newsletter and Lloydia. The Newsletter will appear at the end of July, October and December. Lloydia: The first back issue should be with you by the 20th of May. The November-December issue of volume 39 was mailed May 3rd. January-February issue of volume 40 will be mailed May 23rd. Page proof for March-April issue of volume 40 is expected to reach the editor soon, galley proof for May-June issue is due to the editor in May and he is now marking manuscript for the July-August issue. We thank you for your patience.