

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF CBHL
HELD IN NEW YORK CITY

Part Two of the report of the third annual meeting of the CBHL, held April 1 to 3, 1971, with The New York Botanical Garden and The Horticultural Society of New York acting as joint hosts to the Conference on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, henceforth to be known as the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries.

The second half of the Conference was held on Saturday, April 3, 1971, at the headquarters of The Horticultural Society of New York. Barbara Emerson of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society presided over the program, which concerned itself with opportunities for cooperation between society and small institutional libraries. Invited to speak on aspects and problems of acquisitions, space and time limitations, and special maintenance matters were Muriel Crossman, of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society; Charlotte Dorn, of the Civic Garden Centre of Ontario; and R. Henry Norweb, Jr., of the Holden Arboretum.

Mrs. Crossman addressed herself to the problem of nursery catalogs collected by many of the smaller libraries, and noted that they often served different purposes:

1. providing current information to individuals seeking specific plants;
2. maintaining a record of plant descriptions that appear in such catalogs;
3. recording the origins of plant materials, and sometimes their first introduction into commercial culture;
4. providing a historical record of the development of horticulture.

Further investigation of the extent of preservation and collection of nursery catalogs by the U.S.D.A., Cornell University and other regional depositories, was urged to determine the need for smaller libraries to retain old copies, in view of severe limitations, in many instances, of time and available space.

To aid in book selection by smaller libraries, in view of the tremendous increase in publications in botany, horticulture, and gardening in recent years, it was suggested that an anonymous committee, perhaps under the auspices of CBHL, regularly review publishers' galleys of forthcoming titles in these areas, and submit recommendations to interested members as to their desirability and value to a library.

On the problem of maintenance, particularly of rare and valuable volumes, Mrs. Crossman suggested the possibility of establishing across the country, in geographically well-placed sites, libraries of these rare books, so that the smaller libraries would not be burdened with the problems of their care and preservation, and to insure that the books themselves received the proper treatment and restoration that is often outside the means of many of these smaller libraries. She noted that gifts to a library in the form of books, prints, and similar items often posed a problem to the receiving organizations, and suggested that a policy be devised and made known to a donor

that any gifts would be used for the benefit of the library, but not necessarily added to the collection. Such a policy would allow the library the freedom to sell or place such gifts where they might be better used, and also permit the use of any resulting funds for maintaining and acquiring materials and titles more pertinent to its own collections.

The value of a central library or depository, whose holdings would be regularly circulated to members of CBHL and made available when needed, was noted; Mrs. Crossman felt that such a library might be supported by all members of CBHL as a unit. This could be part of an interlibrary loan program involving the horticultural libraries on a larger scale. Mr. Carleton Lees had already offered to investigate the expansion of such a program among smaller libraries, perhaps similar to the shunting system now used by the libraries of The New York Botanical Garden, Harvard University, Missouri Botanical Garden, and Hunt Botanical Library.

Mrs. Crossman stated that the Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library currently receives approximately 340 periodical titles, of which ten circulate to members and other libraries. Of these, she felt that about twenty were regularly used, but emphasized the need for preserving periodicals and their information for posterity. Of the 340, only twenty are currently available from University Microfilms; perhaps closer communication and cooperation could achieve a higher ratio, thus relieving smaller libraries of the burden of maintaining large collections of back issues, in bound or unbound form, and usually printed on very inferior paper. She deplored the lack of indexing of most of these serials, making access to information extremely difficult; the current Hunt Botanical Library project covers only up to 1840. Who will take it from there? There is also the problem of what to index, if selectivity is to be a factor.

Mr. R. Henry Norweb, Jr., of the Holden Arboretum opened his remarks with the suggestion that a joint acquisition or purchasing system be investigated to eliminate much of the paperwork and duplication of orders of many of the smaller libraries. Better discount could be obtained from publishers in this fashion, and it would also enable libraries to learn what the holdings and recent acquisitions of member libraries were, through the exchange of author cards. He recommended (this was further approved by the members of CBHL later during the meeting) that perhaps the Massachusetts Horticultural Society might be in the best position to act as a purchasing agent for interested collections. The need for a small library to define its purpose and its acquisition goals was emphasized. Mr. Norweb suggested that such collections review carefully whether or not they should keep rare and valuable books at all, even when given as gifts, in view of the cost of maintenance.

THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES

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rial for publication therein, should
be addressed to the Editor. Other
correspondence should be directed
to the Chairman of the Secretariat.*

MEMBERSHIP

*The Council is open to botanical
and horticultural libraries of both
public and private institutions. In-
stitutional support and membership
is encouraged. Individual member-
ship is available to librarians, in-
terested persons from the horticul-
tural and botanical professions, and
friends. Overseas memberships are
welcomed.*

*Annual dues are \$25.00 for In-
stitutional Members and \$10.00 for
Individual Members.*

Checks should be made payable to:
**THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL
AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES**

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He noted that small libraries could fulfill a very important need for their users, by providing a more detailed subject breakdown on books acquired than a larger library might be able to do, thus insuring the greatest utility of each title to a reader and/or researcher. Stress was placed on the need to let other libraries and institutions in your local area know what you are collecting so as to prevent needless expenditures of money, work, space and time.

Next, Charlotte Dorn, of the Civic Garden Centre, unable to be present because of sudden illness, had her report read by Barbara Emerson.

The library of the Civic Garden Centre in Toronto, although small (2200 volumes, all acquired since 1964) offers diverse facilities to visitors. One third of the collection is out on loan at all times according to latest statistics. To meet the needs of its clientele, and to overcome a certain isolation, library hours were expended to include Saturday, evening, and occasional Sunday schedules. Its acquisitions program is financed entirely by the sale of books to members at a 10% discount; this aspect is handled by the library staff alone. As Toronto's only book shop specializing in horticulture, it has been able to fulfill a special need of the community while enabling the library to earn sufficient funds to cover the cost of its acquisitions, and, to some extent, maintenance as well. In 1970, \$10,000.00 were realized through such sales. The library has a paid staff of three, with much of the work handled by a capable staff of eight volunteers. Mrs. Dorn's report concurred with that of Mrs. Crossman on the matter of a regulated acquisition program on specific subjects that concentrated on collecting everything on that subject without judging its merits. The value of the completeness of an institution's holdings on a particular subject was reiterated. At present, the Civic Garden Centre Library collects Canadiana only.

Following the presentations, a general discussion ensued among the membership, and such questions as coordinated purchasing, horticultural inter-library loan, policies for keeping or discarding nursery catalogs, disposal of duplicate books, selective book acquisition, volunteer staffing, policies governing the use of rare books, disposition of books that do not merit binding or rebinding, and other subjects covered by the reports given by the librarians earlier were reviewed.

Barbara Emerson then adjourned the general meeting, so that individuals could separate into ad hoc groups to consider these problems and suggest feasible cooperative solutions. The group on Acquisitions was chaired by Ian MacPhail, of the Morton Arboretum; Space and time limitations were reviewed by the group meeting with its chairman, Mary Moulton of the Morton Arboretum, along with Muriel Crossman, and Elizabeth Woodburn led the group that met to review problems of Special Maintenance, with Mr. Norweb.

At 11:30 the general meeting was called to order once again by Mrs. Emerson. From the membership came suggestions that CBHL might arrange to circulate capsule reviews or evaluations of the new books based on publishers' galleys. Motion was made and passed unanimously that no reviews be published that served only to praise a new title; all books should be reviewed honestly and critically. The members also asked the Massachusetts Horticultural Society to undertake a study of cooperative purchasing, with the intent that the Society act as the agent for such a service to members of CBHL interested in participating in such a program. It was hoped that a comprehensive review of this possibility could be reported on to CBHL at its next meeting in Washington, D.C. in April, 1972.

The Council thanked Mr. Charles R. Long of the Gray Herbarium-Arnold Arboretum Libraries for his active leadership of the Secretariat in the past year as Chairman.

The Council then officially adjourned its third annual meeting. Luncheon was served in Charles D. Webster Hall of the Horticultural Society of New York, during which many of the ideas discussed in the morning session were further reviewed informally. Mr. Alexander W. Allport, Executive Director of the Society, addressed the Council briefly, expressing the pleasure of The Horticultural Society of New York in hosting the session. Mr. Long expressed the appreciation of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries to HSNY for its hospitality.

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

A meeting of the Secretariat of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries was held on December 3rd in New York City at the headquarters of The Horticultural Society of New York. Mr. Reed reported on a meeting held with Gil Daniels at the Hunt Botanical Library to review a grant proposal to be submitted on behalf of CBHL to the Council on Library Resources. Funds in the amount of \$50,000 will be requested to enable the libraries of Harvard University, Hunt Botanical Library, Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Missouri Botanical Garden, New York Botanical Garden, and the University of California to check their serial holdings against the Bibliographia Huntiana masterfile, and to issue a composite listing indicating location of titles. It was hoped also to print out a record of those periodicals not held by these institutions. Government and smaller libraries who are members of CBHL may be asked to cooperate in this endeavor at a later date.

It was reported that the first issue of the CBHL Newsletter would be ready for printing shortly, for distribution to the membership in January. The second issue was planned for a late-March distribution.

A preliminary planning meeting was held by Ruth Schallert with Henry Gilbert and Mildred Donahue in July, in Washington, D.C., to discuss the April, 1972 Conference of CBHL. The Secretariat agreed that the subject of the Conference should be government resources, in view of the convenience and access to government facilities at the forthcoming meeting. Several alternative programs were discussed, and it was agreed to send out to the membership a preliminary registration form.

In view of the success of the duplicate exchange list program of CBHL, the Secretariat felt that perhaps this could be expanded to include a regular exchange of current publications of member institutions. Further details will be worked out and presented to the general membership at its April meeting.

An auction of botanical books held in New York in October, and attended by several members of CBHL, including Edith Crockett, Charles Long, and John Reed representing their respective institutions, offered an opportunity to review the conditions under which auction houses will sell book collections. Such information, it was felt by the Secretariat, could be most useful to all members of CBHL, and a detailed report will be made available after more information has been gathered.

Another meeting of the Secretariat will be held in March, prior to the April Conference.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Carleton B. Lees, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, is President of the Garden Writers Association of America.

Dr. Gilbert S. Daniels, Director of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, was elected Treasurer of the American Horticultural Society.

NEW BUILDING AT MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Missouri Botanical Garden's new Herbarium-Library-Education Building is scheduled for completion April 1, 1972. Dedication ceremonies will be held May 12.

This beautiful new structure is to be called the John S. Lehmann Building in honor of a deceased benefactor and member of the Garden's Board of Trustees. The building, which was designed by the St. Louis Architectural firm of Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum, Inc., provides 52,000 square feet of space, of which approximately 12,300 square feet are assigned to the library.

The library-herbarium complex is separated from the part of the library designed for the educational program. Included in the education section are classrooms, staff offices, a greenhouse, and an auditorium with seating accommodations for 208 persons.

A compact arrangement of herbarium cases, called "compactors," is to be used in the new building. Access to the cases is provided by moving them automatically on tracks, the principle being similar to that used for some compact library shelving.

The library, all of which is housed on one level, will have a reading room-bibliography area, cataloging room, rare book room, librarian's office, photocopy room, bindery, and shelving for 125,000 volumes.

VALUABLE BOOKS STOLEN

Last November 11, Dr. Elizabeth McClintock, a curator of the Library of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, discovered that 18 volumes of Curtis' Botanical Magazine were missing. Sixteen of these volumes were recovered on the following Monday.

After reading about the recovery of the Academy's volumes, J.R. Blanchard, University Librarian at the University of California, Davis, discovered that 39 volumes valued at \$4500 were missing from his library. These volumes have not yet been recovered and there is no clue as to the identity of the thief. Notices have been sent to local bookdealers, interior decorators and the Antiquarian Bookman.

Details on the Davis volumes are as follows. Curtis' Botanical Magazine, v. 1-42, 1787-1815, is bound in 21 volumes with the index to 1-42 in one volume. The bindings are a dark quarter or half morocco, probably blue, but possibly black or dark green. Paxton's Magazine of Botany, v. 1-16, 1834-1849, is bound in 16 volumes. Both sets had ownership stamps inside the front cover and at the bottom of the title page. Both sets also had identification pasted inside the back cover; Curtis' had pockets and Paxton's had "tags."

The missing Academy volumes are Curtis' Botanical Magazine, v. 94-95, 1868-1869, which includes plates 5683-5812.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM TO HOLD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION MAY 21 - 28

The Centennial of the Arnold Arboretum, scheduled for May 21 through May 28, is practically a "must" for the members of CBHL. The tour and lecture programs for the celebration have been arranged so as to allow visitors the choice of botanical or horticultural emphasis in their schedule of events.

Besides the excellent tours of sites that hold prime interest for botanists and horticulturists, there will be a series of lectures and seminars. The speakers have been drawn from an array of front ranking institutions both here and abroad. A few names garnered from the roster are: Dr. William T. Stearn, British Museum, Dr. Paul Ehrlich, Stanford University, Dr. Gilbert Daniels, Hunt Botanical Library and Dr. Pascal P. Pirone, New York Botanical Garden.

The privilege of hearing some eighteen of the foremost experts on matters botanical and horticultural, together with the opportunity to visit the rich resources gathered at Harvard University is one that won't recur very often in a lifetime. Combine that with the cultural wealth of the Boston area and the Arnold Arboretum Centennial promises to be a landmark event.

For information concerning the Centennial please contact the Arnold Arboretum, The Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts 02130.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION TO MEET IN BOSTON

From June 4th to 8th the Boston area will be host to the 63rd Annual Conference of the Special Libraries Association. The theme of the Conference will be People-Centered Services, and among the seminars planned will be one on that much noticed topic, the environment.

The seminar will attempt to cover the whole area of environmentally related subjects, and organize discussion along productive lines. Information on literature pertaining to the environment will be distributed along with that about new indexes and retrieval methods, Not least among the items on the agenda will be that on the legal aspects of environmental concerns. Sometimes the environment can be best protected by knowing how as well as who to sue.

Information concerning the SLA Conference Program can be obtained from Conference Chairman Loyd Rathbun, MIT Lincoln Library, Lexington, Mass. 02173, or Program Chairman, Charles Zerwekh Jr., Polaroid Corp., Cambridge, Mass.

TWO BOOK EXHIBITS TO BE SHOWN AT HARVARD

To coincide with the Centennial of the Arnold Arboretum two exhibitions have been arranged in the Harvard University Libraries. One will be held until the end of May in the Widener Library, and the other, "Early Botanical Books" may be seen at the Houghton Library from May 21 to June 9. The exhibits will provide a splendid opportunity of seeing many works from both collections which are rarely seen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

Since November 1970 the name of the Hunt Botanical Library has been the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a name created to give greater recognition to the non-library activities which also take place there. The library within the Institute remains the Hunt Botanical Library. Gilbert S. Daniels is Director of the Institute; Kathryn P. Daniels is Librarian of the Library.

The new Linnaean Room, which will house the Strandell Collection and related items, is scheduled for completion in the next few months. The opening of the collection, originally scheduled for May 1972, has been postponed until at least May 1973.

The Directory of Information Resources in Agriculture and Biology, recently compiled by the Agricultural Sciences Information Network in cooperation with land-grant colleges, is now available from the Superintendent of Documents. Besides including information on organization, finances, and research, it has descriptions of research collections at agricultural libraries. The price of the 523 page book is \$4.50, and its catalog number is A17.2:D62.

Supplement Number 1 to GUIDELINES FOR GARDEN WRITERS, compiled by Isabel Zucker is available from the Garden Writers Association of America, 101 Park Avenue, Room 607, New York, N. Y. 10017. It includes lists of flower societies in Canada, specialized plant societies in Great Britain and the United States, and two reprinted articles on sources of North American plants and floras and monographs.

CHANGES AT NYBG LIBRARY

Mr. John Reed, formerly Administrative Librarian at the New York Botanical Garden has been appointed Director of Public Education at that institution.

In July, Mr. Charles R. Long, presently Librarian of the Gray Herbarium-Arnold Arboretum Libraries at Harvard University, will succeed to the post vacated by Mr. Reed and will become NYBG's Administrative Librarian.

CBHL NOMINATING COMMITTEE SELECTS SECRETARIAT CANDIDATE

The Nominating Committee of CBHL, consisting of Chairman Mr. Charles R. Long, Librarian of the Gray Herbarium-Arnold Arboretum Libraries, Miss Julie Morris of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and Mr. Howard Swift of the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, have nominated Mr. R. Henry Norweb, Jr., to be junior member of the Secretariat for 1973. Mr. Norweb is presently Director of the Holden Arboretum, Mentor, Ohio. Other nominations will be received from the floor at the time of the annual meeting at Washington this April.