



NEWSLETTER OF

The Council on Botanical
and Horticultural Libraries

Number 13

June 1975

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.
Seventh Annual Meeting
May 1 - 3, 1975
Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis

Thursday, May 1, 1975. John S. Lehmann Building, Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis.

James Reed, Librarian of the Missouri Botanical Garden, welcomed members of CBHL and introduced Dr. Peter H. Raven, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, for brief remarks.

Mr. R. Henry Norweb, Jr., President, thanked Dr. Raven and Jim Reed for their welcome. He then called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. Mr. Norweb expressed the gratitude of CBHL to Jim Reed, Carla Lange, and other members of the MBG staff for their efforts in arranging the Annual Meeting on short notice after the projected London meeting had to be cancelled.

Mrs. Marjorie Dickinson, Secretary, stated that the minutes of the 6th Annual Meeting and Board Meetings held during the past year were published in the CBHL Newsletter. These published minutes were approved by the membership in lieu of an actual reading.

Mr. Ian MacPhail, second Vice-President, gave the membership report. As of December 31, 1974, there were 56 personal memberships and 35 institutional memberships.. A list of CBHL membership as of April 1, 1975, is appended to this report. It includes 39 personal and 27 institutional members. Mr. John Reed announced that delinquent membership notices will be sent out in May. Mr. Norweb initiated a short discussion on ways of reaching new members for the organization. He is particularly interested in reaching individuals with private libraries who have important holdings in botanical and horticultural literature and who are unaware of the existence of CBHL.

Mr. John Reed, Treasurer, announced a balance in the organization's treasury as of April 30, 1975, of \$3,602.54. His full report is appended. Mr. Reed requested an audit of the Council's books. Mr. Reed proposed that an audit be done by the firm which does the auditing for the New York Botanical Garden. This was approved by the membership. Mr. Reed also announced the receipt of a letter from the Internal Revenue Service classifying CBHL as a non-profit organization as of April 14, 1975.

The business meeting continued with reports of various standing committees.

Ms. Bernadette Callery of the editorial committee reported that the CBHL Newsletter is on a 4-5 times a year schedule. The deadline for the subsequent issue is announced in each issue of the Newsletter. Ms. Callery and the other members of the editorial committee welcome all sorts of information for the Newsletter.

Mrs. Elizabeth Woodburn proposed a vote of thanks to Bernadette Callery, Jim Reed, and Julie Morris for the excellent job they are doing with the Newsletter and commented on its contribution to the cohesiveness of the organization. Her remarks were endorsed by Mr. Norweb and generally by the membership.

Ms. Cornelia Tyler, of the seed catalog committee, reported that, at a meeting held at the invitation of Charles van Ravenswaay, Director, at Winterthur on August 2, 1974, the National Agricultural Library, Richard A. Farley, Director, proposed to assume "Leadership and responsibility for establishing a checklist of early American catalogs up to 1920". According to Agricultural Libraries Information Notes, Vol. 1, No. 3 (March, 1975) NAL plans to issue a Union Checklist of Nursery and Seed Trade Catalogs to 1920: Preliminary Edition this summer. The preliminary checklist will contain only NAL holdings and will be circulated to other libraries for annotation of holdings. The publication will be in two parts: 1) Alphabetical by firm name. 2) Geographical by state, with firm names then listed alphabetically.

Ms. Tyler's report, with additional comments from Elizabeth Woodburn and Ruth Schallert who also attended the Winterthur meeting, launched a rather long and involved discussion of the catalog project.

There was some discussion to the effect that the idea for a union list had come initially from Dr. van Ravenswaay, has been advanced by CBHL, and now the NAL seems to be going ahead without recognition of these contributions and without a clear definition of what it is trying to do in compiling a checklist.

Mr. Norweb suggested that CBHL should release publicity on its germinal role in the project as a way of publicizing the organization and its activities.

Members wondered if seed exchange lists including Index Seminum were to be included. Additional sources of early seed catalog holdings suggested by the members of CBHL included historical societies and private libraries and European libraries, especially English ones.

Charles Long and others suggested that CBHL should consider helping larger institutions that need indexing help with their large seed catalog collections.

Mr. Norweb noted that this is a very important and appropriate project for CBHL and suggested that members should give suggestions to Ms. Tyler regarding the information they would like included in such a union list. The committee could then draw up a set of standards to be endorsed by the membership and then submitted to NAL.

Dr. Daniels suggested that the drafted specifications should then be distributed to other organizations, journals and periodicals such as the International Association of Plant Taxonomy, Chronica Horticulturae, American Nurseryman.

Richard Isaacson reported on the work of the committee on the union list of serials. The committee compiled a questionnaire which was circulate to CBHL members. Only 19 completed questionnaires were returned. Those returned showed estimated holdings of serial titles ranging from 175 to 28,000. The number of hours needed to list serial holdings was projected as varying from 5 to 1,800 with some institutions unable to estimate the time required.

Mr. Isaacson questioned the advisability of continuing his committee. He stated that he and Ms. Schallert propose a holding pattern on the projected union list because of the many regional union lists now being compiled and the fact that many member institutions are now in the process of compiling lists of their own holdings. Mr. Norweb expressed his appreciation to the committee for compiling the questionnaire and agreed that CBHL should give priority to the union checklist of seed catalogs. Mr. Norweb stated that the responsibilities of the committee will return to the secretariat but that in time the committee may need to be revived. Mr. Norweb thanked the committee for its work and discharged it of its responsibilities.

Mrs. Solange Huggins, representing the nominating committee (Edith Crockett, Enola Jane Teeter, and Solange Huggins), announced that Mrs. Vrugtman and Mr. Isaacson had been nominated for the position of second Vice-President of CBHL and that Mr. Isaacson had been elected.

With this the first business meeting ended.

After an interesting and delicious luncheon featuring a festive Mai-Bowle served by the St. Louis Herb Society, members of CBHL returned to hear a variety of papers in the afternoon.

John Dinsmore, Coordinator of Public Services, Jefferson Library, University of Missouri at St. Louis, presented what he billed as an "old fashioned library school talk" on sources of environmental information.

He prefaced his talk with a tribute to John Reed, whose sons John and James are active in CBHL, as one of the first botanists with a world view of environmental problems.

According to Dinsmore, the most important federal government sources of environmental information are: (1) Environmental Protection Agency, (2) Council on Environmental Quality, (3) Congress, (4) Other Federal executive agencies, and (5) Specialized information sources such as NTIS, ERIC, and RAND.

The E.P.A. since 1970 has been the official environmental watch dog and also has a research mandate on environmental matters. Its most important publications include annual compilations of legal opinions on environmental issues, i.e., pesticides. It also issues abstracts of papers published on pertinent subjects. The Environmental Projects Research Catalog lists projects currently being studied. The E.P.A. Awards Register lists grants made in the field and the agency also issues a grants proposal manual for the guidance of those asking for funding. A large organization with its own telephone directory and guide to E.P.A. libraries, the agency issues a Citizens Newsletter free for the asking. Other publications include many technical reports and special reports on subjects such as auto fuel economy. Mr. Dinsmore particularly recommended a monograph available for \$1.85, Alternate Future and Environmental Quality.

The Council on Environmental Quality, presently headed by Russell Train, was founded in 1969. It serves as an advisory body to the president and to other federal agencies. Libraries interested in the environment are urged by Mr. Dinsmore to purchase this agency's Annual Report on Environmental Quality "the single most important document to have in this field." Parenthetically, Mr. Dinsmore noted that the President's Annual Report on the Environment is typically one of the dreariest items available.

The Congress is an important, and often overlooked source of environmental information. The Congressional Record with its publication of hearings is the most important and voluminous source.

Federal Executive Agencies place great importance on environment. Important sources are the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations.

The second paper of the afternoon was presented by Karen Luebbert, Librarian of Webster College in St. Louis. Ms. Luebbert spoke on "The Ohio College Library Center" (OCLC) which has now expanded nationwide and includes a number of CBHL libraries. Ms. Luebbert stated that the cost of computer technology is "skyrocketing downwards" (earthrocketing?) and may be used to achieve traditional library goals of improved service. Computer costs should be 80 to 90% lower than their original costs by 1980 if present trends continue.

OCLC was organized in 1967, though planning for it began in 1962. Originally 49 academic libraries in Ohio were members; 344 institutions, including 600 libraries are now affiliated. At the present time, it is the most effective system in operation.

At the present time, the only sub-system fully operational in OCLC is shared cataloging. First time use (the first time a title is catalogued by an institution) is \$1.90 plus .034 for each card. There is a \$300 installation fee. Wiring costs in the St. Louis area have varied from \$52 to \$529. There is also a charge for profiling the format of the catalog card desired and a charge of .075 per title for an accession list.

Ms. Luebbert had been very pleased with OCLC in her liberal arts library. About 85% of requests for cataloging have been available. It has been possible to reduce the amount of cataloging time required and the personnel thus freed have been shifted to other duties. CBHL members with OCLC experience pointed out some drawbacks. The cataloging supplied is only as good as that supplied by member institutions and varies according to the standards of the participating libraries. Some botanical libraries need much more detailed cataloging than that supplied. Cards may not be altered or erased. Catalog cards must be reviewed carefully by an experienced cataloguer.

The third speaker, Dr. Robert W. Kiger, Assistant Director of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, spoke on the current status of the Hunt's BH project. Botanical authors published from 1730 to 1840 with names beginning with A through D will find themselves in print again in December 1976, the projected publication date of the first volume of Bibliographia Huntiana. The remaining five volumes will follow at projected year-and-a-half intervals. The first six volumes will contain only the monographs, with some 10-12 volumes containing the journal article citations to follow. Variant forms of the author's name will be included as well as an indication of selected reference sources and locations.

Publication in microfiche would be economically feasible but may not be acceptable to the users of BH. However, the work will not be published in both microfiche and book forms. Members were reminded that all BH files are open for use and were encouraged to contact the Hunt Institute for help on items published between 1730-1840.

The last speaker of the day was Richard Daley, Assistant Chairman of the Ecological Services Department of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Mr. Daley showed slides picturing projects under way in Missouri by his department. Most required some use of the library. One study, a summary of the literature available on St. Louis biology, resulted in a two-volume bibliography of 2,500 to 3,000 sources. Another which required considerable library research was on sulfur in the environment. These studies, representing a new direction at the MBG have placed an enormous demand on library facilities and particularly on I-L loan services. Much of the library work has been done by the project research staff, and the library has received financial support through overhead provided for in the financial grants for these studies.

Friday, May 2, 1975, Trail House, Missouri Botanical Garden Arboretum and Nature Reserve. Gray Summit, Missouri.

Mr. Norweb presiding.

The meeting was opened with a discussion of forthcoming meetings led by Kathryn Daniels. Enola Teeter and Julie Morris were not able to attend this year's Annual meeting, but have plans well in hand for 1976. According to their preliminary schedule, the meeting is set for May 6 through May 8, with registration on the evening of May 5. Conference headquarters will be the Hotel duPont in Wilmington, Delaware, with meetings and other events set for Longwood, Winterthur and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Mrs. Daniels complimented the committee for their organization and for a most interesting looking program.

Ian MacPhail offered the group a tentative invitation to the Morton Arboretum for 1977, and Solange Huggins offered a tentative invitation for 1978 to the Denver Botanic Garden.

In other business, Bob Long suggested the need for a policy on working with reprint publishers. There will be a questionnaire forthcoming in the CBHL Newsletter regarding library policies in this regard.

Richard Isaacson reported that his questionnaire for the CBHL director of library consultants has been very poorly received. He urges members to fill out the questionnaires without undue modesty and return them to him.

There was some discussion of policies of CBHL libraries regarding gifts. It was suggested that libraries which have devised formal gift policies send them to the Newsletter.

Mrs. Woodburn reminded those present that libraries may not appraise gifts to their libraries or pay for such an appraisal for income tax purposes. However, any reputable book dealer may appraise book collections for a donor.

There followed the discussion of the use of some CBHL money for a grant -- perhaps with matching funds -- for the publication of an item of interest to the members of the organization such as the seed catalog project. Copies of such a publication could be sold at a profit without endangering CBHL's status as a non-profit

organization, as long as the sales of such items do not become the principle activities of the organization.

Mrs. Lenore Dickinson of the Arnold Arboretum began a discussion of emergency procedures and sources of information and help in a library disaster when she said that the Harvard libraries are preparing a booklet of emergency procedures. When this is completed, she will announce it through the Newsletter. Later, Jim Reed furnished copies of the 1975 Library of Congress booklet, Procedures for salvage of water-damaged library materials, by Peter Waters, which should be of considerable interest to the membership. Mrs. Norweb made the suggestion that such information on emergency procedures should not be kept in the library. It was suggested that the compilation and publication of emergency procedures by CBHL might encourage other libraries and private collectors to join the organization.

In a discussion of ways to increase membership, members were urged to make personal contacts, hand out CBHL brochures (available from John Reed) and give names of potential members to Richard Isaacson for a follow-up letter. Articles announcing various meetings and projects of CBHL should be published in the various botanical and horticultural journals.

James Reed reported on the International Federation of Library Associations. It was decided that there would be little advantage in CBHL joining the organization at this time.

Mr. Reed also reported on the American Association of Museums new library affinity group. Jim will be attending the Annual Meeting in June and would welcome comments from CBHL members.

There was a brief discussion of a tour to England under CBHL sponsorship. Mrs. Daniels will discuss this with Phyllis Edwards of the British Museum and ASLIB and report on possibilities in the Newsletter.

Mr. Norweb introduced the various members of the Board, Ian MacPhail, Richard Isaacson, John Reed and Marjorie Dickinson. He thanked the local committee for a splendid meeting and introduced his successor as President, Kathryn Daniels of the Hunt Botanical Library. The business meeting then adjourned.

NOTES AND ...

APPRAISALS ... A propos of the discussion on appraisals at the St. Louis meeting, Mr. Charles van Ravenswaay draws our attention to Michael A. Sievers' article in the April 1975 issue of Museum News, "To Appraise or not to Appraise."

GARDEN SYMPOSIUM ... Elisabeth Woodburn will be speaking on "Horticultural Heritage - the Influence of the U.S. Nurseryman" at the Symposium on Agricultural Literature: Proud Heritage - Future Promise, to be held at the National Agricultural Library from September 24-26. For further information on the Symposium, contact Leila Moran, Room 204, The National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland 20705.

QUERIES

GARDEN GUIDES ... Dorothy Loa McFadden, writer of garden guides, sends us the following author's request:

"I am writing a book (under contract to a publisher) on Oriental Gardens of America which are open to the public. It will be a traveler's guide, successor to my last two books, Touring the Gardens of Europe, (McKay), and Gardens of Europe, a Pictorial Tour, (Barnes), with many photographs.

Any addresses of such gardens in the U.S., inspired by those of China, Iran, India or Japan, would be very much appreciated, so that I can contact the gardens direct for data and photographs."

Please send your information to: Dorothy Loa McFadden, 6893 Via Valverde, La Jolla, California 92037.

LEAR'S NONSENSE ... Members who enjoy Lear's nonsense botany will be interested to know that there is a new edition in process. Vivien Noakes and Charles Lewson, 146 Hamilton Terrace, St. John's Wood, London NW8 9UX, England, write: "We have been commissioned by the Oxford University Press to edit a new collection of Edward Lear's nonsense, and we would like to appeal through your columns for drawings, letters, or any Lear manuscripts, whether nonsense or otherwise, that your readers may have.

We will take great care of any material entrusted to us and will pay postage or reproduction costs."

Ex: Christian Science Monitor, April 21, 1975.

NEWS FROM THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Garden's Library has begun a joint program with the Institute of Rehabilitative Medicine of NYU. Instruction on book care and restoration is provided by Ms. Penny Blackman, Hand Book Binder. The first student, Mr. Lazlo Toth, began work in April 1975. The purpose of the program is to train book care specialists for conservation positions in New York area libraries.

Under a grant from the American Begonia Society, Ann Councill, Library Intern, is compiling a list of Begonia species and cultivars published after 1940. Published descriptions of Begonia are provided to the Society after a systematic search of the serial literature and seedmen's catalogs.

Mr. Frank Polach was appointed assistant plant information officer in May 1975. Frank holds a Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of California at Davis. His duties will include general gardening and plant information, plant disease diagnosis, and plant identification. Frank expects to receive the MLS degree from Columbia University School of Library Service in January 1976.

At the request of members and friends, the NYBG Library has established a circulating library of basic horticulture and botanical books. Books will circulate to members by mail or through personal visits to the library. A catalog of available books and borrowing instructions can be had on request to the Library. Donations of books or funds, and title suggestions should be directed to Charles R. "Bob" Long, Librarian. The Library staff and volunteers have spent four months in preparing this loan collection. Members are invited to use this unique service collection.

The Deans and Directors of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences have designated the Library of the New York Botanical Garden as a distribution center for the CALS Information Bulletins. Information bulletins in the following subject areas will be on sale as a public service: flowers, forestry and wildlife, fruits, pest control, houseplants, lawns and landscaping, soils and vegetables.

1975-1976 NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

September 1975
Jim Reed, editor

September 2 - Deadline for material to editor
September 9 - Edited material to PHS for printing

January 1976
Julie Morris, editor

January 5 - Deadline for material to editor

April 1976
Bernadette Callery, editor

April 5 - Deadline for material to editor
April 12 - Edited material to PHS for printing

THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL
AND
HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES, INC.

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Membership in the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries is open to botanical and horticultural libraries of both public and private institutions. Individual memberships are available to anyone interested, particularly librarians and persons from the horticultural and botanical professions. Institutional membership is encouraged and is open on a world-wide basis to botanical and horticultural libraries of any size.

Annual dues are \$25.00 for institutional members and \$10.00 for individual members.

Applications for membership should be directed to John F. Reed, Treasurer. Checks should be made payable to: The Council on Botanical Libraries, Inc.

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CBHL NEWSLETTER

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N.B. Next deadline for material is
September 2. Send all information to
Jim Reed.

FILM FESTIVAL

One of the highlights in American Horticulture is the annual selection of outstanding new horticultural films at the Film Festival of the American Horticultural Society. The Festival this year will be held during the American Horticultural Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii, September 8-13, 1975. The Film Festival has grown to such proportions that it has become necessary to obtain entries early to allow adequate time for careful judging and evaluation. This year the deadline is July 25. For information and application forms, write to American Horticultural Film Festival, American Horticultural Society, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121.