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# The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.

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Bronx, N.Y. 10458

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THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES, INC.  
TENTH ANNUAL MEETING  
JUNE 8 - 10, 1978  
DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS, DENVER, COLORADO

Thursday, June 8, 1978. Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver, Colorado

Dr. William G. Gambill, Jr., Director of the Denver Botanic Gardens, welcomed thirty-five members of CBHL to Denver and the Botanic Gardens.

After Dr. Gambill's remarks, Richard T. Isaacson, president of the Council and librarian of the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, called the first business meeting to order. He especially welcomed those attending from the West and then introduced current members of the Council board: Barbara Emerson, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society; Ina Vrugtman, Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, Ontario; and Marjorie Dickinson, secretary, from Kingwood Center. John Reed, treasurer, New York Botanical Garden, was not able to attend.

The minutes of the ninth annual meeting, as published in the CBHL Newsletter, were approved, and reports were called for from board and committee members.

Mrs. Dickinson announced that, as a result of proxies received, a quorum of members was present.

A financial statement for the calendar year 1977, with an additional report of financial activity from January 1, 1978 through May 31, 1978, was received from John Reed. The January statement showed a balance of \$5,227.81; the May balance was \$5,940.58. The complete report is appended to these minutes.

Mr. Reed has produced a membership list for the Council dated April 19, 1978, which is appended to this report.

Ian MacPhail, chairman of the nominating committee, stated that Jim Reed of the Missouri Botanical Garden and Robert Kiger of the Hunt Institute were the nominees for the position of junior member of the board. Mr. Reed was elected in the mail ballot.

Mr. Isaacson presented a report for the publications committee. Bob Long, chairman, was unable to attend. This committee has produced the first CBHL bibliography. It is Desert Gardening: Desert Plants and Their Cultivation by Gerard McKiernan. Lisle, Illinois, The Morton Arboretum, 1978. 28 pages. \$2.50. It may be ordered from Ian MacPhail at The Morton Arboretum.

Mr. Isaacson was also able to announce that a number of CBHL members have responded to a request for editorial assistance from Bob Long after the resignation of Alan Barney. Two other bibliographies, on vegetable cookery and edible plants, are in the process of publication. All CBHL members with embryo bibliographies in mind are urged to contact Bob Long at the New York Botanical Garden. Members of CBHL then discussed at some length the format of these bibliographies, pricing, and sales promotion. Suggestions regarding the bibliographies may be sent to Bob Long. Mr. Isaacson stated that he felt the committee should be commended for producing in the one year since its inception the finished bibliography.

Following this discussion, Barbara Emerson, in the absence of Cornelia Tyler, presented the report of the Committee on the Union List of Nursery and Seed Trade Catalogues. It included a written report of the committee's meeting with Dr. Richard Farley and Leila Moran of the National Agricultural Library, which is appended. A general discussion followed.

During the past two years, very spotty reports have been received from some CBHL members who have surveyed their own areas for catalogue holdings. Richard Isaacson noted that a questionnaire he sent out received only a 10% response rate. Bernadette Callery reported a similar lack of response. Ina Vrugtman reported a good response and much interest from sources she contacted. Similar reports have been received from other areas.

Diane Schwartz commented that the scattered nature of these diverse efforts showed a need for the committee to draw up a uniform questionnaire. There was general agreement with this proposal, and the committee will draw up a questionnaire, drawing largely upon the one used by Mary Lou Wolfe in the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's pilot project.

Henry Gilbert then brought up the question of the value of such a survey and asked for comments on how older catalogues are used. Freek Vrugtman commented that he uses catalogues extensively in his search for syringa cultivars. Many cultivar names are published first and sometimes only in trade catalogues. He also commented that, at the recent annual meeting of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta at Hamilton, the Committee on Nomenclature decided to morally support the catalogue projects of CBHL and NAL. Joan De Fato commented on the value of woodcuts and etchings in the older catalogues. Carol D. Jones mentioned the importance of early catalogues in the history of horticulture which, as he pointed out, is a much neglected area without much source material.

Richard Isaacson noted that sample surveys have shown that the catalogues are probably much rarer than was thought and certainly, as has been pointed out emphatically by Elizabeth Woodburn, are increasing in value.

Albert Strickland suggested that the holdings of Index seminum be inventoried. Ruth Schallert responded that some time ago the committee decided not to include them in the survey in an attempt not to make the project even more complicated. Lenore Dickinson suggested that perhaps the questionnaire could inquire simply, "Do you maintain a collection of Index seminum?"

Jim Reed suggested that questionnaires going to individuals might include a question, "Would you be willing to donate your collection to a botanical or horticultural library?". Following the discussion, members of CBHL volunteered for

various regional areas with Barbara Emerson organizing the allocation of the United States and Canada.

The first business meeting was adjourned.

Saturday, July 10, 1978. Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver, Colorado

Richard Isaacson, president, called the meeting to order and then presented a report on the illustration index project of the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland to the thirty members present. This project is an index of color illustrations in 100 titles (200 volumes) and will contain 45,000 entries. G. K. Hall is considering the publication of this work as early as next spring. Tentative plans call for three volumes with a price of \$200. Mr. Isaacson presented a list of books to be indexed and asked for suggestions from CBHL members for additional titles to be included. He would appreciate the support of CBHL members in this undertaking. Albert Strickland then made a motion which was approved that the CBHL secretary write to Richard Newman at G. K. Hall indicating the interest and approval of CBHL in this project. A copy of the letter which was written is appended to this report.

Ina Vrugtman gave the membership report. Mrs. Vrugtman sent 100 letters to prospective members in the West in 1977. Apparently as a result, CBHL has gained a number of new members, some of whom were able to attend the Denver meeting. It was decided to drop complimentary memberships presented to English colleagues after the London pre-conference tour in 1976.

Once again, the members turned to a discussion of the seed and nursery catalogue business. Some new regional assignments were added.

Moving on to a discussion of the 1979 annual meeting, June Rogier presented a letter from Francis de Vos, Director, University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum inviting the group to meet at the Arboretum, May 16-19, 1979. Mr. de Vos wrote "the scheduled dates of May 16-19 provide us with a safe margin between the last snow of winter and the first onslaught of mosquitos."

Miscellaneous topics were brought up as the business meeting drew to a close. Ruth Schallert commented that the Smithsonian Botany Library has recently purchased the Jodrell Plant Anatomy Index for \$2,000. She told CBHL members that much of it is on handwritten cards and considerable filing had to be redone. Bernadette Callery mentioned some difficulties the Hunt has been having with Pendragon Press and Her Majesty's Stationery Office involving rates of exchange and price increases. Jim Reed announced that he would be going to the Missouri White House Conference on Libraries and perhaps on to the one in Washington. He would appreciate suggestions or messages from CBHL members for delivery at these meetings. Mary Lou Wolfe said that she is looking for slide sets which members have which P.H.S. could acquire to duplicate and loan to its members. Ian MacPhail discussed the joint publishing venture the Garden and various problems librarians are having with it. CBHL members showed considerable lack of enthusiasm for its form of publication and distribution. Diane Schwartz suggested that it might help librarians who are having trouble with it to write to the Exchange Librarian at the New York Botanical Garden. Wilma Wierwell announced that, because of her resignation, the position of librarian at the Chicago Botanic Garden will be open in October. She is moving out of the area.

Mr. Isaacson then asked for suggestions for future programs from members. June Rogier announced that the theme for the 1979 meeting will be "Continuing Education." A suggestion was made that, in 1980 at the 12th anniversary meeting, CBHL should draw on its own membership for program possibilities.

Mr. Isaacson then expressed his gratitude and that of CBHL to Solange Gignac, chairman of local arrangements, and to the Denver Botanic Gardens for a very successful annual meeting. He introduced Barbara Emerson, the new president of CBHL.

Barbara, in turn, thanked Richard for a remarkably successful year for CBHL, citing the publication of the List of Union Lists, the first bibliography, and perhaps a glimpse of the "light at the end of the tunnel of the seed and nursery catalogue project." She introduced James Reed of the Missouri Botanical Garden, the new junior member of the board.

The meeting was adjourned.

Board Meeting, June 10, 1978. Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver, Colorado

Barbara Emerson, president, presided. Attending were June Rogier, Jim Reed, Ina Vrugtman, and Marjorie Dickinson.

This was mainly a planning meeting for the 1979 annual meeting with discussion centering around June Rogier's plans for the conference at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The conference theme will be "Continuing Education for the Librarian," and an emphasis will be placed on substance in the formal meetings.

It was hoped that this planning meeting may make it possible to eliminate a board meeting in mid-winter.

Marjorie Sutton Dickinson  
Secretary, CBHL

BEATRIX FARRAND RESEARCH PROJECT

Dr. Marlene Salon, Professor of Landscape Architecture, is attempting to trace historical data relating to Beatrix Farrand, the outstanding landscape architect. Dr. Salon is interested in correspondence plans, brochures, photographs, articles about Beatrix Farrand. If you have any associated materials, please contact Dr. Salon at State University of New York, College of Environmental Science & Forestry, School of Landscape Architecture, Syracuse, New York 13210.

NYBG FIELD NOTES INDEX

The Plant Collector's field notes and accession books at the New York Botanical Garden have been catalogued as a special collection. This collection contains 233 volumes. A 15 page index to the collectors represented is available free by writing to: Mrs. Elaine DiLorenzo, Administrative Secretary, Library, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York 10458.

BOYCE THOMPSON INSTITUTE MOVES

Suzanne Broque, librarian of the Boyce Thompson Institute, sends us the following. "The Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research will be moving from Yonkers, New York to the Cornell University campus at Ithaca, New York in the early fall of 1978. The library collection, presently housed in Yonkers, has been sold and we will no longer be able to offer library services as of July 1st, 1978. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the CBHL libraries for their help over the years."

WHITHER HORTICULTURE?

In October of 1977, eight leaders in the field of horticulture met in Philadelphia to consider the direction horticulture will take in the next 150 years. The panelists were Ian McHarg, Frances Perry, Peter Raven, Richard Evans Schultes, James Underwood Crockett, William Flemer III, Paul Trachtman, Rachel Snyder and John W. Oswald, moderator. Proceedings of this symposium which was part of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's 150th anniversary celebration, are available on request from the PHS Library, 325 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

CINCINNATI HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Anyone having any information concerning the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, founded in 1843, please contact Mrs. William S. Nagel, 430 West Cliff Lane, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220. She is gathering material for the Hauck Collection of the Cincinnati Historical Society.

LINNAEAN MICROFILMS NEEDED

The Hunt Institute is anxious to locate an institution who owns and will microfilm a copy of Carl Linnaeus' Amoenitates academicae ... Leiden, apud Wetstenium, 1752-1769. Only volumes 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, dated 1764, 1756, 1760, 1769, are needed. Please contact Bernadette Callery, Hunt Institute, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.

CBHL BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR SALE

The first CBHL bibliography, Desert Gardening: Desert Plants and Their Cultivation, by Gerard McKiernan is available for \$2.50. Please order your copies from Ian MacPhail, Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois 60532.

DUMBARTON OAKS FELLOWSHIP

The Center for Studies in the History of Landscape Architecture wishes to remind the CBHL membership of its yearly fellowships. The program is for scholars ranging from candidates for a Ph.D. to persons doing research for publication. The rare book collection would provide a fine opportunity for a horticultural librarian working in such areas as the history of plant importation or plant illustration. The application deadline is 1 December for each following academic year. Interested persons please write to Professor Elisabeth B. MacDougall, Center for Studies in the History of Landscape Architecture, Dumbarton Oaks, 1703 32nd Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20007.

## THE COUNCIL OF BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES, INC.

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~~Diane Schwartz~~

Please send all news items to Bernadette Callery by <sup>March 26, 1979</sup> ~~November 20~~ for inclusion in the December Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

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 and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.