



# The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.

Jayne MacLean, Secretary  
CBHL  
National Agricultural Library  
USDA  
Beltsville, MD 20705

John F. Reed, Treasurer  
CBHL  
The New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, N.Y. 10458

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## REPORT ON MEETING AT INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS

The following report was submitted by Geraldine C. Kaye, representing the membership of CBHL.

### The meeting:

A special CBHL meeting was held at the 14th International Botanical Congress, West Berlin, on 30 July 1987. Attendees (a small but distinguished assembly) included:

Current members: Dr. H. Walter Lack, Director, Library, Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum, Berlin; Sven and Karen Koeltz, booksellers, Koenigstein, Germany; Mrs. Nicola Round, Botany Librarian, British Museum (Natural History); Mary Walker, Wildflower Society, Framingham, MA; Nancy Morin, for the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Others: Dr. John McNeill, new Director, Royal Botanical Garden, Edinburgh; Dr. Herve M. Burdet, Director, Library Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques, Geneva, Switzerland; Dr. Gren Lucas, Keeper, Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, England; Dr. William T. Stearn, British Museum (Natural History); Mariette Steiner, Librarian, Institute of Systematic Botany, Uppsala, Sweden; and at my special invitation, Dr. Peter F. Stevens, Botany Department, Harvard University.

I introduced CBHL with a brief description of its history, aims and activities. I emphasized the annual meetings, newsletter, membership list and duplicate book lists, and noted especially how valuable we find the mutual support and information-sharing among members. Dr. Peter Stevens then spoke briefly about the importance of the botanical literature from the perspective of a research scientist and botanical historian, and the challenge of the changes in the electronic era ahead. I described our seed and nursery catalog and index seminum projects; some cataloging and preservation are going on in Europe also. We had available a 9 page handout, "CBHL: some history and philosophy" (an excerpt from Richard Isaacson's history writeup) which was well received.

### The discussion

A lively discussion followed. Some of the points made were:

The continental, *i.e.* non-British, Europeans felt that tight budgets, long distances and language differences are serious barriers making a European group impractical at present.

We should make a start by increasing European membership-at-large in CBHL as much as possible; and by having a meeting in London with a strong topic to attract as many European participants as we can. We were urged to work up strong attendance by North Americans. I mentioned our informal 1976 London meeting with the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History.

We should work toward having our Annual Meeting in Europe at regular intervals, perhaps every fourth year.

Turning to the possibility of a first meeting: Dr. Gren Lucas kindly invited us to hold a meeting at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, England; as a second possibility, Dr. John McNeill invited us to the Royal

Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, Scotland. We focussed on the Kew location as an ideal first meeting place, with the meeting under the auspices of the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, British Museum (Natural History) and the Linnean Society of London.

We felt that a first meeting should be a special one rather than a CBHL Annual Meeting. The earliest possible timing for this would be either spring or fall 1989. We envision a 3-day meeting with technical sessions and tours of the wonderful botanical libraries in the London area. Then, if membership and interest were strong enough, we could think about having an Annual Meeting in the British Isles or continental Europe in the early 1990's.

It was felt that conservation would be a strong topic with broad appeal that could pull in participants from Central and Eastern European countries as well. We should invite other societies such as the Society for the History of Natural History, Society of Archivists, and library associations to attend and participate; but the meeting should be clearly identified as a CBHL meeting. In order to enable a good representation of North American members, we should start as early as possible trying to locate travel funds--from our institutions, grants or foundations.

A suggested Local Arrangements Committee would be Sylvia Fitzgerald (RBG Kew), Nicola Round (BMNH) and Gina Douglas (Linnean Society). A North American contact should be appointed, providing liason to the CBHL Executive Committee. A Program Committee would be a good idea, too.

Gerry Kaye's observations: The interest and enthusiasm of the British contingent were truly heartwarming and the invitation to meet at Kew was a most generous offer. I would like us to be able to accept it if at all possible, for two reasons: I'm sure the meeting itself would be of great benefit to both Americans and Europeans. And, it would be the first step to a genuine international scope of activities.

On the other hand, I was disappointed in the small attendance at the Berlin meeting, in spite of extensive publicity efforts on my part. It was partly due to the lack of advance notice of the meeting schedule; however, I suspect that there's also a rather small population of interested persons to draw on. If this is so, all the organizing in the world can't produce a large attendance! And we don't have a large pool of workers to do the organizing.

#### What happens next?

Our Executive Committee must decide whether we should go ahead with plans to meet in London. Our London associates must decide whether they can undertake organizing the meeting. We'll try to let you know quickly if we decide to go ahead--you'll want to start saving your shillings!

#### A final word

I'm tremendously grateful to several people for their generous help and support in our Berlin venture. Dr. Walter Lack acted as liason with the Congress arrangements committee and provided wise advice, fielding anxious transatlantic phone calls in the process. Mrs. Nicki Round of BM(NH) was a pillar of strength during the meeting, and in addition contributed equal parts of realism and humor. Sven and Karen Koeltz have generously offered to help with publicity--and supplied yet more wisdom and friendship. Dr. Lucas' enthusiastic interest, no less than his generous invitation, was truly gratifying. And to everyone else who attended the meeting--thank you. Your interest meant a great deal to me.

### 1988 ANNUAL MEETING PLANS

Plans progress for the 1988 CBHL Annual Meeting to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from 18 May to 20 May 1987, with an optional Saturday tour to Fallingwater, built by Frank Lloyd Wright. The Hunt Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, will be the host institution. The program's general theme will be "The Development of Botanical Information Resources" and will include presentations by Hunt Institute staff on various current projects, including the Guide to Natural History Manuscript Resources in North America project. Tours are planned to the Rodef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden and Phipps Conservatory, both within walking distance of the Institute. Attendees will have the opportunity to view the Institute's 6th International Exhibition of Botanical Art and Illustration. The professional program will focus on various aspects of both the acquisition, accumulation and documentation of botanical information resources and the organization of botanical information resources. CBHL members who would like to present brief reports on projects on these themes are encouraged to contact Charlotte A. Tancin, Hunt Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Phone: (412) 268-2436.

### CBHL MEMBERS VISIT THE SOVIET UNION

Lydia Newcombe, of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, John Reed, of the New York Botanical Garden and Connie Wolf, of the Missouri Botanic Garden, traveled to the Soviet Union this August in order to determine ways to assure the receipt of the United States botanical gardens of the significant Soviet literature.

Connie reports that "our objectives were to learn about the exchange program in each of the 10 libraries we visited and to establish personal contacts that would advance our existing exchanges. In traveling to Moscow, Leningrad and Novosibirsk, we were fortunate to gain some knowledge of Soviet libraries, meet a lot of wonderful librarians and other Soviet people and have a thoroughly enjoyable time.

The majority of Soviet botanical literature is generated through the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., with the U.S.S.R. Agricultural Academy and the State Universities also contributing. For this reason, we visited the three central libraries of the Academy of Sciences and associated botanical garden libraries, two Agricultural Academy libraries, the Moscow State University Library, and, because it is one of the ten largest libraries in the world, the State Lenin Library.

Among the most interesting places we visited were the Main Botanical Garden in Moscow, with its almost 900 acres, and the Komarov Institute in Leningrad, one of the world's oldest and finest botanical research institutes. Also interesting was the Central Siberian Botanical Garden, located in Academic Town, a town built for scientific research, near Novosibirsk in western Siberia.

Our trip was organized through a botanical exchange program under which the United States and the Soviet Union have been exchanging botanists and other plant science specialists since 1976. We are most appreciative of Tom Elias, Director of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and American coordinator of the exchange program, who initiated and lent his support to this trip." For a copy of the report detailing each library visited, contact Connie Wolf. Also, a slide show will be given sometime during the next CBHL meeting.

### CBHL MEMBERS HONORED AT NYBG

Distinguished Service Awards were presented this summer to Jeanne Russel Janish, botanical illustrator; John F. Reed, Vice President for Education at the Garden; and the late Charles R. Long, Assistant Vice President and Director of the Library and Plant Information Services at the Garden during the New York Botanical Garden's 1987 Annual Meeting of the Corporation. The Distinguished Service Awards are presented by the New York Botanical Garden Board of Managers to individuals who have made special contributions to the Garden and/or to the fields of botany and horticulture. Nominations are made by senior Garden staff members.

### MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN TO CATALOG MICROFICHE COLLECTION

At the last CBHL annual meeting, Alan Meckler offered a set of "Plant Taxonomic Literature Microfiche Collection" to the library that would catalog the collection into OCLC. The Missouri Botanical Garden Library decided to accept the offer and accomplish the cataloging of the 5,000 microfiche titles by 1993.

While the library already owns actual copies of a large portion of the titles in this collection, the microfiche will fill in for titles or editions not owned and will allow ease of photocopying so that the books, many of which are quite old and fragile, can be preserved.

### DUMBARTON OAKS AWARDS

Dumbarton Oaks offers residential fellowships in three areas of Byzantine studies, Pre-Columbian studies and studies in Landscape Architecture. Several levels of fellowships are available, including summer ones. Dumbarton Oaks also makes grants to assist with scholarly projects in the three fields with which it is concerned. These normally cover expenses such as photography, supplies, special services and sometimes travel, although this is not specifically a travel grant. Please request further description of research awards and application procedures from: The Assistant Director, Dumbarton Oaks, 1703 32nd St., NW, Washington, DC 20007. Deadline for submission of applications for all awards is November 15.

### NEW VENUES FOR CBHL NEWS

Arising from comments made during the recent International Botanical Congress in Berlin, information on CBHL will appear in Herbarium News, published by Missouri Botanic Garden (Herbarium News, Missouri Botanic Garden, P.O.Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299, attention Nancy Morin). As herbarium curators

may be interested in knowing what botanical librarians are involved in, so we may be curious about the activities of herbarium curators. A mutual exchange of news is encouraged.

#### CBHL MEMBERS AT INDIANAPOLIS HERB CONFERENCE

At the second national Herb Growers and Marketers Conference in Indianapolis, July 19-22, CBHL members Jayne MacLean and Keith Crotz found themselves in adjoining exhibit booths. Jayne, Alan Fusonie and Bill Hauser were letting the herb people know about the NAL's services and were performing demonstrations of searching the AGRICOLA database on CD-ROM disk and the Forest Service Historical Photo Collection on a laser disk and computer system. Keith Crotz, of The American Botanist, was displaying and selling books related to herbs to an enthusiastic audience.

#### REFERENCE QUERY

We have heard from Stuart Holland who is researching the life and activities of pioneer rhododendron hybridizer George Fraser. Fraser came to Canada in 1882 and established a small rhododendron and heather nursery on the West coast of Vancouver Island. In addition to biographical information on Fraser, Holland is trying to locate a copy of Fraser's paper on the rhododendron hybrids of the Pacific Coast, delivered at the 29th annual Convention of the Pacific Coast Association of Nurserymen held at Paradise Lodge, Mount Ranier, in the summer of 1931. The paper was published as part of that convention's proceedings. He is particularly interested in finding letters between Fraser and a fellow hybridizer in Pennsylvania, Joseph W. Gable. Please send your information directly to Mr. Holland, 608 Transit Rd., Victoria BC, Canada, V8S 4Z5.

#### REQUEST FOR BOOK CATALOGS

We have heard from Renee Jochens, 402 Ridgeway Dr., Norfolk, NE 68701-3240, who is trying to locate a source for the following bookseller's catalogues. Please contact her directly if you would be able to provide them. Laurie Todds' Books for gardeners (all except no. 2), S.J. Singer Co. (all except list 105), Able Booksellers (all but 1981), H. Lawrence Ferguson (all before F-17 and after F-23), Hortulus (all but 9/81, 4/82, 1/83, 6/83, 10/83).

#### POSITIONS OPEN

Librarian for the Garden Library, Studies in Landscape Architecture, Dumbarton Oaks. Temporary one-year appointment for a professional librarian, available at Dumbarton Oaks in a library specializing in the history of garden design, horticulture and botanical illustration. Appointment to be made by December 31, 1987.

Full-time position, Under general directory of the director of studies and assisted by a professional librarian and a part-time assistant, the librarian is responsible for maintaining a non-circulating research library of 14,000 volumes, as well as slides and photographs. The Garden Library consists of a rare book collection of 3,000 volumes and an open stack reference collection. The book collection is growing at a rate of 450 volumes per year. For detailed information and application requirements, contact: Director of Studies in Landscape Architecture, Dumbarton Oaks, 1703 32nd St., NW, Washington, DC 20007. (203) 342-3280. Please respond as quickly as possible.

#### SOURCE OF 1987 OBERLY AWARD PUBLICATION

Copies of Women, agriculture and rural development in Latin America by Jacqueline A. Ashby and Stella Gomez, the 1987 Oberly award winner, was published in Cali, Columbia, by the International Fertilizer Development Center/Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical, and is available from Agribookstore, 1611 N. Kent St., Arlington, VA 22209 for \$11.75 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

#### PUBLICATIONS ANNOUNCED

Milddale Press is publishing a new edition of Nancy Steen's The charm of old roses, first published in New Zealand in 1966 and never issued in the United States. The work can be ordered from Milddale Press, 1718 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20009 for \$24.95 with quantity discounts.

The Guide to Smithsonian serial publications, an annotated listing arranged by series of fourteen important serial publications issued by the Smithsonian Institution since 1964 with author, title and subject indexes, will be published in late 1987. One of the series to be indexed is the Smithsonian contributions to botany. Copies may be ordered from the Denali Press, P.O. Box 021535, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1535 for \$27.95 each. ISBN: 0-938737-13-9.

The 1987 revised edition of Serial titles held by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, is now available. This first revision of the original publication of June 1985 includes 1,000 additional serial records with revisions of 626 of previously existing records. Title changes are more clearly indicated by "Continues" and "Continued by" notes. Copies may be ordered from Brian Convery, Academy of Natural Sciences, 19th and The Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103, for \$65.00. Please make checks payable to the Academy of Natural Sciences.

Copies of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's datebook are now available for the 1988 calendar year. The 5 3/4 by 8 1/2 booklet includes over 50 illustrations, most in color, of the Garden and its collections and includes Garden trivia as well. Single copies are \$8.95 each, two or more are \$7.75 each. Postage and handling are an additional \$2.00 for the first order; \$.25 for each additional copy. Send checks to Brooklyn Botanic Garden Datebook 1988, Gift Shop, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11225.

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

##### Dumbarton Oaks

MacDougall, Elisabeth Blair, ed. Ancient Roman villa gardens. Washington, DC, 1987 \$36.00. ISBN: 0-88402-162-9.

The tenth in the series of the Dumbarton Oaks Colloquium on the History of Landscape Architecture, collecting the papers given at the 1984 gathering. Heavily illustrated, the seven papers, including one by Pompeii scholar Wilhelmina F. Jashemski, continue the established high standard. Orders may be placed with Dumbarton Oaks, 1703 32nd St., NW, Washington, DC 20007.

##### North American Fruit Explorers

The handbook for fruit explorers. NAFEX, 1986. \$5.00. Published by the North American Fruit Explorers, a membership organization for amateur pomologists devoted to exploring and extending fruit culture to everyone, in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of NAFEX. NAFEX publishes a quarterly journal, Pomona, has a by-mail circulating library and consultants with which members may correspond. Membership is \$8.00 (\$10.00 Canadian/Foreign) for one year; \$15.00 (\$18.00) for two years. New members receive a copy of The handbook for fruit explorers, a reference guide to amateur pomology in addition to issues of Pomona. Send membership applications and requests for further information to NAFEX, Rt. 1, Box 94, Chapin, IL 62628.

##### Timber Press Books

We have received the following works from Timber Press (9999 S.W. Wilshire Ave., Portland, OR 97225). Orders should be sent directly to them.

Adams, James. Landscaping with herbs. Portland, 1987. \$29.95 ISBN: 0-88192-073-8.

Bartels, Andreas. Gardening with dwarf trees & shrubs. Portland, 1986. \$32.95. ISBN: 0-917304-93-4. Volume 1 of The gardener's handbook: a series of useful books, this work is a translation from the original 1983 German publication. Extensive color and line illustrations describe these smaller plants with particular emphasis on those judged most suitable for garden use. The bulk of the work is devoted to an encyclopedia-like approach to these deciduous trees and shrubs and conifers, prefaced with basic information on landscape uses, cultivation and continued care.

Desmond, Ray. A celebration of flowers, two hundred years of Curtis's Botanical Magazine. Kew, Middlesex, 1987. \$29.95. ISBN: 0-88192-039-8. A superb history of this long-lived journal, its editors, contributors, artists and the botanical and horticultural community which it served. Lavishly illustrated, in many cases comparing the original drawing with the published illustration. A necessary acquisition for anyone interested in this field.

Elliott, Brent. Victorian gardens. Portland, 1986. \$42.95. ISBN: 0-88192-037-1. Comprehensive study of the English Victorian garden, particularly from the 1830's to the 1880's, by the librarian of the Royal Horticultural Society.

Elliot, W. Rodger and David L. Jones. Encyclopedia of Australian plants suitable for cultivation, vol. 4. \$65.00 ISBN: 0-85091-213-X Covers genera from Eu-Go, including extensive cultivation information on the Eucalyptus.

Graham, Victor. Growing succulent plants. Portland, 1987. \$19.95. ISBN: 0-88192-036-3.

Gutschick, Vincent P. A functional biology of crop plants. Portland, 1987. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-88192-046-0.

Harkness, B. The Bernard E. Harkness seedlist handbook: a guide to the plants offered in the major plant societies' seed exchanges, compiled and updated by Mabel G. Harkness and Deborah D'Angelo. Portland, 1986. \$27.95. ISBN: 0-88192-059-2. Principally alpine plant material, most recent update since 1980. Form, height, outstanding ornamental or distinguishing characteristics and country of origin of plant is indicated as well as additional references for further botanical or horticultural information. Reproduction of typescript.

Haw, Stephen G. The lilies of China: the genera *Lilium*, *Cardiocrinum*, *Nomocharis* and *Notholirion*, with descriptions of the species by Liang Sung-Yun, translated from *Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae*. Portland, 1986. \$29.95. ISBN: 0-088192-034-7.

Jeffrey, David W. Soil-plant relationships: an ecological approach. Portland, 1987. \$33.95 (Hardcover), \$26.96 (Paper). ISBN: 0-88192-071-1, 0-88192-076-2.

Jones, David L. Encyclopedia of ferns, an introduction to ferns, their structure, biology, economic importance, cultivation and propagation. Portland, 1987. \$50.00. ISBN: 0-88192-054-1. Clear color photos and line drawings, describing over 10,000 species.

Pilbeam, John. Cacti for the connoisseur: a guide for growers and collectors. Portland, 1987. \$44.95. ISBN: 0-88192-043-6. Brief introduction on cultivation, concentrating on descriptions of the plants native to harsh environments. Taxonomic citations given with the commentary on genera listing rejected names and synonyms. Connoisseur's choice wholly subjective section.

Robinson, Peter. Pool and waterside gardening. Middlesex, Kew, 1987. \$14.95. ISBN: 0-88192-038-X. A Kew Gardening Guide, with mouth-watering illustrations. A listing of pool and waterside plants gives height, spread and depth of water to which the plant can adapt.

The following works are part of the Plant Hunters Reprint Series for which ISBS is the exclusive distributor. Order directly from Timber Press as above.

Farrer, Reginald. The Dolomites. London, 1985. \$9.95. ISBN: 0-946313-172. Reprint of 1913 work.

Farrer, Reginald. The rainbow bridge London, 1986. \$9.95. ISBN: 0-946313-482. Reprint of 1921 work.

Ward, F. Kingdon, Plant hunting on the edge of the world. London, 1985. ISBN: 0-946313-199. Reprint of 1930 work.

Ward, F. Kingdon. Mystery rivers of Tibet. London, 1986. \$9.95. ISBN: 0-946313-199. Reprint of 1923 work.

Wilson, Ernest A. A naturalist in western China. London, 1986. \$9.95. ISBN: 0-946313-490. Reprint of 1913 work. Maps reproduced, but not photographs.

#### Dioscorides Press Books

We have received the following works from Dioscorides Press (999 S.W. Wilshire Ave., Portland, OR 97225) Orders should be sent directly to them.

Brooks, Robert R. Serpentine regions of the world and their associated flora: an interdisciplinary study. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-931146-04-6.

Ransom, Robert and Roymond J. Matela. Computer graphics in biology. Portland, 1987. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-931146-05-4. Extensive bibliography for further reading.

Thomas, Barry and Robert Spicer. The evolution and paleobiology of land plants., Portland, 1986. \$51.95 (hardcover), \$28.95 (paper). ISBN: 0-931146-0602; 0-931146-07-0.

The second volume in Dioscorides Press' Ecology, phytogeography and physiology series, this work summarized recent developments in the fields of evolution and palaeobotany, specifically the diversification of land plants. Emphasis is on the use of fossil records to provide the historical background of the development of angiosperms. Clean line drawings and extensive bibliographical references.

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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 \$50.00 for institutional members and \$20.00 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.