

# NEWSLETTER

CBHL

Number 3, 1972

## CBHL HOLDS FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Smithsonian was our host institution this year and they are to be congratulated upon a splendid job, for the facilities and services that they provided were of the highest quality. Registration for the three day program, April 20th through April 22nd, began at 10:00 A.M. in Room 43 of the Smithsonian's Natural History Building. Following refreshments there was an informal tour of the Botany Library under the guidance of its Librarian, Mrs. Ruth Schallert. The collection is primarily botanical, containing relatively little horticultural material among its 30,000 volume holdings, and access to the books is very heavily controlled with loans being confined only to staff members. Both LC and Dewey systems are presently in use since the library embarked upon a conversion program in 1964 and has not yet been able to bring it to completion. The librarian's office, incidentally, is right across the way from one of the nation's worst trouble-breeders, the Internal Revenue Service.

Upon returning to Room 43 the CBHL Membership was to have heard Dr. Russell Shank, Director of the Smithsonian Libraries, but he had been unexpectedly called to Maryland upon urgent library business. Dr. Richard Cowan, Director of the Museum of Natural History, then addressed the group, welcoming them as librarians whom he said were among the most valuable of people since it was they who opened the path to the resources contained in our books and collections. Following his speech of greeting came a report by Mr. Stanwyn Shetler upon the progress of the Flora North America Project. This is a complex computerized program intended to capture all useful data on plants growing in North America, north of Mexico. Its subject matter will be concerned with taxonomic data but not with literature generated by such data. It treats only of the vascular plants at present but plans to extend into other areas at a later date. It is also compiling a specialist file, and hopes to link individuals into its data base. The computer program was initiated in 1967 and is divided into two parts, a systematic part and a botanical one. Considerable work remains to be done but the higher taxon file is now in preliminary form.

A report on the Index Nominum Genericorum was then delivered by Dr. Franz Stafleu of the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, who was the originator of the project. The ING is an index of printed cards carrying information on all the generic names of plants since the time of Linné. The project began to be conceived at the outset of the 1950s when it was recognized that forming such an index at the species level was beyond present capacities. Growing out of the 1954 Congress in Paris the ING thought it might be faced with some 10 years work and about 30-40,000 names. But it soon found that most botanists are bad bibliographers, and that there were no specialists for all of the groups, only for some. Now the project expects to deal with 50-60,000 names, each of which requires 10 checks upon its accuracy, and must conduct its search in

some 100,000 books. A grant was made in 1966 through the NSF when the Smithsonian agreed to work on the project if U.S. facilities and staff were utilized. The planned basic stages should end in 1972, but the project will never reach finality until books cease to be printed. By 1974 something tangible will emerge, and in the near future a linkage with other projects such as FNA is anticipated.

After Dr. Stafleu's address the meeting adjourned for luncheon in the Executive Dining Room located in the Smithsonian's History and Technology Building. This was a large and softly lighted room, panelled with walnut and hung with painting where a courteous and efficient staff served an excellent lunch. In the afternoon CBHL Members were conducted on a tour of the Library of Congress, visiting its Rare Book Room, the galleries of the Main Catalogue Room and many of the backstage areas.

At the conclusion of the tour the group was brought into the Coolidge Collection Room to hear speakers from various departments of LC describe the operations of their sections. Mr. Merrill Cowell, Botanical and Horticultural Cataloguer explained rules governing subject classification. Under rule one, classification is made to the field of application if there is one, while rule two classes it with the organism discussed, that is with a taxon. The QK classification attracts only theoretical, scientific or descriptive matter whereas QLs and SBs are used for taxons or applications. The Q schedule is being revised, and it is hoped that an index to it will be ready by December. Following Mr. Cowell we heard from Mrs. Constance Stevens of the Customer Services Division. This section of LC began printing cards in 1898 and entered into its sales program in 1901. From 212 subscribers in the first year and a total of \$3000 in sales the division has grown to 35,000 subscriptions and returns \$7,000,000 yearly to the Treasury. The operation is handled on two floors of a large building and employs a staff of 356. Orders are now automatically converted to computer language, and when Phase Two of its reorganization finally goes into effect a card order will be printed and shipped to the customer within a seventy two hour limit.

Our next speaker was Mrs. Gloria Shaw, Chief of Catalogue Services. It is the responsibility of her department to get the National Union Catalogue into print and to prepare its quinquennial editions as well. The task must be accomplished with only 200 employees and is handicapped by a high turnover which means, in turn, constant training of new personnel. This is one of the reasons for delays in the NU. Deadlines are a daily part of life in Catalogue Services, and the GPO contracts out the printing to the lowest bidder. Temporary employees are used to get out the Quinquennial and errors that get into that work stand since it is not given a revision. But errors in the NU can be corrected by writing to the NUC Cataloguing Department directly. (continued on Page 3)

THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL  
AND  
HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES

SECRETARIAT

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*All communications concerning the  
CBHL Newsletter, including material  
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-  
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ural and botanical professions, and  
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*Annual dues are \$25.00 for In-  
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**THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL  
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REPORT ON BUSINESS MEETING OF CBHL

The fourth annual business meeting of the CBHL was called to order by Chairman John Reed at 10:30 A.M. in the Conference Room of the NAL on Friday, April 21st. First item on the agenda was the Treasurer's Report. Institutional Memberships in CBHL now total 38, and Personal Memberships stand at 49. Balance at the end of March, 1971 was \$758.00 and membership receipts of \$675.00 for Institutional Memberships plus \$410.00 for Individuals raised balance to \$1843.00. Expenses were \$144.60 for Newsletter and office supplies, reducing balance to \$1698.40. Approximately \$600.00 in expenditures fiscal 1972-73 have not yet been billed to CBHL at present. Mr. Reed then announced the nomination of Mr. Henry Norweb of the Holden Arboretum Library, Mentor, Ohio, to the CBHL Secretariat at Junior Member. Mrs. Ruth Schallert, Chairman of the Secretariat, will vacate that post in 1973 to be succeeded by Mrs. Edith Crockett. Mr. John Reed remains Treasurer and Mr. Charles R. Long heads the Nominating Committee. Three meetings of the Secretariat were held in the past year, May 26th, 1971 at the Smithsonian when plans for the '72 Conference were made and the CBHL Newsletter was initiated. The second at N.Y. Horticultural Society on December 3rd, 1971, worked out details of present meeting, and the third N.Y.B.G. on March 29th confirmed program arrangements.

Mrs. Crockett then mentioned the 1973 Conference which tentatively scheduled to meet in Don Mills, Ontario, in the last week of April. Mrs. Douglas P. Bryce of the Civic Garden Center there has suggested that time as the best for possibility of bloom and milder weather. Mrs. Schallert then broached the possibility of meeting Cleveland, Ohio, for the '74 conference, but the Secretariat will be in touch with other institutions and cities as well. Mr. Long then reported on the Inter-Library Loan Shunting System between Harvard, NYBG and Missouri Botanical. No detailed statistics as yet but system seems to be working well. It is now expediting requests from other libraries as well as our own. The Directory of Botanical and Horticultural Libraries is still in the questionnaire stage and response is incomplete. If CBHL can draft a better directory it will be published in the A.H.S. Directory within the next two years. The next topic raised related to library thefts. Dr. Daniels of Hunt Botanical felt that these should be given wide publicity and alert all others in the field to what had happened. Concealment aids the criminals. A suggestion was made about the collection of material published by local horticultural societies and extension services of experimental stations. These might be parcelled out on a State or regional basis for responsibility, but they may also introduce clutter and difficulties in cataloguing. Insurance of collections was then discussed and Dr. Daniels, who had much experience in the area, proposed use of good fire and theft protection devices and systems instead. A closed TV system with two monitoring stations costs about \$2500 installed, and can be made to record everything for very little more. Policies cost much more and have numerous catch clauses. A note was added about insurance on loan items; borrowing institutions, usually the smaller ones, often fail to consider this expense when making requests.

On the subject of Duplicate Lists a proposal was made that these be put out more frequently from shorter lists. Next the Nominating Committee sought the membership's feeling on policy concerning holding of office. A limit upon the number of times an office can be held was requested, and a suggestion made that a compulsory period of ineligibility for 5 years be adopted, since the Secretariat now has a continuity of 3 years. This was accepted by the members but no decision has yet been made on limiting time an office can be held. The topic of long term loans was then broached, and Dr. Daniels of HBL and Mr. Reed of NYBG offered their experiences as guidelines. Both men advised thorough documentation of the loan and full legal exploration of its terms before entering into such arrangements so as to avoid insurmountable difficulties later when personnel has changed or records are lost. Mrs. Ruth Schallert was then introduced by Mr. Reed as incoming Chairman for 1972-73 and the meeting concluded with a vote to thanks to the Program Committee for their excellent work on this 4th meeting.

## CBHL FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING (Cont.)

Friday, April 21st, CBHL Members were granted the privilege of visiting the Dumbarton Oaks Library. Although the tour was brief it was most impressive since the garden setting and the architectural style of the library blended most harmoniously, and there were a number of rarities on display in the Louis XVIth cabinets, including a 1491 edition of the Hortus Sanitatis.

The group then continued on to the National Agricultural Library at Beltsville, Maryland, where it held its business meeting (See Page 2) for the balance of the morning session. The NAL is an attractively designed library with an interior done in warm earth colors, and judging by staff comments, an efficient and pleasant place in which to work. At the time of our visit the lobby display was of drawings used in the publications of the Department of Agriculture. The lobby also housed the Library's rare book collection, and a TV console from which it was possible to monitor activities in and around the building.

Following lunch at the Abbey Restaurant, Beltsville, there was a tour of NAL given by its staff members. Every corner of the library was explored and explained, from the new computer installation to the pneumatic tubes that carry charge slips from the circulation desk to the stack areas. Afterwards there was a special program on preservation of library materials with a welcoming speech by Dr. Alan Fusonie, Information Specialist in the Rare Books and Special Collections of NAL, who introduced the individual speakers. First of these was Carolyn Horton, well known restoration specialist from N.Y.C. who was among the experts called in after the disastrous flood in Florence, Italy. She stressed the necessity of keeping constant temperatures in the 50-60 degree Fahrenheit range, with washed and filtered air to control dust and harmful gasses, and to insure that collections were stored in a damp proof building. Filtered light, especially fluorescent light, is necessary to prevent fading and deterioration.

The second speaker was Mr. Don Etherington, Training Specialist in the Preservation Office of the Library of Congress. Referring to the Florence flood he stated that it had helped give the preservation program a higher priority at LC. There is now a training program for LC personnel which seeks to make trainees aware of what materials they will be dealing with and to inculcate respect for their properties and uses. In the matter of restoring rare books his department has developed a specification sheet and insists upon much discussion before work is attempted on such volumes. The Training Program selected 30 rare books with varying problems and will incorporate methods of repairing them in a manual. He also mentioned that while many people are being taught conservation there are still many unskilled graduates who do more harm than good.

Dr. Wayne Rasmussen, Chief of the Agricultural History Branch in the Department of Agriculture, then addressed the group as a book user and pointed out the need, often overlooked, of preserving present day materials that will be of use to future historians. The program then came to a close with a description of the Seed Catalogue Collection of NAL by Miss Nellie Calloway which exemplified many of the facts brought out about preservation. Currently there are 225,000 volumes in the collection which was started about 1900 by one Dr. Ricker who purchased its nucleus from the old Prince Nurseries in Flushing, N.Y. It is maintained as a separate unit at NAL where it is used to check against duplication of names of varieties. Much historically interesting matter turns up in these items and

the color prints are often sought out to utilize in research on the period. Items of horticultural interest often appear in such publications; the White Flower Farm and Wayside Catalogues being present day examples of such value. At 4:30 P.M. CBHL Members returned to Washington.

Saturday, April 22nd, the final conference program was held in Room 43 of the Smithsonian's Natural History Building. First speaker was Mr. Raymond Frese, Director of Field Operations of the Superintendent of Documents Office. His department is a self-sustaining one that has brought in over \$9,500,000 in revenue during 1971. It is building a national network of U.S. Government Bookstores throughout the country, but is somewhat hampered by scattered warehouse facilities which are delaying the target of 24 hour service on incoming orders. Mr. Ian McPhail then spoke on Government publications, criticizing the vast amount of them and the oftentimes irrelevant material. Mr. Henry Gilbert of the National Arboretum and Miss Eugenia Maddox of the Missouri Botanical Garden followed him with two interesting talks on how to tap resources in these documents. Since they listed a number of useful reference tools we hope to get an accurate and annotated listing for a future CBHL Newsletter.

Following discussion of Government Documents and Publications the official program of the Fourth Annual CBHL Meeting terminated and the participants adjourned for luncheon in the Cafeteria of the Smithsonian's History and Technology Building before deciding on post conference trips to Washington's sights.

## OBERLY COMMITTEE SEEKS NOMINEES

The Oberly Awards Committee of the A.L.A. is now seeking nominees for its biennial prize. The Eunice Rockwood Aberly Award is given for the best bibliography in the fields of agriculture and the natural sciences. The names of all suggested titles or authors should be sent to the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Charles R. Long, Administrative Librarian, Library of the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, N.Y. 10458.

## LIBRARY INSTALLED AT CARY ARBORETUM

The newest of the nation's arboreta is the Cary Arboretum situated in the town of Millbrook, N.Y., about 75 miles north of New York City. It is on an 1800 acre tract of land that is the property of the Cary Estate but is being developed by the New York Botanical Garden for purposes of botanical, horticultural, and ecological research.

In addition to the usual areas of an arboretum where propagation, planting, testing, and development of new strains of trees is carried on there will be another section where the land will remain in an undisturbed state so that ecological succession can be closely observed. The acreage devoted to this aspect will be sizable enough to provide meaningful results since it comprises almost half the land available. The Arboretum is under the direction of NYBG's scientific and professional staff in terms of development, long-range planning, and establishment of research programs, but the responsibility for its operations rests with its Administrator, Dr. Thomas E. Elias. Assisting him are ecologist Dr. Robert Goodland, and Mr. Forrest Romero who is in charge of Wildlife Management.

Although new the Cary Arboretum has already installed a library of its own on the second floor of its Administrative Building. The collection, presently growing at a rapid rate, contains a nucleus of about 2000 volumes, both serials and monographs. These relate chiefly to woody plants, dendrology, forestry,

ecology, wildlife management and environmental protection, all matters that are of immediate and vital concern in the daily affairs of the arboretum. It is anticipated that as botanical and horticultural programs expand there will be a corresponding growth in holdings of the literature on those topics.

Mr. John Reed, Director of Educational Services at NYBG was responsible for setting up Cary's library, and for coordinating its facilities with those of the Millbrook Public Library. Mr. Charles R. Long, who has succeeded Mr. Reed as Administrative Librarian at NYBG, will continue the program that has been instituted, and help develop Cary's library into one of the foremost collections of its kind. Assisting him in this endeavor is Mr. Fred Strum who is Cary's Library representative at the parent institution in the Bronx. There he is in charge of ordering, cataloguing and inter-library loans since it is more convenient at present to conduct those operations at the Bronx facility.

### **LIBRARIANS NEEDED AT MAJOR LIBRARIES**

One of the nation's most important research libraries in the horticultural and botanical field is in need of a librarian. All interested persons should direct inquiries and resumes to Dr. Fred G. Mayer, Research Botanist, U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C. 20002.

The Garden Center of Greater Cleveland is in need of a horticultural librarian. Qualifications for the position are a Master's Degree in Library Science, and a knowledge of horticulture. The Garden Center's Library has a 10,000 volume collection, and handles all kinds of questions that relate to gardening. The situation will become available in January, 1973. Salary is open and will be based upon experience. Applications, together with resume and references should be sent to Mr. C. W. Eliot Paine, Director, Garden Center of Greater Cleveland 11030 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106.

### **MISSOURI BOTANICAL LIBRARY OFFERS SERIALS**

The Library of the Missouri Botanical Garden has long runs on hand of the following serials, and is anxious to find someone who can make use of them. The titles are:

Florist's Exchange  
Weekly Florist's Review.

Anyone wishing to acquire these should write immediately to MBG's new Librarian, Mr. James R. Reed.

### **ARNOLD ARBORETUM-GRAY HERBARIUM ACQUIRES NEW LIBRARIAN**

Changes have been occurring with some frequency in the libraries of our major botanical and horticultural institutions. Among the latest is the appointment of Patricia Hall to the position of Librarian at the Arnold Arboretum-Gray Herbarium Library. Formerly Reference Librarian in the Hilles Library at Radcliffe. Patricia Hall served there for six years after obtaining her Master's Degree in Library Science from Simmons College.

### **LIBRARIAN TOURS NEW YORK AND EUROPE**

Miss Natalia Schechaj, Librarian-in-Charge at the Fundacion Instituto Lillo at Tucuman, Argentina, paid a surprise visit to

the New York Botanical Garden Library last July while on her way to study other libraries in London, Paris, Frankfurt, Munich and Budapest.

The FIL Library is another of those South American miracles such as the growth rate of Sao Paulo, and is growing just about as fast itself. Founded in 1931 its collection has expanded rapidly and now stands at 158,000 volumes. The nucleus of the library consists of the personal collection amassed by Dr. Lillo. Its subject areas are botany, geology, and zoology. Some 3200 titles are to be found in its serials holdings and 1000 of these are current. The FIL maintains an active program of over 800 exchanges and welcomes new ones.

Miss Schechaj has recently been given the responsibility of coordinating the collection of her subject area throughout the entire country. Let us hope that her survey of the various libraries in the U.S. and Europe will assist her in developing techniques to cope with her monumental task. A new member of CBHL Miss Schechaj will welcome information and ideas which we in North America may conceive and is ready to return the favor with South American ones that we may not know of.

### **NEW LIBRARIAN AT MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN**

Mr. James Reed has been appointed to the position of Librarian at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Missouri. Prior to joining MBG Mr. Reed was with the Library of the Department of Health Development at Michigan's School of Public Health. He served there from 1970 to 1971 when he became Reference Librarian at the Library of the School of Public Health.

Mr. Reed holds the degree of A.M.L.S. received from Michigan University in 1970, and entered into his library career after a period of educational work. He formerly taught English at the Aztec High School, Aztec, New Mexico, from 1967 through 1969.

### **FORMER CHAIRMAN OF CBHL DIRECTS DEPARTMENT AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDENS**

Mr. John F. Reed, former Chairman of CBHL's Secretariat and Administrative Librarian at NYBG, has now been appointed Director of Educational Services at that institution, and has been succeeded in his library post by Mr. Charles R. Long. In his new capacity, Mr. Reed will have the responsibility of coordinating three departments at NYBG, Education, Exhibits, and the Library. It will be an administrative task of the first order, demanding familiarity with a host of details and expertise in diverse disciplines, but a necessary one in the expanded educational programs being developed at NYBG to aid proper environmental activities and ecological awareness.

Mr. Reed holds the degree of A.M.L.S. from the University of Michigan and has been actively engaged in library work since 1962. Born in Amari'lo, Texas, and raised in Wyoming he has travelled widely throughout the States during the course of his academic and professional careers, having studied at the Universities of New Hampshire and Michigan before coming to the library of NYBG. He now resides at Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., with his wife Judith and their two children, Maija and John.