



The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.

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Newsletter

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Summary of Executive Committee Meeting, February 1986

A special executive Council meeting was held at the New York Botanical Garden 14 February to ease the transition of officers and to discuss future meetings. CBHL members are reminded that the 1986 annual meeting host institution Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden is a bargain and members are urged to send in their registration forms to Beatrice Beck by May 1. The 1987 meeting will be at Chapel Hill, with the probable dates of April 22-25. Members wishing to attend the XIV International Botanical Congress to be held in Berlin from 24 July to 1 August 1987 are reminded to request the second circular from the Secretary, XIV International Botanical Congress, Honigin-Luise Str. 6-8, D-1000 Berlin 33, West Germany. If you are interested in visiting European gardens in conjunction with attending this conference, please return the European Trip questionnaire enclosed with the last newsletter to Ina Vrugtman by 31 March 1986.

Journal Exchange

S. I. Ali, Department of Botany, University of Karachi, Karachi-32, Pakistan, would like to exchange the following issues of Taxon: 7(1), 13(8-9), 14(1-3, 5-9), 15(2, 4-7, 9), 16(1-2, 4-6), 16(1-2, 4-5), 17, 17(6), 18, 18(1, 3-6), 19, 19(6), 20, 21, 21(1-3, 5-6), 22(1-3, 5-6), 12(1, 4-6), 24, 25(1-3), 27(1-4), 27(1) for volumes 1-5, 8(8), 9(6-8), 26(4-6), 30(5-6), 31(3), 32(2).

Books Announced

Timber Press has announced the publication of Gardens of North America and Hawaii: A Traveler's Guide by Irene and Walter Jacob. The gardens are listed by state and each description includes garden name and sponsoring organization, address, phone number, description of the garden, information on how to get to each location, principal plant collections, visiting hours and admission charges. The book is available from Timber Press (P.O. Box 1632, Beaverton, OR 97075) for \$24.95 plus \$2.25 shipping.

Thompson Publications (P.O. Box 9335, Fresno, CA 93791) has published a newly revised pesticide guide for ornamentals. The Tree, Turf and Ornamental Pesticide Guide by W. T. Thompson provides information on which pesticide to use to control a certain pest on a specific ornamental. Information has been obtained from the manufacturer's labels and the EPA pesticide summaries. As no price was given, you will need to contact the publisher directly for further ordering information.

Rose List

We have received copies of several publications compiled by Beverly R. Dobson dealing with roses. Ms. Dobson has recently published the Combined Rose List 1986: Roses in commerce and cultivation, rose regulations since Modern Roses 8, hard-to-find roses and where to find them. In addition to information about the roses themselves, the booklet includes a useful list of nurseries. Ms. Dobson also publishes a bi-monthly newsletter, Bev Dobson's Rose Letter, available for \$7.50 per year (U.S. and Canada) and \$11.25 per year for air mail subscriptions abroad. For further information, please contact Beverly R. Dobson, 215 Harriman Road, Irvington, NY 10533.

A Look Back at the Conference in Ottawa

Such good memories stay with us of an interesting, entertaining and informative visit to a beautiful city. The transactions of the business meetings were reported in a previous newsletter, but these were some of the other happenings.

Eva Gavora, librarian of the Plant Research Library at the Central Experimental Farm, Agriculture Canada, our hostess, made thoughtful arrangements for both our comfort and our education. She secured the cooperation of her colleagues and those at several libraries and gardens. At the Central Experimental Farm on the outskirts of Ottawa, we toured the main Agriculture Canada Library and saw their GEAC integrated library system in operation, as well as the Plant Research Library and the beautiful Ornamental Garden. We saw some exhibits and rare books at the National Library of Canada in its impressive new building, followed by a tour of the Library of Parliament housed in its picturesque building attached to Parliament. Next day we visited Rideau House, the Governor General's mansion, with special attention to the greenhouses that supply gorgeous potted plants for all ceremonial occasions.

The seminar on botanical taxonomy featured two notable experts: Dr. P. M. Catling on "Botanical Literature in Studies of Orchid Taxonomy and Ecology," and Dr. Freek Vrugtman on "Garden Plants, Taxonomy and Literature." (A copy of Dr. Vrugtman's talk is available from Jayne MacLean on request, as is a copy of Dr. Catling's reading list on orchid literature.) Both talks were excellent and very much of interest to botanical librarians.

Nursery and Seed Catalogs Committee

During the Ottawa annual meeting last June, there were other developments in which this committee was involved, following up on the reports given in the business meeting. The first that should be mentioned was accepting with regret the resignation of our dedicated co-chairman, June Rogier, due to her impending retirement from her position as librarian of the Andersen Horticultural Library, University of Minnesota. Her efforts, resulting in the completion of the survey of catalog collections and printing of the first edition of the Directory, illustrate the energy and enthusiasm she brought to every project, which will be missed.

In several committee meetings, discussions were held on ways to continue the cooperative efforts with NAL's programs on the catalogs. One possibility was assisting NAL with grant applications for funding to enlarge the OCLC catalog inputting project. This has so far not been possible to undertake for a variety of reasons. However, NAL has continued to input the records for currently received catalogs on OCLC, and also the creation of its in-house database produced by downloading records using STAR software. The following is a brief description of the project taken from a presentation to be given by NAL's Bill Feidt at the National Online Conference in May, 1986:

Abstract: A joint project was undertaken by the National Agricultural Library (NAL), USDA's Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO), and Cuadra Associates, Inc., to demonstrate the feasibility of downloading OCLC bibliographic records for subsequent enhancement and incorporation into a local, "super micro-computer" based database. NAL's Cooperative Nursery and Seed Trade Catalog collection was chosen as the object of this effort for two reasons: 1. The collection has received only minimal bibliographic control in the past and is often consulted to respond to reference inquiries; 2. The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries had been working on parallel projects for some time and exhibited a great deal of interest and support. A subset of the document universe was chosen (catalogs appearing 1975 to date). NAL performed original cataloging for records not already present on the OCLC system. These were downloaded to an Alpha Micro system. Using beta-test software provided by Cuadra, the downloaded records were batch processed to insure compatibility with Cuadra's STAR database software. The records were then used to create a STAR database on the Alpha Micro to which local data, not suitable for an OCLC USMARC record, was added.

Enclosed with this newsletter as promised, though belatedly, is a sample inputting form used at NAL for entering nursery and seed trade catalogs on OCLC. If any CBHL member library is interested in participating in entering their records similarly in OCLC as a beginning to union listing, please get in touch with Jayne MacLean who can provide more detailed instructions from the NAL Serial Records department. Also enclosed, for those wishing a guide for inputting records onto a micro-computer-based system, is the format used at the Smithsonian Institution libraries, as supplied by Ruth Schallert. She would be glad to give further details also. At the June 1986 meeting, both Ruth and Jayne would like to have some feedback on any possible cooperation in this area.

The cooperative project to film the full text of pre-1870 catalogs that was undertaken by Meckler Publishing Co. is now being carried out under their auspices by Chadwick-Healey, Inc. NAL was much gratified at the number of catalogs loaned from CBHL libraries; photocopies of these are to be included in the filming, and all will be listed in the accompanying paper copy index, which will be something of a union list of member library holdings, pre-1870.

Meeting of Executive Committee

Due to the mid-year change in leadership, the Executive Committee met at the New York Botanical Garden on February 14. Meryl Miasek was unable to make the trip from Oregon, but she and past president Jane Gates were included by telephone in some of the deliberations. Those present were Doug Ritchey, retiring president; John Reed, treasurer; Gerry Kaye, incoming president; and Jayne MacLean, secretary. Most of the business matters discussed were covered in the mailing recently sent and this one. However, a few reminders might be timely.

Please note that the deadline for formal application for papers to be submitted for the XIV International Botanical Congress is June 30, 1986. We hope you have returned your questionnaires about tours associated with IBC to Ina Vrugtman.

We hope as many of you as possible will be with us in Claremont, CA for the June meeting, which sounds very exciting. When considering the cost, do realize that several meals and transportation are included in the \$100 registration fee, and the room accommodations at the Oldenborg Center, at \$18.50, are very inexpensive. And think of the wonderful places you'll get to see.

Next year, the locale will be in the East again, as Bill Burk, of the John N. Couch Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has invited us there. Plan now to be there. The date will be April 22 to 25, a particularly beautiful time of year in that area.

THE COUNCIL OF BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES, INC.

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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 \$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.