

THE CANADIAN BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

L'ASSOCIATION BOTANIQUE DU CANADA



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Waterloo

THE DALHOUSIE MEETINGS

This year's annual meeting will be held at Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. 1972 June. The meeting will be a joint one with the Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists.

Registration. By the time this newsletter appears a pre-registration form should have been mailed to all members of the CBA and CSPP. Extra forms may be obtained from the CBA Local Committee, Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. It will be possible to register on the spot at Dalhousie on 18 and 19 of June but note that you save \$5 by pre-registering. In order to save time and money none of the conference material will be mailed. Each member will pick up his or her 'registration package' which will include programme, abstracts, meal tickets, receipt, general information etc. on arrival at Dalhousie.

Accommodation will be at Shirreff Hall, normally the women's residence, and by far the best appointed of the halls of residence on the campus. Shirreff Hall is situated next to the new Life Sciences Building where many of the meetings will be held. It is hoped to be able to provide accommodation and three meals per day for the bargain price of \$10 per day. The staff of Shirreff Hall would like to know of any special needs before your arrival on campus; please note these on your pre-registration form. There are plenty of motels and hotels in and around the city but none are within a mile radius of the university.

Parking on the campus is possible and people bringing cars will be issued with a temporary parking sticker.

Transport. People arriving by plane are warned that Halifax International Airport is 25 miles from Halifax. Take the airport bus to the Lord Nelson Hotel and a taxi to Shirreff Hall. Four people or more together will save money and time by hiring a taxi at the airport direct to Shirreff Hall.

If travelling by car Shirreff Hall is situated at the junction of Oxford and South Streets. For those arriving by rail the CN station is at the opposite end of South Street from Shirreff Hall, a distance of one long mile.

Symposia. There will be two general symposia. On 20 June 'Plant Cell and Protoplast Culture' chaired by O. Gamborg, speakers H. Street, W. Halperin and R.A. Miller. The other on 21 June, 'Productivity in Aquatic Systems', chaired by J. Craigie, speakers K.H. Mann, D.J. Bellamy and C.E. Boyd.

Chondrus Workshop. A study session on all aspects of the biology of *Chondrus* will be held and it is hoped to publish the proceedings as a symposium volume.

Chondrus - Irish moss - is an economically important seaweed in the Maritimes.

Excursions. The pre-conference excursion will consist of 3 days travelling around the coastline of southern Nova Scotia. The main emphasis will be on marine algae. The Bay of Fundy with its extreme tidal amplitude ("highest tides in the world") and fog provides unusually good conditions for algae.

The post-conference trip is to the Cape Breton Highlands, staying in the Acadian village of Cheticamp. The interest here is on the scenery and the terrestrial plants although the word 'terrestrial' may be misleading since some sopping-wet bogs will be included in the stops. This excursion is also of three days duration.

Both excursions will be by hired coach starting and finishing in Halifax. In the event of there being insufficient bookings to justify the cost of the coach it will be possible to run modified excursions using private cars.

If visitors have particular places they wish to visit or organisms to collect write to the local committee to see if a particular trip can be arranged.

Banquets. A joint banquet of CBA and CSPP will be held in the McInnis Room, Student Union Building, Dalhousie University.

On the last day of the meetings a less formal affair by the sea will take the form of a lobster supper. Despite the current high price of lobsters it was the opinion of the local committee that we really must have lobster.

As regards to refreshments, there will be a bar open in Shirreff Hall from early evening until about midnight.

THE PHYCOLOGY SECTION

Chairman: Dr. H.C. Duthie, Department of Biology, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ont.

Secretary: Dr. L.D. Druehl, Department of Biology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby 2, B.C.

A newly revised sectional membership list has been prepared and will be sent out with the ballot for the 1972-73 executive. If you do not receive this mailing by April 1st, 1972, and would like to participate in the Phycology Section please notify a member of this section executive.

THE LAWSON MEDAL

The President of the CBA/ABC wishes to remind all members that nominations for the Lawson Medal should be submitted as soon as possible, and no later than April 15, 1972.

THE INTERPRETATION OF BY-LAW 6 (b) OF THE CONSTITUTION

As I understand the Canadian legal system, the interpretation of a law becomes clear when it has been accepted through the judicial settlement of a court case challenging the law. Recently, a CBA/ABC member has challenged the increase in dues as unconstitutional. How do we go about getting a judicial decision on the matter of the interpretation of By-law 6 (b) of the Constitution of the CBA/ABC?

Our president has stated, in the October 1971 issue of the Bulletin, that the intent of those who wrote the Constitution was to cover changes in fees in paragraph (1) of the By-law, with the statement that "The annual dues for regular and student members shall be set by the Executive Committee and ratified by the regular members at the Annual Business Meeting." Paragraph (2) reads as follows: "The Executive Committee shall have the power to adjust the dues in the case of changes in the assessment by the Biological Council, but *any changes in dues* not necessitated by this assessment *shall be determined by the membership as provided in Article V of the Constitution*". But this paragraph, we are told, was added simply in order to keep the Executive Committee from changing fees on their own between annual general meetings.

Now, when (by my vote) I approved the acceptance of the constitution, this was not explained to me. As far as I could see then -- or can see now -- there is nothing in the constitution permitting any new action to be enforced between annual meetings except for increases in BCC dues. Even what goes to a mail vote becomes effective only at the conclusion of the following annual meeting. Hence, the latter half of par. 2 of by-law 6(b) is, at best, superfluous if it means no more than what was in the minds of the Fathers of our Constitution. "But any changes in dues shall be determined by the membership as provided in Article V of the Constitution" has reason for being only if it actually refers the changing of dues to a procedure in accordance with Art. V. This article provides for the amendment of by-laws as constitutional amendments, which leads us to Art. VI wherein the rules are laid down for amendment of the constitution by mail vote. *Q.E.D.* Except for enforcement of changes in the assessment by the Biological Council, changes in CBA/ABC dues may not be put into effect at an annual general meeting until after acceptance by the majority of the general membership through mail vote. This is what I thought I voted for when I said "aye" to acceptance of the constitution proposed for the CBA/ABC when it began.

What happens now? The executive committee's interpretation of the by-law has been challenged by a member who refused to pay the increase in basic dues, judging the increase to have been illegally imposed because it was passed by only a handful of members attending the last annual general meeting. I suggest to you that he is within his rights, and that his rights and privileges as a fully paid-up member of the CBA/ABC may not be taken from him, even though he has paid \$5.00 instead of the \$7.00 which we were assessed for 1972.

A motion for amendment of the by-law will be up for vote by the membership-at-large before the coming annual meeting. When the procedure for changing dues is clarified by a rephrasing of By-law 6 (b) in accordance with majority agreement through a mail vote, then -- and only then -- will it be legal to enforce any change in dues.

Luella K. Weresub

THE 22nd INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS

The Congress is holding its meetings in Canada during the summer of 1972 and will be based in Montreal. The main meetings will be held between August 10th and 17th but there will be extensive pre and post congress symposia and field tours. Parts of the programme will interest many botanists, particularly those sections dealing with climatology, glaciology and biogeography, and field tours relating to Ice Retreat and Marine Transgression Features in Eastern Canada and to the Lake Superior Shorelines. Fuller information can be obtained from: -- 22nd International Geographical Congress, P.O. Box 1972, Ottawa, Canada.

THE 24th INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

This congress is also meeting in Canada during the summer of 1972, based at Montreal with its main sessions held between August 21st and 30th. Parts of the extensive programme of sectional meetings and field excursions will be of interest to botanists. The excursions include several devoted to the Quaternary geology of the various regions of Canada and one on the Quaternary geology and limnology of the Great Lakes. Fuller information can be obtained from: -- The Secretary-General, 24th International Geological Congress, 601 Booth St. Ottawa 4, Ontario.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CHEMOSYSTEMATICS

The rapid expansion of the chemical approach to systematic problems in biology has brought about a number of specialized problems unique to chemosystematics which could be greatly aided through international cooperation. As a result, a joint International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)–International Association of Plant Taxonomy (IAPT) *ad hoc* Committee on Chemotaxonomy has been formed to look into all aspects of the organization of international collaboration in chemosystematics. The Committee consists of *Dr. W.F. Grant* (IAPT)–Chairman, *Dr. T. Swain* (IUPAC)–Secretary, *Dr. J.B. Harborne* (IUPAC), *Dr. A. Love* (IAPT), *Dr. T.J. Mabry* (IUPAC) and *Dr. B.L. Turner* (IAPT).

The Committee solicits comments from interested persons in all field of biological sciences as well as those in biochemistry, chemistry, and the pharmaceutical sciences. These may be sent to the Chairman or the Secretary: *Dr. W.F. Grant*, Chairman, Joint IUPAC–IAPT Committee on Chemotaxonomy, Genetics Laboratory, MacDonald Campus of McGill University, Ste. Anne de Bellevue 800, Quebec, Canada; *Dr. T. Swain*, Secretary, Joint IUPAC–IAPT Committee on Chemotaxonomy, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, England.

THE BULLETIN

The success of the Bulletin depends in large measures upon you, the CBA/ABC members, in supply material for publication. If you have any information or comments which are likely to be of interest to Canadian botanists please send them to: -- *Dr. J.K. Morton*, Editor, CBA Bulletin, Dept. of Biology, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario. Information on new or changed appointments, expeditions, publications, conferences and the activities of other societies; news from the various sections of the C.B.A., and relevant items on regional, national or international events etc. will all be welcome. The Bulletin appears 4 times per year, in January, April, July and October and material should be in the hands of the editor at the beginning of the month prior to that of publication.

**GRADUATE STUDIES IN BOTANY
AT CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES
ADDENDUM**

LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY, Ramsey Lake Road,
Sudbury, Canada
Department of Biology, 4 botanists
Degree offered: M.Sc.

- J.W. Green, Ph.D. (Australian National Univ.)
Chairman of Biology Department
Experimental taxonomy of higher plants.
G.M. Courtin, Ph.D. (Illinois)
Ecology and physiology of tundra plants.
E.K. Winterhalder, M.Sc.
(New England)
Plant-soil relationships

UNIVERSITE LAVAL, Ste-Foy, Québec
Département d'Agrobiologie, (2 botanistes)
R.A. Lachance, directeur
L. Cinq-Mars
Systématique et distribution de la flore du
Québec. Biologie et écologie des plantes nuisibles.
J.F. Pauzé
Anatomie et morphologie des plantes.

- UNIVERSITE LAVAL, Ste-Foy, Québec
Département de Phytotechnie
F.M. Gauthier, directeur
J.M. Deschênes
Ecologie agricole
R.O. Lachance
Phytopathologie — Maladies à virus des fraisières et
par carence de bore; épidémiologie et fongicides
endothermiques.
V. Lavoie
Ecologie du littoral du St-Laurent. Ecologie des
Bleuetières.
G. Oláh
Mycologie — Morphologie, physiologie,
chimiotaxonomie et ultrastructure des
champignons.
R. Paquin
Physiologie végétale, résistance au froid.
S. Payette
Ecologie du domaine arctique et sub-arctique.
H.P. Therrien
Physiologie végétale, résistance au froid,
régulateurs de croissance.
M. Trudel
Physiologie végétale, croissance et développement
des plantes, nutrition minérale.
C. Willemot
Physiologie végétale, résistance au froid en
relation avec les lipides.

UNIVERSITE LAVAL, Ste-Foy, Québec
Département d'Ecologie et Pédologie
B. Bernier, directeur (4 botanistes)
J.A. Fortin
Biologie végétale, ectomycorhizes,
endomycorhizes, lichens, nodules fixateur
d'azote. Biologie des symbioses et mécanismes
physiologiques d'interaction interspécifiques.
M. Grandtner
Phytosociologie. Ecologie des forêts décidues
boréales et des dunes littorales. Cartographie de la
végétation et cartographie écologique.
A. Lafond
Ecologie des forêts nordiques, nutrition minérale
des arbres.
C.H. Winget
Physiologie de l'arbre, mouvement de l'eau,
nutrition minérale, éco-physiologie de la
photosynthèse et dormance des semences.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

WILLAMAN, J.J., AND HUI-LIN LI. *Alkaloid-bearing
Plants and Their Contained Alkaloids, 1957-1968*.
Lloydia, Supplement Vol. 33, no. 3A, Cincinnati, Sept.
1970. 286 pp. paperbound. \$5.00. Consists of a
taxonomic list of plants with the alkaloids they contain,
together with literature references. An invaluable
reference work and guide to the literature.

COMMON WEEDS OF THE UNITED STATES

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Soft back edition
published by Dover Publication Inc. 1971 price \$4.50
(U.S.). A non-technical identification guide and source
of information on the weeds of North America. About
220 species are described and illustrated by black and
white line drawings. The illustrations are excellent, life
like and full page in size. They always include details of
fruit and seed. However to a botanist details of floral
structure are often inadequate. A very valuable feature
of the book is the distribution map provided with each
species. Most of the commonly occurring weeds of
Canada are included in this volume and at the price it is
extremely good value for money.

**YELLOW PAGES, A GUIDE TO ORGANIZED
ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS**, published annually by
Environmental Resources Inc. 2000 P. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036, price \$5.00. The first edition
which will appear shortly will list over 3,000 local and
community environmental organizations plus state and
regional organizations.

**A NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDENS SYSTEM FOR
CANADA**. Proceedings of a symposium held at the
Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Oct. 22-24, 1971.
Technical Bulletin no. 6, of the R.B.G. Hamilton, Box
394, Postal Sta. A., Hamilton 20, Ont.

A report on the symposium was carried in the
October issue of the Bulletin. The proceedings were
published in January of this year and are available from
the above address.

SNOWMOBILES

The thrust of the continuing debate concerning
the environmental impact of snowmobiles has
unfortunately been limited to noise. Recent ecological
studies strongly suggest that the horizon of the debate
should be broadened to include the effect of snow
compaction on the structure of the soil itself.

Dr. Wanek, Centre for Environmental Studies,
Bemidji State College in Minnesota, reported the results
of his continuing experiments at a recent snowmobile
conference in London, Ontario. He found that the soil
temperature in the crucial top six inches was just a
fraction below freezing on the untouched plots, whereas
it was far below freezing, as much as 14°C, after the
snow had been compacted by snowmobiles. The
significance of these figures lies in the fact that bulbs or
corms will not survive the winter if they experience
temperatures below freezing.

Further, Dr. Wanek found a hundred-fold decrease
in the total number of soil microbes on the snowmobile
plots, and a two to ten-fold decrease in the fungal
population. It should be noted here, that Dr. Wanek's
definition of heavy snowmobile use was one snowmobile
pass after every significant snowfall for a winter total of
12 passes.

Dr. Wanek reported that since his studies were
on-going, they could not be regarded as being conclusive,
but that notwithstanding, did give a clear indication of
the damage caused by these snowmobile machines.
(from Federation of Ontario Nationalists Newsletter
Vol. 12 no. 5).