THE CANADIAN BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION

EDITOR: USHER POSLUSZNY ASSOC. EDITOR: JEAN M. GERRATH



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Patron

Her Excellency The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé, P.C., C.C., C.M.M., C.D., Governor General of Canada Patron

Son Excellence la très Honorable Jeanne Sauvé, C.P., C.C., C.M.M., C.D., Gouverneur général du Canada

25 YEARS OF CBA/ABC

EDITORS' FORUM:

I vividly remember my first contact with the Canadian Botanical Association. It was in 1970 and I was a novice graduate student in the Department of Botany, McGill University. Clutching my carefully wrapped poster and rather nervous about my first scientific presentation, I travelled by bus to Quebec city to attend the 6th Annual Meeting of the CBA/ABC at Laval University. This was the first time I was able to interact with the Canadian botanical community, most of whom I'd only known through the literature. I've always considered that to be the official birthdate of my botanical career. I'm sure that I share this experience with many of my fellow contemporaries who also pursued careers in botany over the past 25 years. In a way, we grew up with the Canadian Botanical Association. Those of us who have been relatively recent members of the Association have, I'm afraid to say, taken its existence somewhat for granted. We've come to expect well organized meetings, field trips, quarterly issues of the Bulletin, recognition of achievements by both senior and junior members of the botanical community and effective lobbing for conservation and science policy. Most of us are not fully aware of the enormous effort that was involved in the founding and establishment of this organization. As we celebrate 25 years of CBA/ ABC, it a fitting time to recollect those early days and pay tribute to the pioneers who worked so hard to establish a vital organization that today is well respected in the scientific community. This issue of the Bulletin is dedicated to the founders of our association who had the imagination to conceive of CBA/ABC and the determination to bring their ideas to fruition.

Usher Posluszny

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A RETROSPECTIVE OF CBA/ABC

This year's meeting in Toronto will be the 25th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Botanical Association/L'Association Botanique du Canada. Over the years, a number of excellent treatments of the history of our association have appeared in the Bulletin (1969 Vol. 2(2) Roy L. Taylor, 1975 Vol. 8(1) H. R. Eydt, 1983 Vol. 16(3), and 1984 Vol. 17(1) Sylvia Taylor). The accounts which appeared in these issues provide very interesting and detailed reading. In order to refresh the memories of older members, and to inform the newer members of some of the past highlights of our society, we summarize the material presented in the previous accounts.

FOUNDING

The period from conception to birth of CBA/ABC was a long one. The impetus for the formation of the Association came from a recommendation of the Plant Biology Subject Division of the Royal Society of Canada, which recommended the formation of a Canadian botanical society. The approval of this recommendation took place in June, 1963. The first meeting of botanists to plan for the creation of the society took place on Feb. 11, 1964, in Ottawa, and if one counts the founding of our society from this date, it is 25 years old this year. However, it was not until the founding meeting at Carleton University in 1965 that an executive committee was elected, with R. A. Ludwig, Director of the Plant Research Institute of the Canada Department of Agriculture, as the first President. Thus, this year's meeting in Toronto is the 25th Annual Meeting of CBA/ABC.

LAWSON MEDAL

The most prestigious award given by CBA/ABC is the Lawson medal. This award is named in honour of Dr. George Lawson, credited with being the first professional botanist appointed in Canada. He was born in Scotland, obtained his Ph.D. in Germany in 1857 and was appointed Professor of Chemistry and Natural History at Queen's College (now Queen's University) in Kingston in 1858. Despite the low profile of botany indicated by his title, he was the founder and Secretary of the Botanical Society of Canada, which began in 1860 at Queen's. Unfortunately, the Society was short-lived, and ceased to function in 1864. During his tenure at Queen's he also started a Botanic Garden, which does not seem to have survived in any recognizable form.

In 1863 Lawson moved to Dalhousie University (where he was also Professor of Chemistry and Natural History), and

was active in both botany and agriculture in Nova Scotia. In 1891 he helped found the Botanical Club of Canada under the aegis of the Royal Society of Canada, and was its President for 4 years. He must have been a most dedicated and influential person, because, the Botanical Club in Halifax, like the Botanical Society at Queen's, did not continue much past his death in 1895.

The Lawson medals may be awarded in two categories: 1) for cumulative contributions to botany and 2) for distinguished contributions based on a book or a series of papers. The first award was made in 1969.

LIONEL CINQ-MARS AWARD

The most coveted award for graduate students is the Lionel Cinq-Mars Competition, for the best student paper presented at the annual meeting.

Lionel Cinq-Mars (1919-1973) was a charter member of CBA/ABC and a member of the Board of Directors from 1967 to 1969. He was the organizer for the Laval meetings in 1970. Appointed Professor of Botany at the newly-established Faculty of Agriculture at Laval in 1962, he had heavy responsibilities in both pathology and systematics. He was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the future development of floristics and taxonomy at Laval.

The first announcement that there would be a student award was made in 1976. Although there doesn't seem to be any record of this at the time in the Bulletin, I remember Tony Resnicek being chosen as the 1976 winner at Bishop's in Lennoxville, and the announcement being made informally during lunch on the Thursday. The first official student prize was awarded 1977, and the student award was not named in honour of Lionel Cinq-Mars until 1978.

MARY E. ELLIOTT SERVICE AWARD

The Mary Elliott Award was established in the fall of 1977 for meritorious service by an individual to the organization. It was established in memory of Mary Elliott who served as a Director in 1972-73, Vice-President in 1974-75, and President in 1975-76. She made substantial contributions to the Association, and the award honours her memory by recognizing the contributions of other members who have served the Association. The first award was made in 1978.

Mary Elliott was employed for 28 years by Agriculture Canada, and at the time of her death in 1976 she was Curator of the National Mycological Herbarium, at the Biosystematics Research Institute in Ottawa.

LUELLA K. WERESUB MEMORIAL AWARD

The Luella K. Weresub Award is given to the student in mycology at a Canadian University who publishes the best paper in the current year. It was first announced in 1983, and the first award was made in 1984.

Luella K. Weresub (1918-1979) was a mycologist at the Biosystematics Research Institute in Ottawa at the time of her death. She was an active member of CBA/ABC, as well as many international mycological taxonomic and nomenclatural societies.

JOHN MACOUN TRAVEL BURSARY

In 1985 it was decided to establish a new CBA/ABC Endowment Fund for travel for graduate students. These are to be awarded on a competitive basis to student members of the Association who present papers in the Lionel Cinq-Mars competition. The first awards were presented in 1986.

In 1988 it was proposed that the Bursaries be named in honour of John Macoun (1831-1920), who served as official botanist on five major expeditions throughout Canada. Obviously, he was never a member of CBA/ABC, but he was an important figure in Canadian botanical life of the time. He was invited to become a member of the Botanical Society of Canada (founded by George Lawson), a founding fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and was appointed Botanist to the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

1965 (Carleton University, Ottawa) Chairman: R. A. Ludwig

1966 (University of British Columbia, Vancouver) President: R. A. Ludwig

1967 (Ottawa University, Ottawa) President: E. Rouleau

1968 (Lakehead University, Thunder Bay) President: R. L. Taylor

1969 (University of Washington, Seattle)

President: J. C. Ritchie

Lawson Medal Winner: Jacques Rousseau

1970 (Université de Laval, Québec)

President: H. M. Dale

Lawson Medal Winner: Rollo O. Earl

1971 (University of Alberta, Edmonton)

President: J. R. Stein

Lawson Medal Winners: Erling Porsild, Job Kuijt

1972 (Dalhousie University, Halifax) *President:* H. R. N. Eydt

Lawson Medal Winners: Mildred Noble, Vladimer J. Krajina

1973 (University of Western Ontario, London)

President: T. A. Steeves

Lawson Medal Winners: Marvin Bannan, Clarence
Frankton

1974 (University of Arizona, Tempe)

President: P. B. Cavers

Lawson Medal Winners: Rolf Sattler, John G. Coulson

1975 (University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon)

President: J. K. Morton

Lawson Medal Winner: Roy Franklin Cain

1976 (Bishops University, Lennoxville)

President: M. E. Elliott

Lawson Medal Winner: Douglas B. O. Savile

Student Paper Winner: A. A. Resnicek

1977 (University of Manitoba, Winnipeg)

President: W. N. Stewart

Lawson Medal Winner: Harold J. Brodie

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: James Basinger

1978 (Memorial University, St. John's)
President: P. R. Gorham
Lawson Medal Winners: R. Darnley Gibbs, Taylor
Steeves
Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Suzanne Forget
Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: John Morton

1979 (Carleton University, Ottawa)

President: J. M. Walker-Shay

Lawson Medal Winners: Ibra L. Connors, Bernard A.

Baum

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Luc Brouillet

Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Paul Gorham

1980 (University of British Columbia, Vancouver)

President: N. G. Dengler

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Steven Price

(no other awards were made that year)

1981 (University of Guelph, Guelph)

President: M. Shaw

Lawson Medal Winner: Stanley J. Hughes Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Norm Kenkel Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Janet R. Stein

1982 (University of Regina, Regina)

President: J. B. Phipps

Lawson Medal Winner: Leslie Laking

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Raymond Legge (no Mary E. Elliott award was made that year)

1983 (University of North Dakota, Grand Forks)

President: J. H. Soper

Lawson Medal Winner: Thomas C. Hutchinson Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Gregory Taylor Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Roy L. Taylor

1984 (University of New Brunswick, Fredericton)

President: W. G. Barker

Lawson Medal Winner: E. C. Pielou

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Richard G. St. Pierre Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Jennifer M. Walker-Shay

Luella K. Weresub Memorial Award Winner: Keith Siefert

1985 (University of Western Ontario, London)

President: G. A. Mulligan

Lawson Medal Winner: J. C. Ritchie

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Scott D. Wilson Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Sylvia Taylor Luella K. Weresub Memorial Award Winner: Greg Thorn

1986 (Laurentian University, Sudbury)

President: I. E. P. Taylor

Lawson Medal Winners: Pierre Dansereau, Wilfred B.

Lionel Cing-Mars Award Winner: Stephen Downie Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Diane Fahselt Luella K. Werseub Memorial Award Winner: R. Currah Student Travel Bursary Winners: Rosemarie DeClerck, Stephen Downie, Laurie Consaul

1987 (Université de Montréal, Montréal)

President: L. Brouillet

Lawson Medal Winner: Clayton Persson

Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: William Illman Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Andrée Allé

Student Travel Bursary Winners: Deborah Katz, Ewa

Mellerowicz

1988 (University of Victoria, Victoria)

President: Keith Denford

Lawson Medal Winner: Paul Gorham

Lionel Cinq-Mars Award Winner: Elizabeth John

Mary E. Elliott Service Award Winner: Luis Oliviera Luella K. Weresub Memorial Award Winner: Hugues Massicotte

John Macoun Travel Bursaries: Sheridan Woo, Rosanna Roschon, Elizabeth John

FUTURE MEETINGS

24th PLANT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The next Plant Development Workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 31, 1990, at the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. The host is Tim Dickinson. Further details will be provided in an upcoming issue of the Bulletin.

FUTURE CBA MEETINGS

As we get ready for this year's Meeting in Toronto (Aug. 6-10), here's a reminder of the future meeting sites of CBA.

1990 Windsor (June 10-14)

1991 Edmonton

1992 Waterloo

1993 Calgary



PAST MEETINGS

The 23rd Plant Development Workshop was held on May 6, 1989, in the Biology Department of McMaster University. A number of interesting and stimulating papers were presented.

In the opening paper, Dr. D. Kudirka presented evidence for a regulated temporal and spatial sequence of mitotic activity in the developing petals of *Tradescantia*. The eventual cessation of mitosis was shown to be associated with G2 arrest and this preceded onset of pigment synthesis. Two other papers also dealt with biology of reproductive structures and cells. The distribution and types of storage reserves were reported for pollen of Cucurbita maxima and C. andreana by Ms. H. Nield and Dr. J. N. A. Lott; and Dr. L. Erickson, representing a group for Allelix Crop Technologies, described their studies of transformation of Brassica nigra microspores. When microspores are cultured in vitro 1% can be induced to form plantlets. Transforma-

tion of cultured microspores, and the embryos they generate, was described.

The genetic basis of nitrogen fixation was analysed in two papers, by T. C. Charles and Dr. T. M. Finan, and by Dr. T. M. Finan, O. K. Yarosh and T. C. Charles. By using deletion analysis of specific regions of the megaplasmid pRmeSU47b it was shown that the <u>Fix</u> region is essential for functional activity of nodules of alfalfa roots. This analysis was extended to consider the effect of mutants affecting transport of organic acids, e.g. succinate, fumarate and malate, into bacteria. Mutants of the genes controlling uptake of these acids prevent their uptake; this results in a blockage of N2 fixation.

The role of cytokinins in the cellular changes leading to the differentiation of xylem and phloem in internodes of *Coleus* stems was discussed in two papers by Dr. R. Aloni, Dr. S. F. Baum and Dr. C. A. Peterson. Cuts were made in internodes and their response to zeatin, benzyladenine and kinetin was monitored. One effect of the cytokinins occurs early in the sequence of events leading to cell differentiation; cells are stimulated to divide and they then become primed to respond to auxins. The results pointed to the importance of the effects of exposure to combinations of growth regulators in controlling patterns of cell differentiation during development.

Another approach to the analysis of the role of cytokinins in development was described by Dr. B. Moffat, M. Laloue, C. Pethe and C. R. Somerville. They exploited mutants of the gene coding for adenosine phosphoribosyltransferase in *Arabidopsis*. It was found that this enzyme produces not only AMP, but also, using benzyladenine as a substrate, it produces b3⁶AMP. Mutants of this gene, however, appear to be cytokinin-deficient; they grow more slowly than wild type plants and they are male sterile. Further analyses using this mutant gene will help to elucidate both the mechanism and the time of action of endogenous cytokinins.

Additional aspects of development were considered in the papers by Dr. D. Davidson and by Drs. V. R. Bommineni, D. B. Walden and R. I. Greyson. The induction of plastid mutations in tobacco by the mutagens nitrosomethylurea (NMU) and ethylmethanesulphonate (EMS) was described. Double treatment, with NMU and EMS, significantly increased the rate of formation of mutant homoplasmons. It was suggested that this approach may facilitate analysis of plastid genes to cellular economy. Bommineni et al. presented results on culturing meristems of Zea mays and their success in regenerating whole plants. They also showed how their culture technique could be used to ana-

lyse the role of growth factors, e.g. kinetin and GA, in stimulating development of male or female flowers; also how meristem cultures could be used for genetic transformation, bud propagation, meristem storage, and for analysing the developmental biology of male sterility.

In the final paper of the Workshop, Dr. A. R. Paterson, Director of the Royal Botanic Garden, discussed the conservation of gardens. His presentation centred on the recovery, after a long period of neglect, of the garden of Monserrate, at Cintra, in Portugal. It served the very useful function of reminding us that man-made gardens, juxtapositions of odd and interesting plants from varied geographical and ecological locations, are a major part of our botanical experiences and activities.

The Workshop concluded with a wine and cheese reception, made possible, in part, by the generous support of Dean R. F. Childs and Dr. S. F. H. Threlkeld.

The next Plant Development Workshop, tentatively set for March 31, 1990, will by hosted by Dr. T. M. Dickinson, of the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.

If your name is not on the mailing list, and you plan to attend the Workshop, please contact Dr. Dickinson.

D. Davidson

READERS' FORUM

As botanists I think we all find it gratifying when society decides to use our skills and expertise. As the demand for our services increases, it is often difficult to know when to provide them free of charge. Many of us are already putting in many hours of unpaid overtime in our professions, and there are clearly limits to our being able to do everthing that is asked of us, particularly if we are not paid so that we can hire assistants.

I find I have been getting more such requests lately, and suspect the same is true for many other members of CBA. I enclose a few thoughts which result from a letter from Ontario Hydro, which recently informed me that they did not want my expertise unless I was willing to provide it free. I hope these thoughts will encourage discussion of this among other CBA members.

Some reasons for working free:

(1) Many of us who work as conservation advocates regularly provide our advice free simply so that we can influence policy. If we don't provide that advice, damage may

be done to our environment. It is frustrating to miss out on opportunities to provide conservation input, so there are strong incentives to work free.

- (2) Many advocacy groups have little money and are entirely dependent upon free advice.
- (3) As professors, we already have salaries, so why expect to be paid more (but as noted below, we are paid for what is already more than a full time job).
- (4) We review articles free for scientific journals, so why not for consultants?

Some reasons for charging:

- (1) Free advice is often treated as if it had exactly that value -- that is, that it is worthless. I don't want to count the number of times I have been asked for free advice, only to have it ignored. When people help pay for something, they value it. (Ask any parent!)
- (2) Lawyers and engineers are treated as professionals, and no one would dream of asking them to work free. Not only are botanists assumed to be different, but even when we are paid, it is often considerably less than lawyers. If we provide our skills at minimum wage, we shouldn't be surprised if others think that's what they are worth.
- (3) I have encountered consulting companies with lucrative contracts who have not hired biologists for contracts, only engineers and managers. They then call biology professors thinking that they can get the advice cheap. If we do this, we help put other botanists out of work and contribute to the lack of demand for specialists in our area. In one such recent case (a million dollar project with no biologist hired), I told the consultant that I would talk to their staff biologist about specific technical questions, but I was not going to try to train their MBA about biology in a half-hour telephone call. I also told them that they wouldn't ask an engineer to build a bridge over the telephone, so why should they expect a biologist to design their project in the same circumstances?
- (4) In the time it takes to do a thorough review of a document, I could write a small grant application to support a graduate student, or write an article on another topic. There are these and other "opportunity costs" to free work which we must bear -- the least clients can do is pay us so we can hire research assistants or support graduate students.
- (5) As professors, we already have full time jobs. Consulting is usually done evenings or weekends. If our families bear the consequences (ranging from unwashed dishes and laundry to shorter holidays), perhaps they should also

reap some economic benefits.

These are just preliminary thoughts. I suspect the fact that I am even writing this reflects our low opinion of ourselves -- most other professions would probably simply charge what the market bears without a second thought. What I have provisionally decided is that I will work free for advocacy groups, and in situations where my advocacy is needed, such as in the creation of new ecological reserves. I now am advising consulting companies, government agencies and private industry that I am more than willing to help with their problems free when they are well-focussed and use my research expertise for short periods of time, but for longer time commitments (greater than an hour), I expect to be paid professional rates. I have done this reluctantly, but after considering the above factors. This means that Ontario Hydro will not be using my expertise in reviewing a document on rare plants. What do other Canadian Botanists think about how we handle such situations?

> Paul A. Keddy Dept. of Biology University of Ottawa

NEWS AND NOTES

Association of Zoological Horticulture

The Association of Zoological Horticulture, a society of interest to those working as horticulturists in zoos, is trying to increase its membership. The cost of an individual membership is US\$10. Anyone interested in further information may contact Pearl Pearson, Oklahoma City Zoo, 2101 NE 50th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73111 USA.

Call for Papers on Indigenous Knowledge of Tree Management

The Center for Indigenous Knowledge for Agriculture and Rural Development (CIKARD) seeks publications and primary documents to include in a comprehensive bibliography on the use of indigenous technical knowledge for private tree management.

The bibliography will focus on traditional management practices of trees, shrubs or other woody plants by individuals, their families or kin groups. Management includes planning, selection, propagation, growing, maintenance, protection, production, harvesting, and conservation. We also are interested in materials on indigenous intercropping

and spatial management practices, and knowledge of ecological interrelationships of trees, crops and the soil. "Grey literature" such as conference papers, research results, special reports is of particular interest.

The bibliography will be compiled in cooperation with FAO. Please send any information to Olivia Muchena at CIKARD, Iowa State University, 318 Curtiss, Ames, IA 50011, USA.

Jasper Institute of the Canadian Rockies

The Jasper Institute is a new venture, operated by Parks and People, a non-profit joint operation of the Canadian Parks Service and the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society. It begins this summer, and offers short field courses, limited to 12-15 participants, on various aspects of natural history. Courses begin June 30, and the last course ends August 9. Some of the courses are: Wildflowers of Jasper National Park, Understanding the Canadian Rockies, and so on. For more information, contact The Jasper Institute, Box 2337, Jasper, Alberta, TOE 1E0

Food Web Collection available in Machine-Readable Form

A collection of more than 200 food webs is available in machine-readable form (5-1/4 inch floppy disks for IBMcompatible personal computers using DOS file structure). Version 1 of this co-operative collection contains portions of the compilations of J. E. Cohen, F. Briand, A. King and S. L. Pimm, and K. G. Schoenly and R. A. Beaver. Other webs will be added. The disks give, for each web, a citation of the original source, the name of the contributor, an edited predation matrix, and a list of organisms. The data base is available to research ecologists for the cost of handling. It is available free to research ecologists who contribute, in appropriate format, one or more published webs that are accepted for addition to the data base. For details of format and conditions of use, contact: Joel E. Cohen, Ecologists' Co-operative Web BankTM (ECOWeBTM), Rockerfeller University, Box 20, 1230 York Avenue, New York, NY 10021-6399, USA.

Current Contents on Diskette

The Institute for Scientific Information (ISI)

has announced plans to release another edition of its Current Contents on Diskette journal information system. The new Current Contents on Diskette/Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences will be available this summer. This edition will have many of the same features as

Current Contents/Life Sciences, including a variety of searching options, and the possibility of creating customized search profiles. For further information on this and other ISI services, call 800-523-1850, extension 1449, and ask for Jacqueline Trolley, Marketing Manager, or write ISI Customer Services, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA.



GRAD NEWS

Dr. Cecilia Hageman successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis in the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Western Ontario. Her thesis topic was concerned with intrapopulational and intraspecific variation in isozymes, and application of enzyme characters to taxonomic problems. In 1989 she will receive a law degree in addition to her Ph.D. She will be involved with environmental law and patent law as she articles in Ottawa, and maintains her interest in lichen research at Western.

POSITIONS OPEN

Chair, Department of Environmental Biology Ontario Agricultural College

Applications are invited for the position of Chair of the Department of Environmental Biology at the University of Guelph, effective January 1, 1990. This position was advertised in Vol. 22 No. 1 (Jan. 1989) of the Bulletin. For further details see that issue.

The closing date for applications is October 1, 1989. Applications should include a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three persons who may be contacted for reference purposes.

Enquiries and applications, which will be treated in confidence, should be addressed to:

Dr. F. L. McEwen, Dean Ontario Agricultural College University of Guelph Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1

Subject to final budgetary approval. The University of Guelph is committed to Employment Equity.

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THE LAST WORD: (Jean M. Gerrath)

I remember working at the Registration desk at the second CBA/ABC meeting in Vancouver, the same week I received my botany degree. My job was to make the nametags, and I recall the excitement I felt as I put names to faces. I had no idea that the Association was a new one, and assumed that I was taking part in a long established tradition. It is a tribute to the founders of the Association that the early meetings were so well planned that when I attended the meeting as full member in Victoria last year I found that much of the pattern which had been laid down over twenty years before remains. Thank you to all of you. NOTE:

The deadline for the October issue is Sept. 1. The Bulletin of the Canadian Botanical Association:

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Advertisements for Positions Open and Classified categories may be placed at a cost of \$10.00 Cdn. per published column inch. Advertisements by individual members of Post-doctoral Opportunities and Positions Wanted are carried free

To ensure prompt delivery of the Bulletin please notify the Treasurer (Prof. Keith Winterhalder, Dept. of Biology, Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario. P3E 2C6) of any change of address as soon as possible.