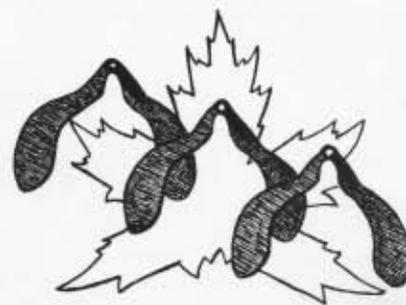


BULLETIN

L'ASSOCIATION BOTANIQUE DU CANADA



Volume 2 Number 1

January 1969

Vancouver

OPEN LETTER TO BOTANISTS

All University professors involved with the training of graduate students cannot help but be concerned with questions relating to the efficiency and effectiveness of their programmes or with administrative problems related to graduate student training. Some of the problems are beyond our immediate control and subject to the vagaries of graduate student legislation at the local level. Solutions to the same problem often show surprising and sometimes disturbing lack of uniformity amongst Universities across the country. Many important points of graduate student training are not considered by regulations but are left to the conscience and discretion of the individual programme director. Still other problems are so nebulous that we often consider them as beyond our control and despair of a solution.

Our purpose in writing this letter is not to attempt solutions to these problems, but rather to present to you some of the questions as we see them in the hope that others in the scientific community might provide suggestions or solutions that would eventually lead to programmes more useful to all.

Certainly one of the most pressing problems a graduate student advisor has to face in his responsibility in the satisfactory placement of his "product". In an ever tightening market where supply is tending to outstrip demand in some fields, it is not always an easy task to place a student in the Canadian economy. This is especially true of non-Canadian students. Some directors of graduate programmes favour the conservative approach and decline to accept the responsibility of a student unless they are fairly certain they can find him a satisfactory professional position. Other professors, however, may take on numbers of graduate students with what can only be described as 'gay abandon' giving little thought to the 'market' position as a whole, with the philosophy that their responsibility is in the training of students, not in their placement. Obviously our attitudes in this matter will have an influence on the numbers of students accepted in a discipline both on an individual and on a departmental basis. Clearly the chairman of a Department can exert a considerable influence on departmental policy in this regard. However, one might very well question to what extent a chairman is justified in exerting such influence on responsible research professors.

Not the least of our responsibilities is the counseling of prospective graduate students as to where they might find a suitable university environment to further their research interests. In the past it was more or less general policy to recommend to a student that he should complete his higher degree programme in the United States as it seemed to be generally felt that opportunities for graduate training were

somewhat limited in Canada in certain areas in Botany. However, in the past decade we have made significant progress in our research capabilities to the point where we have both quantity and quality in most areas of Botany. Yet tradition dies hard and droves of Canadian students, who might stay here to their advantage, go South for their doctoral degrees.

How can we turn the tide and encourage not only Canadian students to stay home but attract some of the better American students to take graduate work at one of the many fine research establishments in Canada? How can we educate the scientific community at home and abroad to the excellence of Canadian research centres? Surely one way would be to actively promote exchange of good students among Canadian Universities. An unfortunate limitation here is that in many cases we are not at all well informed on the research potential of our sister Universities in Canada. It is sad reflection on internal communication in Canada that we are frequently better informed on U.S. universities than our own! A compendium of graduate work in the Botanical Sciences at all the Canadian Universities would be a valuable source of information to guide us in our decisions.

The role of Canadian Universities in the higher education of non-Canadians is a difficult and sensitive area. Do we have a responsibility here? If we have responsibility how should we direct our effort? Should we encourage special national support to sponsor students from developing countries with the express requirement that such students return to their native land where their graduate education would be most useful? The higher education of students from underdeveloped countries in Canada could have a real benefit if it were properly conceived and executed. At the moment we must sometimes wonder whether we are running a graduate programme or an immigration service! It is not unnatural for a non-Canadian student exposed to North American affluence to wish to stay, but if in staying he defeats his stated purpose in coming, are we not justified in encouraging him to return home for his country's sake?

We must certainly reappraise our thinking on the value of the degrees themselves. What is the real value of a M.Sc. degree in the modern biological community? Is it a stepping stone or a stumbling block? Is it a sop to satisfy our conscience, or a consolation prize to those who cannot make the Ph.D.? As an interim degree is it necessary; as a terminal degree has it any substance? In the past at Guelph we have always demanded a high standard of excellence in the research done as part of a Master's programme and have used it as both a training ground and a proving ground. Now however there seems to be a general trend to a 'course work' Master's degree. Are we being fair to our students if

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CBA-ABC NEWS**1968/1969 Executive Committee**

President	J.C. Ritchie (Dalhousie University, Halifax)
Vice-President	H.M. Dale (University of Guelph)
Secretary	H.R.N. Eydt (University of Waterloo)
Treasurer	J.H. Soper (National Herbarium, Ottawa)
Past President:	R.L. Taylor (University of British Columbia)

Directors:

G. W. Argus (University of Saskatchewan); M.A.M. Bell (University of Victoria); L. Cinq-Mars (Universite' Laval); T. Mosquin (Plant Research Institute, Ottawa); D. B. O. Savile (Plant Research Institute, Ottawa); J. R. Stein (University of British Columbia).

The Section officers have been requested by the Executive Committee of CBA-ABC to serve for two years (1968-70) since there will not be a regular meeting of the Association in 1969 due to the XI International Botanical Congress in Seattle, Washington

***ECOLOGY SECTION**

Chairman: J. S. Rowe, Department of Plant Ecology, University of Saskatchewan

Secretary: P. B. Cavers, Department of Botany, University of Western Ontario

The attention of the membership is called to the announcement of INTECOL on page 3 of the *Bulletin*.

***GENERAL SECTION**

Chairman: R. T. Riddell, Department of Botany, University of Guelph

Secretary: W. I. Illman, Department of Biology, Carleton University

MYCOLOGY SECTION

Chairman: D. M. MacLeod, Insect Pathology Research Institute, Sault Ste. Marie

PALEOBOTANY SECTION

Chairman: G. E. Rouse, Department of Botany, University of British Columbia

Secretary: Mrs. M. W. Steeves, Department of Geology, University of Saskatchewan
(temporarily at Universite' de Montreal)

PHYCOLOGY SECTION

Chairman: R. F. Scagel, Department of Botany, University of British Columbia

Secretary: R. K. S. Lee, National Herbarium, Ottawa

The majority of Section members voting were in favor of seeking formal recognition. It was also agreed that new officers will take over after the Annual Meeting. Provision for equal geographical representation was not approved. Compilation of the checklist of Canadian Marine algae is continuing with the compilers as follows: A. Cardinal (Atlantic species). R.F. Scagel (Pacific species) and R.K.S. Lee (Arctic species and coordinator). Those interested in assisting with the checklist should contact the appropriate compiler.

***SYSTEMATICS AND PHYTOGEOGRAPHY**

Chairman: G. W. Argus, Fraser Herbarium, University of Saskatchewan

Secretary: J. B. Phipps, Department of Botany, University of Western Ontario

Nous rappelons que le Secretaire de chaque Section est prie de transmettre tous les articles au Bureau des Editeurs pour leur insertion dans le *Bulletin*. Prochaine echeance: 1er avril.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL STANDING

30 DEC. 1968

Assets		
Balance in Savings Account		\$2098.20
Balance in Current Account		2607.51
		4705.71
Less: Cheques outstanding		<u>110.04</u>
	Net Balance	<u>\$4595.67</u>

Liabilities:

Cheques outstanding \$ 110.04

Receipts:

Membership Fees	Regular	\$1652.00	
	Student	102.00	
	Arrears	56.00	
	Advance	<u>24.00</u>	1834.00

Subscriptions (C.J.B.)	666.00
Annual Meeting (1967)	28.49
Annual Meeting (1968)	576.85
Interest on Savings	98.20
Royalties (U. of T. Press)	82.86
Exchange on cheques	22.26
Refund on N.S.F. cheque	5.00
Exchange on U.S. Funds	1.59
Refund (bank error)	<u>1.00</u>

Total Receipts \$3316.25

Expenditures

Subscriptions (C.J.B.)	\$1197.00
C.B.A. Bulletin (4 issues)	632.48
Annual Meeting (1968)	737.03
Travel of Executive	575.75
Postage & Stationery	382.92
Biol. Council Dues	300.00
Royalties to N.R.C.	82.86
Bank charges	24.19
Shipping of stationery	<u>17.00</u>
	<u>\$3949.23</u>

SUMMARY:

Balance at last Audit - Jan. 8/68	\$5228.65
Receipts - Jan. 8 to Dec. 30/68	3316.25
	<u>\$8544.90</u>
Net Balance on Dec. 30/68	<u>\$4595.67</u>
Expenditures - Jan. 8 - Dec. 30/68	3949.23
	<u>\$8544.90</u>

7 January 1969

W.J. Cody,
R.J. Moore, AuditorsJames H. Soper,
Treasurer**ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDEN PUBLICATIONS**

The Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, has announced a new serial publication, *Royal Botanical Gardens Technical Bulletins*. These bulletins are designed to present and interpret botanical information in a format suitable for the use of biologists (including advanced amateurs) while incorporating more technical and specialized information than is usually feasible in strictly popular publications. The *Technical Bulletins*, which appear at irregular intervals and are paged separately, include:

- No. 1 - Aquatic Plants for Fish and Wildlife, by W. John Lamoureux, 1963. 22 pp.
- No. 2 - The Common *Aster* Species of Southern Ontario, by James S. Pringle, 1967. 15 pp.
- No. 3 - The Common *Solidago* Species (Goldenrods) of Southern Ontario, by James S. Pringle, 1968. 14 pp.

Titles in preparation include: Checklist of the Spontaneous Vascular Flora of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; and Guide to Field Identification of *Gentiana* Species in Eastern North America. Future *Technical Bulletins* will include descriptions of new cultivars being introduced by the Royal Botanical Gardens, as well as additional guides to plant identification.

All issues previously published are still available on request from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Postal Station "A", Hamilton 20, Ontario. Leslie Laking

INTECOL

Recently the International Union of Biological Sciences announced the establishment of the International Association for Ecology (Association Internationale d'Ecologie) as a constituent Section. The objects of the Association (known as INTECOL) are to promote the science and practice of ecology by: providing opportunities for communication between ecologists; cooperating with organizations and individuals with related aims and interests; encouraging studies of common interest to the different fields of ecology; nominating ecologists as representatives of I.U.B.S. whenever appropriate.

Membership in INTECOL is available to ecological societies (or related groups) or to individual members. The former category can include national or international associations, or sections of Societies and individual members of such bodies are eligible for membership at a reduced fee.

The Association will be managed by a Board elected at the General Meetings to be held approximately every third year. The Board will consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Treasurer, and seven other Members. The first Board was appointed at Varna, Bulgaria, at the XVIIe Congress of I.U.B.A. The President is A.D. Hasler (University of Wisconsin, Madison) and the Secretary General is F.H. Whitehead (Imperial College, London, England). Canada is represented on the international Board by T.S. Holling (University of British Columbia). The Board

Information about INTECOL and application forms for membership may be obtained from the Secretary General, INTECOL, c/o Institute of Biology, 41 Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 7, Great Britain. Also, further details may be secured from CBA-ABC President, J.C. Richie (Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax) who is acting as liaison man for Canada.

BOTANICAL SECTION OF L'ACFAS

Through the good offices of my present colleagues at the Institut Botanique, Montréal, an invitation was extended to attend the 36th Annual Congress of L'Association Canadienne-Francaise pour l'Avancement des Sciences (L'ACFAS). The meetings, held November 8-9, 1968, at the Université de Ottawa, consisted of 29 sections covering all fields of science from biochemistry to city planning. Section II (Botanique Écologie Végétale) was of special interest. Because this is little known to most other Canadian botanists, I have prepared a brief report on its activities and the possible implications for CBA-ABC as an organization of all Canadian botanists.

The meeting of the Section comprised four sessions in which 27 papers were presented. The speakers represented the Universities of Laval, Moncton, Montreal, Sherbrooke, and Queens, as well as various research stations of the Government of Quebec and the Federal Department of Agriculture. Although there was a preponderance of ecology and floristics, papers also dealt with floral morphology, mycology, radiation effects on higher plants, plant physiology, and biochemistry.

It was evident to a visitor that this Section provides a real meeting place for botanists of French-speaking Canada and that they take full advantage of its opportunities to exchange views and ideas and meet friends and former students. The discussions at the sessions were enthusiastic and the coffee breaks were equally the scene of lively exchange.

As a botanist I was delighted to see a group of my fellow botanists get together with such evident enthusiasm and

pleasure. As a member of CBA-ABC, however, I experienced some gnawing pangs of concern as to the effect of all this upon our hope to make the CBA-ABC the association for Canadian botanists. Clearly L'ACFAS, which predates us at least 30 years, is serving a useful and valued function for a particular group of Canadian botanists. An attempt to draw them away from it would be pointless, and unsuccessful in any event. The real problem is not membership in CBA-ABC, but rather participation in its meetings, as for many, two meetings a year are simply not practical. Some form of liaison, however, ought to be possible, and it would certainly be desirable. Perhaps the *CBA-ABC Bulletin*, could carry news of the meetings of the Botanical Section of L'ACFAS, and a list of titles of papers presented at its meetings. Is it out of the question to try for a joint meeting sometime soon, perhaps at one of the French or bilingual universities? I hope that the Executive of our Association will give this matter some serious thought. Taylor A. Steeves

(Note des Editeurs: Les communications et articles émanant de l'ACFAS et intéressant les Botanistes Canadiens seront toujours les bienvenus pour être publiés dans ce *Bulletin*.)

PERSONALIA

Ray Cox has returned to the Geological Survey from Stanford University, California, where he has been completing his Ph.D. work. He is presently stationed in Calgary.

Chris Caten left the University of Western Ontario and is at the University of Birmingham, England, where he has taken a research position.

Andre Cardinal a quitté depuis le 1^{er} décembre son poste de Phycologiste à la Station de Biologie marine de Grande-Rivière, Quebec. Il est maintenant membre du personnel à l'Université Laval.

Marguerite Lubke has completed her M.Sc. at the University of Western Ontario. *Roy Lubke* is completing his Ph.D. there and will leave shortly to begin Postdoctoral work at the University of Exeter, England.

H. Lue-Kim, who recently completed his Ph.D. at Simon Fraser University, has joined the staff in the Department of Botany, University of Guelph.

Milton McClaren is President of the Faculty Association at Simon Fraser University. Possibly *J.M. Naylor*, who was President of the Faculty Association at the University of Saskatchewan 1967/68, can give him some pertinent advice!

Pierre Morisset has joined the faculty at l'Université Laval after being associated with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Professor *Aldo Pucci*, Departamento da Agronomia, Universidad Nacional del Sur, Bahia Blanca, Argentina, is Visiting Professor of Botany at the University of Guelph from January to May, 1969. Professor Pucci, a plant pathologist, is working with *B.H. MacNeill* and *L.V. Edgington*.

David Punter has moved from the Canada Department of Forestry and Rural Development Laboratory at Maple, Ontario, to the Botany Department, University of Manitoba.

R.F. Scagel, University of British Columbia, visited the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, in late January as External Examiner in Botany for the School of Biological Sciences.

S.K. Srivastava completed his Ph.D. at the University of Alberta, and presently is a Killam Postdoctoral Fellow with G.E. Rouse, at the University of British Columbia.

John Sparling, University of Toronto, left in early January for a five month leave to be spent in East Africa and Sweden.

WANTED

For morphological study – flowering and fruiting material of the Lemnaceae. John H. McAndrews, Associate Curator, Department of Geology, Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park, Toronto 5, Ontario.

J.W. EASTHAM

John William Eastham, known for many years to a large number of Botanists across Canada, died at his home in Vancouver on November 26, 1968. He was 88 and would have been 89 on December 4. With his passing, Botany in Canada lost a dedicated worker who devoted his life to the study of plants.

Mr. Eastham was born in Liverpool, England. He attended the University of Edinburgh from 1896 until he received his B.Sc. degree in 1899. During his undergraduate years he received the Medal and Robert Wilson Memorial Prize in Chemistry (1896/97), the Herriot Watt College Class Medal and Marshall Prize in Advanced Inorganic Chemistry (1896/97), and the Edinburgh School of Rural Economy Prize in Agricultural Chemistry (1897/98). From 1899 to 1906 he taught Chemistry and then Biology in England. In 1906 he came to Canada to teach at Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. In 1910-11 he took postgraduate work in Plant Pathology at Cornell University and immediately thereafter became Chief Assistant in the Division of Botany with the (then) Dominion Department of Agriculture in Ottawa. He moved to British Columbia in 1914 as Provincial Plant Pathologist with the B.C. Department of Agriculture, the post which he held until his retirement in 1948.

After his arrival in Vancouver he married Alberta Middleton in 1916. During the 1920's he served three winter sessions as Special Lecturer at the University of British Columbia. He was a charter member of both Canadian and American Phytopathological Societies and served one year as President of the Pacific Division of the latter.

One would expect a quiet retirement to follow this long and useful working life. Not so! Plants were to Mr. Eastham a hobby as well as a profession. Before retirement he had spent much time studying, collecting, and identifying the flora of southern British Columbia. He amassed approximately 16,000 specimens of vascular plants, all mounted and labelled. In 1947 and later he published a supplement to J.K. Henry's "Flora of Southern British Columbia" and several papers dealing with segments of the same flora. In September, 1953, Mr. Eastham was appointed Honorary Curator of the Herbarium at the University of British Columbia. He brought with him his large plant collection and began his second life of service to Botany.

From 1953 until the winter of 1967 he did much of the Herbarium's identification as well as organizing and filing stored material and new collections. His help is sorely missed. Still more, we who knew him miss his quiet cheerful presence. We have lost a friend as well as a colleague.

For Mr. Eastham 1968 was a year of ill health which culminated in his death. He was predeceased by his wife in 1952, and is survived by a son in Ottawa and a daughter in Vancouver.

Katherine I. Beamish

TREASURER'S ADDRESS

Treasurer, James H. Soper, requests the membership not to use the address given in the last issue of the *Bulletin* (volume 1, no. 4). Rather, mail to Dr. Soper should be addressed: c/o National Herbarium of Canada, National Museums of Canada, Ottawa 4, Ontario (ou, L'Herbier national du Canada, Les Musées nationaux du Canada, Ottawa 4). The previous address is the actual location of the National Herbarium, but government mail is sorted by its own carrier service. If you have had your mail for Dr. Soper returned to you, try the address(es) given above.

DATE-LIMITE DUE BULLETIN PROCHAIN: LE 1 AVRIL

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we demand anything more than this? Is a course work Master's justified for those whose intent is not research, but rather to improve their teaching capabilities?

What about the Doctorate degree? Should it be mandatory to take a Ph.D. at a university other than that from which the Bachelor's or Master's was obtained? Traditionally this has been encouraged in the hope that it will allow the student to broaden his horizons and allow a deeper and freer intellectual development. In recent years it is becoming more or less common practice for a student to complete his professional apprenticeship by taking one or two postdoctoral years under an authority in his field. To what extent does postdoctoral study compensate for taking all previous degrees at the same institution?

The tendency in 'structural' organization in the modern university is to develop one or a few areas of excellence within a department. An area of excellence may encompass four or more specialists within a given area in the belief that it is necessary to have a number of specialists to constitute a viable research programme. It is perhaps a mistaken belief that quantity compensates for quality and the designation of areas of excellence has had an unfortunate corollary. It has been suggested that Departments might consider giving Ph.D. degrees *only* in the areas of excellence. Thus the lone specialist is penalized to the extent that he is not permitted to direct a Ph.D. programme in his area of interest no matter how capable his programme or how respected his research reputation. Surely we cannot allow distinguished individual research workers to be reduced to the level of 'service' personnel!

We have touched here on only a few of the many controversial facets of graduate training. Many more aspects come quickly to mind relating to language requirements, entrance examinations, preliminary examinations, English requirements for foreign students, major/minor organization and the like.

We are all well aware of the problems and lack of an overall coordinated graduate organization. Is standardization necessary or desirable at the national level? We do not know, but we would like to suggest a more cooperative atmosphere among Canadian Universities, where, encouraged by mutual consideration and respect, we can build a graduate level organization that will place Canada at the helm in higher education.

C.M. Switzer, G.L. Barron

CBA-ABC Bulletin is published quarterly, in January, April, July and October by the Canadian Botanical Association-L'Association Botanique du Canada, c/o Department of Botany, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, Canada; Janet R. Stein, Chairman, Publication Committee. Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, and for payment of postage in cash. Postage paid at Vancouver, British Columbia.