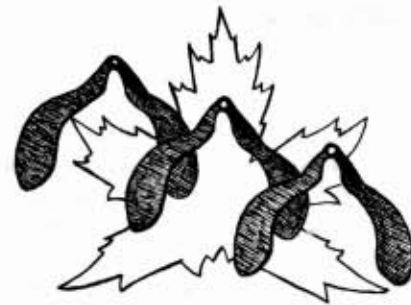


# BULLETIN

L'ASSOCIATION BOTANIQUE DU CANADA



Volume 2 Number 3

June 1969

Vancouver

## GEORGE LAWSON MEDAL IN BOTANY

Established at the 1968 CBA-ABC annual meeting at the Lakehead, the first medal will be awarded at the annual banquet in Seattle, Washington. The purpose of the award is, "To provide a collective, formal expression of the admiration and respect of botanists in Canada for excellence of the contribution of an individual to Canadian Botany".

Two general categories of award have been created. One is for a single contribution to botanical knowledge of outstanding distinction. This award is for a botanist at any stage in his professional career and is for a contribution of singular significance to the discipline at large. The second award is for recognition of the cumulative distinguished contribution of a senior investigator, teacher, or administrator who has notably influenced Canadian botany.

The award (see the figure) to be presented to each recipient, consists of a bronze medal, 4 inches in diameter and mounted on a walnut plaque 9 x 11 inches. The Association's name is attached below the medal and a brass plate with the recipient's name and the year of award.



The medal was created by Victor Tolgesy of Ottawa, one of Canada's outstanding young sculptors. He was born in Hungary in 1928 and came to Canada in 1951. Mr. Tolgesy has been a full-time sculptor since 1958 and was the recipient of a Canada Council grant in that year to travel and work in Europe. In 1965 he received a Canada Council Senior Fellowship. He was awarded first prize in the 1963 Canada Sculpture Show of the National Gallery Association, and the sculpture prize of the Royal Canadian Academy Show in 1967. Mr. Tolgesy has presented several one-man shows and had works exhibited in all major Canadian centres. His major commissions include a sculpture for Expo 67, the Hungarian Freedom Monument in Toronto, and several architectural commissions. His works are represented in the National Gallery, the Windsor Art Gallery, Waterloo University, Brandon University, and in many private collections.

## GEORGE LAWSON 1827-1895

The name "George Lawson Medal in Botany" may surprise many Canadian botanists. The immediate questions are, who was George Lawson and, what was his contribution to Canadian botany?

George Lawson was the first professional botanist appointed in Canada. He is credited with founding the first botanical society and establishing the first botanic garden in Canada. Lawson is considered as the principal catalyser of modern Canadian botany and exerted a marked influence on botanical progress, although his name is not generally known by present-day botanists.

Lawson was born in 1827 in Scotland. He began a legal apprenticeship in Dundee but renounced this to study science at the University of Edinburgh. While there he worked with J.H. Balfour. Lawson served as Keeper of the Herbarium and a Demonstrator in Botany, as well as being an active worker in various scientific societies. Lawson obtained his Ph.D. in 1857 from the University of Giessen in Germany.

In March 1858 he accepted the post of Professor of Chemistry and Natural History at Queen's College (now University) and arrived in Kingston in September. In December 1860 the Botanical Society of Canada was started with Lawson as the secretary. At the initial meeting of the Society, he presented "Remarks on the present state of botany in Canada, and the objects to be attained by the establishment of a Botanical Society".

By the second meeting, held in January 1861, there were 92 members having paid the dues of \$2 each. There were also honorary members, including William Dawson of McGill, Sir William Hooker of Kew Gardens, Asa Gray and John Torrey of Harvard, Alphonse DeCandolle of Geneva, and Nathaniel Pringsheim of Berlin. In addition about 100 corresponding members were nominated. Eleven meetings were held, and at each communications from corresponding and regular members were presented. The Society also published an *Annals* from 1861-1963.

At the same time a Botanic Garden was started near what is the Old Arts Building. Approximately 7 acres were available for the garden. Plants and seeds were donated by students, Kingston citizens, and botanists such as Asa Gray. The garden contained many economic plants, including those of medicinal uses with Lawson often giving demonstrations concerning the plants. The Botanic Garden is presently an area of lawn and shade trees with a few unusual weeds in the lawn that may be remnants.

In 1863 Lawson left Kingston to become Professor of Chemistry and Natural History at Dalhousie University. The reason for his departure is unknown; however, there has been speculation that either financial problems at Queen's, personal conflicts, or a combination of both are responsible. He was one of 6 professors chosen to help Dalhousie begin anew after a 20 year period of closure. Lawson taught chemistry and mineralogy at Dalhousie and

## 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. Eyd (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 (Université Laval); T. Mosquin (Plant Research Institute, Ottawa); D. B. O. Savile (Plant Research Institute, Ottawa); J. R. Stein (University of British Columbia).

## SECTION NEWS — ACTUALITES DES DIVISIONS

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 questionnaire sent earlier this year has had over 60% response. Members of this Section are requested to check to see if they have returned the questionnaire to the Secretary. If not, please do so promptly.

## \*SYSTEMATICS AND PHYTOGEOGRAPHY

Chairman: G. W. Argus, Fraser Herbarium, University of Saskatchewan  
 Secretary: J. B. Phipps, Department of Botany, University of Western Ontario

A report of the Committee on Automation and Standardization of Herbarium Procedures has been submitted to the Executive of the Section by R.E. Beschel and J.H. Soper. The report contains a brief review of the data processing methods now in use at the University of Toronto; Queen's University; The National Herbarium of Canada; the W.P. Fraser Herbarium, University of Saskatchewan; the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; The Instituto de Biología, Mexico City; The Botanical Museum, Helsinki; and the Biological Records Center, Great Britain. The methods in use include the automated preparation of herbarium labels, catalogue records and distribution maps. A detailed discussion of the standardization of information recorded on herbarium labels is presented. This standardization is essential to the development of an efficient system for electronic data storage and will require the cooperation of all taxonomists. Finally, the problem presented by the development of many independent data banks and information retrieval programs is discussed and a plan for the establishment of a central data bank with a series of cooperating 'satellite' centers linked by common formats is presented. The authors plan to publish this report shortly and to distribute copies to the Section membership. Inquiries should be directed to Drs. Beschel and Soper.

## NEW MEMBERS (March-May 1969)

N.P. Badenhuizen (University of Toronto); Gisele Lamoureux (Quebec City); Ruth L. Lowther (Sir George Williams); L.E. Mehlenbacher (University of British Columbia); G.R. MacKenzie-Grieve (Calgary); R.J. Staniforth (University of Western Ontario).

## MESSAGE AUX BOTANISTES DU QUEBEC.

Vous vous rappelez sans doute que l'Association de Botanique du Canada tiendra son Congrès annuel à Québec en 1970. L'Université Laval a en effet transmis une invitation officielle à l'Association, Société Canadienne de physiologie végétale répondra en même temps à une invitation similaire de la part du Dr Sylvio Bourget, directeur de la Station de recherches du Ministère fédéral de l'Agriculture, établie sur le campus de Laval. Après les congrès de Kingston (Queen's, 1964), Ottawa (Carleton, 1965), Vancouver (1969), Ottawa (1967), et Port Arthur (Lakehead, 1968), ce sera au tour de Québec de recevoir les botanistes du Canada. Les congrès précédents ont été des succès, tant au point de vue de l'organisation locale que des excursions offertes avant ou après chaque congrès.

Celui de Québec se doit de continuer la tradition déjà établie. Il est évident que tous les botanistes du Québec devront faire leur part et contribuer à l'organisation du Congrès, si l'on veut en faire un succès. J'invite donc tous et chacun à offrir leur participation, à se préparer à faire partie de Comités et aussi à penser dès maintenant à des suggestions utiles qui pourraient aider les organisateurs locaux: colloques, symposia, réceptions, excursions, etc.

Le Comité d'organisation n'a pas encore été formé; il le sera sûrement d'ici la fin du Congrès de Seattle. Vous serez alors avisés des noms de ses membres et c'est à eux que je vous prierais d'adresser vos suggestions. Je vous fais cette invitation à titre de directeur du Comité exécutif de l'Association. Cordiales salutations à tous.

Lionel Cinq-Mars

NEXT DEADLINE FOR CBA-ABC BULLETIN: September 15

## CANADIAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY

At a recent meeting of the National Research Council of Canada, it was decided that because of the escalating costs of publishing it is necessary to discontinue the present arrangement whereby members of certain scientific associations receive their Journal at the special rate of \$3. At the same time, Council recommended that subscription rates for society members be one-half the regular subscription. This will be \$4.50 for CBA-ABC members as the regular subscription is \$9. The new arrangement will go into effect in January 1970.

An earlier decision affecting the *Canadian Journal of Botany* discontinues the provision of free reprints after June 30, 1969. Also, scientific work originating outside Canada will be assessed at \$20 per page.

## MEMORIAL TO G. KROTKOV AND C.D. NELSON

In 1968 Canada lost 2 of its noted plant physiologists through the death of Gleb Krotkov and one of his students, C. Donald Nelson. In their memory an issue of the *Canadian Journal of Botany* will be published. The special number will be a regular issue of the Journal devoted to this purpose.

Contributions to this issue will not receive special consideration but will be referred and handled by the Editorial Department as usual. When the papers have been accepted for publication they will be assembled and bound in one issue. Contributions should be submitted by October 1, 1969, to: Dr. Michael Shaw, Editor, *Canadian Journal of Botany*, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8. A covering letter should be included with each manuscript clearly stating that it is intended for publication in this memorial issue.

## ANNUAL MEETING

## SUMMER MEETINGS

Several meetings of interest to Canadian botanists are scheduled for late August or early September. These meetings are all located in western North America and either precede or follow the XI International Botanical Congress

August 18-23 – Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99163. Annual Meeting of Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Sciences. This includes: National Meeting of American Society for Horticultural Science; Western Section of American Nature Study Society; Western Section of American Society of Plant Physiologists; Western North American Region of Biometric Society; Pacific Section of Botanical Society of America; and, Pre-Congress Conference on Pollen and Pollen Physiology. For further information contact: C.D. Moodie, Department of Agronomy, Washington State University, Pullman.

August 23-24 – University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98105. Associated with the Botanical Congress are several organizations with meetings before the official opening. These include:

August 23 – American Society of Plant Taxonomists, Business Meeting, 4 p.m.  
– Systematic Section, Botanical Society of America, Business Meeting, 5 p.m.

August 24 – International Association of Botanic Gardens, Business Meeting, 11 a.m.  
– International Association of Plant Taxonomists, Business Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

September 3-6 – Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331. Seminar on "The Problems in the Distribution and Differentiation of the Plant Groups Common to Japan and North America". Sponsored by U.S.-Japan Cooperative Science Program. Attendance by invitation. For further information contact: A.J. Sharp, Department of Botany, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37916.

September 4-6 – Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331. "Work Conference for International Collaboration on Plant Population Biology with Emphasis on Cytogenetics and Cytotaxonomy". Attendance by invitation. For further information contact: G.L. Stebbins, Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences, 202 Junipero Serra Blvd., Stanford, California 94305.

September 5-9 – Environmental Sciences Centre, University of Calgary, Kananaskis, Alberta. "Specialist Workshop-Conference on Fungi Imperfecti". Sponsored by National Research Council of Canada, University of Calgary, University of Waterloo. For further information contact: W. Bryce Kendrick Department of Biology, University of Waterloo.

## INTERESTING BOOKS

"Plant Diversity: An Evolutionary Survey" by R.F. Scagel, R.J. Bandoni, G.E. Rouse, W.B. Schofield, J.R. Stein, and T.M.C. Taylor (all of the University of British Columbia). 460 pp. 407 figs. Wadsworth Publishing Company, Inc., Belmont, California. ca., \$10. This is a condensed version of "An Evolutionary Survey of the Plant Kingdom" published in 1965 by the same authors. (Ethics prevent any editorial comments!)

"The Biology of Parasitic Flowering Plants" by Job Kuijt (University of Lethbridge). 364 pp., 33 drawings, 154 photographs. \$15 U.S.F.

continued from p. 9

botany at Halifax Medical College. He became very active in the Nova Scotia Institute of Science and served as vice-president and president. In 1864 he became the first secretary of the Nova Scotia Board of Agriculture and in 1885 became Secretary of Agriculture (which is equivalent to being an under minister or deputy minister). This position was held for 10 years until his death in 1895.

Lawson's active concern with agriculture in Nova Scotia can be seen in his editorship of *Nova Scotia Journal of Agriculture* (12 years), *Annual Report of Secretary of Agriculture* (30 years), *Crop Reports of Nova Scotia* (6 years), *Special Report on Cattle Pastures*, and *Nova Scotia Register of Thoroughbred Cattle*. In addition he was very active in the founding of the Nova Scotia College of Agriculture at Truro and the School of Horticulture at Wolfville.

As one of the founding members of the Royal Society of Canada, he presented several papers and served as president in 1887/88. In 1891 he helped found the Botanical Club of Canada under the aegis of the Royal Society. He served as president of the Club for 4 years. The Club ceased activity several years after his death.

Lawson published almost 100 botanical papers and several on zoology and chemistry. His interests in botany were very broad and included all groups of plants as well as the disciplines of cytology, anatomy, physiology, distribution, and taxonomy.

Rousseau and Dore in an article concerning Lawson sum his contributions as follows (p. 80):

"Nous serions injustes pour Lawson si nous mesurons son action à l'oeuvre botanique seulement. Son activité agricole se fera au détriment de sa production botanique . . . Un homme se juge sur ses multiples facettes, sur sa personnalité totale, non sur ce que nous aurions voulu qu'il fût ou qu'il fût. Lawson, sans doute, aurait pu occuper une plus grande place dans l'histoire de la botanique canadienne: lui-même a choisi une autre solution et l'agriculture de la Nouvelle-Ecosse lui en est reconnaissante".

## References:

- Anonymous. 1895. George Lawson (obituary). *Ottawa Naturalist* 9(9):180-181.  
Dore, W.G. 1967. Canada's first botanic garden. *Greenhouse-Garden-Grass* (Plant Research Institute, C.D.A., Ottawa) 6(2):6-14.  
Rousseau, J. and Dore, W.G. 1966. L'oubli de l'histoire de la science canadienne – George Lawson, 1827-1895. In *Pioneers of Canadian Science*. G.F.G. Stanley, ed. pp. 54-80.

## ANNUAL DINNER – 28 AUGUST 1969

Sherwood Motor Inn  
400 N.E. 45th Street  
Seattle

Name

Address

No. of reservations  
(ca., \$3.50 each)

Please mail by July 30 to:

Dr. H.R.N. Eydt  
Department of Biology  
University of Waterloo  
WATERLOO, ONTARIO

## PERSONALIA

*George Argus* will move from the W.P. Fraser Herbarium of the University of Saskatchewan to the Museum of Natural History of the University of Oregon, Eugene, in September. He will be Curator of the Herbarium and an Associate Professor of Biology.

*Harold Brodie's* (University of Alberta) 6 lectures, "Men, Miracles and Mushrooms" were seen on television in the Ottawa area during April and May.

*A.P. Chan, J.H. Soper* and *Roy L. Taylor* represented Canada at the recent meeting of the Editorial Committee of the Flora North America Project (FNAP) held in Washington, D.C., at the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Soper then attended a conference in the Department of Botany at the Smithsonian on the application of data processing techniques to herbarium procedures.

*Grant D. Darker*, formerly of the Mycology Section, Plant Research Institute, Ottawa, retired from government service in December 1968 at the age of 70.

*J. Fabiszewski*, from Poland, is a new N.R.C. Postdoctoral Fellow working with *I.M. Brodo* in the Lichenology Section of the National Herbarium of Canada.

*James H. Ginns*, formerly with Federal Forest Research Laboratory in Victoria, has been appointed to the Mycology Section of the Plant Research Institute, Ottawa. Dr. Ginns replaces *Mildred K. Nobles*, and will continue the program on taxonomy of wood-inhabiting fungi.

*Paul C. Gorham* will become Professor of Botany at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, in September. He has been Head of the Plant Physiology Section of the Division of Biosciences of the National Research Council, Ottawa.

*William F. Grant* has been elected Secretary of the Genetics Society of Canada - La Société de Génétique du Canada. He has also received the honour (?) of editing a Bulletin for the Society.

*David Murray* will move from Memorial University of Newfoundland to the University of Alaska at College in the fall.

Two new Curatorial Assistants have joined the National Herbarium of Canada. *Sheila O'Neill*, a recent graduate from Carleton University, will work in the Lichenology Section and *Linda Ley*, a recent graduate of the University of British Columbia, will be in the Bryology Section.

*Mildred K. Nobles* retired from the Plant Research Institute, Ottawa, on June 6th. Her colleagues marked the occasion with the presentation of a painting and books of photographs and letters expressing good wishes for the future and their appreciation for her distinguished service to mycology.

*J.G. Ogden* will be Professor of Biology at Dalhousie University beginning this summer.

*O.A. Olsen*, Memorial University of Newfoundland, spent 2 weeks with the mycology section of the Plant Research Institute, Ottawa.

*Douglas Ormrod* will leave the University of British Columbia in July to become Chairman of the Department of Horticulture at the University of Guelph.

*George Setterfield* (Carleton University) spent his sabbatical at Laval University.

*M.J. Shechpanek*, formerly Curatorial Assistant in the Lichenology Section of the National Herbarium of Canada is now Conservator in the Herbarium of Vascular Plants of the National Herbarium.

*Larry Sherk* has moved in May from the Ornamental Plant Science Section, Plant Research Institute, Ottawa, to the Sheridan Nurseries of Toronto.

*R.A. Shoemaker*, Plant Research Institute, Ottawa, recently spent a month at the Institute of Systematic Botany, University of Uppsala. He studied type specimens of Pyrenomycetes in the Elias Fries Collection. En route home he visited the Sorbonne and the Commonwealth Mycological Institute.

*John Stewart* will move this summer from McMaster University to the University of Manitoba.

*Lazlo Orloci*, University of Western Ontario, will be a featured speaker at the "International Symposium on Statistical Ecology" to be held in August at Yale University.

## ANNUAL MEETING - SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Due to the XI International Botanical Congress being scheduled in the United States, the CBA-ABC will sponsor only a dinner meeting in 1969. The business meeting and annual dinner are scheduled for the evening of August 28th. The dinner and meeting will be held at the Sherwood Motor Inn, 400 N.E. 45th Street at 7 p.m. Dinner, which is *ca.*, \$3.50, will be baked suffed filet of King Salmon. A bar will be available before dinner. Those planning to attend are requested to fill out the form on the bottom of page 11 so that reservations may be made by August 1st. Further reservations should be made through the Secretary, H.R.N. Eydt.

The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists is scheduled to hold a business meeting on the afternoon of August 27th.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS - 1969/70

The nominees for the Executive and Director positions for 1969/70 are listed on the enclosed ballot. Please vote immediately and return the ballot to Dr. H.R.N. Eydt, Secretary CBA-ABC, Department of Biology, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario. Ballots must be received by August 20, 1969, in order to be counted.

## POSITION AVAILABLE

Research Position in University of British Columbia Botanical Garden: Horticulturalist or Biosystematist interested in the development and utilization of native plants as ornamentals and in participating in a biological flora program. Apply directly to: Director of the Botanical Garden, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, Canada.