CPS • SCP

News

CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY • SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PHYTOPATHOLOGIE

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President's Message

Richard Martin

It has been a relatively quiet quarter for much of the Society. The French translation of Diseases of Field Crops in Canada is progressing well. The editing of the translation is taking a bit longer than initially anticipated but I know the result will be well worth the wait. Special thanks go out to Robin Morrall and Luc Couture who are spearheading this activity. When completed it will make a nice addition to CPS's list of accomplishments. The challenge to members now is where do we go from here? A number of suggestions have been casually discussed, but what we need are people to come forward with definitive suggestions and or a desire to be involved. Should we consider a fruit book, or perhaps one on forestry pathology? Give it some thought and let us know your suggestion.

The Local Arrangements Committee's plans for the 75th anniversary meeting in Ottawa are well underway, and an excellent meeting is anticipated. There will be an excellent science program, and hopefully you will all consider attending and presenting. I would like to highlight some of the other things that are being planned for the annual meeting and throughout the year, to celebrate our 75th. The Special Events Committee (SPEC), chaired by Ron Howard, has been very active this past year. They have a number of projects underway that will highlight the work of the Society and its members over the last 75 years. Not only will some of these projects be part of the 75th annual meeting, but there will be ongoing projects over the course of the year. Some of the proposed projects include reprinting the book by I.L. Conners "Plant Pathology in Canada" in CD format with a supplement covering the period from 1972 to present. A special issue of the CJPP is proposed for symposium papers on the science of plant pathology in Canada (past, present and future) and with reprinting of major papers or feature articles. Sessions at the annual meeting will have a

Inside this issue:

short historical overview and impact in Canada of the session topic. These will complement the plenary session and a planned debate on a "Pathologists' survival raft" during the annual meeting. The Archives subcommittee of SPEC is working on historical articles on pathology, the CPS and some of the members who regionally and nationally have made a difference. We have extended a special invitation to all Emeritus members to attend the meeting and so far the response has been excellent. This will be an opportunity to see old friends or meet those pathologists who you've read or heard about as being leaders in plant pathology in Canada. Anyway, there should be something for everyone.

"The challenge is to ensure continued participation, to draw in the newer members, and to chart a course for the future."

As I start planning the agenda for the Annual meeting I would like to extend the opportunity for you to submit agenda items which you may wish to have considered for discussion. If you don't want an item or suggestion discussed at the annual meeting, but would like to bring it to the Board's attention, please feel free. I always knew that our Society was composed of very dedicated and active minded members, and this has only been reinforced during my time on the Board. Our society has a wide range of members with a multitude of talents and it is a pleasure to see them at work. The challenge is to ensure continued participation, to draw in the newer members, and to chart a course for the future. So if you have an idea on how we can improve our service to members and our chosen discipline, please bring them forward.

I would encourage you to visit the CPS-SCP web page. Greg Boland has been working on a redesign and it is looking very good. It should have been launched by the time the Newsletter is printed, so take a look. We should all extend Greg a warm thank-you for doing an excellent job as the webmaster of our site for many years.

I had hoped to combine travel to attend regional meetings of the CPS this past year, but that was not to happen. I hope that these groups appreciate that the cost of travel from more remote areas, such as Charlottetown, are such that justification to travel to every meeting would be cost prohibitive for the Society. I am glad that some members of the Board were at most meetings representing the Society. These regional meetings are rewarding and as a Society we need to take an active role in ensuring their continued success. Members do need to take a proactive role in some regions, where activity is low. It is noted that an attempt was made for a regional meeting in the Atlantic Region, but travel prevented more than a handful of members attending a joint meeting with the Canadian Society of Agronomy. Hopefully we will see another attempt to get members together in the coming year.

See you in Ottawa.....June 13-16.

Mot du président

Richard Martin

Le dernier trimestre fut relativement calme à la Société. La traduction française de *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* progresse bien. Le travail éditorial sur la traduction prend un peu plus de temps que prévu à l'origine, mais je sais que l'attente en vaut la peine. Je remercie en particulier Robin Morrall et Luc Couture qui dirigent ce travail. Lorsque complété, ce sera un bel accomplissement que la SCP pourra ajouter à sa liste. Le prochain défi des membres est de se choisir un nouveau projet. Un certain nombre de propositions informelles ont été discutées dernièrement, mais ce dont nous avons besoin, ce sont des gens qui ont des propositions concrètes à faire ou qui ont le désir de s'impliquer. Devrions-nous envisager un livre sur les fruits ou, encore, en pathologie forestière? Pensez-y et envoyez-nous vos suggestions.

Les plans du Comité local d'organisation pour la réunion du 75^{e} anniversaire à Ottawa sont mis à exécution et nous pouvons nous attendre à une excellente réunion. Il y aura un excellent programme scientifique et j'espère que vous prévoyez y

assister et même d'y faire une présentation. J'aimerais souligner quelques éléments qui sont prévus pour la réunion annuelle et pendant l'année pour célébrer notre 75e. Le Comité des évènements spéciaux (CES), présidé par Ron Howard, fut très actif pendant la dernière année. Il y a des projets en marche qui visent à souligner le travail de la Société et de ses membres au cours des 75 dernières années. Non seulement certains de ces projets feront partie de la 75e réunion annuelle, mais il y aura des projets tout au long de l'année. Un des projets proposés consiste à réimprimer le livre de I.L. Conners *Plant Pathology in Canada* sur CD en y ajoutant un supplément couvrant la période de 1972 à aujourd'hui. On envisage la parution d'un numéro spécial du CJPP pour des articles de colloque traitant de la phytopathologie comme science au Canada (passée, présente et future) ainsi que pour la réimpression d'articles importants ou d'articles de fond. Au cours des séances de la réunion annuelle, un court historique et l'impact canadien du thème de la séance seront présentés. Celles-ci seront complémentaires à la Séance plénière et à une discussion au sujet de la survie du pathologiste prévue pendant la réunion annuelle. Le Sous-comité des archives du CES travaille à la rédaction d'articles historiques sur la phytopathologie, sur la SCP et sur quelques-uns de ses membres qui se sont signalés au niveau régional ou national Nous avons lancé, à tous les membres émérites, une invitation spéciale à participer à la réunion et la réponse est excellente à ce jour. Ce sera l'occasion de revoir de vieux copains ou de rencontrer des phytopathologistes que l'on vous a décrits comme des leaders de la phytopathologie au Canada. Quoi qu'il en soit, il y en aura pour tous les goûts.

Comme je commence à préparer l'ordre du jour pour l'Assemblée générale annuelle, je vous invite à suggérer des points sur lesquels vous aimeriez qu'il y ait discussion. Si vous préférez les porter à l'attention du Conseil plutôt que de les voir discuter à la réunion annuelle, sentez-vous libre de le faire. J'ai toujours su que notre Société étaient composée de membres très dévoués et actifs, ce qui s'est confirmé pendant mon séjour au Conseil. Notre Société possède un large éventail de membres avec une multitude de talents et c'est un plaisir de les voir à l'oeuvre. Le défi est d'assurer une participation continue, d'attirer de nouveaux membres et de tracer des plans pour l'avenir. Ainsi, si vous avez une idée sur la façon d'améliorer les services aux membres ou la discipline que nous avons choisie, faites-nous en part.

<< *Le défi est d'assurer une participation continue, d'attirer de nouveaux membres et de tracer des plans pour l'avenir.*>>

Je vous encourage à visiter le site Web de la CPS-SCP. Greg Boland a procédé à une refonte du site qui a fière allure. Elle devrait être effective au moment où le bulletin d'information sera imprimé; jetez-y un coup d'oeil. Nous devons une fière chandelle à Greg pour son excellent boulot comme webmestre de notre site au cours des dernières années.

J'espérais profiter de mes voyages en service commandé pour participer aux réunions régionales de la SCP, mais ce ne fut pas possible. J'espère que ces groupes réalisent que les coûts des voyages, à partir d'endroits éloignés comme Charlottetown, pour assister à toutes les réunions seraient prohibitifs pour la Société. Je suis content que des membres du Conseil aient pu être présents à la plupart des réunions pour représenter la Société. Ces réunions régionales sont enrichissantes et, en tant que Société, nous devons tout faire pour en assurer la continuation. Les membres doivent être proactifs dans les quelques régions où l'activité est faible. Il est à noter qu'une tentative fut faite pour organiser une réunion régionale dans la région de l'Atlantique, mais que des problèmes de déplacement n'ont permis qu'à une poignée de membres de participer à une réunion conjointe avec la Société canadienne d'agronomie. J'espère que l'occasion de réunir des membres se représentera dans le courant de la prochaine année.

Au plaisir de se rencontrer à Ottawa.....du 13 au 16 juin.

The Canadian Phytopathological Society
75th Anniversary - Annual meeting

la Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie
Congrès annuel - 75ème anniversaire

June 13-16 juin, 2004, Crowne Plaza, Ottawa

Shaping the Future Façonner l'avenir

The Canadian Phytopathological Society is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2004. Come and help us to celebrate this historic event and the advancements made in our discipline. A Special Events Committee (SPEC) was formed in July, 2002, to assist with planning and conducting events, activities and celebrations associated with this special annual meeting. We want to highlight our accomplishments over these many years and also to look at what will shape the future. We have planned several scientific sessions and also invited key decision makers to come to talk to us. SPEC has invited many emeritus members of the society to attend and their response has been very enthusiastic. This should be a unique opportunity to reminisce about what we have done and to put on our visionary hats. See http://cps-scp-conference.org for more information about the meeting.

Location:
Hotel Crowne Plaza, 101 rue Lyon Street, Ottawa, ON (K1R 5T9)

For Hotel Reservations:
(613) 237-3600 or 1.800.2CROWNE
Book online at http://www.crowneottawa.ca/.
The number of blocked rooms at $129 (single or double occupancy, $10 for additional occupants) is limited so book as early as possible (deadline May 13th, 2004).

Registration:
$300 for regular members registering early. Register at http://cps-scp-conference.org.

En 2004, la société canadienne de phytopathologie célèbre son 75ème anniversaire. Venez nous aider à célébrer cet événement historique et les progrès réalisés dans notre discipline. Un comité d'événements spéciaux (CES) a été formé au mois de juillet 2002 pour aider à la planification, l'organisation des événements et des activités pour cette réunion annuelle de jubilé. Nous voulons mettre l'accent sur nos réalisations à travers ces nombreuses années mais aussi regarder comment façonner l'avenir. Nous avons planifié plusieurs sessions scientifiques et nous avons également invité certains décideurs importants à venir nous parler. Le CES a invité beaucoup de membres honoraires de la société et leur réponse a été très enthousiaste. Ceci devrait être une occasion unique de se rappeler de ce que nous avons fait et de discuter de notre vision pour l'avenir. Pour plus amples renseignements consultez notre adresse internet : http://cps-scp-conference.org.

L'endroit :
L'hôtel Crowne Plaza, 101 rue Lyon Street, Ottawa, ON (K1R 5T9)
Pour la réservation :
Tél.: (613) 237-3600 ou1.800.2CROWNE
Site internet: http://www.crowneottawa.ca/.
Le nombre de chambres réservées au prix de 129 $ (par personne plus 10$ pour une personne additionnelle) est limité. Faites votre réservation avant le 13 mai 2004 pour bénéficier de ce tarif.

Inscription :
$300 pour les membres réguliers. Au site internet : http://cps-scp-conference.org.

Program at a glance:
Sunday June 13th
10:00 am Registration desk opens
2:00 pm Plenary Session, Ballroom B/C
Historical and Future Perspectives of Plant Pathology
6:00 pm Opening Reception, Grand Salon

Monday June 14th
9:00 am Symposium I, Ballroom B/C
Managing Diseases and Respecting the Environment
1:30 pm Ballroom B/C
Contributed paper student competition
evening Graduate Student Social

Tuesday June 15th
9:00 am Contributed Papers, Ballroom B,C
10:30 am Poster session
1:30 pm Symposium II
Shaping the Future
7:00 pm Anniversary Banquet

Wednesday June 16th
8:00 am Breakfast and Business meeting
10:00 am Contributed papers
noon End of Meeting

17-19 June
Fungal identification course
http://res2.agr.gc.ca/ecorc/fungi/04_e.htm

Abstracts:
Deadline for submission April 23rd.
Send by e-mail to cps-75-abstract@agr.gc.ca.

What to do in Ottawa:
Many monuments, historical buildings, museums, and other popular tourist locations are within walking distance of the hotel. The city has close to 200 km of bicycle trails. You can find more at the following web sites:
http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca/index_e.asp
http://www.ottawatourism.ca

Le programme :
Dimanche 13 juin
10h00 : Ouverture du bureau d'inscription
14h00 : La session plénière, salle de Bal B/C.
Historique et les perspectives futures de la pathologie végétale
18h00 : Réception de bienvenue, au Grand Salon
Lundi 14 juin
9h00 : 1er colloque, salle de Bal B/C.
La gestion des maladies en respectant l'environnement.
13h30 : dans la salle de Bal B/C
La présentation des communications scientifiques pour la compétition des étudiants
La soirée pour les étudiants
Mardi 15 juin
9h00 : La présentation des communications scientifiques
10h30 : La session des affiches
13h30 : le 2e colloque
Façonner l'avenir
19h00 : Banquet du 75e anniversaire
Mercredi 16 juin
8h00 : Petit déjeuner et assemblée générale
10h00 : La présentation des communications scientifiques
12h00 : la clôture de la réunion annuelle
17 au 19 juin
Cours sur l'identification des champignons
http://res2.agr.gc.ca/ecorc/fungi/04_f.htm

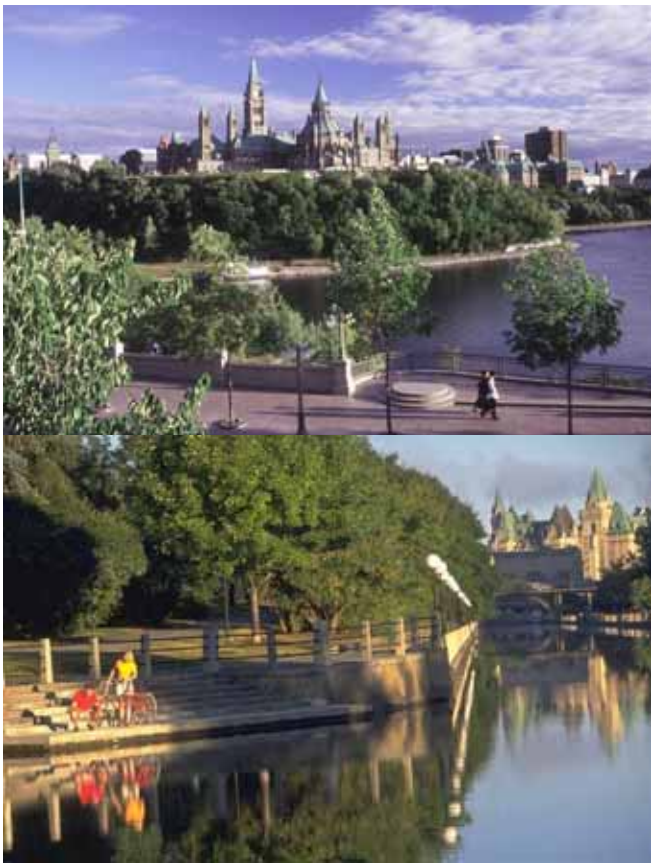
Les résumés :
Le 23 avril 2004 est la date limite pour soumettre les résumés.
Envoyez vos résumés à l'adresse suivante: cps-75-abstract@agr.gc.ca

Quoi faire à Ottawa :
Plusieurs monuments, édifices et musées historiques et autres sites touristiques situés tout près de l'hôtel. La ville d'Ottawa a presque 200 km de pistes cyclables.

Consultez les sites internets :
http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca/index_e.asp
http://www.ottawatourism.ca

CPS-75-SCP, KW Neatby, 960 Carling Ave.,
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0C6,
tel: 613-759-1798, fax: 613-759-1701

http:// cps-scp-conference.org
cps-75scp@agr.gc.ca



Parliament Buildings (top) and Rideau canal (bottow), Ottawa, Ont. (Photographer Pierre St Jacques).

Crowne Plaza Hotel (Photographer Pierre St Jacques).

The Canadian Phytopathological Society, Inc.
La Societe Canadienne de Phytopathologie Inc.

Proposed Amendment to the By-Laws

Notice of Motion

"The governing Board of the Canadian Phytopathological Society wishes to bring forward a motion at the Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held in Ottawa, Ontario on June 16, 2004, to approve the attached amendments of the CPS By-Laws, in accordance with By-Law XVII, Section 1. Members are notified that they may vote in favour of or against adopting each of the proposed amendments at the AGM."

The proposed change to the CPS By-Laws are as follows:

II: Provincial Societies, Regional Groups and Regional Representatives
General Responsibilities and Activities of Regional Representatives

Current By-Law States:
7. An amount, not normally exceeding $50.00 annually, shall be available to Regional Groups for promoting regional activities. The Board may approve a larger amount following consideration of the merits of the request on an individual basis.

Proposed Change:
7. An amount, not normally exceeding $150.00 annually, shall be available to Regional Groups for promoting regional activities. The Board may approve a larger amount following consideration of the merits of the request on an individual basis. The extra funds will only be sent to the Regional Group following an itemized expense report to the CPS treasurer.

XIII Affiliation

Current By-Law States:
The Society shall be an associate member of the International Society for Plant Pathology

Proposed Change:
The Society shall be an associate member of the International Society for Plant Pathology
The Society shall be a member of Plant Canada

La Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie Inc.
The Canadian Phytopathological Society, Inc.

Propositions d'amendement aux Règlements

Avis de motion

« En conformité avec le Règlement XVII, Section 1, le Conseil d'administration de la Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie présentera une motion à l'Assemblée générale annuelle de la Société qui se tiendra à Ottawa, Ontario, le 16 juin 2004 pour faire approuver les amendements ci-joints modifiant les règlements de la SCP. Les membres sont avisés qu'ils peuvent voter pour ou contre l'adoption de chacun des amendements proposés à l'AGA. »

Les modifications proposées aux Règlements de la SCP sont les suivantes :

II : Sociétés provinciales, Groupes régionaux et Représentants régionaux
Responsabilités générales et activités des Représentants régionaux

Règlement actuel :
7. Une somme ne devant normalement pas dépasser 50 $ par année doit être mise à la disposition des Groupes régionaux pour favoriser la tenue d'activités régionales. Le Conseil d'administration peut accorder, sur une base individuelle, une somme plus élevée en considération de la valeur d'une demande.

Règlement proposé :
7. Une somme ne devant normalement pas dépasser 150 $ par année doit être mise à la disposition des Groupes régionaux pour favoriser la tenue d'activités régionales. Le Conseil d'administration peut accorder, sur une base individuelle, une somme plus élevée en considération de la valeur d'une demande. Les fonds supplémentaires ne seront versés au Groupe régional que sur réception, par le trésorier de la SCP, d'un rapport de dépenses détaillé.

XIII Affiliation

Règlement actuel :
La Société doit être membre associé de l'*International Society for Plant Pathology*

Règlement proposé :
La Société doit être membre associé de l'*International Society for Plant Pathology*
La Société doit être membre de *Plant Canada*

Canadian Phytopathological Society

75th Anniversary - Reminiscences

Reminiscences

Lloyd N. Chiykowski

The President's invitation to reminisce about my experiences regarding plant pathology and the Society has proven to be an interesting mental exercise. I doubt that the Society and I sharing the same year of birth qualifies as one such experience, but it does open the door to the question of why or how, many of us chose, or dare I say it, stumbled upon a career in this discipline. When a fellow entomology student at the University of Manitoba was asked why he had chosen Entomology he jokingly responded, "because the registration line was shorter than the one for Engineering". My career choice proved somewhat puzzling to my family and friends. They were impressed when, following a year in the labour force after graduating from high school, I decided to enter university. They were even more impressed when I said I was going to study Entomology. The significance of what I was about to do, however, soon lost all its value when I explained the meaning of the word—bugs! And why did I choose Entimology? Simply put, two of my friends impressed me with a story about an entomologist at the research lab in Winnipeg who had this very important job and got to drive a government car. I'm sure my soon-to-be wife, Alice, must have had some serious doubts about my field of study when, in the first year of my Master's program, we had to set our wedding date based on the period between two generations of the onion maggot. I'm sure there are many members of the Society whose career choices were based on a wide range of weird and wonderful circumstances, but in the end I believe we are pleased with the course we have taken.

How a graduate from the University of Wisconsin with a major in Entomology and a minor in Plant Pathology eventually reached the dizzy heights of the presidency of this august Society may also seem to require some sort of explanation.

Arriving in Ottawa as a newly minted Research Scientist in June 1958, I joined a group of economic entomologists in the Division of Entomology in the Science Service of the Canada Department of Agriculture. Although basically an entomologist, my graduate studies also had included plant diseases that were transmitted by leafhoppers. Since no one in the group had any interest in plant diseases, I found myself somewhat isolated when it came to exchanging ideas—especially those dealing with epidemiology.

Fortunately, the situation changed the following year when I experienced the first reorganization of my career; the amalgamation of the Science Service Branch and the Experimental Farm Services to form the Research Branch. The main emphasis of the change was to develop and coordinate the Department's research programs on a problem rather than a discipline basis. The result was the formation of a number of institutes made up of research staff from various disciplines. I became a member of the Plant Research Institute (PRI), joining a group of scientists, mainly plant pathologists, whose research involved the epidemiology of plant diseases. The group was headed by John Slykhuis who was already well-known for his work on cereal disease transmission by leafhoppers and mites. Little did I realize that this move was a precursor to the changes that would go on for the next 30 years. This submersion of an entomologist in a pool of plant pathologists (no pun intended) led to my membership in the Society in 1962 and was the start of a close working relationship with pathologists throughout my career.

In 1967, a merger of PRI with the Microbiology Research Institute led to the formation of the Cell Biology Research Institute (CBRI) with "the common purpose of studying the living processes of cells in general". Three years later, the Phytopathology Section and John Slykhuis from Virology were transferred to the Ottawa Research Station (ORS). The remaining virologists, together with two scientists from

the Biochemistry Section, now became the Host-Parasite Relationship Section. Further amalgamation in 1971 with the Analytical Chemistry Research Service resulted in the Chemistry and Biology Research Institute (still CBRI). Have I lost anyone yet?

Stability reigned supreme until 1985 when the Plant Research Centre (PRC) came into being with staff coming from parts CBRI and ORS. Centre (as in Centre of Excellence) at this point had become the 'in' word and Institute was 'out'. Although I cannot remember which reorganization was involved, the following anecdote serves as an example of how quickly changes could occur.

After arriving home early from a scientific meeting one December, Alice and I decided to go to our Institute's Christmas Party. When we arrived, some of my colleagues expressed surprise at seeing us. I explained that I had returned from my trip earlier than expected and decided it would be nice to join the festivities. Their reply was, "We didn't know you had been away but we are surprised to see you here because you're no longer a member of this Institute". I had only been gone four days!

The last reorganization to affect me occurred in 1991. By this time I had survived the system for 33 years, had injected approximately 160,000 leafhoppers with a number of different phytoplasmas, and used some 135,000 aster, 34,000 clover, and 19,000 celery plants in my research. Not sure I could survive the excitement generated by still another change, I opted for early retirement and a new in career—the study of plant and insect pests of golf courses! Although my 'paper' location changed many times, my 'physical' location remained the same for 32 years—old Building #73. Somewhat decrepit in shape but labeled, 'the building with the old-world charm', by Tony Ludwig, our Director-of-the-week at that time, the building had two great features. First, it offered an unobstructed view (five windows) of the Arboretum, and secondly, it was far removed from the administration office. A year following my retirement the building was also retired (read demolished) and the site converted to a lawn with a park bench (sans plaque).

The highlight of my career was, without doubt, my term as President of this Society in 1988-89. It was a truly rewarding experience that not only allowed me to meet and work with pathologists with a wide range of interests, but also to more fully appreciate the effort and dedication of our members.

I sincerely thank you, the Society members, for allowing me this honour and wish you good fortune and much success in the years ahead.

Lloyd N. Chiykowski

Ups and downs in the search for resistance in crops' progenitors

In my early days as graduate student in Plant Pathology I was inspired by my supervisor, the late Prof. Isaac Wahl, to search for disease resistance in *Avena sterilis* (wild oats), the progenitor of oats. Eager of traveling, I have cris-crossed our small country and collected seed of wild oats. Very soon, the great idea materialized. I had the opportunity to go for pre-doctoral visit and studies in Winnipeg, Manitoba, to have first-hand encounter with the leading Canadian specialists in breeding disease resistant cereals: Profs. T. Johnson, Gordon J. Green, D.J. Samborski and others. Among

Z. Gerechter-Amitai, I. Wahl, and A. Dinoor collecting *Avena sterilis* near Beit Dagan, Israel, May 1964

the 200 accessions of wild oats that I brought with me from Israel, I found several lines with complete resistance to important races of oat crown and stem rusts. Later on, back in Israel, I made an intensive collection of wild oats, tested them for resistance and came across quite a number of lines, resistant to races 264 and 276. A 'gold-mine' for oat-breeders was just around the corner everywhere. Dr. H.C. Murphy, leader of oat research in the USDA, came for a visit to see the 'gold-mine' *in vivo*. Naive as I was, I took him around to show him, not only the great performance of wild oats but also the severe destruction that crown rust can cause in wild oats. This was just 'shooting at my legs', because he and Prof. Wahl, were quite surprised and very embarrassed. But this was not sufficient to “release the coin” and understand nature. Years later, one of my first Ph.D. students, was assigned to study natural populations of wild oats and crown rust. He did not go very far. Rust isolates that he collected from natural populations of wild oats, were virulent to the wild oats of the same locations. The brilliant dream collapsed, the frustrated student moved to business administration, and I was left with the unfulfilled dream. It took several years of stubborn studies by another student, the late Dr. Nava Eshed, and by me, to suddenly be hit by the lightning of understanding: “there is no prophet in his own town” it says in the old bible. We found it in wild oats and crown rust, wild barley and powdery mildew and wild wheat and powdery mildew. Local plants are not resistant to local pathogens; they are though, very resistant to alien pathogens and races that they have not encountered before. Locally, a dynamic equilibrium is being established, controlled by the environment, whereby plants can endure the impact of epidemics. The environment is harnessing the pathogens, where there is no harnessing, the wild plants cannot survive.

Amos Dinoor,
Faculty of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Quality Sciences,
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
Rehovot Campus
Israel

Amos Dinoor

Reminiscences
Submitted by
J.W. Martens

June 7, 1955 was a great day for me; it was the day I became part of the team at the Winnipeg "Rust Lab," an event that would shape all of my professional life, leading to lasting friendships, discoveries in science and high adventure. Dr. W.E. Sackston (Wally), that venerable pillar of the Canadian Phytopathological Society, was my first supervisor, mentor and life-long friend. Were it not for the support and encouragement of Wally, Dr. W.C. McDonald and Dr. T. Johnson, I might never have become a research scientist.

J.W. Martens

Those were the "golden years" of what was later to become the Research Branch of Agriculture Canada. Even at the technician level, I felt part of the team; to be part of that group was a privilege and an honour. We had excellent relations with growers, the public and industry; germ plasm for crop improvement was considered "public domain" – shared more or less freely worldwide, even across Cold War borders – science was the servant of society and cultivar registration was based on merit.

Wally's area of research was diseases of sunflowers and flax so I learned about those first hand: rust and rust races, leaf spots, rots, *verticillium* wilt and aster yellows virus. The late-summer-fall disease surveys were sometimes cold, wet and miserable but most often more like fun than work. Wally taught me all about Koch's postulates on a disease survey. He also taught me about Dr. Reginald Buller, the history of the Rust Lab and the celebrated scientists that had worked there. He was in the habit of introducing me to visitors coming to our laboratory. I remember meeting Drs. W.F. Hanna, K.W. Neatby, J.C. Woodward and a number of foreign visitors. On one occasion, he introduced me to a certain Dr. Bell from Rothamsted. I shook his hand and then, astonished, said "Rothamsted?! May I shake your hand again. Your Institution conducted the first known crop fertilizer experiments over 150 years ago!" Wally was not upset.

When Wally went to Macdonald Campus of McGill University, Bill McDonald became my supervisor. He made several important contributions to my career. Bill was very supportive but on one point we disagreed. By this time I was nearing the end of my part-time bachelors degree. I asked him if I could continue as his technician, slowly working away at a Master's degree. His answer was decisive. "No, what you need to do is go to an Ivy League American University that has many experts in the various subdivisions of plant pathology – and stay there until you have completed your thesis. Not only will you be taught by experts but you will also meet students from many countries." This was some of the best advice I have ever received. Dr. T. Johnson, the Director at the time, also become involved. He told me that there is strength in diversity, that the Lab had a preponderance of University of Minnesota graduates and that I should consider places other than Minnesota. I listened, and with the help of alumnus Bill McDonald, was accepted at the University of Wisconsin. I am very grateful fora really good experience at Wisconsin; it was like Bill said it would be.

Following Graduate School, I became a part of the oat improvement team at Winnipeg with responsibility for stem rust and subsequently Project Leader for the wheat improvement team. The highlights of the period were:

- the "moments of discovery" and the completion of research and cultivar development projects as signalled by the acceptance of manuscripts for publication or the acceptance of cultivars for registration
- the botanical expeditions to the Middle East and Africa with Drs. Rajhathy and Fedak, in search of germ plasm for crop improvement
- the development of an international system of nomenclature for the

cereal stem rust with Dr. Alan Roelfs, USDA
- being part of the creation of the CPS/APS Glenn Anderson Lectureship on World Food Security and the successful nomination of colleagues for recognition
- the completion of the revised *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* with Drs. Atkinson and Seaman and scores of cooperators
- being elected President of the Canadian Phytopathological Society, and being elected a Fellow of the Society
- the wheat improvement project in East Africa and a year with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in New Zealand
- being part of the little "CPS that could" in hosting the International Congress of Plant Pathology in Montreal
- participating in the XII International Botanical Congress in St. Petersburg (then Leningrad) in 1975. Travelling to Russia was of particular personal importance, as my father had been the Director of the Veselo Ternoweka Professional School of Agriculture in Krivoy Rog District, South Russia. The paper was "The Collection, Utilization and Preservation of Wild Avena Species from Africa, the Mediterranean and the Middle East" by Martens, McKenzie and Rajahathy. The executive summary was that Agriculture Canada considered this germ plasm the heritage of humankind and was making it freely available to anyone in the world that wanted it. This presentation had to be the best I was capable of; Reg Simms and Alex Holowko of the Winnipeg Lab helped me with illustrated Russian/English slides. The lecture hall was large and full. To my left were large portraits of Marx, Engels and Lenin, under my podium was a large portrait of Nikolai Ivanovitch Vavilov, the great Russian scientist. The applause following the presentation was the warmest I have received in my whole career. No one else in the session had used Russian slides. Dr. Walt Hagborg, from the Winnipeg Lab, was in the audience. He said that at that moment he was proud to be Canadian!

In reviewing my career, I became keenly aware of my indebtedness to colleagues who did so much to make it a great experience. The Winnipeg Rust Lab group was very special. The pathologists and plant breeders at the Universities of Manitoba and Saskatchewan and those at Agriculture Canada in Saskatoon, Swift Current and Regina were especially helpful, as were Drs. Richard Hamilton, Vancouver, Tom Atkinson, Lethbridge, Tibor Rajhathy, George Fedak and Lloyd Seaman, Ottawa.

Internationally, I found the professors at the University of Wisconsin and the scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture among the most generous in the world. They gave freely of their best plant germ plasm, advice and cooperation. Dr. Alan Roelfs, USDA, St. Paul, my closest collaborator, was superb! At CIMMYT, it was Drs. Glenn Anderson and Gene Saari and Norman Borlaug. In Turkey, it was Dr. Ayla Sencer and at the Nordic Gene Bank in Sweden it was Ebbe Kjellquist. And there were many more in Africa, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, South America, the Middle East, and Eastern and Western Europe – great persons all. Without them, my story would be greatly diminished.

I close with a highlight of more recent times. In 2003, I was invited to the CPS meeting in Montreal for the launch of the revised *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada.* Not only have the Editors and members of the Society raised the bar for academic excellence, inviting format and user friendliness, but they have produced something significantly better than we were able to do two decades ago. An excellent expression of science as a servant of society is found in their preface: "The Canadian Phytopathological Society was anxious to ensure that *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* retained its modest price and remained accessible to students and farmers." What a splendid attitude! May this continue to be a guiding philosophy.

Ventures in Plant Pathology
by
Blair MacNeill

Many years ago as an undergraduate at Acadia University, I noted in my diary an item that had appeared in the local newspaper. This article reported that a new disease had appeared in eastern Canada that was likely to be a serious threat to our great American elm. Little did I realize that within just a few years I would be fending off inquires from distraught homeowners who were losing their favourite ornamental tree from Dutch Elm Disease. As I recall, my customers were not very happy when I suggested that their trees were essentially a lost cause.

Most of my ventures in plant pathology have been just that – not planned but rather a response to a problem that dropped into my lap. To a large extent I have my graduate students to thank for that since it often was an inquiry from one of them that prompted an investigation into a specific problem area. Of course, growers and farmers also helped me focus on what I should investigate and/or teach. In my early days at the Ontario Agricultural College, now the University of Guelph, annual outbreaks of a virus disease in both field and glasshouse tomatoes opened the way for a study of "double virus streak". This disease results from synergism between TMV and Potato Virus X. One of my students found that the sequence in which these two viruses infect the plant determines the severity of the streak disease, an interesting example, perhaps of cross-protection between *unrelated* viruses. At about this time I was pleased to receive a note from the late Professor Vanterpool; he'd heard of our work and wrote to say that, in his early years, he also had initiated a study into streak but circumstances changed for him and he didn't have the opportunity to resolve it. He wished us luck!

Sometimes a research program at a university is undertaken only when the right student comes along to do the work. I'm thinking now of the days when research grants were very small and where there might not always be a critical mass of senior investigators on the staff of the institution. Some of the students that I could name who did outstanding work and helped me venture into several new research fields, are men and women who are the backbone of research and extension in Canada today. You will recognize many of them, I'm sure. I'll mention only a few: Jim Menzies and Karen Bailey who worked on specialization in powdery mildew of wheat; Ron Pitblado and Jim Dick on pathogenic strains and host resistance in the tomato- *Pseudomonas* complex; Nancy Nickerson with *Exobasidium* on blueberry; Karen Bedford with *Pseudomonas syringae* on Mutsu apple; Lorne Stobbs and graft-inoculation of TMV resistant tomatoes; Mary Boxall and the host-passage phenomenon with TMV in tomato; George Barron on avirulence in prototrophs of *Penicillium expansum* on apple; Janice Bartels-Schooley on the modes of action of the benzimidazoles fungicides; Cathy McKay on the sensitivity of field populations of *Venturia inaequalis* to dodine . As you might expect, the advanced courses that I taught were often built around the problem-solving techniques that these students demonstrated, much to the benefit of other students, undergraduate and postgraduate alike.

Blair MacNeill

We all are proud of our CPS NEWS; how difficult it would be to keep contact with our colleagues across the country without the timely distribution of this publication. The genesis of this bulletin is somewhat obscure, at least to me. But for what it's worth let me relate one possibility. One day over coffee, George Barron and I were reminiscing about some of our friends from postgraduate days, wondering where they were and what they were doing. Shortly after, we decided to mail out a questionnaire to those whose addresses we knew, requesting some general information and a little update on their careers. We promised to assemble the replies on a couple of mimeographed pages and distribute them to the responders. Except for one scientist who objected to us making this "unofficial"

inquiry unto his personal affairs, we received a number of very informative replies. Not long after this Guelph venture, Dr. Skolko, the Coordinator for Plant Pathology in Agricultrure Canada, became the editor of what we now know as the NEWS. And this time it was with the blessing of CPS! Since then, a succession of editors has assured that we have a very successful publication, so much so that today it rates an important line item in our budget. No more smudged mimeographed bulletins for us!

Now I'd like to say a few words about the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology – *our* Journal. Dr. C.D. McKeen who pioneered this publication and served as its first Editor, suggested to me one day that I should take his place as editor since he'd had a long stint with the Journal and was looking forward to new ventures. One of his retirement projects, as many of you may know, is the regeneration of the American sweet chestnut in southern Ontario and beyond. For most of us that would be an even greater challenge than establishing a new journal! In my days as editor, we had a number of invited reviewers but no specialized editorial staff to take responsibility for the manuscripts, and as I had feared, the job soon proved to be very heavy. But with the help of Technical Editor Lloyd Seaman and many other dedicated reviewers, the Journal survived my 10-year tenure. I should tell you that on one occasion I was especially rewarded for our efforts; you see, an author actually wrote to me saying that, because of the editorial work of the journal staff, the final draft of his paper was even better now that as originally submitted. What an admission, but what a compliment!

Today, I regret to say, I find that plant pathology is almost an alien science – even the vocabulary has changed from the early days, largely because our discipline has broadened to include so many ancillary sciences. Accordingly, I hear very little about field problems and how to resolve them. When my rhubarb gets sick I have no extension officers to turn to; my seven apple trees are covered with scab and I can't buy a domestic-use fungicide that will control it; my wife's geraniums are being devastated by a rust and in my ignorance I blame the supplier for bringing in a new pathogenic race on the cuttings. *Now, if only I could persuade a couple of ambitious graduate students to venture into these problem areas, I'm sure we'd get some answers....*

Phytopathological Reflections
Ronald E. Wall

Congratulations to the CPS on its 75th anniversary. I can't recall 75 years of history but have fleeting glimpses of the past fifty. It is amazing to think of the changes during that time. The world population has more than doubled, from about 2.5 billion to over 6 billion. The past half-century has seen logarithmic development in the fields of nuclear energy, transportation, computer technology, space exploration, deep-sea exploration, genetics and biochemistry. In agriculture and forestry, scientific advances have enabled mass production of food and fibre and caused dramatic changes in the quality of rural life. In plant pathology, the types of diseases have changed. We have seen the growth and decline of the organic pesticide industry. Biological controls went through a period of low popularity but are now receiving serious attention. Biotechnology has opened exciting new vistas and also raised some serious questions.

Our lives are shaped by the times in which we live and we have probably lived through the most prosperous era in the history of western civilization. So it was perhaps not unusual that in the 1950's I was able, unlike previous generations, to complete high school and go on to college. A farm background led to Guelph, where Professor Blair MacNeill inspired an interest in plant pathology. During graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin, I became involved in forest pathology. After graduate school, I was employed by Agriculture Canada at Harrow and a few years later transferred to the Canadian Forest Service.

The first issue of CPS NEWS in my possession is dated July 1965. It is interesting to look through these newsletters and note the changes in Canadian plant pathologists. The late '60's issues of the NEWS give the impression of a close-knit

group, mainly Agriculture Canada employees, mainly war veterans and mostly University of Toronto graduates. As we move into the '70's, the NEWS depicts a more diverse but also a more fractious, navel-gazing group that questions our existence as an entity separate from APS, on one hand, or from other Canadian biological groups on the other. Perhaps it was part of the age-old battle between the lumpers and the splitters but it may also have been part of the general identity crisis that pervaded the nation at that time. More recent issues of the NEWS give the impression of more enthusiasm and more influence by pathologists on Canadian science and agriculture.

The first four paragraphs of the November 1965 issue of CPS NEWS, entitled "On the Organization of Research" hit a responsive chord at the time, since I believed freedom of enquiry to be a basic requirement for good research. It is ironic that research management has grown considerably since that time and research departments have been in a constant state of reorganization, combined with lab closures, budget cuts, and hiring freezes. At the same time, however, scientific research appears to be expanding in the universities.

In the late '60's, I had the opportunity to move west and follow up on trunk-rots of aspen, a favored field of enquiry acquired during graduate studies. This lasted for four years, during which time some light was shed on the underlying causes of within-stand variation in trunk-rot incidence. Then reorganization caught up with us, resulting in a move to the Maritimes to work on reforestation problems. The pathological problems encountered in reforestation varied considerably but were interesting and challenging, requiring constant on-the-job learning. I was able to provide some much-needed help in the production of healthy nursery stock for planting and to show the need for some silvicultural modifications to reduce the impact of disease in forest plantations. In addition, I began looking for phytopathological and other logical insights (as well as publishable material) in the "new forest," often dubbed the "nude forest" - a mix of logging wastes, stumps, tree seedlings and other vegetation. This transient ecosystem eventually provided a few ideas for biological controls of competing vegetation. In order to carry on this work, I joined a new program in Victoria on biological controls of forest weeds.

The 1990's brought in another exciting new era for scientists – the era of commercialization. Industrial partners and patents became high fashion. Promising areas of research became major breakthroughs and small collaborative efforts became bandwagons. Latin binomials appeared so frequently in newspapers that some readers might have imagined themselves in a time warp back to Caesar's time. But no, it was not Caesar's time, it was almost past my time and time to retire. Since retirement, science has continued unabated. How do I know? I read the CPS NEWS.

Being a Canadian plant pathologist has been a very rewarding experience but I believe that the past 50 years have been easy compared to the challenges facing plant pathology and related disciplines in the future. We need more – not fewer – scientists with the broad perspectives developed through the study of plant pathology.

Ronald E. Wall

Early Canadian Plant Pathologists

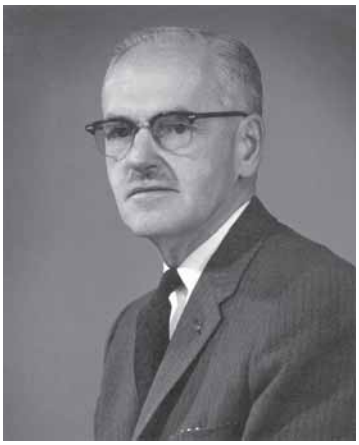
As mentioned in the December 2003 newsletter, the Archives subcommittee of the Ad Hoc Special Event Committee for the 75th anniversary of the CPS is charged with compiling and publishing articles on the history and development of plant pathology in Canada. The subcommittee has asked for interested people to submit articles detailing some of the significant people and events in plant pathology over the last 75 years. The members of the committee would like to thank those who have taken the time to share their knowledge of the early years and the people who shaped the science and our society. The first few of what we hope will become a large series of articles follows.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with this project. If you are interested in writing such an article please contact Jim Menzies @ jmenzies@agr.gc.ca.

William Laurence Gordon

Dr. William Laurence (Larry) Gordon was born in Lachute, Quebec in 1901. He graduated from Macdonald College (McGill University) with B.S.A and M.Sc degrees, in 1922 and 1924, respectively. Early in his career, he worked on white pine blister rust for a summer as a Plant Disease Investigator in British Columbia. After joining the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory (Cereal Research Centre, Winnipeg) in 1925, he studied physiologic specialization in oat stem rust, research which ultimately earned him his Ph.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1932. In the same year, under increasing concern because of the frequency of isolations from diseased roots of cereal crops, he was asked to undertake a study of the taxonomy of the genus *Fusarium*. This was to form the basis of his life's work for which he became internationally recognized. He developed a system to circumvent the problems associated with the characteristic instability of germplasm in the genus, maintaining taxonomic types by repeated single-spore propagation and selection.

Gordon favoured the taxonomic system of Wollenweber and Reinking over the reductionist system of Snyder and Hansen; his work was a major influence on Colin Booth (1925-2003) who was starting his career at the International Mycological Institute at Kew, west London. Gordon devised a method for obtaining the teleomorphs of isolates by producing perithecia in culture (wheat straw in water in glass jars). Booth spent a year's sabbatical working with Gordon and described the teleomorphs that Gordon obtained. Booth's book, The Genus Fusarium (1971), remains a standard text on these plant pathogens.



W.L. Gordon

Gordon had the good fortune to spend time with A.H.R. Buller and G.R. Bisby, foremost mycology and plant pathology researchers in the early years of the University of Manitoba. It was Buller's efforts to initiate a significant research program in plant pathology in western Canada which culminated in the establishment of the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory. Gordon's frequent rambles with Bisby around the College and to Victoria Beach, and the fall weekend mycological forays to Kenora on Lake of the Woods which Buller organized, paint a picture of a work environment very different from that of today. However, the relaxed atmosphere belies the thoroughness with which Gordon approached his work. He published a series of 6 papers on the distribution and identity of *Fusarium* in Canada reflecting studies that covered the years 1932 to 1959. He also published two papers on *Fusarium* species in Trinidad and in tropical and subtropical countries. After his death in 1963, it fell to W.M.C. McDonald, later director of the Winnipeg Research Station, to complete the final manuscript and to close down the project. Some of Gordon's collection of more than 5000 isolates of *Fusarium* were taken by the

American Type Culture Collection and the University of California. In Canada, the process of starting a collection of fungi had begun, but facilities were still being constructed in Ottawa and without adequate labour and space much of the collection was lost. In light of the devastation to the grain industry in Manitoba caused by fusarium head blight since 1993, it is ironic that so much valuable information on the genus was lost due to a housing shortage 40 years ago.

Submitted by Dr. Jeannie Gilbert with information from:
Keith Seifert, W.M.C. McDonald, WG Hagborg, T. Johnson, and I.L. Conners Ed. 1972. Plant Pathology in Canada. Canadian Phytopathological Society. University of Manitoba. Winnipeg.

Dr. A. W. Henry

Dr. Arthur Wellesley Henry (1896-1988) was born in Fredericton, NB. He earned his B.Sc. in 1917 and his M.Sc. in 1920 in agriculture from the University of Saskatchewan. He also instructed in field husbandry during this time. In 1923 he obtained his PhD from the University of Minnesota under the guidance of Dr Stackmann. Following graduation he was an assistant plant pathologist at the local experimental station, an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota and an agent in the USDA Office of Cereal Investigation. In 1926 he was awarded an International Education Board fellowship by the Rockefeller Foundation, which allowed him to travel to Cambridge where he spent a winter, and to the continent where he made some valuable contacts at various laboratories.

In 1927 Dr. Henry accepted a position as an assistant professor of Field Crops at the University of Alberta where he developed undergraduate courses in plant pathology, with additional courses in 1940. During his career he supervised 29 candidates for the M.Sc and one for a PhD degree. He also established a significant research program for the control of cereal seedling diseases, being one of the few crop disease specialists in Alberta. His early work into chemical seed treatments and the study of pathogen interaction with the soil microflora directly benefited farmers. Farmers who had been using formaldehyde to control seedling diseases were offered a variety of less toxic and more effective products. His studies of the suppression of soil borne pathogens by naturally occurring saprophytic microflora in the soil set the stage for a major shift in thinking about the control of soil-borne diseases. He took his research beyond the laboratory to the farmer and was instrumental in promoting crop rotations that minimized diseases. Farmers were discouraged from growing wheat after certain grasses that were also hosts to common root rot fungi. He discovered that controlling some grassy weeds reduced the serious Take-all disease of cereals. After his retirement he took an active role as a diagnostic plant pathologist in the Crop Clinic of the Alberta Department of Agriculture. His vast knowledge and experience was of invaluable importance to the agricultural industry of Alberta.

Dr. Henry - far left. ***Editor's note: Dr. Lu Piening also appears in this photo. Can you guess who he is? The first individual (besides Lu) to respond to me wins a beverage of their choice, courtesy of the CPS-SCP News Editor!***

Dr Henry was known for his unique filing system, which basically consisted of heaping papers and documents on his desk or any other flat surface. When one desk was full at the disease clinic another was brought in. He must have had a computer-like memory because he could easily retrieve any document asked for with minimal searching. Dr Henry had a wry sense of humour, which was evident by a characteristic twinkle in his eyes. This humour was not lost on colleagues who accompanied him to an APS meeting in the USA during prohibition days in Canada. To win a bet he crossed the border back into Canada carrying in his luggage a glass sealer jar of so called "fish tapeworms" which in fact was spaghetti immersed in whiskey. Students and staff use to enjoy the on going friendly academic rivalry between Dr Henry and Dr G.B. Sanford of the Dominion Lab. Needless to say this rivalry stimulated research efforts for both parties. In the summer it was not uncommon to see Dr Henry, especially on very warm days, leave with golf clubs in his car for a local golf course where his students thought he might be evaluating turf diseases.

Dr. Henry`s contributions were widely recognized. He was awarded numerous awards, such as the Alberta Achievement Award, and the CPS award for outstanding research. He was also a member of a number of professional and academic societies. In 1989 the PPSA established the A.W. Henry lectureship in his honour.

Dr. Henry was a most dedicated, disciplined and kind man. He was truly a great gentleman who with his wife befriended all his students over the years. He instilled in his students the need to examine a problem from an holistic approach. He was a meticulous researcher who helped lay the foundations for present day plant pathology.

Submitted Dr. L. J. Piening and Dr. Jill Thomson

Margaret Newton

Margaret Newton (1887-1971) was born in Quebec and after teaching school for a number of years completed her B.S.A. (1918) and M.Sc. (1919) degrees at McGill University's Macdonald College. Her M.Sc. thesis focused on the different forms within the stem rust fungus. During this time she joined the Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants and was its first woman member. She pursued doctoral research on physiological specialization of rust at the University of Saskatchewan with her former advisor from Macdonald College, W.P. Fraser, and did her course work with E.C. Stakman at the University of Minnesota. She obtained her Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1922. She was the first Canadian woman to earn a Ph.D. degree in agriculture. She was on the faculty of the University of Saskatchewan from 1922-1925 before joining the newly formed Dominion Rust Research Laboratory in Winnipeg to continue her work on physiologic specialization in the rust fungi. She initiated an annual survey of the stem rust population in Canada which revealed the race diversity in the rust population and the changes that resulted from the introduction of new wheat varieties. Along with coworkers T. Johnson and A.M. Brown she investigated the genetics of avirulence by crossing and selfing races of stem rust, and demonstrated cytoplasmic inheritance in the stem rust fungus. She published over 40 papers on cereal rusts and was an editor for Phytopathology. Dr. Newton was forced to take early retirement in 1945 due to poor health. She was the first graduate from an agricultural college to be awarded the Flavelle Medal from the Royal Society of Canada. Her outstanding contribution to plant pathology was also recognized by receiving the Outstanding Achievement

Margaret Newton

Award from the University of Minnesota in 1956, an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan in1969, and induction into the Canadian Science Hall of Fame in 1992.

Submitted by Dr. Brent McCallum

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report for 2002

The audited full treasurer's report for 2002 will be available at the CPS annual meeting in June 2004. I will also have the audited Treasurer's report for 2003. A summary of the 2002 report is published below.

For the year ended December 31, 2002, general expenses exceeded general revenues by $5,799. (For 2001, general expenses exceeded general revenues by $1,001). This was partly due to the expenses incurred with the publishing of the Diseases of Field Crops of Canada. However, I am happy to note that the CPS is doing very well with the sales of the book.

Net assets of the Society as of December 31, 2002 were $364,210. Details are as follows:

Available for general purposes
$271,579

Invested in capital assets
1,181

Best Student Presentation Award Fund
19,491

Glenn Anderson Award Fund
21,877

Graduate Student Travel Fund
12,660

Outstanding Research Award Fund
22,419

Outstanding Young Scientist Award Fund
15,003

Total $364,210

Respectfully submitted by
Dilantha Fernando
Treasurer CPS

Report of the Ad Hoc 75th Anniversary Special Events Committee

The Special Events Committee (SPEC) was formed in 2002 to assist with planning special events, activities and celebrations associated with the Society's 75th Anniversary. SPEC members formed small subcommittees representing six themes, and draft work plans were finalized and implemented for each subcommittee in 2003-04. The Archives Subcommittee assembled articles on early plant pathologists for publication in the *CPS-SCP News* and began the search for historical papers and memorabilia to display at the annual meeting. The Programs for Charter and Emeritus Members Subcommittee, through President Richard Martin, invited all charter and emeritus members of the Society to attend the 2004 annual meeting and offered complimentary registration and a small subsidy to help defray the associated costs. Over two dozen emeritus members have already responded to this invitation. Several emeritus members also provided written reminiscences to be published in the newsletter and on the website and/or presented at the annual meeting. The Displays and Commemorative Items Subcommittee initiated a project to have graduate students prepare a series of historical posters outlining the evolution if the Society from its inception to the present, as well as to recognize the 25th anniversary of the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology*. Marilyn Dykstra accepted the responsibility to coordinate the preparation of these posters. The subcommittee also worked with the 2004 Local Arrangements Committee to arrange for several commemorative items to be made available to members at the annual meeting. The Invitations, Awards and Grants-in-Aid Subcommittee worked with the LAC to invite some key decision makers to the annual meeting and with the Society's

Awards Committee to insure that a maximum numbers of awards will be presented at this year's annual meeting. The Publications Subcommittee arranged to reprint *Plant Pathology in Canada* by I.L. Conners, the Society's first book project, to commemorate the 75th anniversary. Denis Gaudet agreed to chair a committee that will be preparing a supplement to this book covering the period from 1972 to the present. The subcommittee also began working with Editor of the *CJPP* to prepare a special edition of the journal for publication in late 2004. The Symposia, Lectures and Workshops Subcommittee worked closely with the LAC and the Society's Symposium and Workshop Committee to arrange a plenary session and two symposia for the annual meeting. They also organized a "Pathologists' Survival Life Raft" debate, an entertainment event for the annual meeting banquet.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Howard (Chair), Don Harder, Carl Willis, Jim Menzies, Nathan Owen-Going, Mary Leggett, Michael Corlett, Odile Carisse, Richard Hamelin (ex-officio, Vice-President, CPS), André Lévesque (ex-officio, Chair, LAC Ottawa 2004)

Information Products Marketing

Sales of the Society's two main information products have gone well in the past year. The 3rd edition of *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* was published in June 2003 and, to date, 4,539 of the 8,000 copies printed have been distributed by the University of Saskatchewan Extension Press. While not all of the books distributed have necessarily been sold, the number far exceeds expectations for sales in the first year. Even with a diminished rate of sales in 2004-2005, a reprinting of the book may soon be necessary. Sales have been aided by articles or short items about the book in The Western Producer, Top Crop Manager, Germination Magazine, the newsletter of the Potash and Phosphate Institute of Canada, and Info-Fourrage. In addition, a dedicated group of CPS members has taken books to sell on consignment; over $30,000 has already been returned to the Society in this way.

Sales will continue to be aided by an advertisement with the Association for the Export of Canadian Books. This gives us exposure through catalogues and websites to libraries across Canada, to publishers' weekly trade magazines, and to displays at international book fairs and at conferences on Canadian Studies. Anecdotal reports indicate that the book is being well received in the U.S.A. Dr. Bob Stack, a long-standing C.P.S. member from North Dakota State University, plans to present a poster about the book and its relevance in the U.S.A. at the 2004 annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society. There are rumors that some American universities may adopt *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* as a course text.

One of the most attractive features of the book is its low price. This was made possible partly by the generous sponsorship received by CPS towards publication costs. Almost $35,000 was raised from 23 corporate, public sector or individual sponsors. The Society is greatly indebted to these sponsors.

Good progress is being made on the publication of *Maladies des Grandes Cultures au Canada*, a translation and slight updating of *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada*. The basic translation, done by Les Traductions scientifiques PaRi, will be complete by the time this report is published and further editing of the translation has already been done on many of the 22 chapters. "Slight updating" consists of correcting minor errors that have been discovered and mentioning recent findings, such as the report of club root in canola crops in Alberta in 2003. The editors' target is still to publish the book in 2004, although it may not be possible by the time of the C.P.S. annual meeting in June. A fund-raising campaign has also been underway since last August and a significant amount of support has been received from 14 sponsors to date. Considerable work has also been done on negotiating an agreement with CRAAQ (Centre de Référence en Agriculture et Agroalimentaire du Québec) to distribute the book. There is an obvious

advantage to distributing *Maladies des Grandes Cultures au Canada* though a francophone organization.

The two sister books *Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops in Canada/Maladies et Ravageurs des Cultures Légumières au Canada* have also sold well in the past year. A modest increase in sales in both languages resulted from a mailout to 570 Canadian libraries. From January 1 to October 15, 2003, 68 English and 89 French language books were sold. The remaining inventory of 895 books is mostly of English editions; at current sales rates the inventory will last 7 years for the English edition and only 1 year for the French. Discussion with our co-publisher, the Entomological Society of Canada, is underway about a small reprinting of the French edition as an interim measure. As the English and French versions were published in 1994 and 1995, respectively, both need revision.

Respectfully submitted by
Robin Morrall and Karen Bailey
on behalf of the Information Products Marketing Committee

Report of the Nominating Committee

Proposed slate of candidates for 2004-2005.

The names of proposed candidates of the Board and Standing Committees are highlighted in Bold. The remaining members are continuing or completing their terms as specified by the Society By-Laws.

CPS-SCP Board 2004-2005:
President: Richard Hamelin
President Elect: Andre Lévesque
Vice President: Bruce Gossen
Past President: Richard Martin
Treasurer: Dilantha Fernando
Secretary: Deena Erampalli
Membership Secretary: Gayle Jesperson
Senior Director: Anthony Hopkin
Junior Director: Susan Boyetchko

CPS-SCP Standing Committees 2004-2005:

i) Nominating (5 members):
Richard Martin (Chair), Karen Bailey (Retiring Past President),**Tom Hsiang, Debbie McLaren, Vicky Toussaint**

ii) Awards (5 members):
Brent McCallum (Chair), Suha Jabaji-Hare, Antonet Svircev, Mike Celetti, **Sabine Banniza**

iii) Future Meetings (3 members):
Kelly Turkington (Chair), Tony Sturtz, **Karen Bedford**

iv) Resolution (3 members):
Allen Xue (Chair), Tom Fetch, **Godfrey Chongo**

v) Science Policy (5 members):
Andre Lévesque (Chair), Randy Clear, Gordon Braun, Javier Gracia-Garza, **D'Ann Rochon**

vi) Financial Advisory (10 members):
Richard Martin (Chair), Richard Hamelin, Andre Lévesque, Bruce Gossen, Dilantha Fernando, Zamir Punja, Ron Howard, Jim Menzies, Anthony Hopkins, **Randy Kutcher**

Additional nominations can be made by CPS-SCP members at large for any of the following positions: Vice-President, Junior Director, Nominating Committee, Awards Committee, Future Meetings Committee, Resolutions Committee, Science Policy Committee, and Financial Advisory Committee. These nominations shall be signed by five members of the Society and by the nominee. They must have been received by the CPS-SCP Secretary, Deena Erampalli, by May 5, 2004, which is six weeks before the Annual Business Meeting.

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Bailey (Chair), Greg Boland, Debbie McLaren, Tom Hsiang, Gary Peng

Regional Reports

CPS Altlantic Region Report - March, 2004

'Winter Juan', a relative of 'Hurricane Juan' that struck in the last half of 2003, hit the Atlantic provinces last month with high winds (>125 kmph) and heavy snowfall (>95 cm). While only time will tell if the event provides disease reduction for the region, it certainly provided lots of 'down-time' for CPS members here (including President Martin) who will therefore have more contributions (about the event and its impacts; e.g. blizzard party syndromes or wicked white-out bash disorders) for the next newsletter.

Respectfully,
H.W. (Bud) Platt, CPS Atlantic Regional Rep

Submission Deadline for the June issue of CPS - SCP News and Call for Annual Reports 2004

PLEASE NOTE: The submission deadline for the **June issue** of CPS - SCP News is **April 23, 2004**. The next annual CPS - SCP meeting is June 13 -16, 2004, and as a consequence annual reports from various Standing Committees, and Subject Matter and Ad Hoc committees will need to be submitted in time for the annual meeting. The deadline for the **June issue** of CPS - SCP News will permit enough time for preparation and distibution of the June issue of CPS - SCP News prior to the 2004 annual meeting in Ottawa.

Annual reports from the following committees will be needed for the June issue. In addition, reports from regional meetings should also be submitted for the June issue, although some of these reports will have already been published is previous editions of the CPS - SCP News.

Standing Committees

Awards

Financial Advisory

Future Meeting

Journal Editorial

Membership

Science Policy

Subject Matter

Education and Public Awareness

Historical Resources

Industry Relations

Information Products Marketing

International Cooperation

Local Arrangements

Workshop and Symposium

Ad Hoc Committees

Microbial Genetics Resources &Culture Collections

Special events for 2004

CPS 75th Anniversary

Other reports

CPDS

CPS News, Editor

CPS Website

ISPP respresentative

Plant Canada

Announcements

CPS Website News

The Board would to announce the appointment of Lakdhar Lamari as the new CPS-SCP Website Editor, starting June 2004. Greg Boland is stepping down after more than two consecutive terms as Website Editor. The Society wishes to thank Greg for all his efforts in designing and maintaining the site.

Be a Part of History

In 1972, the book "History of Plant Pathology in Canada" edited by I.L. Conners was published by the Canadian Phytopathological Society. This entertaining and informative book describes the foundations of Plant Pathology in Canada and the key players in the evolution of our discipline. Additionally, the book succeeded in including most if not all the practising Plant Pathologists in Canada, institution by institution, and listing their area(s) of specialisation. Rather than detailing the many scientific contributions made by Canadian Pathologists, the original editorial committee focussed on the individual characters, who they were, their backgrounds, and what impact they made on shaping the discipline as we know it today.

Because it has been out of print for several years, the CPS Board has authorised the reprinting of this book. The original book will be scanned, edited to fix minor typos and reprinted on CD. Additionally, the Board has also authorised the printing of a supplement that will be edited and combined with the original book to create a single volume that will be published in hard copy and electronic CD form. Basically, the updated book is intended to continue where Conners's book concluded its historical treatise, to document the history of Canadian Plant Pathologists continuing from the early 70's to the present. This 2 year project aims to: a) establish a framework for collecting historically relevant information on Canadian Pathologists; b) collect the information; c) assemble the information in a historical context; and, d) oversee publication of the finished version.

In the coming months, I will be establishing a Steering Committee to oversee the writing of this supplement. Some of you will be contacted to participate in this project. Additionally, I invite any individuals interested in participating in this project to contact me in the near future. There is a sense of urgency to the completion of this project because most of the pathologists that were active late in the era of Conners's book (1960's and 1970's) have taken retirement, and many have, regrettably, passed away. Our story will only be told if we are willing to tell it.

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Fungi to give away!

If anyone is interested, I have 2 isolates of *Fusarium culmorum* that do not produce the typical red pigmentation. If someone would like to use this rare type of abnormality in a research project I would be happy to share it. I also have an 'albino' isolate of *Helminthosporium sativum* that may be useful in a research project. If interested, please email me at:
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Randall M. Clear

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International Union of Forest Research Organizations working groups meetings

August 16-22, 2004
Root and Butt Rots of Forest Trees. 11th International Conference on Root and Butt Rots
IUFRO WP 7.02.01. Poznan – Bialowieza, Poland.
Contact:
plakomy@owl.au.poznan.pl or
mmanka@owl.au.poznan.pl or
Z.Sierota@las.ibles.waw.pl.
More information can be found at:
http://iufro.boku.ac.at (select the Events tab, IUFRO meetings, Division 7 link)

June 13-20, 2004
Foliage, shoot and stem diseases of trees.
IUFRO WG 7.02.02 meetings
Corvallis, Oregon, USA.
Contact:
Glen R. Stanosz (Grs@plantpath.wisc.edu) or
Greg Filip (Greg.Filip@orst.edu).
More information can be found at:
http://iufro.boku.ac.at (select the Events tab, IUFRO meetings, Division 7 link)

Gaston Laflamme, M.Scs., D.Sc.
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In Memoriam

Recently, the community of plant pathologists at Saskatoon lost two of its oldest and most respected members. On November 11, 2003, Jeffrey Drew Smith died in hospital after a short illness, aged 81 years. Then on January 15, 2004, Robert (Bob) Davies Tinline died in a hunting accident at age 78. Both of these individuals had distinguished and productive careers in plant pathology. Their family, friends, and professional colleagues will miss them. The Society will recognize their accomplishments in an upcoming issue of CJPP.

J. Drew Smith - Drew was known across the prairies for his passionate interest in turfgrasses. He worked from 1946 to 1965 as a research and extension specialist in England, Scotland, and New Zealand. By then, he was a world authority on turfgrass diseases and mycotoxins. He joined the Research Branch of Agriculture Canada at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1965 and remained there until his retirement in 1984. Even after retirement, he continued to be a dynamic part of the pathology community, teaching university classes, consulting, supervising students, conducting and publishing research, and developing new grass cultivars. In 1990, the Canadian Phytopathological Society awarded him the Dr. and Mrs. D.L. Bailey Award for his new book "Fungal Diseases of Amenity Turf Grasses".

Drew married Audrey Hub of South Shields, England, in 1950 and they remained together until his death. Drew was ordained a priest of the Anglican Church of Canada in 1976, and served his church and community in a wide variety of roles throughout the years. He was an avid gardener, traveller, photographer, painter, and writer. Drew was survived by his wife, two sons, and four grandchildren.

R. (Bob) Tinline - Bob was affectionately known by some as the "father of common root rot". He studied this disease of cereals for more than 41 years, starting as a summer assistant in 1947 and then becoming a research scientist in 1951 with Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada in Saskatoon. As a notable world authority, his research focused on the biology, variability, and genetics of virulence in *Cochliobolus sativus*, breeding for common root rot resistance in wheat, and disease management and epidemiology of common root rot of cereals. He made significant contributions in controlling this disease on the Canadian prairies and around the world. Bob was a long-standing member of CPS, being an Associate Editor for CJPP, President, and a Fellow.

Bob married June Brackenbury of Saskatoon and they remained together for 54 years until his death. He was active within the community and his interests included the Corps of Commissioners, United Services Institute, Greystone Investment Club, and the Masonic Asquith Lodge. Being an avid outdoorsman, he loved to fish, hunt, golf, and play tennis. Bob is survived by his wife June, five children, and eight grandchildren.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Gossen and Karen Bailey.

People and Travel

Dr. Dilantha Fernando

Dr. Dilantha Fernando, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba was invited as the Keynote Speaker to the 2004 Western Crop and Pest Management School held in Minot, North Dakota, USA (Feb. 25-26, 2004) conducted under the auspices of the Extension Service of North Dakota State University. Dilantha's talk was titled, "Blackleg on Canola: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" addressing the future of the canola crop in Canada and USA, in relation to probable changes in pathogenicity of the blackleg pathogen.

Employment

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIP and POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Natural populations of genetically diverse lowbush blueberry plants managed for fruit production are attacked by the fungal pathogen, *M. vaccinii-corymbosi*, which has two spore stages attacking different plant tissues. Projects include: 1) Developing organically acceptable methods for controlling mummy berry disease (Assistantship available), 2) Molecular studies on the diversity of the fungus and the genetic diversity of blueberry plants, 3) Examining the role of plant development in disease resistance, and 4) Determining the role of toxins or enzymes in production of disease.

My research focuses on fungi pathogenic to plants or animals. Research in my laboratory examines the biology, physiology and molecular biology of a variety of fungal pathogens of wild lowbush blueberries of Maine and *Beauveria bassiana* which is a fungal pathogen of insects used for biocontrol. I am interested in the mechanisms fungi use to attack their hosts, particularly the production of enzymes and toxins. Research is also being conducted to determine the effect of genetic diversity of pathogens and implications for disease and the ecology of the fungi. Field research being conducted currently includes a survey examining the fungi associated with stem diseases of blueberry and the effect of cultural practices and genetic variation of hosts on disease.

If interested please contact:
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