

The Bryological Times  
December 1981, Number 12  
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# THE BRYOLOGICAL TIMES

*Newsletter of the International Association of Bryologists*

December, 1981.

No.12

## BRYOLOGY AT THE XIII INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS

By R. E. Longton

SOME 70-80 BRYOLOGISTS from all over the world converged on Sydney, on Friday 21 August, 1981, for the official opening of the XIII International Botanical Congress. Many came from field trips, both Congress Excursions in Australia and private visits to New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and other exotic places, as those from distant parts capitalized to the full on this most welcome opportunity to explore Australia and the Pacific region. The opening ceremony in Sydney's sumptuous Opera House featured a reception and concert as well as speeches of welcome by Sir Rutherford Robertson, President of the Congress, and others. The Congress was officially opened by the Governor-General of Australia, The Right-Honourable Sir Zelman Cowan.

The formal programme of Section 8A Bryology followed that outlined in the July issue of The Bryological Times, although there were inevitably some changes necessitated by the unavoidable absence of a few programmed participants. We particularly regretted that E. -J. Bonnet and C. Suire were unable to be with us as they were due to act as Symposium chairmen. Nevertheless, five half-day symposia and a full-day session on the bryogeography of Australia and the Pacific, were held as planned. The sessions began bright and early on Monday morning with welcoming remarks by G.A.M. Scott on behalf of Australian bryologists.

The first Symposium on Ecology and Reproductive Biology of Bryophytes was convened by L.E. Anderson and H.P. Ramsay, and chaired by L.E. Anderson. In an "Overview of the ecology of mosses", G.A.M. Scott identified a need for whole ecosystem studies of bryophyte-dominated communities, and for detailed biological studies of individual species, which he regarded as

"bricks to build the edifice of bryophyte ecology from its current disconnected pieces". In later papers, N. Slack considered bryophytes in relation to the competitive exclusion principle of niche differentiation, and W.C. Oechel discussed nutrient relations of bryophytes in Alaskan taiga, commenting on the influence of mosses on soil nutrient levels, and thus on vascular plant habitats. Other papers included an account of current studies on the functional effectiveness of reproduction by spores by R. Longton, reviews of population biology by R. Wyatt, of sex determination and sexual dimorphism by H.P. Ramsay and of cytological and genetic barriers to hybridization by L.E. Anderson.

The Monday afternoon Symposium considered Aspects of Experimental Bryology. It was convened by E. -J. Bonnot and P.M. Selkirk and chaired by N. Slack and M. Bopp. The early papers were concerned with morphogenesis. D.V. Basile described the effect of hydroxyproline-containing proteins on the development of liverworts, noting such effects as the induction of three ranks of leaves in Plagiochila. In related papers N.C. Maravallo discussed transport of endogenous auxin in Marchantia, M. Bopp reported differences between auxin and cytokinin in uptake, movement and mode of action in moss protonemata, and Y. Ohta described the initiation and characteristics of liverwort cell cultures. Later, H. Rudolph discussed the physiology of phenolic pigments in Sphagnum, N. Valanne reviewed work on the photosynthetic apparatus of mosses, and J. Glime described studies aimed at determining how habitat range is controlled in Fontinalis hypnoides: interaction between differing temperature requirements for stem growth and rhizoid production seem to be important here.

The Editor would like to thank all who have contributed to the success of The Bryological Times, and to wish them, and all the readership, a happy and prosperous New Year.

Tuesday morning's seminar on Chemosystematics and phylogeny of bryophytes, convened by C. Suire and chaired by G.A.M. Scott, was the worst affected by unavoidable programme deletions. We were indeed fortunate that three chemotaxonomists specializing in other groups of organisms (J.A. Edgar, Lepidoptera; J.A. Elex, lichens; D.E. Gianase, angiosperms) agreed to participate in a general discussion, following the surviving papers. The latter included general discussions of the bryosystematic value of lipids and sesquiterpenoids by P. Karunen and A. Matsuo respectively, and of terpenoids and aromatic compounds by Y. Asakawa. In addition, R. Mues provided new thoughts on relationships in the Scapaniaceae and Lophozziaceae, as suggested by the distribution of phenolic compounds. The ensuing discussion touched on such matters as the desirability of undertaking cytological studies on populations investigated chemosystematically, the level of phylogenetic significance to be attached to chemical compounds known to be of functional value and thus subject to selection pressure and the particular importance of flavonoids stemming from their production by precise biosynthetic pathways under Mendelian control.

Biosystematics and structure was the theme of the symposium held on Tuesday afternoon. It was convened by S. W. Greene and H. Inoue, with H. Inoue and D. G. Catcheside taking the chair. After introductory remarks by H. Inoue, R. C. Brown discussed ultrastructural evidence concerning polarity and spindle dynamics during moss meiosis which is unusual in showing an early positioning of plastids at the eventual tetrad poles. In later papers the systematic value of karyotype analysis was discussed by H.P. Ramsay, and of spore wall ornamentation by D.G. Horton. A. Koponen demonstrated a relationship between the pattern of cell wall thickening and the degree of reflexing of Splachnaceous peristomes, while J. Szwejkowski's paper, read by G.A.M. Scott, stressed the potential value and relative technical simplicity of isozyme analysis in investigating the genetic structure of bryophyte populations. Finally, R.E. Longton urged that bryologists with different areas of expertise should collaborate in broadly-based biosystematic studies of selected bryophyte species complexes.

The symposium on Bryogeography in Australia and the Pacific, held on Wednesday, was convened by W. Schultze-Motel and G.A.M. Scott, the duties of Chairman being shared by W. Schultze-

Motel, Z. Iwatsuki and W. C. Steere. In his introductory remarks, W. Schultze-Motel spoke of both the hardships and certain, strictly non-bryological, pleasures associated with working in remote Pacific regions, with graphic illustrations of both. Several of the papers considered the distribution of specific bryophyte groups throughout the area under discussion: these included contributions by H. Ando on *Hypnum*, A. Koponen on Splachnaceae, T. Koponen on Mniaceae, H. Inoue on Plagiochila, H. Ochi on Bryoideae and R.D. Seppelt on Ditrichaceae. Other presentations were concerned with bryogeographic affinities shown by the floras of particular regions including South Australia (D.G. Catcheside) and the Galapagos Islands (S.R. Gradstein). The final paper by D.H. Vitt discussed the possible origins of distribution patterns among Australasian-Pacific bryophytes in terms of historical factors and selection pressure in isolated populations.

On Thursday morning the final session, chaired by S.R. Gradstein, included papers on a variety of topics related to the Physiology and ecology of bryophytes. It was particularly interesting to hear G. Chien describe the bryophyte flora and vegetation of North East China and E.A. Odu discuss the reproductive phenology of some mosses in tropical Africa, as most of us knew little of the bryology of these regions. After an account by J. Pickard of studies on Antarctic vegetation, E. Hartmann presented evidence that control of phototropic responses in bryophytes differs from that in other plants by involving the phytochrome system. Papers by M.C. Bowers and J. Rule discussed interaction between gibberillic and herbicide EPTC on spore germination and protonemal growth in *Polytrichum commune*. After further consideration of the ultrastructure of sporogenesis by R. C. Brown the formal proceedings of section 8A were concluded by J.G. Duckett, who brought us up to date on the contribution of comparative antherozoid morphology to understanding bryophyte phylogeny.

In addition to the Symposia, the formal contributions included a series of 16 Posters on a diversity of bryological topics ranging from the historical (e.g. Fleischer's collections in Australasia by W. Schultze-Motel), and the systematic (e.g. Spatial distribution of *Pellia epiphylla* and *P. borealis* by J.R. De Sloover and V. Messe) to the ecological (e.g. Field studies of photosynthesis in Antarctic mosses by T.G.A. Green) and the physiological (e.g.

fluence of light on *Riella* meristomes, by L. Strange). The posters were on display throughout the Congress, and selections of them were manned by the authors on three occasions. These sessions were well attended - it would surely be uncharitable to suggest that the prospect of Australian wines "on the house" on Wednesday afternoon had any influence in this regard - and the poster format should be welcomed by bryologists as a means of increasing the amount of information that can be presented within the crowded timetable of a major conference.

The principal social event of bryological interest was the IAB Dinner, held at Macquarie University on Wednesday evening, with Pat Selkirk acting as Hostess. After an excellent buffet, we observed the formal transfer of power from the old to the new Council. Lewis Anderson, addressing the Association for the last time in his role of President spoke with evident relish of his hotel room above a massage parlour in Kings Cross, an area notorious as Sydney's version of Soho, before handing over the ceremonial gavel to the incoming President H. Inoue. The latter, being clearly of a more sober disposition, urged us all to redouble our efforts to ensure that bryology retains the stature it has gained in recent years.

Despite this display of eloquence from our Presidents, the highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the short recital of chamber music presented by Patricia Geissler (piano) and Rob Gradstein (cello), aided by the tenor voice of Wolfgang Schultze-Motel. Other more impromptu entertainment followed, notable being a fine, if curious mixture of magic and dance by Yoshinori Asakawa. Thus a practise established at Geneva was continued much to the appreciation of all present.

All participants at the XIII International Botanical Congress were impressed by the efficiency of the general organisation of the meetings which permitted none of the queuing and confusion which are not unknown at large scientific gatherings. Particular thanks are due, on behalf of all visiting bryologists, to George Scott and his Australian organising committee of David Catchside, Helen Ramsay and Pat Selkirk, due to whose efforts and enthusiasm a varied and informative programme was developed and presented without a noticeable hitch. After such an excellent series of meetings, it came as no surprise when a

resolution that bryology should have its own section at the fourteenth Congress in Berlin, and at subsequent Congresses, was passed unanimously after the final Symposium.

Department of Botany, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading, Berkshire, England.

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THE IAB BUSINESS MEETING, SYDNEY,

24th August, 1981.

FORTY-SIX MEMBERS and several invitees attended the business meeting of the Association, which was held on 24 August at 12.00 hrs. in the McCrae lecture-room, University of Sydney, during the XIII International Botanical Congress. The chair was taken by the President, Prof. L.E. Anderson. An apology for absence was received from S.W. Greene.

Reports from the secretary and the editors were read and approved. The President announced that the Constitution and Medal Committees had not yet prepared final reports, and both were granted an extension of their working period. The report of the Glossary Committee indicated that the work of producing a list of moss terminology is now well advanced. Good progress was also reported for other IAB projects, such as Index Hepaticarum and the Index Muscorum supplement. The Chromosome Index, prepared by R. Fritsch, will appear by the end of 1981 in Regnum Vegetabile. A proposal by C. Delgadillo for IAB involvement in the advance of tropical bryology, was referred to a standing committee, to be appointed by the new Council. Dr. Delgadillo's suggestion to prepare a World Directory of Bryology courses and teaching programmes was most favourably received.

With respect to the membership fee, unaltered since 1973, the secretary announced that a 2-3 dollar raise was unavoidable since a mailing service is no longer available to the Association free of charge. A proposal from the floor to fix the fee at U.S. \$8 - until the next business meeting - was unanimously accepted. It was furthermore agreed to set up distribution centres in North America and Japan, in collaboration with Drs. M.R. Crosby and H. Inoue, which should alleviate somewhat mailing expenses.

An invitation from the Bryological Society of Japan to hold the next IAB meeting in Tokyo, Japan, in the second half of May, 1983, was favourably received and it was suggested that an early announcement regarding technical and financial details should be made. The conference should last about one week and cover a broad spectrum of bryological topics. H. Inoue was appointed as conference secretary and asked to set up an organising committee.

Before closing, the meeting carried motions of regret at the sudden death of Dr. Monte Manuel and of Professor R. van der Wijk.

The new IAB Council for 1981 - 1987, elected in a mail ballot earlier in the year, was installed at the business meeting, its composition being:

President:

H. INOUE (Japan)

Past President:

L.E. ANDERSON (USA)

First Vice-President:

H. BISCHLER (France)

Second Vice-President:

T. PÓCS (Hungary)

Secretary (last term):

S.R. GRADSTEIN (Netherlands)

Councillors

W. SCHULTZE-MOTEL (Germany)

G.A.M. SCOTT (Australia)

J. SZWEYKOWSKI (Poland)

D.H. VITT (Canada)

M.R. CROSBY (U.S.A.)

S.W. GREENE (Great Britain)

Z. IWATSUKI (Japan)

T. KOPONEN (Finland)

G.S. MOGENSEN (Denmark)

W.B. SCHOFIELD (Canada)

S.R. GRADSTEIN :Hon. Sec. I.A.B.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF I.A.B.

for the period 1975 - 1981

THE OFFICIAL ACCEPTANCE of the constitution and the installation of a full 15-member council in Leningrad, 1975, marked the beginning of the past 6-year period. IAB membership (Table I) increased from 300 members in 1975 to about 350 in 1981; about 50% of our members are also members of the parent organisation IAPT. Membership is currently increasing at a rate of about one new member every one or two weeks, indi-

cating a steady growth of our organisation.

TABLE I

IAB MEMBERSHIP as of June 1981

IAB/IAPT ("regulars"): 168  
IAB/Non-IAPT ("Associates") 176

Total : 344

Members per country:

USA	60	Australia	6
Japan	48	Denmark	6
Great Britain	36	USSR	6
Netherlands	28	Finland	5
Germany	24	New Zealand	5
France	16	Norway	5
Canada	12	Spain	5
India	9	Argentina	4
Belgium	8	Austria	3
Sweden	8	Others	1 - 2
Switzerland	7		

In 1976 IAB suffered the loss of its first vice-president Peter Florschütz who died unexpectedly. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of Hiroshi Inoue to this post. Further changes in council included the appointment in 1979 of Marshall Crosby, as councillor, to replace Howard Crum who resigned.

The past period has been unique in the history of bryology, due to the large number of specialized international bryological meetings, three of which were largely initiated by IAB:

- (i) the Taxonomic Workshop Meeting in Geneva, August 1979 (about 75 participants);
- (ii) the Symposium on "The biological significance of morphological characters in Bryophytes", at the International Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology in Vancouver, July 1980 (about 50 participants);
- (iii) the Bryological Section at the XIII International Botanical Congress in Sydney, August 1981 (about 100 participants).

Proceedings of the meetings in Geneva and Vancouver are now in press, in *Beihefte Nova Hedwigia* and *The Bryologist* respectively. Those of the Sydney meetings will appear in the *Journal of the Hattori Botanical Laboratory*. None of these meetings could have taken place without the enthusiastic support of bryologists from all over the world whose kind collaboration is gratefully acknowledged.

New IAB ventures, launched in the past period after long periods of brainstorming and discussion, are the Advances in Bryology, a biennial series of reviews edited by Wolfrom Schultze-Motel (the first volume is now in press), and The Bryological Times edited by Stanley Greene, to provide members with the daily bryological news in a more effective and faster way than was possible via the IAB Bulletin in Taxon.

Several committees for special purposes were also established, of which I may mention the following:

- (a) the Medal Committee, chaired by Stanley Greene, to report on the feasibility of awarding honours to persons of outstanding reputation in bryology;
- (b) the Constitution Committee, chaired by Gert Mogensen, to review certain aspects of the Constitution, such as the status of IAB membership which you may recall was the subject of some debate in recent issues of The Bryological Times;
- (c) The Glossary Committee, chaired by Sean Edwards, to produce an illustrated guide to descriptive bryophyte terms, the need for which was expressed in Geneva.

Although the establishment of committees is certainly not a prime goal of our association, they might help us to achieve some of the goals spelled out in our constitution. I look forward to pursuing our policies in the next 6 years with care, and in fruitful collaboration with the newly elected council and committees, and with some expectancy.

S.R. GRADSTEIN, Sydney 24 August 1981

WORLD CONFERENCE OF BRYOLOGY  
Tokyo 1983

THE BRYOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN has invited IAB to hold an IAB meeting in Japan in 1983 and this invitation was officially accepted at the IAB business meeting in Sydney. Since then the Bryological Society of Japan has appointed the following to be members of an organising committee with responsibilities as indicated:

Dr. S. Hattori (Chairman)

- Dr. Z. Iwatsuki ) Programme
- Dr. K. Inoue )
- Dr. H. Ando (Registration)
- Dr. H. Ochi (Excursion)
- Dr. H. Inoue (General Secretary)

All enquiries about the above meeting should be addressed to Dr. S. Hattori, The Hattori Botanical Laboratory, Obi Nichinan-shi, Miyazaki Pref. 889-25, Japan.

The title of the meeting will be "The World Conference of Bryology". It will last for one week during the fourth week of May, and will be held at the National Science Museum, Ueno Park, Tokyo. An excursion during the Conference will take place to Mt. Fuji, a symbolic mountain in Japan, which also has good bryophyte vegetation, and a post-conference excursion will be conducted to Hiroshima University (via Kyoto City), Hattori Botanical Laboratory and Tokushima Bunri University.

The first circular about this conference will be sent to all bryologists by the beginning of 1982.

H. Inoue, Secretary of the Bryological Society of Japan, Department of Botany, National Science Museum, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160, Japan.

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Personalia

MING JOU-LAI, at the end of his three months' visit to Helsinki, successfully defended his Ph.D thesis at the University of Helsinki on 25th of September 1981. The dissertation was entitled "Taxonomic and floristic studies on the mosses and lichens of Taiwan, China." (Publ. Dept. Bot. Univ. Helsinki 9: 1-40, 1981, which forms an introduction to, and a synopsis of ten original papers published in 1976-81). Dr. Lai has now returned to the Taiwan Museum, Taipei.

DR. A. EMPAIN and DRS. H. STIEP-ERAERE joined the scientific staff of the Jardin botanique national de Belgique (Nationale Plantentuin van België) at Meise (Belgium) as new bryologists. They will study mosses and hepatics, especially of Belgium and Africa. Their own special domain of research will be defined after they have gained some more experience in bryology.

LIC. ISIDRO BERMÚDEZ recently completed a sabbatical year studying Venezuelan mosses with Dr. Dana Griffin III at the herbarium, University of Florida. Lic. Bermúdez is Professor of Biology, Nucleo de Sucre in Cumaná, Venezuela. His full address is: Depto. de Biología, Nucleo de Sucre, Escuela de Ciencias, Aptd. Postal 245, Cerro Colorado, Cumaná, Venezuela.

DR. ROBERT E. MAGILL's contract period with the Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria, has ended.

From 1st December 1981, his address will be 679 West Washington, Stephenville, Texas 76401, U.S.A.

DANA GRIFFIN III will teach a graduate course in tropical bryology at the National University of Colombia, Bogotá. The five-week course begins on 14th July, 1982. Further details may be obtained by writing to Dr. Enrique Forero, Inst. Ciencias Naturales, U. Nacional, Apartado 7495, Bogotá, Colombia.

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## Membership of IAB

THE FOLLOWING LISTS, covering the period 1 March - 31 August, 1981, update those already published (for the last list see Bryological Times 9:7).

### New Members

Jessica E. Beaver\*, B.V. Odgaard \*, J. van Rooy\*, L. Xavier Filho\*.

### New Institutional Member

The Librarian, Central Library, Department of Capital Territory, P.O.Box 158, Canberra City, Act. 2601, Australia.

### Addresses

Beaver, Jessica E. Dept. of Botany, University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, New Zealand.  
 Odgaard, Bent Vad, Geobotanical Survey of Denmark, Geobotanical Department, Thorvej 31, DK-2400, Copenhagen NV, Denmark.  
 Rooy, J. van. Botanical Research Institute, Private Bag X101, Pretoria 0001, Republic of S. Africa.  
 Xavier Filho, Lauro. Lab. de Tecnologia Farmaceutica, Univ. Fed da Paraíba, 58.000 - João Pessoa, Paraíba, Brazil.

### Change of Address

Bruggeman-Nannenga, Mrs. M.A. Saffierpad 8, 3402 GM IJsselstein, Netherlands.  
 Fransén, S. Klareborgsgaten 19, 41467 Gotenborg, Sweden.  
 Hoe, William J. Department of Botany Bernice P. Bishop Museum, P.O.Box 19000-A, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819, U.S.A.  
 Jamieson, David W. Department of Biology, Fort Lewis College, Durango Colorado 81301, U.S.A.  
 Janssens, Jan. A. Limnological Research Center, University of Minnesota, Pillsbury Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455, U.S.A.  
 Weber, W.A. Herbarium, University of Colorado Museum, Campus Box 218, Boulder, Colorado 80309, U.S.A.  
 Yamada, Kohsaku. 941-47, Funayama, Seta-cho, Ise-shi, 516, Mie-Ken, Japan.

NOTE: Addresses are only given for those members with an \* after their surname or family name, i.e. for those whose names will not be found in S.R. Grädstein's Directory of bryologists and bryological research, Ed. 2 (Regnum Vegetabile, Vol.99, 1979) or where their present address is different to that given in the Directory.

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## Recent Publications

Australasian Bryol. Newsletter No.5, 1981.  
Bryologist 84(1), (2), (3), 1981.  
Cryptogamie, Bryol. Lichen. 2(3), 1981.  
Herzogia 5 (3 + 4), 1981.  
Lindbergia 7 (1), 1981.  
Miscnea Bryol. Lichen 9(2), 1981.  
Nova Hedwigia 33, 34 (1 - 2), 1981.  
Proc. Bryol. Soc. Japan 3(2), 1981.

HOLMGREN, P.K., KEUKEN, W & E.L.  
 SCHOFIELD 1981. Index herbariorum. Pt.1. The herbaria of the world 7th ed. Regnum Vegetabile. Vol. 106: 1-452.

The latest edition of this well-known work contains all information received up to 1 November 1980. Inevitably some herbaria failed to respond in time, so the information included is marked "information 1974" i.e. the date of publication of the last edition.

RICHARDSON, D.H.S. 1981. The biology of mosses. Oxford, Blackwell Scientific Publications 220 pp, Price, £9.80.

Following an introductory chapter dealing with the structure and history of the study of mosses, there are chapters devoted to water relations, photosynthesis, temperature and nutrients, sex and cytogenetics, capsules and spore dispersal and spores and protonemata making up approximately half the text. The remainder, apart from a brief chapter on ecology, covers various aspects of the actual or potential use of mosses to mankind in chapters entitled moss-animal associations, mosses and micro-organisms, air pollution, monitoring and geobotanical prospecting and mosses and man. Overall the text is up to date, clear and easy to read, and is well illustrated. Each chapter has its own bibliography. By concentrating on biological aspects and drawing together much scattered information, which has not previously been synthesised in this way this book is likely to provide much food for thought for all who have an interest in this group of plants.

SZWEYKOWSKI, J. ed. 1981. New perspectives in bryotaxonomy and bryogeography. Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w. Poznaniu, seria biologia Nr. 20, 164 pp.

This volume contains the papers presented at the second meeting of Central and East European bryologists, held at Poznań, 26-29 June, 1980 under the sponsorship of the Adam Mickiewicz University and the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Bryomania Issue 22, All Saints Day, 1981.7

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## EXCHANGE AND MART

### Still Available

WHEN ONE READER sent an order based on information published in this column in the last issue he was astonished to receive a bill 7 times larger than he expected. This experience suggests that it would be wise to reconfirm all prices before ordering.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL ABLS FORAY

7-8 AUGUST 1982. Allegheny National Forest, Cook State Forest and S. B. Elliot State Forest of north-western Pennsylvania. Annual foray of ABLS. For further information write to: Dr. Harold Webster, Biology Department, DuBois Campus, The Pennsylvania State University, DuBois, PA 15801, U.S.A.

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## Desiderata

### WANTED : LIVING Campylopus MATERIAL

WITHIN THE LARGE GENUS Campylopus, with several hundred species, chromosome numbers of only 10 species are known. To remedy this lack of information, cytological studies in this genus are highly desirable. For this purpose small specimens of living material (in plastic bags sent by air mail) would be appreciated. These specimens will be kept in cultivation.

Jan-Peter Frahm, Universität Duisburg, Fachbereich 6, Botanik, Postfach 101629 D-4100 Duisburg, B.R.D.

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### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DATA AVAILABLE

To enable an easier access to, and thus a better use of, bryological literature for the period 1946-75, the Russian bibliography (Zvetkova et al, 1975; Zvetkova & Urtkova, 1976, 1977, which contains an alphabetical list of authors only) has been transferred onto a card file arranged according to key words.

This file contains nearly 8000 bibliographical records for this period, filed under one to several (in most cases two) key words, arranged under headings such as: anatomy, physiology, morphology, cytology, evolution, bryogeography, bryosociology, floristics, genetics, exsiccate series, text books, monographs, methods, cultures, ecology, palaeobryology, phylogeny, systematics, pollution, chemotaxonomy, checklists, applied bryology, biohistory, bibliographies, general taxonomy and special taxa. Most of these groups are not yet subdivided into smaller units, but floristic records are easily accessible in alphabetical order of geographical terms (countries, continents or larger parts of continents, islands, or larger mountain ranges): taxonomic records are arranged in alphabetical order of single taxa.

This file is placed at the disposal of every interested bryologist. Enquirers should give the key words of what they want and xeroxes of the corresponding cards will be sent.

Jan-Peter Frahm, Universität Duisburg, Fachbereich 6, Botanik, Postfach 101629, D - 4100 Duisburg, B.R.D.

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## DIARY

SECRETARIES OF BRYOLOGICAL SOCIETIES, organizers of symposia, workshops or anyone with knowledge of a meeting or event of interest to bryologists which has not yet taken place and has not already been noticed in these columns, are asked to send details direct to the Editor of this Newsletter. The more complete and up-to-date the diary the more useful it will be.

ABLS = American Bryological and Lichenological Society; CEBWG = Central and East European Bryological Working Group.

1982

14-19 June. CEBWG. Prague. 3rd Biennial meeting. For details, see *Bryol. Times* 9:10

7-8 Aug. ABLS. Pennsylvania. Annual Foray. For preliminary announcement see this issue, p.7.

1983

1-11 Feb. 15th Pacific Science Congress. Dunedin (New Zealand). For preliminary announcement see *Bryol. Times* 3:4. First General Circular for Congress available from the Secretary General, 15th Pacific Science Congress, P.O. Box 6063, Dunedin North, New Zealand.

May (4th Week). Tokyo. World Conference of Bryology. For preliminary notice see this issue, p. 5.

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I would like to report that all identifications of the *Metzgeria* specimens received by me in recent years, were sent out to the senders by the end of July this year (1981), except for one large African collection which requires the borrowing and study of type specimens. Those specimens to be returned were also sent to the senders, except for two large collections from Peru and Colombia, and a few specimens from various sources new to science or otherwise, as noted in the identification reports.

I hope that this letter will be seen by all those who have sent specimens for identification and has been necessitated by the continued irregularities of our local postal service

over the last four years.

Y. Kuwahara, 10-2139, Mii-machi, Kurume Fukuoka, 830 Japan. 5 October, 1981.

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### Editorial Note

THE EDITOR WISHES TO APOLOGISE for the late appearance of this issue of *The Bryological Times*, which has been caused by more disruption than he expected, as a result of his transfer from Penicuik to Reading. A number of articles have had to be held over to the next issue, which will be published at the beginning of March.

Readers will have noticed the change in page size in the last issue which is best regarded as an experimental format. Due to mounting production costs, it is intended to change permanently to the smaller A 4 size as soon as possible.

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THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRYOLOGISTS published *The Bryological Times* every 2 months, the *Bulletin of Bryology* every 6 months, and *Advances in Bryology* every 2 years. Items for the *Bulletin* should be sent to Dr. S.R. Gradstein by the 1st May or the 1st November each year while submission date for the *Advances* should be agreed with Dr. W. Schultze-Motel (Berlin). The editors do not accept responsibility for views expressed by authors in any of the articles published under their control.

For further details regarding the International Association of Bryologists membership, (currently US \$8.00 p.a.) etc., write to the Honorary Secretary, Dr. S.R. Gradstein, Instituut voor Systematische Plantkunde, Heidelberglaan 2, 3584 CS Utrecht, Netherlands.

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ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BRYOLOGICAL TIMES to be with the Editor, Dr. S.W. Greene, Department of Botany, The University, London Road, Reading RG1, 5AQ, England (Telex 847813 RULIB), by 15 February at the latest.

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Correspondence concerning mailing etc. of *The Bryological Times* to M.A. van Slageren, Instituut voor Systematische Plantkunde, Heidelberglaan 2, 3584 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands.

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