

New activity in International Horticultural Science

Many persons will remember the great horticultural science meeting which was held on Dutch soil in 1955 – the International Horticultural Congress at Scheveningen – which also enjoyed substantial moral and financial support from Dutch horticulturists. On this occasion 788 representatives of horticultural science from 63 different countries assembled together. In addition to the scientific work they undertook, they passed a resolution expressing the hope that closer co-operation would be made possible by the establishment of an international horticultural science association which would replace the international horticultural congress committee which had existed since 1923 and of which the sole purpose was to organise these congresses. A committee consisting of representatives of a number of countries, including Holland, drafted the articles of association and submitted them to the following congress which was held in Nice in 1958 and signified its approval of these articles. The congress authorised the setting up of the new association.

This important happening in the history of horticultural science took place on 27th April 1959 on the occasion of the Floralties Internationales de Paris. The door is now open for closer co-operation among horticulturists throughout the world. But this is not all. As at the Scheveningen Congress, the scientists are counting on the co-operation of the practitioners. They quite realise that the results achieved by them will benefit market gardeners, which is why they wish to carry out their work in consultation with the latter. As examples we need only mention the warning services against harmful insects and plagues, the soil and crop survey, and such problems of horticultural economy as labour organisation and work methods. Who would be more capable of making proposals in this connection than the practitioners themselves? The following description of the scope of the new association, contained in its articles of association, shows that this has been taken into account: "The advancement of all branches of horticulture by the promotion of international contacts and co-operation in the study of scientific and technical problems" by:

- a organising international horticultural congresses;
- b appointing permanent committee and working parties for jointly dealing with special scientific and technical problems, for promoting international co-operation, and for publishing the results achieved;
- c organising meeting of scientists and other experts;
- d the employment of other methods, in pursuance of the decision made by the managing committee, in order to achieve the purpose of the association.

Horticultural scientists are therefore once again appealing to the practitioners (the appeal now being an international one) to support the International Association of Horticultural Science in its work shoulder to shoulder with the scientific research workers.

The contribution is the equivalent of \$ 1 for individuals and \$ 10 for associations, and can be remitted by payment or transfer to Postal Transfer Account No. 346210 of the Amsterdamsche Bank N.V., Bezuidenhoutseweg 18, The Hague, for account of the International Association of Horticultural Science. The articles of association and further information may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Dr. G. DE BAKKER, Inspector of Horticultural Research, 1e v. d. Boschstraat 4, The Hague.