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## HYACINTH CONTROL SOCIETY, Inc. Dedicated to the Control of Noxious Aquatic Weeds

NEWSLETTER No. 8 September 5, 1968

THANK YOU: I would like to thank all of you for your support during the Society Year 1967-1968. It was a pleasure serving as your president. As I have written in previous NEWSLETTERS this is Your Society and its success depends on your support. I hope that you will support your new president as you did me. The By-laws of the Society automatically places me as your new vice-president. I plan to work closely with your new president and I have also been given permission to continue writing the NEWSLETTER.

1968 MEETING: If you missed the 1968 meeting you missed an excellent one. The papers presented were of excellent quality and there were lots of papers. The attendance during the presentation of the papers was outstanding. I have never attended a meeting where the attendance by registrants was as high during paper presentation. The Langford Hotel rolled out the red carpet for our meeting. The Local Arrangments Committee and I have not received many complaints about the hotel service.

NEW OFFICERS: The 1968 slate of officers for the Society is as follows:

President: Frank Wilson
Vice President: Robert Blackburn

Secretary: Paul Cohee
Directors: Stan Abramson
Bob Blakeley

Editor: Bill Woods
Lyle Weldon

CONGRATULATIONS FRANK: I am sure most of you know our new president Frank Wilson. Frank is Director Entomologist of the Imperial-Polk County Mosquito Control Dept. He has long had an interest in aquatic weed control. He has presented papers at several of our meetings on the relationship of aquatic weeds and mosquitos. Frank's address is: P.O. Box 458, Eaton Park, Florida 33840. Write him a letter of congratulations and offer your assistance to help during this Society year. I am sure that with Frank's leadership the Society will move forward during his term of office.

OUR SYMPATHY: Our Society extends its sympathy to the family of Mr. Stanley Hiller. Mr. Hiller died suddenly of a heart attack a few weeks ago. We in Florida know Mr. Hiller for his recent work with the Governors Aquatic Research and Development Committee. He had designed a prototype machine that could be mounted on the back of a truck for processing water hyacinth and other aquatics. Mr. Hiller attended the 1968 meeting of the Hyacinth Society and gave a short talk on his machine. The machine was also demonstrated during the meeting. I remember Mr. Hiller mostly for the statement that he made to me several months ago when we were flying over Lake Okeechobee in the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission plane: "Bob, you say that water hyacinth cannot be processed economically, but I'm going to show you that it can be done". I believe he meant that statement because he made tremendous progress in a very short time.

INSURE FLORIDA'S FRESH WATERS WITH RESEARCH: Car tags can now be purchased through the Hyacinth Society with this statement printed in large white letters on a red background. Get one and place it on the front of your car. Let everyone know that you support the efforts to keep Florida's waters clean. This can only be done by research on methods to solve our problems.

HYDRILLA WINS: You who were at the 1968 meeting had the opportunity to see the problem of hydrilla in Lake Virginia in Winter Park. We had several demonstration plots on hydrilla in this lake. Because of the dense growth of hydrilla the lake was closed to boating and water skiing in late July. This is only one of the lakes having problems controlling hydrilla in the central Florida area. I see no reason why this plant will not continue to increase in the state.

NAVY FIGHTS BACK: The Navy has decided to defend its Orlando Base Recreational Lakes from hydrilla. In 1967 the Agricultural Research Service's aquatic research team at Fort Lauderdale was asked to conduct an experiment to determine the best method to control hydrilla. Research indicated that both the amine salt of endothall and a combination of diquat plus copper sulfate would give control. A contract was let with Aqua Weed Control in Orlando to treat the lakes with the diquat plus copper sulfate combination. The treatment was applied in early August under the supervision of the aquatic research team at Fort Lauderdale. Results indicate that excellent control of hydrilla was obtained with the treatment. This was the largest single application of diquat in the state and may be the largest in the US. The Navy has temporarily won the battle but the hydrilla is no doubt calling up its reserve forces (tubers & turions).

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Enclosed with this NEWS\_ETTER is a list of committee appointments that have been made by your president. If for some reason you cannot accept this appointment please inform him. He needs your help and that is the reason that he has appointed you. Because you are not on an appointed committee does not mean that your support is not needed. You will have your turn in the future.

RESOLUTION: As requested by many of you at the 1968 business meeting I am enclosing a copy of the resolution that was passed at our last meeting. The resolution has been approved by the Executive Committee of the County Commissioners Association and a similar resolution has been adopted by the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District. I guess you can say the Hyacinth Control Society has become involved in aquatic weed control.

SOCIETY DUES: Some of you still have not paid your 1968 dues. It is almost time to bill for the 1969 dues. Fay up promptly if you want to receive the 1968 Journal.

WATER HYACI'ITH: If you are a newcomer to the Hyacinth Control Society you may wonder how it got its name. I have heard many of you state that we have the water hyacinth problem solved. Should you think so I wish you could see the problem that Florida now has on the St. Johns River. There are miles of water hyacinth on this river from Jacksonville south. I am told the problem now looks like it did in the early years before the use of aquatic herbicides.

Recently we have heard many people complain about the use of herbicides on the water hyacinth and I wonder what these people think now that the St. Johns River is so densely infested. There has been little or no spraying in this area during the past year.

NEW RESEARCH: The US Army Corps of Engineers is investigating several new aquatic weed control methods which may be the answer to our problems. Dr. Ralph Scott reported at the Southern Water Resources Conference in Miami, Florida, August 1-2, 1968, that research with the laser-light shows it will control water hyacinth and alligatorweed. They are now working on a laser unit for submersed weeds. The Corps of Engineers is also investigating the use of sound energy to destroy aquatic weeds.

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 21-23, 1968

Southern Division of American Fisheries Society, Emerson Hotel, Baltimore, Md.

January 21-23, 1969 Southern Weed Conference, Statler Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas

February 10-14, 1969

Weed Science Society of America, Caesars
Palace, Las Vegas, Nevada

June 15-19, 1969

Hyacinth Control Society, Holiday Inn of Palm Beach, Palm Beach, Florida

NEW MEMBERS: Our Society is growing but there are still a lot of people that would join if they were contacted. I would like to suggest that each of you begin to encourage others to join the Society.

<u>EDITOR'S DESK</u>: The Journal Editor has informed me that Volume 7 of the Journal will consist of 2 issues. The first issue should be out in December and the second issue in March. The Journal has now become a Journal instead of a Proceedings. He has several excellent manuscripts that have been submitted by people outside the United States. If you have a manuscript that concerns aquatics submit it to our distinguished Editor for possible publication in the Journal.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES: Recently I saw this statement on a sign in Georgia: " A traveling salesman is like Ajax, works fast and leaves no ring". You traveling men remember - it pays to "Read and Heed".

1969 MEETING: Start making your plans for the next meeting of the Society. Mark the dates on your calendar and invite your fellow aquatic weed workers to attend. Also, start thinking about subjects that you would like to have discussed.

Robert D. Blackburn, Vice President

## 1. Membership

Paul Cohee, Chairman Sam McMurray Andy Price Larry Livingood Kerry Steward Les Bitting

# 2. Legislative

Bob Blakely, Chairman Herb Freedman Bill Woods Bill Purdue Mick Sheffield Wayne Miller

## 3. Public Relations

Bill Woods, Chairman Art Edwards Bill Hogan Charles Zeiger Ralph Waterhouse

### 4. Program

Board of Directors

## 5. Site, Selection

Stan Abramson, Chairman Wayne Miller Bob Blackburn Gordon Mobley

6. Exhibits, Equipment demonstrations, Public Address and Projection

Lyle Weldon, Chairman Kerry Steward Les Bitting

## 7. Local Arrangments

Zeb Grant, Chairman Fred John Bob Blackburn

#### 8. Resolutions

Bob Blakely, Chairman Joe Blanchard Jack Samela

#### 9. Nominations

Bob Blackburn, Chairman Dan Gorman Zeb Grant

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Florida is in the midst of an industrial and population explosion; it being estimated that there is a population gain in excess of 4,000 new Floridians each week, and

WHEREAS, a great source of income to the citizens of Florida, estimated at 4.7 billion dollars annually, is derived from funds expended by visitors while in the state; each visitor being a potential new resident, and

WHEREAS, this population explosion and visitor economy is a direct result of the many natural advantages our State has to offer; especially the vast recreation areas afforded by our natural water supplies, both inland lakes and streams, and coastal areas, and

WHEREAS, these irreplacable resources are presently threatened by widespread infestations of noxious aquatic weeds, and

WHEREAS, it is apparent that these valuable waterways and recreation areas will soon be lost for effective use by residents and visitors alike by the spread of this menace, and

WHEREAS, statewide, our citizens are aware that this problem is of great magnitude and utmost importance, and

WHEREAS, a proposal has been made to the Governor of the State of Florida that a statewide program of aquatic weed control be implemented, and

WHEREAS, this Society is dedicated to the control of noxious aquatic weeds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Hyacinth Control Society, meeting this 18th day of June, 1968, in Winter Park, Florida that this Society believes that a program to control noxious aquatic weeds in Florida could best be accomplished by:

- 1. An adequate research program, utilizing existing federal and state facilities, but with state financing not available up to this time.
- 2. State supervision of control operations, on a statewide basis.
- 3. Control operations on a local basis; this being the level of government closest to the people, and closest to the problem.
- 4. Aid to local governments, providing state funds for operations on a 50-50 basis; subject to approval of plans and operations by the state agency involved.
- Authority for the state agency to perform actual field operations in any area not covered by local programs; (provided that such state operation be determined necessary to safeguard the state as a whole), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hyacinth Control Society recommends to the Legislature of the State of Florida that, in accordance with the above criteria, a statewide program for the control of noxious aquatic weeds by implemented without delay, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be tendered to each member of the Legislature, and to the Governor of the State of Florida.