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THE HYACINTH CONTROL SOCIETY, Incorporated

Dedicated to the Control of Noxious Aquatic Weeds

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MAY 29 1973

What Happened: I've had many members ask me what happened to the HCS Newsletter. I could give you many answers, but this would take time and space that could be used for other purposes. Just mark this one and the reasons may become obvious as you read the Newsletter.

1973 Meeting: The 1973 HCS meeting will be held at the Monteleon Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, on July 15-18, 1973. The Board of Directors held a meeting on January 17, 1973, at the Monteleon and made all of the necessary arrangements for the meeting. Attached to a letter you received from the President, in February, should have been a card to mail to the hotel for reservations and a form for preregistration. You should have received this letter with all of the information about the meeting several months ago. I hope most of you have already made your hotel reservations.

Preregistration: I hope you will take advantage of the preregistration form. It will save you time and most important it will save you money. These two reasons should justify your need for preregistration.

Inflation: Many of you have become aware that prices have increased during the past year. If you aren't aware of this increase, check with your chief economist (wife) and she'll tell you about the price of meats at the grocery store. As you have read or heard from other members this inflation has really affected the registration fees of the Hyacinth Control Society. Your President explained this in his February letter. Your

wife may feel better about the price increase in meat, because the Hyacinth Control Society increase (percentage wise) is greater. Your Board of Directors felt that this increase was justified and the Society could no longer provide a first class meeting without the increase in registration. Should you have questions about the increase, I'm sure the Board of Directors would be glad to provide the answers.

Program: Al Burkhalter and his program committee have arranged for an excellent program. I heard recently that 70 papers have been received for presentation at the 1973 meeting. This is by far the largest number of papers ever presented at an annual meeting. Papers have been submitted covering every imaginable subject on aquatic plant management. For this first time, we will have papers being presented in two concurrent sessions. One session will be research oriented and the other will concern operational programs. This must mean that we have finally arrived as a big Society. It also means that there will be papers presented on subjects of interest to everyone. The two concurrent sessions has created some discussion between various members, and I ask you to give it a try this year.

Attention: Members who receive matching funds or grants from the Florida Department of Natural Resources have been assured by Al Burkhalter that these funds could be used to attend the 1973 meeting. If you receive such funds, this could be a way of attending. Please give this consideration if you are having second thoughts on funds for the meeting.

Florida Members: Two bills that are now in the legislature may be of interest. These bills are HJR 104 introduced by Representative Fulford and SB 602 introduced by Senator Henderson. You may wish to obtain copies of the bill and contact your legislators expressing your ideas.

Congressman Frey: Congressman Lou Frey, 9th District, Florida, has taken an interest in aquatic vegetation management. He has called two meetings in Florida to discuss the problem and has taken the opportunity to try and coordinate the efforts of federal and state operated control and research programs. He has also revived the old bill that was introduced by the late Senator Holland, concerning the importation of aquatic plants. We commend Congressman Frey for his efforts and interest in our problems.

A Decade Later: (A) Biological Control: A decade ago, the aquatic weed scientist was encouraged to direct his activities toward biological control of aquatic weeds. Various environmental groups pointed out the lack of research in this area. Research funds became available to do this research and there was a rapid increase in research on biological control. Out of these research efforts have come the Agasicles beetle, Neochetina, white amur (Ctenopharyngodon idella), and many others as potential biological control agents. Today the scientist

working in biological control research is no longer the knight in shining armour. Individuals and organizations that encouraged and supported his research are questioning or stopping the introduction of the biological control agents. The scientist that was so proud of his research in biological control a decade ago has now become discouraged and is often criticized by his fellow workers. Oh what a difference a decade makes (B)

Chemical Control: While the scientists working in biological control are becoming discouraged, those working with herbicides are becoming very encouraged. By the use of new application techniques and formulations, the herbicidal control programs are making tremendous progress. Cost of herbicidal control has been reduced, the toxicity to the aquatic environment has been greatly reduced, and application procedure has been simplified. We might say that the herbicidal control of aquatic weeds looks brighter today than it did a decade ago. (C) Mechanical: The mechanical and agricultural engineer has become very interested in developing new and improved methods of harvesting aquatic plants. The concept of removing aquatic plants to reduce nutrients in water sounds very intriguing to the scientist and the layman. Also, the possibility of utilizing aquatic plants has encouraged development of improved harvesting equipment. Several new prototype harvesting machines are being evaluated in this state by the Florida Department of Natural Resources. Research has also been increased on the utilization of aquatic plants. This phase of aquatic weed control will receive a lot of attention in the future. (D) Physical: This area of aquatic weed control may be better termed "environmental manipulation". The most promising results with this type of control is water fluctuation. Many southern states now employ this technique for aquatic weed control in ponds, lakes and reservoirs. It has also been used in canals where they can be drained. This type of control is presently being evaluated in the State of Florida by several governmental agencies.

New Chemical Products: We would like to keep our membership up-to-date on any new products that are available in aquatic weed control. We request our commercial membership send us any information that they have on their new products. We do have a few notes for this Newsletter: (1) Intercoastal Chemical Company of Houston, Texas, has received EPA registration for Cutea Algaecide. It is a 7% copper formulation derived from copper-triethanolamine complex. (2) Standard Spray and Chemical Company of Lakeland, Florida, has been granted a Florida State label for Standard Brand Algaecide. It is also a 7% copper formulation derived from copper-triethanolamine complex.

New Mechanical Harvesting: Received correspondence from several companies about their harvesting equipment: (1) American Water Harvesting Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Cleans Lake Engineering and Research subsidiary has received patents on a new harvester that they have developed. They are now manufacturing this harvester. (2) The L-R-S Corporation of Winter Park, Florida,

has developed a machine to mechanically eliminate aquatic weed growths. They have published a nice booklet on the problem of weeds in lakes, the theory of their machine and data on the use of the machine and the harvested weeds. (3) If you are interested in machines that can be used to mow canal and dike banks and clean out canals and lake shorelines, you should write Krinke & Kruger GmbH., 3012 Langenhagen, Hubertusstrabe 15. (4) The John Wilder (Engineering) LTD. Wallingford, Berkshire, England, has developed a cutter for aquatic weed control. I had the opportunity to see this one in operation two years ago at the International meeting on aquatic weeds.

Interim Tolerance: On November 15, 1972, the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D. C. granted Diquat an interim tolerance of 0.01 ppmw in potable water.

We Did It: We recently completed a study on the effect of an aquatic herbicide on the fishery environment. Results showed we had greater fish production and more fish of a harvestable size in the ponds that were treated for aquatic weed control. We have heard several biologists in the past 5 years state that there was no advantage to fishery production by controlling the aquatic weeds. We plan to present a paper on this research at the 1973 meeting.

Weeds Are Not All Bad: A recent article from CERES, the FAO Review, discusses this subject. The main purpose of the article is to encourage more research on the use of aquatic weeds. We agree with many of the statements presented in the article.

From the Editor's Desk: This year 33 manuscripts were submitted for consideration for publication of which 20 were accepted for publication in the Journal. I want to thank all who submitted a manuscript. The Journal should be completed by late May or early June. We hope to mail the Journal by mid-June at the latest.

Special thanks go to those who helped with the review of manuscripts for this year. Without the hard work of these individuals, I would not be able to complete the task of putting the Journal together. Dr. Gerald Walsh, our Associate Editor, contributed a considerable amount of time and effort in reviewing and suggesting improvements for the Journal. I would like to thank Miss Anita Erwin for taking care of the large volume of correspondence that goes with the publication of the Journal.

This year I am sending a set of instructions to those who are scheduled to present a talk at the meeting in New Orleans. I hope this information will be of help in preparing manuscripts to be submitted to the Journal. If you plan to prepare a manuscript and did not receive a set of instructions, please let me know, and I will send a copy.

We have a number of excellent articles in the Journal this year which cover many aspects of aquatic vegetation management. I look forward to receiving new manuscripts for next year's issue of the Journal. I will appreciate receiving any comments or suggestions (compliments also welcomed) which you might have that will improve our Journal. Hope to see you at New Orleans: David Sutton, Editor.

WSSA Associate Membership: Recently the Weed Science Society of America created an associated membership category. The suggested groups for associate membership includes dealers, distributors, custom applicators, regulatory officials, county agents, farm managers and others. The Associated Membership dues are \$10.00 annually. An additional \$1.00 charge is made for billing. Associate Members will receive the quarterly popular publication Weeds Today, the quarterly Newsletter, and a WSSA Associated Member Decal. The associated membership is directed to practical and scientific aspects of weed control. We have had two articles recently on aquatic weeds and research. For those interested in becoming Associate Members, applications forms are available from WSSA, Special Services Office, 3123 Ligon Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607.

New Service of Newsletter: I would like to have the Newsletter expanded to include employment available or needed in the area of aquatic plant management. Should you or your organization have employment in this area, please write and give a brief description. I'll include it in the next Newsletter.

Be The Best of Whatever You Are: We can't all be chiefs of aquatic operations, some must be a spray boat operator or a sprayman, there's something for all of us in aquatic weed control. There is a big work to be done, and there's a lesser one too, and the task we must do is here. If you can't be the pilot of a spray plane, then just be an airboat operator, if you can't be a scientist, be a technician. It isn't by size that you win or you fail, just be the best of whatever you are.

For Past Presidents of HCS: It's that we are on this earth to serve the HCS, and if we don't continue to serve within our limitations, then we are destined to unhappiness. Almost every individual I know who retires to complete inactivity, and still is healthy and able to serve, and does not, has one of two things happen: he either dies, or he becomes a cranky old man. The former I'd like to defer as long as possible and the latter I'd like to avoid entirely.

Enough Philosophy. See you in New Orleans

BOB BLACKBURN