

I. FOREWORD

Cooperation is the reason that the News Letter has existed. We who work on the genetics, cytogenetics and biochemical genetics of maize have a tradition of freely exchanging our materials, data, interpretations and puzzles directly with each other or through this non-publication. If there have been any undesirable consequences, they have been only when the reporting of a substantial study has stopped with a News Letter note and has not been carried to the formal literature, with the result that the general scientific community has failed to learn of our information, ingenuity, insights, errors or flights of concept. It is vital that our informal means of communicating be maintained, and your new "Secretary" will strive to maintain it; in fact, ideas for ways by which the informality can be enhanced and formal publication facilitated would be most welcome. For example, Cooperators might appreciate in future News Letters brief items about manuscripts that have been submitted and are not yet in print, if these are given as "Report" items (author and title, with or without further text) contributed by the authors.

The costs of preparation, reproduction and mailing of this News Letter, as in recent years, are borne by a grant from the National Science Foundation. All of us can be grateful that this support is available, because it is indispensable.

Until this year's contributions were in hand and the editing was begun, we did not know how much attention Ellen Dempsey had been giving to the News Letter contributions; we send Ellen our encomia, based on the experience of only one cycle but aware that years of such excellent care have required exceptional dedication and patience. If in our editing for format, nomenclature and clarity we have marred the history of her delicate and exacting touch, we apologize to her more than to the contributors. If we have altered meanings or otherwise erred in our editing, we invite errata for the next issue.

Attention given by contributors to the new recommendations on nomenclature was very helpful; the recommendations are repeated this year. A number of new symbol assignments are listed in the report from the Maize Genetics Cooperation Stock Center.

A list of publications of E. G. Anderson and associates, including identification of those papers for which reprints are available, has been prepared and is included between the Stock Center report and the list of Recent Maize Publications.

Deadline for contributions for the next issue (Volume 50, 1976) will be January 1, 1976. While this deadline is substantially earlier than the customary one and may find some data unanalyzed, trial of a change seems desirable for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the possibility of moving the date for distribution to a time somewhat ahead of planting season.

Index corrections wanted: Toward a list of corrigenda for the 1962 symbol index and the 1970 author and name index, please pass along by letter, post card or notes on brown paper bags any corrections for the indexes that may have come to your attention.

Back issues wanted: Repeated requests are received for back issues, including appeals from newly developing maize laboratories in the U. S. and other countries, but also from some locations with resources too limited to purchase even a micro-film with U. S. exchange. If you come across unnecessary extra copies of back issues of any volumes, please consider sending them in for this type of distribution; we could supply postage on request. If you are interested in obtaining back issues, please see the back cover.

Archival materials needed: In attempting to assemble a "permanent set" of the News Letter for archival maintenance, single copies of Volumes 27, 28 and 36 are not in the files and will have to be photocopied from bound volumes to complete the set if copies cannot be located. Original copies of these three issues would be especially appreciated for this purpose.

Found on a weatherbeaten brown paper bag, written in heavy graphite pencil:

"A couple of years ago Marcus Rhoades asked several of us to send seed stocks to Cornell to be maintained there for distribution, and to send in linkage data and other information to be mimeographed for distribution among those of us who wished to share our information. The notion was very helpful, and continues to be."

If you see Professor Rhoades before I do, please mention how well it has worked out.

I would like to thank M. G. Neuffer for help in planning and developing this volume. Preparation of the issue was much facilitated by the enthusiastic and systematic redaction of the copy by Karen Sheridan. M. D. Murray aided in the screening and compilation of the publication lists. Acknowledgement is due Paul Bolen, Kenneth Leto and William Raffall for their help with proofing of the copy.

E. H. Coe, Jr.