

next (and final) circular will be printed in June-July 1982.

Professor Kerr organised a meeting of the programme committee on 25 May, at which symposium topics were selected and their organisation planned. Each section reported on its organisation and tentative programme.

Members of the committee are worried about our financial position and the difficulty of making even a token gesture of assistance to invited speakers. Why not register early at a reduced rate of \$140 (\$160 later, and probably \$200 by 1983)? Early registrations provide the Treasurer with some working funds.

Professor Deverall reported that letters from the International Botanical Congress were sent to all Australian botanists asking for a donation of funds, such donations being exempt from income tax. The organisers were then able to approach industry, stating that members of their own profession were already contributing to the cost of the congress. As a result, donations of \$8,000 were received, and the I.B.C. was able to provide a sum to each section to provide some contribution to the costs for key speakers. The programme committee would like similar approaches to be made by the Committee for the 4th International Plant Pathology Congress to provide some contribution for one invited speaker per symposium and one per section. You will therefore each receive a letter requesting financial support from your committee.

We are anxious to ensure active participation from as many developing countries as possible. After all, this is the first International Plant Pathology Congress ever to be held in the Southern Hemisphere or in the Pacific area. We can apply for aid from A.D.A.B., etc., but we need names and professional information as a case has to be prepared for each such delegate. Would members please advise Dick Paddick (Myrtleford) or me of any suitable applicants for such aid.

The most important factor needed for August 1983 is your enthusiastic support. The various committees are working well and have planned an efficient organisation within which we hope the congress will run smoothly. However, unless all Australian plant pathologists take part we cannot hope to organise proceedings which will inspire delegates and provide a stimulating and challenging congress. Would each State organisation please form a small P.R. group consisting of representatives from each different institute, department or division for the purpose of activating all A.P.P.S. members.

GRETNA WESTE
Chairperson
Local Organising Committee

OBITUARY

Dr. W. J. Moller

Former South Australian plant pathologist William John Moller died at his home in Davis, California, on 23 June after a long illness.

Born in 1936 in Adelaide, he graduated from the University of Adelaide (B.Ag.Sc. 1959, M.Ag.Sc. 1964) and served the South Australian Department of Agriculture, with an intermission for Ph.D. studies at the University of California, from 1960-1970. He joined the staff of the University of California, Davis, as Extension Plant Pathologist in 1970.

During 21 years of a productive career, Bill Moller published over 140 research and extension papers on diseases of deciduous fruit trees and grapevines and visited 18 countries to investigate orchard and vineyard diseases. His

early research on *Eutypa dieback* of apricots in South Australia led him, in the past decade, to a steadily expanding study of the distribution and importance of the pathogen *Eutypa armeniacae* in the northern hemisphere. His work in confirming this pathogen as the agent responsible for cankering and dieback of mature wood of grapevines, attributed for over 60 years in North America to *Phomopsis viticola*, finally explained the separate roles of the two pathogens in the disease complex long known as "dead-arm".

Bill Moller's numerous contributions to plant pathology recently received acclaim when he was selected by the CIBA-Geigy Corporation as the recipient of their 1980 Award for outstanding contributions to the knowledge of plant diseases or their control. He will be remembered with respect for his dedication and marked ability to coordinate the efforts of research workers, extension specialists, farm advisers, distributors of pesticides, and growers to achieve better management of some major diseases of the fruit industries.

But, above all, he will be remembered with affection as a loyal friend of many colleagues in both hemispheres.

M. V. Carter

NOTICES

National Sclerotinia Workshop, March 30-31, 1982, Hobart

The Workshop, endorsed by the Standing Committee on Agriculture, will be held at the Tasmanian Department of Agriculture's Research Laboratories at St. John's Avenue, New Town (3 km from Hobart city). It will deal with all aspects of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and related species including identification methods and taxonomy, epidemiology, host resistance and breeding for resistance, crop loss assessments, control and research priorities. The sessions will consist of oral and poster presentations of research studies, practical demonstrations and open discussions. It is anticipated that Professor James Steadman of the University of Nebraska, a leading U.S. worker on *Sclerotinia* diseases will participate in the Workshop.

All *Sclerotinia* workers and those who are involved or interested in *Sclerotinia* control are invited to attend. Contributors will be asked to provide a summary of their presentation in advance so that copies can be distributed to all participants prior to the workshop.

For further information and a copy of the preliminary programme, please contact Dr. James A.-L. Wong, Department of Agriculture, Research Laboratories, St. John's Avenue, New Town, Tasmania 7008, Australia. Telephone (002) 28 4851.

Plant Disease and Changing Crop Practices

This is the inaugural meeting of the British Society for Plant Pathology, to be held at the London School of Economics, 15-17 December 1981. The meeting takes the place of the previously advertised meeting of the Federation of British Plant Pathologists on the same topic. It will consider the various effects, beneficial and deleterious, of recent changes in cultural, agronomic and control practices on plant disease. An opening session will examine these effects in relation to diseases of various commodities — cereals, potatoes and farm crops, fruit, hops and vegetables, forest and tree crops, protected crops. Further sessions and a poster exhibition will then deal with more specific examples within four themes —