PLENARY SESSION

GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER’S REPORT

I beg to present the report of the General Secretary-Treasurer for the period from the XIV Congress to this the business meeting of XV ISSCT Congress.

MEMBERSHIP

I am pleased to inform you that our membership now stands at the all time record figure of 2,081 having practically doubled during the past 12 years. The following table indicates the growth of our Society during this period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Congress</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>XI</td>
<td>1,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>XII</td>
<td>1,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>XIII</td>
<td>1,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>XIV</td>
<td>1,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>XV</td>
<td>2,081</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ISSCT ACTIVITIES BETWEEN XIV AND XV CONGRESSES

The increase in membership since the Louisiana Congress is probably very largely the result of the inauguration of inter-congress Newsletters, an innovation which has been most favourably commented on and which it is hoped will become a permanent feature of our Society.

This is, however, by no means the only inter-congress activity. Many of our members may not be aware of it but the Cane Breeding section has for many years maintained their own Newsletter and more recently, the Pathologists have done the same. On behalf of the ISSCT, I wish to express our sincere thanks to Dr Norman James of the USDA who completed a three year period as editor of the ISSCT Sugarcane Breeders’ Newsletter and to the USDA who published the Newsletter free of cost for our Society. Since March 1974, Mr Brian Roach of CSR Ltd has accepted the editorial task and the publication is now being sponsored by the CSR Ltd. Their services are greatly appreciated.

Our thanks are similarly due to the South African Sugar Association Experiment Station which, with editors Dr J. Dick and Mr G. M. Thomson, was responsible for the pathologist publication “Sugarcane Pathologists’ Newsletter” during the past three years.

THE XV ISSCT CONGRESS

The XV ISSCT Congress was attended by 821 registered delegates and 186 wives from 50 countries and with 30 regional sections represented and observers from 2 further regions.

The following new regions were admitted:—
Belgium, The Netherlands, Malawi, Thailand, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Peru.

In all 278 papers were submitted and 208 were accepted for presentation to Congress and publication. It has been decided to publish the proceedings...
in three volumes comprising (1) Biological papers, (2) Agronomic and Mechanization papers and (3) Factory papers. This step has become essential because of the large number of papers and the length of some of the contributions.

COMMITTEES
The Administrative Committee met on four occasions and appointed a Constitution Committee and a Resolutions Committee. These committees will report elsewhere.

The standing Committee on Germ Plasm and Breeding and the standing Committee on Sugarcane Diseases have reported to their respective sections and the Administrative Committee recommends that the activities of these two committees be continued.

Resolutions framed as a result of the reports by the Special Committee on Harvesting and Handling of Sugarcane, the Committee on Payment of Cane Price on a Quality Basis and the Committee re Proposed ISSCT Journal of Sugarcane Research will be submitted by the Resolutions Committee.

MEMBERSHIP FEES
As a result of the ever increasing costs of printing the Proceedings, the Administrative Committee found it necessary to increase ISSCT membership dues from $20 to $50.

IIRB PRESENT AT ISSCT CONGRESS
It is with great pleasure than I can announce that we have had for the first time a delegation of the International Institute of Beet Research with us at this the XV ISSCT Congress.

FINANCE AND PROPERTY REPORT
The ISSCT Custodian, Mr D. J. Dougherty, submitted the following financial statement dated May 1, 1974:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Savings Account (04-17501-5)</td>
<td>$310.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Hawaii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Deposit (01080563)</td>
<td>23,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Hawaii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$23,310.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Four-year certificate of deposit was purchased on January 3, 1974 to take advantage of an interest rate of 7%. Current rate on savings account is 5%.

His property statement of the same date reads as follows:

Proceedings of XIV Congress, Louisiana, 1971

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copies Received</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Copies Sold</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserved for ISSCT File</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance Available for Sale</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is suggested that 25 copies of the XV Congress Proceedings be sent to the Custodian for sale. In addition, two (2) copies should be sent for the permanent file.

Based on authorization provided by you in your letter of April 24, 1972, I have been providing copies of previous Proceedings at no charge to non-commercial requests.
Proceedings on Hand

XIII Congress, Taiwan, 1968 . . . . 83
XII Congress, Puerto Rico, 1965 . . . . 0
XI Congress, Mauritius, 1962 . . . . 73
X Congress, Hawaii, 1959 . . . . 0
IX Congress, India, 1956 . . . . 105
VI Congress, Louisiana, 1938 . . . . 104

The Hawaiian Sugar Planters’ Association will be moving to new offices in late 1975. We will no longer have the room to store all the past Proceedings and will have to dispose of all copies we have at that time.

Please remind participants at the XV Congress that copies of past Proceedings will be provided free (postage charge only) to all non-commercial applicants. By “non-commercial” I mean anyone other than book stores who plan to resell the books”.

On behalf of the ISSCT, I wish to express our thanks to Mr Dougherty for the work done and request him to continue in the same capacity.

GENERAL

Finally, I would like to thank the Section Chairmen, Section Vice Chairmen, Spanish speaking Section Vice Chairmen, our two editors and two general chairmen as well as the many others who have helped to make this congress a success.

It was a real pleasure to serve this Society for the past three years and if the experience I have gained can be of any assistance to my successor, then I wish now to assure him that I shall gladly put it at his disposal.

REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

The Constitution Committee (G. Davis — Chairman, H. Morganti, S. Hocks, E. Hugot and M. Anderez Velazques) recommended the following changes which were unanimously approved:

1. In Article 6, Section 1 (amended) the figures $20 be deleted and the figures $50 be substituted.
2. It is therefore RESOLVED that Article 2, Section 5, (new) of the Constitution be amended as follows: Delete the words “non-voting status” and substitute the following: “full status, Life Members shall be deemed to be fully paid-up members at all times”.

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Resolutions Committee (D. Smith — Chairman, R. Antoine, J. Allen and Y. P. Yu) submitted the following resolutions which were unanimously approved:

RESOLUTION NO. 1

A highlight of this, the XV ISSCT Congress, was the Opening Session on June 18 for which the Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa, the Hon B. J. Vorster, the Administrator of Natal, the Hon W. W. B. Havemann, and Councillor Ron Williams, Mayor of Durban, all took time from their very busy schedules to greet the delegates and their wives and to show them the
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courtesies of their respective areas. Their presence and their words added greatly to our understanding of the Republic of South Africa and contributed much to the very friendly atmosphere in which the Congress was held.

The delegates of this Congress hereby express their collective thanks and appreciation to these high officials for their contribution to the success of our meetings and respectfully request the General Secretary to convey our sentiments to them.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

It is clear to the delegate body that a broad segment of the South African Sugar Industry co-operated in the planning of the XV ISSCT Congress. Many people had an important hand in planning and setting up the arrangements and the programmes, including the field tours. The hospitality reflected in the many luncheons and other entertainment provided by South African sugar organisations was superb.

The planning of the Congress assured the full and clear presentation of the subject matter and fostered the interchange of ideas. The Spanish “resumen” of the papers, the bi-lingual presiding officers, and the simultaneous translations of presentations and discussions, a first for the ISSCT, contributed greatly to the multi-national understanding of the subjects. These procedures, with appropriate expansion and improvement, are commended to future Congresses and hereby to the expansion of the exchange of ideas and information in the cane sugar world.

This delegate body, by a rising vote of thanks, expresses the appreciation of all to the many people of South Africa and others who had a hand in making this one of the most successful of ISSCT Congresses. Special thanks go to the General Chairman, Dr T. G. Cleasby, to the General Vice-Chairman, Dr Denver T. Loupe, and to the General Secretary-Treasurer, Mr J. L. du Toit. Our thanks are extended also to Mr Bruce Morris, Chairman, South African Sugar Association, to Mr John Chance, Chairman, South African Cane Growers’ Association, and to Mr Anson Lloyd, Chairman, South African Sugar Millers’ Association and to their respective organizations for their vast contributions to the success and enjoyment of the Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

Death has removed a number of members of our Society from our midst in the three years since the XIV Congress met in Louisiana.

We express our sorrow at their passing, show our feeling of loss, honour their memory, and extend our sympathy to their families and loved ones by observing a moment of silence.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

The XIV Congress, by resolution, requested that an ad hoc committee be established to “study all aspects of the possible publication of an ISSCT journal of research, to formulate recommendations, and to report to the XV Congress, setting forth several guidelines for the study”. Such a committee was established under the joint chairmanship of Mr J. Wilson and Dr M. Matic. The committee’s report was made to the General Secretary-Treasurer and reference was made to it in his report.
The committee's extensive survey among technologists' associations, research institutions, experiment stations and sugar journals showed an overwhelming but not total consensus that:

1. There is no real need for such a journal.
2. Such a journal would not become the main vehicle for publication of research findings for all disciplines.
3. A large part of the organisations and individuals could not undertake to submit regular contributions to such a journal.

Based upon the further study of the subject, the ad hoc committee recommended that:

1. The Proceedings should be published as expeditiously as possible at the conclusion of each Congress.
2. Consideration should be given to limiting the number and raising the standard of papers accepted for presentation at future Congresses.
3. Consideration should be given to the appointment of permanent panels of referees to assist successive editorial committees, as required.

This delegate body hereby concurs with the conclusions, findings and recommendations of this ad hoc committee, thanks the committee for its services, and commends its recommendations to future Congresses.

**RESOLUTION NO. 5**

At the XIV Congress of the ISSCT, a resolution was adopted commending the Berlin Sugar Institute for its proposal to create a Central Sugar Library and expressing the hope of the Society that it could be put into effect at an early date. In the meantime, it is understood, the Central Library has been established, and co-operation has been initiated with the Tate and Lyle Library and with the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute. Notwithstanding the resolution adopted by this Society three years ago, no detailed program has, as yet, been submitted covering the organisation, administrative, or financial implications of this Library, nor has the Berlin Sugar Institute sent a representative to this Congress to explain such matters or to reach a working arrangement for co-operative action between the Society and the Library.

The operations of this Library, the scope of its services to sugar scientists and technical organisations, the various two-way commitments expected, and the many other phases of co-operative arrangements are of importance to this Society. Thus the delegate body hereby recommends to the General Officers of the XVI Congress that a committee of three members be established to study the above mentioned aspects of the Central Sugar Library and to report to that Congress, with recommendations.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6**

The Standing Committee on Sugarcane Diseases had reported that it would not object to the omission of the report on Sugarcane Diseases and their World Distribution from the Proceedings of the XV Congress, if such Proceedings carry a list of Committee Members and a list of additional records since 1971, and if such omission at this time in no way prejudices the future publication of Sugarcane Diseases and Their World Distribution in future Proceedings.

The delegate body hereby concurs in this omission from the XV Congress Proceedings under the conditions stated.
RESOLUTION NO. 7

Certain visa and entry problems have been encountered by delegates wishing to attend ISSCT Congresses in the past. Recognising that professional organisations, such as this Society, cannot commit their Governments in this regard, it will be the policy of ISSCT that the host country will use its best endeavors to ensure that all delegates will have the opportunity and right to attend each Congress.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

The quality of sugarcane is a matter of deep concern to both sugarcane growers and processors inasmuch as it affects profoundly the quantity of sugar yielded and the economic value of the crop. Technology has made available chemical and physical means of stabilising and enhancing sugarcane quality. On the other hand, technology has developed mechanical harvesting systems adaptable to a wide portion of the sugarcane world, which systems generally lower the quality of sugarcane, especially if improperly used. Many other factors also affect sugarcane quality, notable among them being various environmental stresses, agronomic practices, schedules of delivery to the factory, and storage and handling at the factory. Quality changes from these different causes often interact with complex results.

Definitions of cane quality, which often are vague and vary widely between countries, should be standardised. Measurement techniques must be improved and their limitations publicised. The accurate measurement of sugarcane quality is also basic to the work of the Committee on the Payment of Cane Price on a Quality Basis, as reflected in the report of this Committee. These needs require the co-ordinated action in several disciplines.

A Standing Committee on Sugarcane Quality is hereby established with members from the ISSCT Sections in Agronomy, Agricultural Engineering, Processing, and Physiology and Bio-chemistry, and with as broad representation as possible between nations. The duties of this Committee will include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Promote a solution to sugarcane quality problems by encouraging research in critical areas.
2. Act as a clearinghouse for ideas and information.
3. Evaluate various causal conditions and emphasise areas needing greatest study and action.
4. Provide needed continuity between Congresses.
5. Promote and foster symposia and other programmes on the various aspects of cane quality deterioration.
6. Carry out such other activities as are consistent with the objectives for which the Committee is created.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

The Standing Committee on Germplasm and Breeding has under discussion, with formal plans not yet completely formulated, a jointly supported expedition into New Guinea-Papua, West Irian and other areas of sugarcane origin to search out and procure new canes that promise to add valuable new germplasm for sugarcane breeding programmes throughout the world. These
places of origin of the sugarcane plant have yielded valuable new germplasm to such expeditions in the past and undoubtedly numerous additional ones still remain to be found and obtained.

Some of these areas have started significant economic development in recent years and this inevitably will lead to the abandonment and destruction of many of the native cane gardens which have been the source of much new material and continue to promise additional material. Once lost, these canes will be lost forever.

The gathering of these canes, as proposed by the Standing Committee on Germplasm and Breeding will provide valuable new germplasm for any country engaging in basic sugarcane breeding. These inevitably will lead to the development of superior canes which eventually will be available to sugarcane growers in all parts of the world.

The ISSCT has cash reserves of more than $23,000 on deposit in banks in Hawaii, with these deposits now drawing interest. The delegate body hereby authorizes the General Secretary-Treasurer to release up to $15,000 of these funds to support this jointly financed expedition of competent sugarcane scientists to search for, select and obtain new clones likely to prove valuable in sugarcane breeding programs, with the following guidelines:

1. The funds will be released upon application by the ISSCT Standing Committee on Germplasm and Breeding, supported by data showing that at least three sugarcane areas are aiding in the financing of the expedition and that the funds of the Society hereby made available are likely to contribute to the success of the project.

2. The plans for the project include suitable arrangements for the quarantine and surveillance of the canes grown from the selected cuttings.

3. The emerging canes will go into world reference collections and will be available to cane breeders upon the same terms and conditions as are canes presently in these collections.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

By the action of the delegate body, Life Membership was conferred on the following additional members who have served the Society with such distinction as to deserve the honour:

Octave Wiehe, Mauritius
Emile Hugot, Reunion
K. Douwes Dekker, Spain
J. L. du Toit, South Africa
H. W. Kerr, Queensland, Australia

Persons previously honoured with Life Membership are listed below:

G. E. Pemberton, Hawaii
Alfonso Gonzalez Gallardo, Mexico
Louis Baissac, Mauritius
H. F. Clements, Hawaii
Carlos L. Locsin, Philippines
E. V. Abbott, Louisiana
George P. Meade, Louisiana
George Arceneaux, Louisiana
Norman J. King, Queensland, Australia