

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PLANT SOCIETIES TO BE HELD AT ITHACA.

THERE will be held at Ithaca, N. Y., August 16-23, 1926, an International Congress of Plant Societies. This meeting, in the words of its Organizing Committee, "is intended primarily to bring together a widely representative gathering for the presentation and consideration of fundamental contributions to the research and educational aspects of plant science, including agriculture, horticulture, forestry, plant pathology, plant breeding, bacteriology and other specialized phases." It is further stated that "the Congress will enact no legislation, though adequate opportunity will be afforded for the discussion of any topics of interest to groups of plant scientists."

The programme is being arranged in 13 sections, each of which will have 4 morning sessions in addition to the more general sessions of the Congress.

Invitations to foreign botanists and those engaged in the applied aspects of plant science have been sent out widely, and it is confidently believed that the occasion will be one of exceptional interest both on account of the notable papers to be presented, and in furthering personal acquaintance between the representatives of different fields.

It is to be hoped that American botanists will see in this Congress an obligation as well as an opportunity and that they will combine in doing their utmost that the gathering may be representative, and that our foreign guests may receive the attentive treatment which was so charmingly accorded to those who attended the preceding Botanical Congresses, of which the most recent were in Brussels in 1910 and in Vienna in 1905.

Participation in the formal sectional programmes will be by invitation only; since it is the policy of the Committee to limit the schedule papers to a relatively small number in order to leave time for less formal discussion. An effort is being made to secure for speakers those scientists whose accomplishments as investigators or teachers have made them leaders in their respective fields.

The Organization Committee is as follows: B. M. DUGGAR, *Chairman*, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo., H. C. COWLES, *Sec.*,

University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., H. H. WHETZEL, *Local Arrangements*, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

The Programme Committee consists of J. R. SCHRAMM, *Chairman*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., L. W. SHARP, *Sec.*, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

ASTER ERICOIDES L.

KENNETH K. MACKENZIE.

THE original description of *Aster ericoides* L. (Sp. Pl. 2: 875. 1753) is as follows:

"16. ASTER caule paniculato, pedunculis racemosis: pedicellis foliosis: foliolis linearibus integerrimis. *Gron. virg.* 100.

"Aster caule paniculato, floribus racemosis, calycibus patulis oblongis, foliis subulato-linearibus. *Roy. lugdb.* 168.

"Aster ericoides dumosus. *Dill. elt.* 40. t. 36. f. 40.

"*Habitat in America septentrionali.* 24."

Royen (Fl. Leydensis Prodr. 168. 1740) merely gave the descriptive phrase cited by Linnaeus and the same reference to Dillenius cited by Linnaeus.

Both Clayton's plant (Gray Proc. Am. Acad. 17: 165. 1882) and the plant well figured by Dillenius are what is now known as *Aster multiflorus* Ait.

The specimen in the Linnaean herbarium is a specimen of the common plant currently treated in our manuals as *Aster ericoides*. This specimen was, however, not in the Linnaean herbarium until after 1755 (Jackson, Proc. Linn. Soc. 1912, Suppl. 41), and in consequence has no bearing whatsoever upon the identity of *Aster ericoides* L.

With the exception of the fact that the specimen in the Linnaean herbarium was not there in 1753, the above facts were all well-known to Dr. Gray, but with utterly ununderstandable logic he refused to use the name properly (Proc. Am. Acad. 17: 165. 1882). As will be noted the species was based by Linnaeus entirely upon the works of previous authors, and as all of these references are happily to the same species, the name can only be properly used for that species. So in place of *Aster multiflorus* Ait. we must write *Aster ericoides* L.

MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY.



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