

The financial report for the period 4/1/85-3/31/86:

<i>Financial report</i>	Balance, 4/1/85	\$1069.08
	Dues collected	\$1467.00
	Expenditures	
	Postage	135.72
	Publishing costs	393.51
	Bank charges	28.39
	Bookkeeping	154.00
	Typing	<u>721.00</u>
	Total expenditures	1632.62
	Balance, 3/31/86	\$ 903.46

G. A. Marx
for the Coordinating Committee:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| S. Blixt | L. Monti |
| W. Gottschalk | I. Murfet |
| E. Gritton | B. Sharma |
| G.A. Marx | B. Snoad |

COVER

R. H. Lock, whose likeness is depicted on the cover, made several important early contributions to the genetic literature of Pisum. Born and educated in England, Dr. Lock spent his most productive scientific years in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) at the

Royal Botanic Garden, Peradenyia. He died at an early age (36) but not before he published about twenty papers (four of which are relevant to pea genetics) and two books. His book, "Recent Progress In the Study of Variation, Heredity and Evolution", first published in 1906, endured through four editions. Because he received his graduate training during those extraordinary days when Mendel's work was rediscovered, and because he enjoyed the confidence and encouragement of William Bateson, Lock undertook to confirm and extend Mendel's findings. This he did with consummate success. His 1908 paper, "The present state of knowledge of heredity in Pisum", summarises what was known about the subject at the time. Incidentally, many of the populations analyzed by Lock came from crosses made by Bateson, thus emphasising the close tie between these two pioneering workers. In his work with peas Lock not only confirmed the work of Mendel but also demonstrated the phenomenon of epistasis, added a number of new genes to the original seven described by Mendel, and commented upon the question of species and phylogenetic relationships. Moreover, he was the first to use descriptive symbols for Mendelian genes.

(The drawing was executed by Elaine Gotham from a photo found in the archives of the John Innes Institute and kindly furnished by Dr. Peter Matthews.)

The Pisum Genetics Association (PGA) is a non-profit, unincorporated organization established to facilitate the exchange of information and to ensure the preservation of valuable genetic stocks. The number of PGA members now stands at 190.

Membership

Membership in the PGA is open to all interested persons. Dues are \$10.00 for two years (U.S. currency) and are used to help defray the costs of publishing the Pisum Newsletter (PNL). Members are encouraged to pay dues for two or more years to simplify bookkeeping. Please make prime banker's checks or International money orders payable to PISUM

GENETICS ASSOCIATION and send to G. A. Marx, Department of Horticultural Sciences, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, NY 14456 USA. The PNL will be sent upon receipt of dues.

*PGA
situation
update*

A word about our financial condition. We continue to hang on, thanks to the recent increase in dues, to another gift from the National Pea Improvement Association (NPIA), and to member cooperation. The NPIA increased its contribution from \$250 per year to \$300 and we are most grateful for its continuing support. Our financial status is such that we cannot carry out our plans to reprint the volumes which are now out-of-print; sheer survival must take priority. Thanks to everyone for your concern and help.

Editorial

Speaking of cooperation, I wish belatedly to take note of a fine example of international cooperation which in recent years has resulted in the availability of two books on pea genetics and breeding written by Russian authors. The books, "The Pea" by R. Kh. Makasheva (1973) and "Genetics and Breeding of Peas" edited by V. V. Khvostova (1975), were translated into English from the original Russian by Dr. B. R. Sharma of India and the project was commissioned and financed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The translated versions became available in 1983. I might add that Dr. Sharma did an admirable job of translating the texts. Also, we owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Jack P. Meiners, formerly with the USDA and now retired, for making many of the original arrangements that led to the final result. My files indicate that our correspondence concerning this project began in 1977. Let us hope the lines of communication between scientists in all parts of the world will not only continue but will expand.

Bouquets

We again extend our thanks to Mrs. Frances Van Kirk, our clerk, treasurer, executive secretary, and all around factotum for again doing all the things she has done so well in years past.

This year, thanks to the generous cooperation of Mary Lou Marx and Charlotte S. Pratt, we have endeavored to minimize the number of typographical and other kinds of errors. Each independently examined the entire volume line by line prior to printing. We gratefully acknowledge their assistance