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NEWSLETTER:

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Matthew Sackville

COC REPRESENTATIVE:

Al Hartridge

VISITING SPEAKERS:

Eugene Kucey

WEBMASTER:

Jennifer Burgess

MAILING ADDRESS

SASKATCHEWAN
ORCHID SOCIETY
Box 411
SASKATOON, SASK
S7K 3L3

WEB ADDRESS

WWW.SASKORCHIDS.COM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDITOR'S NOTE

THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ELECTRONICALLY TO ALL MEMBERS FOR WHOM WE HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS. IF YOU WISH TO SWITCH FROM PAPER TO ELECTRONIC DELIVERY, NOTIFY ME AT (ROBERT.LUCAS@USASK.CA). EMAIL ME IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER BY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

JANUARY MEETING

THE JANUARY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON JAN. 24TH AT JOHN DOLAN SCHOOL, COMMENCING AT 1:30 P.M.

NEW MEETING LOCATION

AS OF OCTOBER, THE NEW MEETING LOCATION OF THE SOS IS JOHN DOLAN SCHOOL, 3144 ARLINGTON AVE. (JUST EAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF ARLINGTON AND PRESTON AVE.). DIRECTIONS: FROM THE INTERSECTION OF PRESTON AND CIRCLE DRIVE, DRIVE NORTH AND TAKE THE FIRST RIGHT TURN AND PARK IN THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT. AS YOU PASS THROUGH THE FRONT ENTRANCE DOORS THE MEETING ROOM WILL BE THE FIRST THING YOU SEE. THE SCHOOL IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2009-2010 ARE DUE AND WILL BE ON SALE AT THE JANUARY MEETING. THE FEE IS \$25.00 FOR A SINGLE MEMBERSHIP AND \$30.00 FOR A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP. A NEW FORM (AVAILABLE FROM HEATHER) MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE PURCHASE.



EARLY RENEWAL COUPONS

THE COUPONS FOR EARLY RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE AT THE END OF THE JANUARY MEETING

OSA SHOW AND SALE

THE ANNUAL SHOW OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF ALBERTA WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 19 - 21, 2010 AT GRANT MAC EWAN UNIVERSITY SOUTH CAMPUS, 7319 29 AVENUE NW, EDMONTON, ALBERTA. FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE FOUND AT

WWW.ORCHIDSALBERTA.COM

NEW MEMBERS

A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO AURORA ONG WHO JOINED THE SOCIETY AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING.

PLANT SALE AND RAFFLE

A LIMITED NUMBER OF PLANTS FROM THE BETTY BETHIEUME COLLECTION WILL BE ON SALE AT THE MEETING. SAFEWAY HAS DONATED PLANTS AND CERAMIC POTS FOR THE RAFFLE. BE SURE TO PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FROM HEATHER, \$1.00 OR THREE FOR \$2.00.

GARDENSCAPE

THE SOS WILL BE ENTERING A DISPLAY AT GARDENSCAPE, MARCH 26-28. TO AVOID A CONFLICT, OUR MEETING DATE FOR MARCH HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MARCH 21ST. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

MEETING PRESENTATION

LAWRENCE HYSKA FROM THE MANATOBA ORCHID SOCIETY WILL PRESENT A SLIDE SHOW ON "ORCHIDS OF THAILAND."

SUPPLIES

THE PREORDERED T5 LIGHT-BULBS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED. THEY SHOULD BE PICKED UP AT THE JANUARY MEETING. A LOW CONCENTRATION MERIT IS AVAILABLE AT A PRICE OF \$5.00. IT SHOULD BE USED AT A RATE OF ONE TBSP PER GALLON, ONCE A YEAR. CAUTION SHOULD BE USED IN ITS APPLICATION. HUMIDITY TRAYS AND STANHOPEA POTS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

SPRING PLANT ORDERS

1. FORESTVIEW GARDENS
[HTTP://WWW.FVGARDENS.COM/](http://www.fvgardens.com/)

ORDERS WILL BE DUE AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING FOR DELIVERY IN MARCH AT GARDENSCAPE.

2) J & L ORCHIDS
[HTTP://WWW.JLORCHIDS.COM/](http://www.jlorchids.com/)
WE NEED A MINIMUM ORDER OF \$500. J&L WILL OFFER A 15% DISCOUNT AND WE WILL SAVE ON SHIPPING AND DOCUMENTATION SINCE THEY ARE COMING TO THE OSA SHOW. ORDERS NEED TO BE PLACED AT THE JANUARY MEETING.

MEETING AGENDA

- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PROBLEM CORNER
- SHOW AND TELL
- COFFEE/SUPPLIES
- HYSKA PRESENTATION
- PLANT RAFFLE AND SALE
- ADJOURNMENT



PHAL BEDFORD GEM

REMEMBER THE NEW LOCATION OF MEETINGS, JOHN DOLAN SCHOOL.

NOV. 22ND MEETING MINUTES

THE PRESIDENT WELCOMED GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

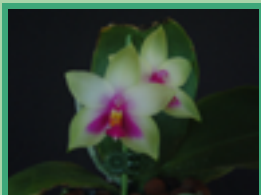
LIBRARY TABLE – RAFFLE TICKETS WILL NOW BE HANDLED BY THE LIBRARY TABLE. REQUESTS TO ADD NAME TAG NUMBERS TO THE DRAW FOR PLANT PURCHASES AND THE PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIPS AND PLANT PURCHASES WILL CONTINUE TO BE PROCESSED AT THE FRONT TABLE.

BULBS AND FIXTURES – MEMBERS SIGNED UP FOR AN ORDER OF REPLACEMENT BULBS AND/OR NEW LIGHT FIXTURES. CONFIRMATION OF THE NUMBER REQUIRED, THE TYPE OF BULB (T5, T8 OR T12) AND THE LENGTH WAS REQUESTED. T12'S WILL NOT BE MANUFACTURED AFTER 2010 SO MEMBERS NEED TO

CONSIDER REPLACING T12 UNITS WITH T8 OR T5 UNITS.

SUPPLIES - THE SOCIETY IS LOOKING INTO THE PURCHASE OF HUMIDITY TRAYS, A POT WITH WIRE HANGERS AND MERIT INSECTICIDE. RHIZOME CLIPS AND POT RINGS ARE ON ORDER. A FEW CONTAINERS OF ZUMA CANYON FERTILIZER (18-5-9) AS WELL AS THE USUAL SUPPLIES OF MSU FERTILIZER ARE AVAILABLE.

LAPTOP – THE SOCIETY PURCHASED A LAPTOP FOR USE WITH OUR PROJECTOR AND FOR USE BY THE SECRETARY. THE SOCIETY HAD RELIED UPON THE GENEROSITY OF MEMBERS WHO ALLOW-ED US TO USE THEIR EQUIPMENT. THANK YOU TO AL HARTRIDGE FOR INVESTIGATING OPTIONS AND ACQUIRING THE LAPTOP.



PHAL BELLINA

PLANT RAFFLE: ORCHIDS WERE DONATED BY SAFEWAY. CHERYL GRUMMETT KINDLY DONATED TWO SETS OF TICKETS FOR THE SUNDOG ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT FAIRE, DECEMBER 4-6. THERE WERE TOO MANY RAFFLE WINNERS TO LIST EACH INDIVIDUALLY.

PROBLEM CORNER:

Q – WHY DON'T PEOPLE USE RAID TO KILL SPIDER MITES ON ORCHIDS?

A- ANY CHEMICAL-BASED PRODUCT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE HARMFUL TO HUMANS, ESPECIALLY IF USED INDOORS AND/OR WITHOUT PROPER SAFETY AEROSOLS SHOULD BE SPRAYED FROM A DISTANCE OF 12-24 INCHES FROM THE PLANT OR THE PROPELLANT CAN "FREEZE" PLANT TISSUE. CHECK IF THE PRODUCT IS REGISTERED FOR USE ON ORCHIDS.

Q – HAS ANYONE NOTICED CHANGES IN THE PH OF CITY WATER? YESTERDAY THE WATER PH WAS IN THE RANGE OF 9-10 AND TODAY IT WAS AROUND 8.5. OUR CITY WATER IS USUALLY AT 7-8.

A – NO OTHER REPORTS OF HIGH PH. ROUTINE CHECKS OF PH

ARE RECOMMENDED.

Q – MEMBERS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED PHALAENOPSIS WITH MOTTLED SPOTS ON LEAVES. WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE CAUSES?

A – SEE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY AND MARCH 2009 MEETINGS AVAILABLE IN THE FEBRUARY AND APRIL NEWSLETTERS ON WWW.SASKORCHIDS.COM

SHOW AND TELL:

PLANTS WERE SHOWN BY TRACEY THUE, EUGENE KUCEY, ELLEN ROSS, LYNN CAMPBELL, CHERYL ADAMSON, HEATHER ANDERSON, HERTHA DAHL, AND SHERIDA GREGOIRE.

PRESENTATION ON A TRIP TO THE ERIC YOUNG FOUNDATION: DON AND SHIRLEY KEITH SHOWED PICTURES OF THE FOUNDATION'S ORCHID COLLECTION AND PARTS OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

PLANT SALE

SOME PLANTS FROM THE ORCHID SPECIES FOUNDATION REMAIN FROM THE OCTOBER SALE. MEMBERS ALSO HAVE PLANTS ON THE SALE TABLE.

ADJOURNMENT: 3:30 P.M.



PHAL SUN JE
DIAMOND

WEB PAGE OF THE MONTH

EACH MONTH WE WILL FEATURE A WEB PAGE. IF YOU HAVE A FAVORITE, SEND IT TO THE EDITOR. THIS MONTH'S PAGE, COURTESY OF CHERYL ADAMSON IS,

[HTTP://WWW.ENLIGHTENEDORCHIDS.COM/INDEX.HTM](http://WWW.ENLIGHTENEDORCHIDS.COM/INDEX.HTM)

IT IS MAINTAINED BY A VENDOR SPECIALIZING IN COMPACT AND MINIATURE ORCHIDS SUITABLE FOR UNDER LIGHTS AND WINDOWSILL CULTURE. BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE EXTENSIVE CULTURE TIPS AND THE GALLERY OF PHOTOGRAPHS. IT IS WELL WORTH A VISIT.

ORDERING ORCHIDS 101

BY HEATHER ANDERSON

HAVE YOU NEVER PLACED AN ORDER FOR ORCHIDS WITH THE SOS PLANT ORDER COMMITTEE? WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT IS INVOLVED AND HOW IT ALL WORKS? IF THIS IS THE CASE PLEASE READ ON....



WE ATTEMPT TO PLACE A GROUP ORCHID ORDER ON BEHALF OF THE SOCIETY AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR. IN THE PAST ORDERS HAVE BEEN PLACED TO THE CONTINENTAL U.S. (I.E. HAUSERMANN'S ORCHIDS IN ILLINOIS), HAWAII (I.E. H & R NURSERIES, INC.), AND CANADA (I.E. CLOUD'S ORCHIDS AND FORESTVIEW GARDENS). BY ORDERING FROM VENDORS OUTSIDE THE CITY, MEMBERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE SOME DIFFERENT AND INTERESTING ORCHIDS THAT WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE LOCALLY. FURTHERMORE, BY USING THE GROUP TO ORDER, MORE REASONABLE PRICES CAN BE OBTAINED.

MOST OF THE LARGER ORCHID NURSERIES HAVE CATALOGS ON THEIR WEBSITES ALONG WITH PICTURES OF THE VARIOUS ORCHIDS AVAILABLE FOR SALE. SOME VENDORS IDENTIFY THE ORCHID BY THE POT SIZE. AS AN EXAMPLE, IN A 2.5" – 3" POT YOU WILL BE GETTING A SMALL PLANT OR SEEDLING, 2-3 YEARS FROM BLOOMING, WHEREAS A PLANT IN A 6" OR 7.5" POT WILL BE BLOOMING SIZE AND USUALLY MORE EXPENSIVE. VENDORS MAY ALSO IDENTIFY THE PLANTS AS: PREVIOUSLY BLOOMED, BLOOMING SIZE, NEAR BLOOMING SIZE, SEEDLINGS, COMPOTS (NORMALLY 15-20 VERY SMALL PLANTS) ETC., SO PRIOR TO ORDERING, CHECK FOR THIS INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE.

GROWERS MAY ALSO IDENTIFY WHETHER THE PLANT IS TO BE GROWN WARM, INTERMEDIATE OR COOL AND WHAT DEGREE OF HUMIDITY THE PLANT WILL REQUIRE. OTHER INFORMATION THAT MAY BE INCLUDED IS IF IT IS AN AWARDED PLANT, WHETHER IT IS A SPECIES OR A HYBRID, THE TIME OF YEAR THE ORCHID WILL BLOOM OR IF IT IS FRAGRANT OR NOT ETC. YOU CAN ALSO CHECK THE SOS LIBRARY OR THE INTERNET FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORCHIDS YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING.

WHEN PLACING AN ORDER WE REQUIRE A DEPOSIT (A CHEQUE IS PREFERRED) OF ½ OF THE VALUE OF THE ORDER. IN ADDITION TO THE PRICE OF THE PLANT THERE WILL BE COSTS FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING, AND IF IT IS A U.S. VENDOR, A FEE FOR PAPERWORK I.E. PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE (PHYTO) AND CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES) WILL BE ADDED TO THE BASE PRICE OF THE PLANT. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE COST OF THE PAPERWORK IS THE SAME WHETHER ONE PLANT IS ORDERED OR 50 PLANTS ARE ORDERED AND OFTEN ON A LARGE ORDER THE SOCIETY WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A DISCOUNT.

TO MAKE THE PURCHASE ECONOMICAL FOR MEMBERS AN ORDER OF AT LEAST \$500. IS REQUIRED WHEN PLACING A U.S. ORDER. SOME VENDORS ALSO HAVE MINIMUM ORDERS I.E. GREATER THAN \$500. U.S. IT IS PREFERABLE THAT THE ORDER

FORM (AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OR FROM ONE OF THE PLANT ORDER MEMBERS) BE USED WHEN PLACING THE ORDER. WE DO NOT USUALLY PLACE ORDERS IN THE COLD WINTER MONTHS DUE TO CONCERNS ABOUT THE SAFE DELIVERY OF THE PLANTS.

ONCE AN ORDER HAS BEEN PLACED WE WILL COMMUNICATE TO YOU WHEN THE ORCHIDS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE EITHER VIA THE NEWSLETTER OR AT THE MONTHLY SOS MEETING. AFTER WE HAVE PICKED UP THE ORCHIDS AT CUSTOMS (THAT IS A STORY FOR ANOTHER TIME) OR AT THE AIRPORT, WE UNPACK THE PLANTS AND GROUP THE ORCHIDS INTO INDIVIDUAL ORDERS. WE WILL THEN CONTACT YOU TO ARRANGE A PICK UP TIME – OFTEN THE SOONER THE BETTER, ESPECIALLY IF IT IS A LARGE ORDER OR IF THE ORCHIDS WILL NEED TO BE POTTED UP FAIRLY QUICKLY.

NOW WITH ALL OF THIS SAID GO AHEAD AND CONSIDER PLACING AN ORDER FOR ORCHIDS FROM J & L

ORCHIDS IN CONNECTICUT. PLANTS WILL BE PRE-ORDERED AND J & L WILL BRING THEM TO THE FEBRUARY 19-21 ORCHID SHOW IN EDMONTON. J & L'S PLANTS TEND TO BE SMALL AND THEY SPECIALIZE IN MINIATURES AND UNIQUE PLANTS SO YOU WILL NOT BE GETTING A LARGE ORCHID FOR YOUR MONEY, BUT A NUMBER OF THE SOCIETY MEMBERS HAVE PURCHASED FROM THEM IN THE PAST. AS ONE OF THE EXECUTIVE SAID, "BIGGER IS NOT ALWAYS BETTER." THERE WILL BE A SAVINGS ON SHIPPING AND PAPERWORK AND J & L HAVE OFFERED A 15% DISCOUNT SINCE WE ARE MAKING A GROUP ORDER. A NUMBER OF MEMBERS FROM THE SOCIETY WILL BE ATTENDING THE EDMONTON SHOW SO THEY WILL LOOK AFTER GETTING THE ORCHIDS BACK TO SASKATOON.

WE WILL ALSO BE PLACING AN ORDER WITH FORSTVIEW IN THE SPRING. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ORDERING JUST ASK CHERYL ADAMSON, MYSELF OR ANY OF THE EXECUTIVE. HAPPY ORCHID ORDERING!

THE GENUS DRACULA PART I

BY JOHN LEATHERS, GARY MEYER, JOE PARKER AND KENNETH CAMERON. (REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE ORCHID DIGEST, VOL. 72-4, OCT. NOV. DEC. 2008.) EDITOR'S NOTE: GIVEN THE REVIVAL OF VAMPIRES IN MODERN CINEMA AND TELEVISION, AS EVIDENCED BY THE TWILIGHT SAGA AND TRUE BLOOD SERIES, IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE TO REVISIT THE VAMPIRE OF THE ORCHID WORLD.

THE MOST COMPELLING FLOWERS OF ALL PLANTS ARE FOUND IN THE MOST RECENTLY EVOLVED AND LARGEST FAMILY OF FLOWERING PLANTS, NAMELY THE ORCHIDACEAE, AND SPECIFICALLY THE GENUS DRACULA. DRACULAS ARE AMONG THE MOST BIZARRE,

STRANGE, WEIRD AND SOMETIMES BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLES OF ALL FLOWERS. FOR THESE REASONS, DRACULA GROWERS ARE, WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, ECCENTRICS. THIS ARTICLE ENCAPSULATES THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE GENUS DRACULA AND INTRODUCES



SOME OF THE SPECIES. IT AVOIDS ANY DISCUSSION OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES OF THE GROWERS.

HISTORY

WHEN THE FIRST DRACULA SPECIMEN WAS DISCOVERED IN 1870 BY ROEHL, IT WAS QUITE AN EXCITING EVENT, THE FLOWER BEING SO DIFFERENT FROM THE MASDEVALLIA SPECIES KNOWN AT THE TIME. PROFESSOR REICHENBACH, IN HIS FIRST ACCOUNTS OF THE NEW SPECIES IN GARDENER'S CHRONICLE, OF 6 APRIL, 1872, WROTE: "I CANNOT REMEMBER TO HAVE EVER BEEN MORE ASTONISHED THAN WHEN I OBTAINED THIS REMARKABLE FLOWER. IT WAS BOTANICALLY SO UNEXPECTED, THAT I FELT QUITE AMAZED. SUCH A MASDEVALLIA NOT TO BE SATISFIED WITH THE HAIRY ORNAMENTS, BUT TO DEPRIVE OLD CYPRIPIEDIA AND CATASETA OF THEIR PRESTIGE, THAT OF HAVING A SLIPPER IN LIEU OF A TONGUE! OH, WHAT WONDERS MAY STILL LURK IN THESE INTERIOR RANGES OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN CORDILLERAS!"

PROFESSOR REICHENBACH, DESCRIBING THE SPECIES FROM DRIED FLOWERS AND A SKETCH SUPPLIED BY ROEHL, CONTEMPLATED CREATING A NEW GENUS FOR THIS EXTRAORDINARY PLANT. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHY THIS DIDN'T HAPPEN. INSTEAD, HE GAVE THIS SPECIMEN A NAME MASDEVALLIA CHIMAERA, BUT DID CREATE A NEW SECTION FOR THIS NEW GROUP, SACCOLABIATAE. ONE OF THE DEFINITIONS OF CHIMERA IS A HORRIBLE OR UNREAL CREATURE OF THE IMAGINATION, AND ANYONE WHO SEES DRACULA CHIMAERA IN BLOOM IMMEDIATELY GRASPS THE APPROPRIATENESS OF THIS NAME.

FOR THE NEXT CENTURY, MOST OF THE NEW TAXA OF THE GROUP SACCOLABIATAE WERE IDENTIFIED AS VARIETIES OF MASDEVALLIA CHIMAERA. IT WASN'T UNTIL 1978 THAT DR. CARLYLE LUER CREATED

THE GENUS DRACULA AND MOVED THE 50 SPECIES THAT WERE KNOWN AT THAT TIME FROM MASDEVALLIA TO DRACULA. SPECIES OF DRACULA ARE DIFFERENTIATED FROM THOSE OF MASDEVALLIA VEGETATIVELY BY THEIR PAPER-THIN LEAVES WITH SHARP MID-RIBS. HOWEVER, THEIR MOST DISTINCTIVE FEATURES ARE THEIR LIPS AND SEPAL TAILS; WHILE THE SIZE OF THE LIP AND THE LENGTH OF THE TAILS VARY GREATLY THE MUSHROOM-LIKE LIP OF DRACULA IS UNMISTAKABLE. SINCE THE CREATION OF THE NEW GENUS, THE NUMBER OF DRACULA SPECIES HAS GROWN TO WELL OVER 100.

A COMMON MISCONCEPTION IS THAT DR. LUER NAMED THE GENUS AFTER THE INFAMOUS COUNT DRACULA. AFTER ALL, PLANTS OF THIS GENUS ALSO PREFER TO LURK IN CONDITIONS THAT ARE DARK, DAMP AND COLD. IN ACTUALITY, "DRACULA" MEANS "LITTLE DRAGON." LUER CHOSE THIS NAME BECAUSE OF THE APPARENT 'FACES' WITHIN THE FLOWERS, RANGING FROM WHIMSICAL TO SCARY. SUBSEQUENTLY, LUER PLAYFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED THE VAMPIRE CONNECTION WITH SPECIES NAMES LIKE VAMPIRA, CHIROPTERA, AND NOSFERATU.

OUR OWN HISTORY WITH THIS GENUS BEGAN AT THE AUGUST 1978 MEETING OF THE SAN FRANCISCO ORCHID SOCIETY. MEMBERS RON HAWLEY AND BOB LEVI BROUGHT IN A BLOOMING PLANT OF DRACULA VAMPIRA WITH THE CLONAL NAME 'BELA LUGOSI,' MISTING IT ATTENTIVELY TO KEEP ITS FLOWERS FROM COLLAPSING, AS THEY ARE PRONE TO DO. IT WAS A COOL FOGGY SAN FRANCISCO SUMMER EVENING. THE PLANT WAS LEFT OUTDOORS IN THE GARDEN JOINING THE AOS PACIFIC CENTRAL'S JUDGING ROOM, BECAUSE OF THE RELATIVELY HIGHER HEAT INDOORS.

TO BE CONT'D.

