

Dr. Hermsen }
 Dr. van der Zaag } scientists

b) for the Federal Republic of Germany:

N. N. (Institute of Crop Science and Seed Research),
 MR Schmitz (Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry),

Prof. Ross }
 Dr. Hunnius } scientists

From 1st September 1974 the Potato Department will be directed by Dr. W. Lange, who until then was the head of the Cytogenetics Department of the Instituut de Haaff, Wageningen.

The collection of genetic material will start with duplicated seed samples of the collections of Prof. Ross and Dr. Hermsen. By the documentation division of the German gene bank a set of special information will be prepared with respect to the kind of information already incorporated in the computer and characteristics found in potato material by other institutes.

The first working programme will comprise investigations on material that is expected from an expedition to the Andes 1974/75 under the direction of Prof. Hawkes. In this connection the programming board recommends that most important resistance characteristics might be tested first and contacts to be established to corresponding institutes. In the frame of divided labor first tests will be carried out in the Federal Republic of Germany to specify resistance to *Heterodera*, Rattle Virus, *Fusarium* (resistance of seedlings and tubers) and *Erwinia*; in the Netherlands: *Heterodera*, *Phoma*, Scurf and *Phytophthora*. Furthermore it is intended to cooperate with the International Potato Center (CIP) in Lima/Peru in the problem of testing for resistance to *Rhizoctonia* and *Phytophthora* and possibly for the testing of protein content and protein quality.

For the further development of the Potato Department a financial programme has been laid out. This plan has to be finally confirmed by the German-Dutch Commission of Agricultural Research.

International Maize Symposium Genetics and Breeding – 1975

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the rediscovery of Mendel's paper, the University of Illinois will act as host for a five-day symposium on maize genetics and breeding to be held at the Ramada Inn, Champaign, Illinois, from September 8–12, 1975. The program will center on six themes: corn breeding, evolution, cytogenetics, gene action and

control, nuclear-cytoplasmic interactions, and tissue bionomics. The proceedings will be published.

Preregistration information may be obtained from D. E. Alexander, Symposium Executive Secretary, Department of Agronomy, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801 (USA).