The annual meetings of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America were held in Miami Beach, Florida on October 29 to November 3, 1972. The overall theme of the meetings was "Serving Man in an Urban Environment." During the week participating members and guests attended symposia, meal functions, paper sessions, tours, and book and commercial exhibits and witnessed the presentation of annual achievement awards, 20 new Fellows of the society, the new society officers for 1972-73, and a record number of research papers. The exceptionally good facilities of the Deauville and Carillon Hotels provided just the right atmosphere for conducting business and paper sessions; the facilities afforded attendees the opportunity to conduct their activities in a comfortable and pleasurable way.

The theme of the meetings was focused upon during a Tuesday afternoon Special Session arranged by Dr. H. B. Cheney, ASA President Elect and Society Program Chairman, and presided over by Dr. J. Ritchie Cowan, President of ASA. Among the areas discussed in this session were "Discovery and Research for Agriculture and Beyond" by S. H. Witter, Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, Michigan State University; "The Role of Research in the Environmental Protection Agency" by A. C. Trakowski, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; "Rural Development--A Pattern for the Future" by William Erwin, Deputy Undersecretary for Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture; and "Land Use Changes in an Urban Environment--Roles of Agronomists" by M. T. Beatty, Extension Program Leader for Natural and Environmental Resources, University of Wisconsin.

In addition to the theme program, several other symposia were held throughout the week. On Monday the International Agronomy Division (A-6) sponsored a symposium on "Fertility Evaluation of Tropical Soils." CSSA sponsored symposia on "Implementing the Plant Variety Protection Act" and the effects of physiology and biochemistry on plant development; SSSA sponsored a symposium on "Organic Soils." "Communications with the Urban Public," sponsored by the Resident Education Division (A-1), and "Turfgrass and the Urban Man," sponsored by the Land Use and Management (A-2) and Turfgrass Management (C-5) Divisions were among the symposia featured on Tuesday. "Crop Production in and for an Urban Society" was sponsored by the Environmental Quality (A-5), Crop Physiology and Metabolism (C-2), and Crop Ecology, Production and Management (C-3) Divisions. "Environmental Quality: The ERTS Perspective," sponsored by the A-5, C-2, and Soil Genesis, Morphology and Classification (S-5) Divisions, was the featured symposium on Thursday.

A symposium entitled "Range Resources of the Southeastern U.S." was sponsored by ASA, CSSA, SSSA, and the Society for Range Management, on Tuesday. The papers from this symposium will be published in an ASA-CSSA Special Publication. A CSSA Special Publication will result from a symposium sponsored by the Crop Quality and Utilization (C-6) Division on "Anti-Quality Components in Forages."

Meal meetings also created a good deal of interest among the members attending the annual meetings. The Agronomic Administrators Roundtable was held on Sunday evening. The talks included at this function were: "The Role of the Cooperative State Research Service in Research Program Planning and Implementation" by J. S. Robins, Associate Administrator, CSRS-USDA, Washington, D.C. and "Implications of the Illinois Pollution Control Board Hearings Relative to Regulating Fertilizer Usage in Crop Production" by Samuel R. Aldrich, Member, Board of Directors, Illinois Agricultural Association.

As usual, the society's Placement Service was in operation to assist prospective employees and employers. Of the 20 industrial firms, 4 agencies, 6 government agencies, and 31 educational institutions from various commercial and educational communities, 1650 research papers were presented in 140 meeting sessions held from Monday to Thursday. Many of the papers will eventually appear in the "Proceedings, Journal of Environmental Quality" and "Agricultural Education." Interspersed with the paper sessions were Director meetings for each of the three associated societies, an Intersociety Coordinating Committee meeting, program Planning Committee meetings, numerous executive committee meetings, and division business meetings.

The exhibit area offered attendees the opportunity to view exhibits and book displays. An exhibit of "Agriculture and Beyond," sponsored by the Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America's Placement Service, to attend both pre-convention tours, a turfgrass tour and soils tour during the week, and any number of activities in and around Miami Beach.

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