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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

AMERICAN BRANCH



32 East 57th Street, New York 22, N.Y.

January 29, 1959

Mr. Arthur M. Scott
2824 Dante Street
New Orleans 18

Dear Mr. Scott:

You will be very interested to know that at last Volume 3 of SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION TO ARNHEM LAND has arrived in America and has just been published.

Separately we are sending you a complimentary copy of the book in appreciation of the helpful information you gave us in your letter of June 2.

Yours sincerely,

Miriam Firestone
Miriam Firestone
Publicity Director

 WALKABOUT 
THE AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE

RAILWAY BUILDING, FLINDERS STREET
MELBOURNE, C.I. AUSTRALIA

November 7, 1958.

Mr A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS 18, LA., USA.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of October 6, together with your cheque for \$4.26, the Australian equivalent being £1.17. 9d. As requested we have entered a subscription to "Walkabout" on your behalf commencing with our August 1958 issue.

Under separate cover we have despatched copies of our magazine for August, September, October, and November 1958. Which we trust will arrive safely.

Mr Guy Batham's address is as follows -

27 Brisbane Street,
Bulimba,
Brisbane, Queensland.

We herewith enclose our receipt no 49958.

Yours faithfully,

Basil G. Atkinson,
Managing Editor.

per/ *B.G.A.*

Encl.



The University of Adelaide
Botany Department.
Adelaide

Your Reference.....

Our Reference.....RLS/GW.....
(In Reply, Please Quote)

25th November, 1958.

Mr. Arthur M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS 18, LA., U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

I have just received a letter from the Melbourne University Press advising that they have sent you a credit note for £5, by air mail. They are extremely sorry that the printer made such a shambles in binding and forwarding the reprints. This is the first time that the Press has ever dealt with reprints, but that is no excuse for the printer. I think that they deal with reprints for the Royal Society of Victoria.

The Press used to make a practice of ship-freighting books to U.S.A. and Europe but they were delayed for so many months that their agents advised them to use parcel post. The cost of a case, ship-freight, on the Matson Line to U.S.A. is £10 to £11 and to this must be added clearing costs and transit duties. I got 3 cases of reprinted plates and sent them to Duke University, Durham, N.C. via Matson in December 1955 and they had not arrived there by July 1958! Apparently the shipping firm lost ~~them~~ somewhere in U.S.A.

Nevertheless, apart from the severe disappointment over reprints, I think that the Press has done a first class job with the volume. They received a very high publishing award for the first volume of the Arnhem Land papers and the botanical volume is well up to that level. The Press and especially all the authors are to be heartily congratulated on a fine contribution to botanical knowledge. Our editing was severe to all papers, especially to my own, but it was worth it. Prescott's and your paper is a monumental piece of work and as caused much favourable comment in Australia.

That map of Oenpelli locates the three collection sites:

- A 108 from stream-bed above Oenpelli Waterfall
- A 109 from Red Lily lagoon (red lily = Nelumbo nucifera)
- A 111 from Oenpelli Lagoon.

Your reprint has not yet arrived, but I can assure you that your recent paper on the Desmids of S.E. U.S.A. arrived in perfect condition. The Melbourne University Press uses similar cardboard containers plus strong waterproof wrapping for all their books. It is a pity that they left the forwarding to the printer.

Today a Dr. Prowse from Singapore passed through Adelaide. He had met you in London 1955 and hopes to visit you in New Orleans in a few months — if he can get a Carnegie Grant. He spoke very highly of your contributions to the desmid literature, and your artistic abilities.

Regards to your wife and yourself,

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht

AIRMAIL



BMR:MC

Melbourne University Press

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
CARLTON, N.3 - VICTORIA

Telephone: FJ 0484

19 November 1958

Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS 18,
Louisiana, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

Dr. R. L. Specht has sent us a copy of your letter of 28 October. I apologize for not replying to your earlier letter, but I thought Dr. Specht's letter covered the position. However, we should have written also.

The printers admit that the reprints were not packed securely enough and they, and we, regret very much what happened. Therefore, we have agreed to your request for an allowance of £5 and a credit note for that amount is enclosed.

There are some points in your letter on which we may comment.

It is quite an ordinary thing for some packets of a consignment to arrive here weeks later than others, from both U.S.A. and England. Our retail Book Room has been in the position of having to hold some copies of a text book for nearly two months, unable to put them on sale, because the packet with the invoice from the American publisher only arrived with a later instalment. Once packages are put in the post no individual or firm has any control over their progress.

We have a sample of each of the reprints, taken at random from the supply. No staple is less than one-eighth of an inch from the edge and most are three-sixteenths, and all are tightly clinched. The stapling was done on an electrically powered machine, hand fed. It is not economic to put small quantities on an automatic machine.

It would take a rather long and complicated explanation to cover why the folds were trimmed, but it was a matter of producing the reprints in a cheaper form to meet your anxiety about cost, as explained by Dr. Specht.

The postage was expensive, but you are wrong in your estimate of the comparative cost of shipping freight and the length of time that would have been involved. All our stock is now sent to Cambridge University Press by post, at their request, because they found that freight shipments took a great deal longer to reach U.S.A.



Melbourne University Press

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
CARLTON, N.3 - - VICTORIA

Telephone: FJ 0484

Mr. A. M. Scott

- 2 -

19 November 1958

As regards the cost: we enquired from two shipping lines, one American and one Australasian, and it would have cost about £10-10-0 to get a case on board with freight paid. You would then have had to pay the costs of clearing and transport to New Orleans. Your statement of a bookbinder's wages in U.S.A. indicates that they are double those in Australia. If other wages and expenses are comparably higher the costs of getting a case from, say, San Francisco or New York would amount to several £'s.

I trust the drawings sent by Dr. Specht have now arrived safely.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss B. M. Ramsden)
Editorial Department

ENC.

November 25 1958

Melbourne University Press,
Carlton, N.3, Melbourne, Vic.
Australia.

Attention Miss B. M. Ramsden.

Dear Miss Ramsden,

Enclosed is my check for \$66.70 in payment of your invoice #1306 less your credit note #752. Thus endeth the argument over the spilt milk.

There is one more thing you might do for me, if you feel so inclined. From your letter I gather that you have on hand extra reprints of the various sections, and I would like you to send me one copy of each of the following:

- Section 3. Characeae.
- 4. Marine Algae.
- 5. Basidiomycetes.
- 6. Agaricaceae.
- 7. Lichens.
- 8. Bryophytes.
- 9. Pteridophyta.
- Index.

Dr. Specht has sent me reprints of his own contributions, and if I can get the others I will have all of them permanently bound into a book that will substitute for the official Volume 3, which the Australasian Government is too poor or too parsimonious to donate to the scientists whose work has made its publication possible.

Very truly yours,



The University of Adelaide

Botany Department.

Adelaide

Your Reference.....

Our Reference RLS/CW
(In Reply, Please Quote)

18th September, 1958.

Mr. A.M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS 18 LA. U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

What a mess! The printers forwarded Womersley's and my reprints in the same manner. Even in the short distance from Melbourne to Adelaide the wrappings had broken slightly. I had no idea that they would not have wrapped the overseas reprints more securely, especially when one sees how parcels from America, and rarely other countries, usually arrive severely battered no matter how well they are wrapped.

May I take full responsibility for the covers of the reprints. The unprinted cover was added merely to keep the outside pages clean, the reference to the book being included above the title of the first page. The pages were to be stapled together as in reprints from many overseas journals such as

Annals Botany, Archives Biochem. & Biophysics., Acta.
Bot. Neerlandica, Ann. Rev. Plant Physiol., Bot. Rev.,
Plant Physiology, Quart Rev. Biol., Journ. Ecology, Trans.
Brit. Mycol. Soc., etc.

The printer is responsible for chopping off the signature golds. The rights and wrongs of this technical point are outside my knowledge. I had to decide the nature of the cover last May after I had received your letters of May 3, 1957,

"I am surprised to learn that the cost of Vol. 1 of the Report is £A6.6.0. Originally I had asked you to order for me a complete set of the volumes, but at that time I was working and making a pretty good income. Since my retirement my income is much reduced, and I cannot afford to spend that much money on one book. Also I wonder how much the 100 reprints for me and the 200 reprints for Prescott are going to cost. No doubt the Melbourne Univ. Press can give you a pretty close estimate of the cost when the paper is set up in proof, and I would like you to advise me about this before placing a definite order for the reprints",

and April 5, 1958. All authors were to receive 100 free reprints which would have been sewn, plus covers. Prescott and you were the only authors requesting extra reprints, and were greatly worried at their cost. For that reason we selected a less expensive reprint.

I regret that you felt so strongly about the expense of reprints that it influenced my decision to economise, especially as you now wish to cover your set of reprints.

A few days ago I returned your diagrams by registered mail securely wrapped, I hope, in their original tube. The map you mentioned previously has never been located. I have also forwarded a set of my reprints which I trust will arrive in good condition.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht

October 28 1958

Dr. Ray L. Specht,
University of Adelaide,
South Australia.

Dear Dr. Specht,

After writing you I received two more packages of reprints, bringing the total up to 101. Prescott received a first lot of 130, and either one or two more later, so he now probably has his total of 150. Strangely they were all postmarked on the same date, August 6th, though my last two lots arrived respectively four and five weeks after the first, evidently having come by a different steamer. Here's what Prescott had to say:

"Your forthright letter expresses my own sentiments precisely. I too received a box of reprints, which, when I saw it in the laboratory, made me wonder who has been digging up a lot of old bulletins from the basement. They were in horrible shape, - many of the so-called covers completely torn off. Someone over there certainly has little experience in this sort of thing, or else they just don't give a damn".

There are plenty of scientific journals and popular magazines fastened with staples. But notice that the stapling is done by automatic machinery that inserts the staples at the proper distance from the edge ($3/16"$ to $1/4"$) and spaces them equally from the top and bottom; they are tightly clinched; the sheets are left in the original signature folds of 16 pages; and the one-piece cover is glued on. Many American magazines use staples made from flattened wire, which clinches better and has less tendency to tear the paper.

In the reprints the staples had been inserted one at a time, by a hand-power machine, and I think they must have turned over the job to the office boy or a new apprentice. The staples were positioned "by guess and by God", but mostly by guess. Several of the reprints in the lot (I think) were damaged in this way. In a few cases where the loose sheets had not been jogged exactly even, one leg of the staple had come out through the spine. In some other cases one leg was not clinched at all, but stuck out at right angles from the surface. The position of the top staple varied from $3/4"$ to $1-1/4"$ from the upper edge, the bottom one from $1-1/4"$ to $3"$ from the lower edge, and the third one somewhere in between. Not a single one of the staples was tightly clinched, and this was largely responsible for so many of the covers being torn off. I can swear to all of this because I beat down every one of the staples with a hammer on a steel anvil block in reconditioning the books.

I took a sample to two bookbinders to find out the cost of rebinding them, but neither concern wanted the job, so I undertook it myself. After tightening the staples I glued on all the covers, and then bound the left edge with a $1-1/2"$ strip of self-adhesive plastic tape, as you will see from the copy I have sent you. It took me the better part of five days to do all this.

Only three days ago I received an invoice from the Melbourne Univ. Press, at Carlton, W.3, Victoria (not Melbourne). It reads thus:

Cost of adding frontispiece map to 100 copies of Part 2 of Vol.3
of Records of Arnhem Land Expedition
150 extra copies of reprint
Postage on 14 pkts.

14-0
22-14-0
11- 2-0
43-10-0

The amount of postage is astonishing. If the reprints had been packed in a wooden case and shipped as ocean freight they would have arrived in better condition, in very little longer time, and the cost would have been probably only one-third that of parcel post. It is certain that the complete volumes are not being shipped by parcel post to the Cambridge Univ. Press in New York, who are the distributors for the U.S.A.

It seems to me that it would be no more than fair if a reduction were made in the amount of this invoice, to compensate me partially for the extra work caused by the printers' poor workmanship in binding and packing, which was entirely responsible for the damage. I would be satisfied with an allowance of £5-0-0, which would pay for my time at the rate of about \$2.25 per day, less than a bookbinder gets per hour in USA. The Melbourne Univ. Press has not replied to my letter, so I shall have to ask you to take up this matter with them. Upon receipt of your answer I will send them a cheque immediately.

My drawings and your reprints have not yet come to hand, but no doubt they will arrive in the next week or so.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

October 6 1958

The Australian National Travel Assn.,
Railway Bldg., Flinders St.,
Melbourne, Vic.

Gentlemen,

In some packages of reprints just received from Brown, Prior, Anderson, they had used old pages of "Walkabout" as inner wrappers. This is the first time I have seen the magazine and I think it will be of considerable interest to me, so I am enclosing my cheque for \$4.26 to pay for a one year's subscription. This is figured at £11/17/6, at the rate of \$2.27 to the pound.

You might start with the August 1958 issue if it is available, because I saw the second part (only) of an article by Guy Batham on Lake Murray in New Guinea, and would like to read the complete article. Also I would like you to give me Mr. Batham's address, so that I may write to him.

In Vol. 3 of the Records of the American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land, published last August by the Melbourne University Press, there is an article by A.M.Scott (myself) & G.W.Prescott on the Freshwater Algae collected by Ray Specht, of the Univ. of Adelaide, who was Botanist of the Expedition. You probably have this book in your library, and you might look it up to see what I am writing about. Mr. G.P.Mountford, Leader of the Expedition and author of Vol. 1, wrote that he considered our paper "an outstanding piece of research work".

It is on this subject that I wish to write Mr. Latham, to see if he can put me in touch with someone who might be willing to make collections of algae from Lake Murray and other regions in the swamps of the upper Fly River.

Very truly yours,



THE UNIVERSITY
ADELAIDE

BOX 498 D. G.P.O.
PHONE: W 3211

Botany Department.
30th July, 1958.

AIR MAIL.

Mr. A.M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA. U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

Just a note to let you know that the publication date of the botanical volume of the Arnhem Land Expedition is at last set for 8 August.

Many thanks for your co-operation and patience.

Yours sincerely,

R L Specht

R.L. SPECHT.

I shall return the diagrams in the

near future

Sept 8 1958

Postmaster,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir,

At noon last Saturday, Sept 6th, one of your parcel post trucks delivered to me at the above address 10 identical parcels containing small paper-bound books shipped to me by Brown, Prior & Anderson, of Melbourne, Australia.

All of the packages were in extremely bad condition; wrappers torn and contents exposed and damaged. However, this is not the fault of the Postal Dept., nor of the transportation company, but was simply caused by inadequate packing, and I intend to make a claim against the shippers.

What I am writing about is that 2 packages seem to be missing. I had ordered 100 of these books, but only received 81, in 9 parcels each containing 9 books. The tenth package contained different material which is not included in the total of 100. It is quite possible that these two packages may have been broken open and the address labels lost, through faulty packing.

Would you therefore be kind enough to put out a tracer and see if these two parcels can be located? To assist in identification I am enclosing one of the labels. The parcels measure about 10" x 7½" x 2¼", and the title of the book is "Some freshwater Algae from Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory of Australia", by Arthur M. Scott and Gerald W. Prescott. They are reprints from a book that was published in Melbourne.

Very truly yours,



The University of Adelaide
Botany Department.
Adelaide

Telephone: W 3211

Your Reference.....

Our Reference..... RLS/CW
(In Reply, Please Quote)

8th May, 1958.

Mr. A.M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
New Orleans 18 LA., U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

The Melbourne University Press have informed me of the following prices for your reprints.

150 copies	£22.14.0	= 51.08	
225 copies	£33.14.0	= 75.83	200 = about \$69 ⁰⁰
300 copies	£44. 8.6	= 99.96	

plus postage.

The frontispiece map can be added to reprints if you wish:
cost 14/- per 100. = 1.57 per 100

You will receive 100 reprints (without frontispiece) at no cost. Please let me know if you require more and whether you wish the frontispiece map included.

The botanical volume is scheduled to be issued in August.

The figure numbers will be included above the diagrams as you requested. This was an accidental omission.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht

R.L. SPECHT.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Manager:
F. RONALD MANSBRIDGE

32 East 57th Street, New York 22, N.Y.

Telephone: MU 8-8888
Cables: CANTABER

AGENTS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR
MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY PRESS



May 22, 1958

Professor Arthur M. Scott
2824 Dante Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Professor Scott:

We have just heard from our Melbourne office that you have been in communication with Dr R.L. Specht and that you feel one of the New Orleans libraries ought to have a copy of Volume I of ARNHAM LAND. We have several rather elaborate brochures that we from time to time have sent to interested libraries. Would you recommend a specific librarian in New Orleans to whom we might send this brochure?

The book lists for \$18.50 and the brochure might help persuade the librarian to order it.

Volume 3, of which I believe you are one of the authors, should be coming this fall. If you could provide us with the names of any American people or institutions who ought to buy this book, we would greatly appreciate it. We had several talks with Mr Setzler regarding the proper promotion of Volume I.

Sincerely yours,

Robert W. Adamson
Assistant to the Manager

RWA/mz

Dr. Garland S Taylor
Howard Tilton

AMF

June 2 1958

Cambridge University Press,
32 E. 57th St.
New York 22, N.Y.

Attention Mr. Robert W. Adamson.

Gentlemen,

Thanks for your letter of May 22, addressed to "Professor" A. M. Scott. I must tell you, however, that I am not a Professor, nor am I connected with any educational institution. I am, in fact, a retired Civil Engineer, whose hobby for the last 20 years has been the collection and study of a certain group of microscopic algae known as Desmids. In this I have attained some international reputation, and it is the subject of the paper that I wrote, in collaboration with Prof. E.W. Prescott, of Michigan State University, which will appear in Vol. III of the Reports of the Arnheim Land Expedition, supposed to be published next August.

I think the only library in New Orleans that might purchase a set of the Arnheim Land Reports is the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University, New Orleans 18. The librarian's name is Dr. Garland S. Taylor, and I suggest that you send him one of your brochures. He does not know me personally, but you may mention my name as one of the authors in Vol. III. I also should like to see the brochure (or brochures if there are several), and if they are in short supply I will return them after perusal.

A couple of years ago Dr. R. L. Specht visited me in New Orleans with his wife and small daughter, and some years before that I had a short talk with Dr. Setzler when he lectured on Arnheim Land at Tulane University.

The botanical volume might go interest certain members of such Societies as the Botanical Society of America, the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, and my paper would interest some members of the Phycological Society of America, so it would be in order for you to circularize the membership of those Societies. However, most of the specialists in my line will receive reprints from me or from Prescott. I suggest that you send the book for review to the American Inst. of Biological Sciences, and advertise it in the A.I.B.S. Bulletin. The book ought to be in the library of all the large universities in this country, and in particular you might send an announcement to Prof. Jos. Ewan, Dept. of Botany, Tulane University, New Orleans 18., who knows me.

Now, here is a subject on which I hope you will be good enough to give me your views. Many specialists have contributed their work in the various "ologies" to the published Reports, and I expect that many or most of them have salaried positions, like Specht at the Univ. of Adelaide and Setzler at the Smithsonian. On the other hand I did the work in my own time, working at nights and Saturdays and Sundays, and it took me nearly two years to complete the study. Of course I did it without any expectation of a pecuniary reward, simply for my own enjoyment as a hobby. The work is difficult and time-consuming, because desmids are quite invisible to the naked eye and must be studied under the microscope at high magnifications. A drawing must be made of each different kind, magnified anywhere from 500 to 2000 times. Some of them require three drawings showing the front, side and top views, like the front elevation, side elevation, and floor plan of a house. So these minute plants, the smallest of which is about 1/4000 of an inch diameter, must be manipulated, floating in water, into three different

positions and held there while the three drawings are being made. Photomicrographs are not satisfactory for accurate determination. For the finished paper I drew 20 full-page plates ~~of~~ illustrations in pencil, and paid \$100.00 to have them inked, for my hand is no longer steady enough for inking. Prescott drew 8 more plates of a different group of algae. Also I paid \$45.00 for Latin translations of the diagnoses of new species, and there were additional expenditures for airmail postage on manuscript, drawings, galley and page proofs, and many letters.

Between us, I guess that Prescott and I put in something like 1000 hours of work on the job. Valuing our time at \$5.00 an hour, which is about half of what I earned as a Civil Engineer, the value of our work might be put at something like \$5000. Neither of us expect any money, but our total reward is in the form of 100 free reprints of the paper, worth about \$35 at the Univ. of Melbourne Press' quotation. Since we need a total of 250 reprints, we have to pay for the extra 150. This seems like a pretty meagre recompense, so I wrote all the foregoing to Specht, and asked that he approach the proper authorities (whoever they may be) with the suggestion that it would be a gracious gesture if they donated a complete set of the Reports to each of their specialist contributors, or, failing that, at least a copy of one volume containing the specialist's paper. My suggestion has brought no response, though I have had two or three letters from Specht since then.

Previously I have collaborated, at first as junior and later as senior author, in 16 papers on desmids, all of which have been published in scientific journals, so I have had no experience in book publishing. During the early correspondence I was informed that the Arnhem Land Reports would be published by the Australian Government, and I assumed that as Government publications they would be sold at not much more than cost. I was considerably surprised when I learned that the price of Vol. I is six guineas in Australia, and later I read in the review in Scientific American that the price is \$18.50 in this country, the difference being caused, of course, by freight charges, import duty, and handling. It seems to me that somebody must be making a pretty fair profit out of the deal.

So I would like you to tell me, if you will, what is the usual practice in such a case. If the Cambridge University Press were publishing such a series of volumes in this country, what would be your policy with regard to free copies of the set, or of the individual books, for the specialists who have contributed their work gratis?

AIR MAIL

POST CARD

AIR MAIL

ADLAIDE
5 M
3 5 FEB 3
1953
SOUTH AUSTR

E
REGULAR

SOUTH 13

Arthur M. Scott,

2824 Dante Street,
New Orleans 18 LA.

United States

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

DEPT. OF Botany

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

6th Feb. 58

Thank you for the following Reprints which have been received:

Dear Mr. Scott,

Corrected proofs awaited my return from holidays in Brisbane. Proofs of "explanations" will be forwarded as soon as available.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

R L Speck

HP 6740

New Orleans, May 22 1958

Dear Dr. Specht,

I have just heard from Prof. Prescott, who happened to be in Quito when my letter arrived there.

We wish to have a total of 250 reprints, 100 free and 150 to be paid for, all of them to have the frontispiece map.

Also we want 10 extra sets of the illustrations only, without text, printed on one side of the paper only.

Please send 100 reprints and the 10 sets of illustrations to me, and 150 reprints direct to Prescott at East Lansing, Mich.

Send the invoice for everything to me. I will pay it and will settle with Prescott for his share of the expense.

Sincerely,



THE UNIVERSITY
ADELAIDE

BOX 498 D. G.P.O.
PHONE: W 3211

Botany Dept
18 Dec 1957

Dear Mr Scott,

By separate registered air mail,
I have forwarded the proofs of your
figures for Amber Land Freshwater
Algae. Please return them at your
earliest convenience.

With best wishes for Christmas and the
New Year to yourself and Mrs Scott,

Yours sincerely,

Ray & Marion Spector
(also Alison)

RS

Dec 23 1957

Dear Dr. Specht,

The enclosed proofs of the illustrations are satisfactory, except that on Figs. 12 and 24 there some black markings that I have encircled in blue pencil. These look as if they had been made with pen and ink, but if they are in the zinc blocks they must be routed out.

I have not yet seen proof of the Explanations of the illustrations, and this is important because there are a lot of funny words that could easily be misspelled.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,



The University of Adelaide
Botany Department.

Adelaide

Your Reference.....

9th October, 1957.

Out Reference..... RLS/CW...
(In Reply, Please Quote)

Mr. Arthur M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS 18 LA. U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

I am glad that we have agreed on the interpretation of the botanical rules. Regnesii and wildemanii have been recorrected. I feel that we should add footnotes to pseudosebaldi⁹ and sebaldi¹⁰, e.g.

9. See Staurastrum sebaldi, page - .

10. Sebaldi is the genitive of Sanctus Sebaldus, the patron saint of - .

I have suggested this to Miss Ramsden. Is this satisfactory?

The figures, including your text fig. 2, now fig. 29, will be all printed at the end of your paper with their explanation printed opposite on the reverse of the preceding figure. All will be on art paper, as will be the text. Have you seen volume I of the Arnhem Land Records yet? Figures (line drawings) and plates (photographs) are scattered through the text. However, as your figures did not follow the sequence of species in the text, we have to include them at the end of paper.

I am sure that the Melbourne University Press will not agree to including your note on sponsorship. They regard the publication as a book, not as a collection of isolated scientific papers. The reprints will be headed something like this -

Reprinted from "Records of the American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land. III. Botany and Plant Ecology."
Melbourne University Press, 1957.

This should be enough information for any reader who wishes to learn more about the Expedition and Arnhem Land. Vol. I includes references to the National National Geographic articles on page XXX, and any library of reasonable size should have a copy. Nevertheless I have submitted your request to the Melbourne University Press.

The frontispiece map, very similar to that in the National Geographic of December 1949, may be included in all reprints if the authors wish, at a very small price (probably gratis). To reduce the cost of additional reprints we have decided to add something like the above statement before the title. The pages will be stapled at the edges between a plain paper cover.

I cannot remember your map. I understood, perhaps carelessly, that the frontispiece map would be the one used. But I shall try to find it. I have notified Melbourne that you wish the drawings to be returned.

It is impossible to transpose the Euglenophyta etc. without

RLS/CW (continued)

9th October, 1957.

confusing all the ^{previous} headings. I believe Desmidiaceae is in the Chlorophyta which is printed on galley 97.

We shall be able to give you estimates of the cost of reprints as soon as page proofs are ready.

With kind regards to yourself and your wife.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht

R.L. SPECHT.



THE UNIVERSITY
ADELAIDE

Box 498 D. G.P.O.
PHONE: W 3211

Botany Dept.,
23 Sept. 57

Dear Mr. Scott,

Two further points noted in
galley. You have probably noted them
yourself.

galley 105.

E. leuthemuelleri v. *comollicum*

E. leuthemuelleri v. *laterepunctatum*

galley 108

Cosmarium moniliforme fa. *panduriformis*

fa. or var.?

If you have returned the galley already,
please notify me of the correct spelling
and form by return mail.

With kind regards to your wife and yourself,

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht



The University of Adelaide

Botany Department.

Adelaide

18th September, 1957.

Your Reference.....

Out Reference... RLS/CW
(In Reply, Please Quote)

Mr. A.M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS 18 LA. U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

By registered air mail, I am forwarding the galleys to your manuscript. The proofs of the figures will follow at a later date.

As you will note there has been a slight departure from the format of your manuscript, in the arrangement of the families (on Bryan Womersley's advise) and in the citation of references which now follow the World List of Scientific Periodicals (Oxford University Press.)

As Bold type had to be hand-set, it was only used for the new species and varieties. Miss Ramsden of the Melbourne University Press has made corrections to the galleys; you will probably find others. She makes the following queries.

(1) "On galleys 95 and 110 the name Strom occurs, also in References list. The copy has ϕ but the printers have not got this character on the lino-type machine. They could try and get something to fit but is it important enough to worry about?"

*ö was changed to
φ by Melb. Univ Press*

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

*I have retained
one set of galleys
RLS.*

Galleys 97, 98, 99 - many corrections to punctuation marked. I marked these in ink on the set I was reading but only in pencil on the other two, when I found how many there were. The printers have not always followed copy but there was some inconsistency in the typescript. As it would mean a lot of re-setting could they be left as they are? *Yes, Scott*

Galley 111, Arthrodesmus subulatus Kütz. fa. incrassatus - in the Latin cum spinis comes first but everywhere else sine spinis does. Can the cum and sine be transposed here, to agree with the English version and be consistent with other entries?

Galley 105, Euastrum longicolle...capitatum...minus and galley 107, Cosmarium askenasyi...latum - in these two cases the micron sign has been used but not elsewhere, and there is a statement at the beginning that all measurements in microns.

Galley 106, Micrasterias ceratophora...maxima - in the Latin W. sine spinibus. cf. e.g. gal. 104, Euastrum diplostauron...yirkallense, cum spinis...lat. W. should not be in the Latin should it?"

*Not sent with
proofs, Scott*

(2) "A few questions have been marked on the proofs. Returned also is the long list of answers from Scott and Prescott, typed in red. On page 5 of this, there is an answer about a publication by J.W. Bailey, 1846, but there is now no such entry in the References. Is this all right? That is, is there now no reference in the text to this publication? The same question applies to Prescott and Scott, 1943, on p. 6 of the red list."

Mr. A.M. Scott.

18th September, 1957.

A card dated 4th July arrived by surface mail (insufficient postage) from Prof. Prescott. It noted the collection record of Oedogonium spiripinnatum Jao as Oepelli (A 108). I guessed "Bickerton Island" before the MS went to press; it is now corrected. Is it spiripinnatum or spiripennatum?

Please return the corrected galley as soon as possible. No word of Patrick's MS. She promised it by this summer.

With kind regards to your wife and yourself,

Yours sincerely,

Ray Speck

Sept 27 1957

Dear Dr. Specht,

I am returning under separate cover, by registered airmail, the galley proofs on which I have made numerous corrections of typographical errors, and a few small changes for which I will give the reasons below.

Womersley is quite correct that the Euglenophyta, Chrysophyta and Pyrrophyta usually follow after the Desmidiaceae, but since these three groups together occupy only about 1 page of text, don't you think it would be better, from a purely utilitarian viewpoint, to leave them where we had them, ahead of the desmids, instead of hiding them at the very end of the paper where they will be less easy to find?

I do not have the World List of Scientific Periodicals, so have not been able to check the abbreviations, but they are OK with me, and I am sure with Prescott also.

Replying to Miss Ramsden's queries:

1. If the printers do not have the special character for the name *Ström*, an acceptable substitute is *Strö̈m*, but it must not be spelled *Strom* without the diaeresis sign.

Galleys 97, 98, 99. The many corrections in punctuation are not important. The difference between a comma and a semicolon is hardly worth worrying about.

Galley 111. If they wish the *cum* and *sine* may be transposed (with the proper dimensions, of course), or they may be allowed to stand. Unimportant.

Galleys 105, 107. The micron sign may be deleted or left in. Unimportant.

Galley 106. The abbreviation *W.* should not have been used in the Latin. Please change it to *lat.*

2. I have answered the questions on the proofs. I cannot find any mention in the text of J.W. Bailey 1846, nor of Prescott & Scott 1943, so it is correct that these two items have been omitted from the revised list of References. On the other hand there are two new items to be inserted in the References because they are mentioned in the text; I have shown these at the bottom of Galley 119.

Oedogonium spiripennatum is correct, not *spiripinnatum*.

Here are some further comments:

Prescott asked you to make a change on Ms. page 27, line 4 from bottom. West & West, 1904. Change to read West & West & Carter, 1904. This makes it appear that W & W & C are the authors of *Pl. trabeculum* var. *rectum*, which is not the case. The authors are West & West, and the variety was published in Vol. 1 of the 5-Vol. Monograph listed in the References as West & West & Carter. I have made the necessary change on Gall. 101.

The Alphabetical List of Genera and Species, Ms. pp 104-110 was compiled by me simply as an aid to the editor in making an index for the botanical volume. It was not intended as part of the text of this paper.

No galley proof has been submitted of the explanations of the Plates, or

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Galley 111. If they wish the cum and sine may be transposed (with the proper dimensions, of course), or they may be allowed to stand. Unimportant.

Galleys 105, 107. The micron sign may be deleted or left in. Unimportant.

Galley 106. The abbreviation l. should not have been used in the latin. Please change it to lat.

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No galley proof has been submitted of the explanations of the Plates, or

Figures as you call them, and this causes me to wonder where the explanations are to be printed. It would be very nice if the explanations could be printed on the reverse side of the preceding plate, though this would add several pages to the volume. On the other hand I hope you are not going to print the explanations on the plates themselves, below the illustrations, because my drawings were not designed with that in mind. You gave me type page size of $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\text{-}7/8$ ", and my plates were intended for reduction to that size, though I note that the type width on the galley is now only 5".

I see that you have eliminated my reference to the sponsorship of the Expedition, which of course is redundant in the complete volume, but it leaves our paper without any explanation of the name, purposes or scope of the Expedition, and the paper will be read and used by many people ~~without~~ who will not have access to the complete volume. How about adding at the end of the introduction a paragraph something like this:

"Mr. C. P. Mountford, the Leader of the Expedition, has written some very good accounts of its purposes, scope and personnel, accompanied with excellent colour and black-and-white photographs. These appeared in the National Geographic Magazine for December 1949 and". (I think there were 3 articles, but I cannot find the other 2 just now).

The National Geographic has a world-wide distribution of more than 2 million copies each month, and this would give the readers of our paper a chance to learn a lot more about the Expedition and Arnhem Land in general.

On June 5th 1951 you wrote: "Each paper will necessarily have to be complete in itself, so Mr. Mountford sees no objection to including a small map of Arnhem Land showing the collecting localities". Now you have eliminated my map, and refer instead to the frontispiece. No doubt this will be a much better map than mine, but again it will not be available to our readers, unless you could have extra copies of the frontispiece run off and bound in with our reprints. Could this be done? If my map is not to be used I request that it be returned to me, not folded, so that if the frontispiece is not included I can have my map printed and pasted in the reprints. Also when the photo-engraver has finished with all the drawings I wanted them returned, rolled, and in good condition.

I was greatly surprised and displeased to find that someone, either in Adelaide or Melbourne, (and I would like to know his name), has seen fit to disregard my request for correction of errors that I made by spelling four specific names with the termination -ii instead of -i; *Cosmarium Regnesi*, *Staurastrum Sebaldi* and *pseudo-sebaldi*, and *Staurastrum Wildemani*. Dr. Prescott backed up my request, saying that I prefer to use the original spelling. This is not quite correct, for I don't give a d-- whether names are spelled with one i, or two i's, or half-a-dozen is; but I wish they were all spelled alike; it is merely a nuisance trying to remember which is which. It is a question of complying with the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature, and since the editors of the botanical volume are trying to be so extremely correct in all the minutiae of orthography, capitalization, punctuation and abbreviations, I should think they would also try to follow the Rules.

It seems rather silly to start an argument over such a small matter, but I must do so, for I have recently had two papers published, and a third is in press, (Scott & Prescott 1956; Scott & Grönblad 1957; Grönblad, Prowse & Scott 1957?), in which these names are spelled with the single i, and I don't want to be criticized for inconsistency in spelling and actual errors, for obviously both spellings cannot be correct.

Grönblad called my attention to these errors about 4 years ago, when he was going through my drawings of USA desmids, and we discussed the matter in person when I was in Finland 2 years ago. In case you do not know of Grönblad's reputation, let

Figures as you call them, and this causes me to wonder where the explanations are to be printed. It would be very nice if the explanations could be printed on the reverse side of the preceding plate, though this would add several pages to the volume. On the other hand I hope you are not going to print the explanations on the plates themselves, below the illustrations, because my drawings were not designed with that in mind. You gave me type page size of $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{7}{8}$ ", and my plates were intended for reduction to that size, though I note that the type width on the galley is now only 5".

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me say that he has specialized on desmids for 39 years, has an excellent knowledge of Latin (and 5 other languages), is meticulous in observing all the niceties of nomenclature, and served for several years on the International Committee for Nomenclature of Algae. Perhaps, therefore, his opinion also reflects the opinions of other members of the Committee. Possibly Miss Eardley may have met him, if she attended the Stockholm Conference.

He pointed out to me that one of the Rules (Art. 70 in the 1935 edition) specifically states "The original spelling of a name or epithet must be retained, except in the case of a typographic error, or of a clearly unintentional orthographic error". So in order to add another i to any one of these names, and there are others in the literature, it would be necessary to show convincingly that the omission of the second i was either a printer's error, or that the author actually intended to use two i's, but was prevented from completing the writing of the word by his pen running dry, or his wife calling him to dinner, or by having an apoplectic stroke, or something similar. Nobody has done this, so the original spelling must stand.

The case of *Staurastrum Sebaldi* is quite different, and seems not to be generally known. Grönblad tells me that this desmid was named for a Sanctus Sebaldus, who was the patron Saint of something or other (gardening? horticulture?), and that the word Sebaldus in the genitive case becomes Sebaldi, with only one i. I know only a smattering of Latin, but I looked this up in a Latin grammar and find it to be right.

There are some other considerations worth taking into account. In the literature are many names that originally were incorrectly spelled or wrongly constructed, but they are allowed to stand because of long usage. The first two of the names here in question were created exactly 90 years ago, the third 77 years ago, and the fourth 55 years ago, long before there were any International Rules. The first three names have been used in their original spelling by such great men as Nordstedt, Borge, Børgesen, and the Wests. Is there anyone in Australia of a greater stature than that of these eminent algologists?

Here endeth the dissertation. I hope that it will convince the individual responsible, and that the changes will be made as I have requested. If they are not made I shall have an errata slip printed and inserted in my reprints, calling attention to the misspellings, and stating that the editor refused to make the changes even after repeated requests.

It is customary to order reprints at the time of returning proofs, but it looks as if they may be quite expensive, so P. Prescott and I want to await your advice as to the cost before placing a definite order.

About three weeks ago I sent you and Womersley reprints of the paper by Scott & Grönblad (1957) New and interesting desmids from southeastern USA, an important addition to desmidiological literature and a beautiful example of the printer's art.

With my best regards,

Sincerely,

P.S. Your letter of Sept 23rd just received today (Sept 30th).

Galley 105. I had already corrected the spelling of *E. luetkemulleri* v. *carniolicum*.

Galley 108. *Cosm. moniliformis* fa. *panduriformis* Heimerl is correct. Some writers have cited it as var. *panduriformis* Heimerl, as recently as 1956, but I cannot find that it has ever been formally raised in rank. If it had been elevated, the authorship would have to be shown as (Heimerl) Scott, for example.

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Oct 1 1957

Dear Dr. Specht,

Today I borrowed a copy of the 1956 Code of Botanical Nomenclature and found that the troublesome matter of spelling Latinized personal names with *-ii* or *-i* has at last been disposed of by official decree.

Therefore it is all right to spell *Cosmarium Regnesii* and *Staurastrum Wildemanii* with the *-ii* termination, but *Staurastrum Sebaldi* and *pseudosebaldi* must still be spelled with the single *i*, because they are correctly formed.

I wish I had known earlier of the existence of the 1956 Code, which would have prevented me from writing as I did yesterday, and for which I tender my most humble apology.

Sincerely,



THE UNIVERSITY
ADELAIDE

BOX 498 D, G.P.O.
PHONE: W 3211

Botany Dept.
26th March

Dear M. Scott,

Please check page
proofs, especially alignment, and
return to me as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Spelt

Kind regards to yourself and
Mrs Scott

from the Spelts.

As the ^{air mail} postage of the original proof
was £4-17-0, I decided to trim the
pages. The original size of the pages was
7 1/2" X 10"

Yours sincerely
Ray Spelt

April 5 1958

Dr. Ray Specht,
Adelaide, S. Australia.

Dear Dr. Specht,

The corrected page proof is going forward to you by airmail, under separate cover. There were still a good many orthographical errors and accidental transpositions of letters, which I have changed. You asked me to look especially at the alignment, by which I suppose you meant the vertical alignment of the indents from the left margin. I found only one case where this needs to be corrected, and there is another in the table on the last page of the text in which the vertical columns of figures ought to be straightened. Perhaps a skilled proofreader or compositor might find others, but they will not be apparent to the lay reader.

There is one thing that stands out like a sore thumb, namely that the pages of illustrations are not numbered from 1 to 29. If this is an accidental omission it is easily remedied. If it was an editorial decision not to number them I must request that the decision be changed, and I am quite sure that Prof. Prescott would back me up in this, though I cannot consult him at present because he is in Ecuador. The figures must be numbered, and it is not sufficient that these numbers appear on the lists of names on the facing verso. This has been the universal custom all over the world for more than a century. I have papers on Fw Algae in 17 different languages many of which I cannot read, printed in about 20 different countries, and in every single one of them the plates, or figures as you call them, are numbered.

By this time the printer ought to be able to give you a very close estimate of the cost of reprints. I usually get 100, and Prescott 200, but we may have to get along with a smaller number because they are undoubtedly going to be expensive. Please let us know the approximate cost in lots of 150, 225 and 300, also how many free ones we are entitled to, and what will be the extra cost of including the frontispiece map.

If the printer has no further need for my original drawings please have them returned to me, by ordinary mail, and carefully packed to prevent crushing.

I have read a very favourable review of the first volume of the reports, but it is not yet available in any of the libraries in New Orleans. The price is \$16.00 in this country.

Can you give me any idea of when the botanical volume will be published?

Best regards to you and Mrs. Specht from my wife and myself.

Sincerely,

May 9 1957

Dear Mr. Specht,

Enclosed are the changes and corrections that I would like to have made in the Arnhem Land paper. Many of them you can make in ink; the longer ones I have arranged so that you can cut the sheets into strips and paste them in the proper places. Most of the changes are caused by the publication of Behre's paper last year; others are required by the additional experience I have acquired during the last five years in the examination of your later Australian material, and the large series of Indonesian collections that I have been working on.

I don't know what you will do about proof-reading, but I should like to do this myself. Usually there are many small errors that a specialist can catch much more easily than who is unfamiliar with the subject matter. I have kept a carbon copy of the Ms., and if you would send the galley or page proof by airmail I will check it quickly and return it the same way.

Glad to say that my health is improving slowly, but my eyes have been affected, and for the last three weeks I have had double vision (diplopia). Just returned from a

visit to the oculist, who says I must wait another month before he can do anything.



The University of Adelaide

Adelaide

South Australia

Botany Dept.,

26 April 57

Dear Mr. Scott,

I do hope that you are in good health, for I have not received a reply to my letter of March.

Could you forward the corrections by return mail, as the Melbourne University Press are waiting to set your MS.

I have still not received any MS from Dr. Petrick. I sent her an ultimatum last week, but it's hopeless. Her promises are so much nonsense!

Please excuse the brief note I shall write a letter letter later.

With kind regards to your wife and yourself,
Yours sincerely,
Ray Specht

New Orleans, May 3 1957.

Dear Dr. Specht,

I duly received your letter written in March, and also the one from Mr. Womersley a few days later, and had started work on the corrections. But then I was suddenly hit by a virus infection of some kind, which had such a serious effect on my heart and lungs that the doctor immediately called an ambulance and shipped me off to the hospital, where I spent 6 days under an oxygen tent and another four days in bed. Now I have been home for about two weeks, but it is only within the last few days that the doctor has allowed me to go downstairs to my laboratory, and then only for two hours at a time. However I am convalescing satisfactorily, and shall get my strength back in a few weeks; in the meantime I must take things easy.

Prof. Prescott visited New Orleans at the beginning of April and I talked over with him the changes and corrections to be made in our paper, which are more extensive than I had anticipated. I have them all written out in pencil, and it is simply a matter of typing them, but even this becomes rather complicated and means that a number of the sheets will have to be retyped in their entirety. But I believe that I can accomplish this in another week, and will send you the lot by airmail.

I am surprised to learn that the cost of Vol. 4 of the Report is \$16.00. Originally I had asked you to order for me a complete set of the volumes, but at that time I was working and making a pretty good income. Since my retirement my income is much reduced, and I cannot afford to spend that much money on one book. Also I wonder how much the 100 reprints for me and the 200 reprints for Prescott are going to cost. No doubt the Melbourne Univ. Press can give you a pretty close estimate of the cost when the paper is set up in proof, and I would like you to advise me about this before placing a definite order for the reprints.

It occurs to me that it might be a good idea to make the suggestion, to the proper authorities, that it would be no more than a just recompense to their specialist collaborators, to present them with the reprints free of charge. I spent several hundred hours, and Prescott a lesser time, worth several thousands of dollars, in the study of your material and the preparation of our paper and drawings. In addition I actually paid out of my pocket something like \$160 for inking of my pencil drawings, the preparation of Latin diagnoses, paper, and postage.

Best regards and good wishes,

Sincerely,



The University of Adelaide

Adelaide
South Australia
Botany Department.

Mr. Arthur M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
New Orleans 18 LA.
UNITED STATES.

18th March, 1957.

Dear Mr. Scott,

We were delighted to receive your letter on our return from abroad.

Vol I of the Arnhem Land reports was published by the Melbourne University Press late last year. It is a very fine production but rather expensive - £A 6-6-0.

As Mr. Mountford is at present in England, I am acting as editor for Vol.III, the botanical volume, which is being published next. Many galleys have been type-set, but not yours as yet. You will be able to make those unfortunate corrections to your MS. Vol III should be out towards the end of this year.

Kindest regards to your wife and yourself.

We consider New Orleans a highlight of our trip.

Yours sincerely,

The Specht

Feb 15 1957

Dear Dr. Specht,

When we received your Christmas card, sent from somewhere in France, I formed the idea that perhaps you were on your way to Marseilles, or perhaps Naples, to join your steamer for Australia, and I could not help wondering how you would be affected by the closing of the Suez Canal. By this time I expect that you have managed to get home somehow, but it must have put you to a lot of trouble and inconvenience. Your year in the USA, combined with a voyage around the world, must have been a wonderful and profitable experience for both you and your wife, though I expect your little girl is too young to appreciate all that it means. Edith and I both enjoyed very much your visit with us, and I wish that more of my correspondents could visit me. My own days for travelling are over for several reasons, and I have had to resign myself to the fact that it will never be possible for me to see the far-off places of the world that all my life I have longed to visit.

When you get a chance I wish you would drop me a few lines and let me know the exact status of the paper on Algae from Arnhem Land. The long delay in publishing has placed Dr. Prescott and myself in a rather awkward position, because last year there was published in Germany a paper by Dr. Karl Behre of Bremen, describing the freshwater algae collected during the Wallacea Expedition to the Philippines, Celebes, and East Indies in 1932. I have just received a reprint of this paper, and find that he has a few new species and varieties that we also described as new from Arnhem Land. Of course, Behre's names now have priority, so we ought to make the necessary changes in our paper if there is still time. I could do this by making the changes on slips of paper which you could paste in the Ms. in the appropriate places, and I could tell you what changes to make in the names on the plate descriptions and index. If it too late to do this perhaps an extra paragraph could be inserted after the introduction, listing the new names with ours as synonyms.

In addition to this I shall have to start soon on another paper dealing with Indonesian desmids which I have been studying for the last four years. In this material there are quite a lot of desmids that are described in the Arnhem Land paper, some of them new and more of them old. So for this reason also it is very desirable that I should know as closely as possible when the Arnhem Land paper will appear.

With best regards from ~~me~~ myself and my wife to you and your family,

Sincerely yours,

Ottawa, 1st October.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Scott,

Marion and I had no idea when we left you that we would not have an opportunity to write to you until we left the U.S.A. The last three weeks have been so rushed that we even have trouble remembering what day it is; but we have enjoyed them thoroughly. Florida was beautiful, and made us feel that we were back in N.E. Australia. It was so different from the deserts of Arizona and Texas and so like our east coast.

We spent 3 days in Washington and were able to see for the first time the National Geographic film of the Amber Land Expedition. It brought back memories and we did my meetings with Expedition members. Today we visit with Ivan Gjelte at Chalk River, and on Friday we board the ship for England.

Our day in New Orleans was a highlight of our trip and it was a very great pleasure to meet you both at last. We were thinking of you when the hurricane hit New Orleans. We hope that it did not cause any damage.

Yours sincerely,
Ray, Marion & Alvin Specht

CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

589 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

BRITISH DOMINIONS AND COLONIES PROGRAM

STEPHEN H. STACKPOLE

Executive Associate

ALAN PIFER

Executive Assistant

July 26, 1956

Mr. Arthur M. Scott
2824 Dante Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Scott:

Your letter arrived yesterday asking where you might reach Dr. R. L. Specht. I have forwarded your letter to the following address, where he will be until August 10th:

c/o Mr. George Jemison, Director
Forestry Building
University of California
Berkeley, California

If you wish to get in touch with him after August 10th, a letter addressed to him c/o Carnegie Corporation will be forwarded immediately. This is our usual procedure, as we will know of last-minute changes in itinerary.

Yours sincerely,

Katherine Ford
Administrative Assistant

KF:ta

% Carnegie Corporation of New York,
589 Fifth Avenue,
New York 17, N.Y.

7th July 1956

Dear Mr. Scott,

This is just a brief note to let you know that my wife, young daughter (3½ years) & I shall be visiting New Orleans ^{by car} in the evening of Sept. 2nd to the afternoon of Sept. 3rd. and hope to make your acquaintance after all these years of correspondence.

We have really enjoyed our stay in Berkeley and are now touring the States on a Carnegie grant under an itinerary prepared by the U.S.D.A. At present, we are in Ogden, Utah after travelling through Nevada & Idaho. From here we return to California to the San Dimas Expt. Forest near Los Angeles before heading east via Arizona etc to Florida, and north.

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
The *Arnhem Land* reports are at last in the hands of the printers so I learn from Mr. Mountford. This has been a long time coming to pass, but I feel sure that they will do a good job.

We'll see you soon,

Regards,

Ray Specht

July 24 1956

Dear Mr. Specht,

I received your letter saying that you expect to visit New Orleans on Sept 2nd and 3rd, and needless to say both my wife and I are looking forward to seeing you and your wife and daughter. The only address you gave was in care of the Carnegie Corpn. in New York, and on the chance that they may know where to reach you I am sending this letter to them and asking them to forward it.

New Orleans is a puzzling city to get around because of its peculiar shape and the funny way the streets are laid out, so I am enclosing a city map, showing the route you will follow to get to my house. You will undoubtedly come in on Highway 61 from Baton Rouge, and at the outskirts of New Orleans you will drive over a large overpass, from the top of which you can see the tall buildings of the business district a couple of miles ahead. Get into the extreme right-hand traffic lane when approaching this overpass, because after you have crossed it you must take the first right-hand turn on to South Carrollton Ave. This is a very wide street with a grass plot separating the two roadways. Follow Carrollton Ave. for about one mile until you come to Pritchard Place, the 2800 block (the names and block numbers are on posts erected in the grass plot), turn right on Pritchard Place for two blocks, and then left on to Dante St. My house is on the right side, about 100 feet from the corner, and has four tall wooden columns supporting the roof. I have marked the route on the map, and believe you will have no trouble in following it.

I am sorry that we cannot put you up for the night as I should have liked, but along Highway 61 you will pass dozens of motels close to the city, and all of the larger ones are good. Or there are plenty of good hotels in the business section, but they are considerably more expensive.

If you can send me a telegram from your previous night's stopping place, saying about what time you expect to arrive, we can have dinner at my home; otherwise we can take you to one of New Orleans famous restaurants.

Sincerely,

July 24 1956

Carnegie Corpn. of New York,
589 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Ray Specht, of the Dept. of Botany, University of Adelaide, South Australia, has been working at Berkeley, Cal., since January last. At present he and his wife and daughter are touring various parts of the U.S. on a Carnegie grant, following an itinerary prepared by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

A couple of weeks ago he wrote me from Utah, saying that he would visit New Orleans and see me on Sept. 2nd and 3rd., but the only address that he gave was in your care, and I do not know where else to address him.

On the chance that you may know where to reach him in the next two or three weeks, I am enclosing a letter that I would like you to forward to him, and I should appreciate your dropping me a few lines to tell me what you have done.

Thanking you in advance,

Very truly yours,

To open cut at top

BY AIR MAIL

G.P.O. ADELAIDE
4 25AM
20 DEC
1955
S.A.

AÉROGRAMME

ROAD
LESSNE
KILLS



Mr. A.M. Scott,

2824 Dante Street,

NEW ORLEANS. LA. L.A.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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Dr. R.L. Specht,
Botany Department,
University of Adelaide,
North Terrace,
ADELAIDE, S.H. AUSTRALIA.

From: -

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Botany Department.
University of Adelaide,
South Australia.

RLS/DTC.

19th December, 1955.

Mr. A.M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
NEW ORLEANS. 18. L.A. UNITED STATES.

Dear Mr. Scott,

I have been glancing through your manuscript on the Desmids of Arnhem Land and, I hope that I have made the following alterations to the Introduction with your approval.

- (1) In conformity with the rest of the volumes, the references are added as footnotes at the base of each page, and again in full in the Bibliography., e.g. Ström, (1921) on page 1 is altered to Ström, (1), with a footnote, (1) Ström, 1921. Nine footnotes up to (9) Krieger, 1937, p. 109, on page 4 have been added. *No alterations are made to the references to the species*
- (2) Corrections on the identifications of some of the angiosperms are made on pages 2 and 3. Eriocaulon bifistulosum Van Heurck for E. setaceum L. Eriocaulon heterogynum F. Muell. for E. depressum R.Br. Nymphaoides furculae-folia Specht for Limnanthemum sp. Nymphaea gigantea Hook. var. violaceae Conard = N. brownii F.M. Baill.
- (3) I have added "and in the Botany Department, University of Adelaide" to line 12, page 5.

A fortnight ago we received a letter from Dr. Patrick asking for more time! We replied pointing out that printing space would be held open for 3 months and requested that in the meantime she supply us with details of title and the size of the paper. As yet we have had no reply. We are still optimistic. Ivan Ophel made preliminary identifications of the Characeae and forwarded them to R. Woods of Rhode Island. He has taken over the task and will send us his manuscript by the end of the year.

Seasons Greetings,

Ray Specht
Ray Specht.

To open cut at top

BY AIR MAIL

AEROGRAMME



Mr. Arthur M. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18, LA.
UNITED STATES

First fold here

Second fold here

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Please return.
Scott.

Botany Dept.,
University
Adelaide
South Australia

Nov. 16th 55

Dear Mr. Scott,

I was glad to receive your letter a few days ago, although I had hoped to anticipate it with good news. The first volume of the reports has been printed and is now being bound. Thanks to my departure for the States in January, the publishers have agreed to proceed with the printing of the botanical papers concurrently or even before the second volume. As I shall be able to keep my eyes on it, ^{only} while I sit down in California for 5-6 months, the publishers must have it completed to final galley by June - July next year.

All the manuscripts will be sent to the publishers by the end of December. I have given Dr. Patricia this date as a deadline, but feel that we shall have to give the diatoms up as lost. She's a hopeless correspondent — doesn't have the courtesy to reply to my repeated letters for months and apparently takes on ^{work} more than she is capable. I doubt whether she has even looked at the material! Ivan Opel was almost as bad on the Characeae, but now we have Dick Woods on the job.

I shall be in Berkeley, California working on the plant nutrition of the Chaparral for 5 months, the one month at Los Angeles before travelling across the south of the States & up the eastern side. I shall probably pass near New Orleans with my wife & daughter, so shall look you up if possible. After 8 months in the States we go across to England, France & Italy for 3 months before returning to Australia.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely,
Ray Specht.

Nov 5 1955

Mr. Ray Specht,
Dept. of Botany,
University of Adelaide.
South Australia.

Dear Mr. Specht,

Last January I wrote to Mr. C. P. Mountford asking about the status of the paper on Algae from the Arnhem Land Expedition. I received his reply dated Feb. 7th, in which he mentioned the many delays and Governmental red tape which have delayed the progress of the work, and stating that if you were in Australia you would edit the botanical volume.

I have been in Europe for the last five months, and had hoped that on my return there would be some word from you or Mr. Mountford. It is now more than three years since I forwarded the manuscript and drawings, and naturally Prof. Prescott and I are anxious to know when our paper may be published, so will you please drop me a few lines and let me know how things are coming along.

Our friend Ivan Ophel wrote me that you are coming to California at the end of December, though he did not say for what purpose, nor how long you will stay in this country. California is a long way from Louisiana, but there is always the chance of your being able to get down this way. If you do, it goes without saying that I shall be very happy to see you and show you around.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

List of freshwater algal collections from Australia, sent to G. W. Prescott Feb 17 1954.

From Alan B. Cribb, University of Queensland, Brisbane.

- Tasmania. 118, 119, 120. Lake Dobson, Tasmania. Collected by Miss M. Shields; Jan 1951.
124. Creek at Russell Falls, Tasmania. Collected by A. B. Cribb, Sept 5 1950
127. Lagoon at Port Arthur, Tasmania. " " " June 21 1951
- Queensland. 125. Pool betw. HARRISVILLE & Ipswich, Queensland. Coll. A. B. Cribb, May 22 1951
126. Pools near Cunningham's Gap, Queensland. " " May 22 1951
128. Pools in creek at Springbrook, Queensland. " " Jan 9 1952

From H. B. S. Womersley, University of Adelaide.

- S. Australia. 200. Waterfall Gully, South Australia. Coll. by H. B. S. Womersley, Oct 20 1950
201. Mount Compass swamp, " " " " Apl 22 1951
202. " " " " " Coll. by Womersley & Ophel, Oct 15 1950

From Ray Specht, University of Adelaide.

- North Australia. 300, 301, 302. Palm Valley, Northern Territory. Coll. by
Peter Martin & Dave Symons, June 6 1953.
303. Water weeds, Palm Valley. Same Collectors & date.
304. Standley Chasm, Northern Territory. " " "
305. " " " " " " " " " " " " "

Palm Valley is in a small side-arm of the Finke River, 15 miles south of Hermannsburg Mission, which is about 100 miles west of Alice Springs. It is a sandstone gorge with pools of water standing in its sandy base. The palm tree, Livistona Mariae, is prominent along the gorge. Marsilea sp. and other water weeds in the pools. This valley is a scientific curiosity because of the palms, etc., found there in the midst of arid country.

Standley Chasm is in the MacDonnell Ranges, 30 miles west of Alice Springs. A slowly running, muddy stream is in the bottom of this Chasm, and is shaded by trees of Eucalyptus camaldulensis.

- North Australia. 400. Kulu-Irnini Creek, Melville Island, Northern Territory. Coll. D. C. Stearn, 1952.
401. Hot Spring, Mataranka, N.T. " " "

- North Australia. 501. Pools by the Katherine River, N.T., Coll. by Caulfield, July 1953.
502. Pools along the Darwin River, N.T., " " "
503. Lagoons 2 m. N. of Bamboo Creek, 75 m. SW of Darwin, " " "
504. Paperbark swamps, Reynolds River area. " " "
505. Berry Springs. " " "
506. Bamboo Creek, 80 m. SW of Darwin. " " "
507. Tube broken in transit. Contents lost. " " "
508. Finnis River Lagoon. " " "
509. Berry Springs. " " "
510. Lagoons on flats betw. Darwin & Finnis Rivers. " " "

- North Australia. X-100. Unawalerké Lagoon, Oenpelli, N.T. Coll. by Jim Blyth, April 1953.
X-101. Umbakumba, Groote Eylandt, Gulf of Carpentaria. Coll. Peter Worsley, Apl 9 1953.
X-102. Billabong at Umbakumba. " " " July 30 1953
X-103. Billabong behind Umbakumba. " " " July 11 1953
X-104. Freshwater slough, Oenpelli. Coll. Roger G. Gregson, Apl 29 1954

Apparently X-103 is from the same habitat as X-101, because Specht notes that

"the water had receded somewhat since the last specimen was collected".

Note. X-100 and X-101 are not in this box. They were sent you on Sept 20 1953.

Sept 5 1954

Dear Mr. Specht,

My proposed trip to Europe this summer did not come off, because three weeks before the departure date I had the bad luck to fall and break my ankle. So I had to cancel all the reservations for me and my wife; fortunately I had not paid out any money. We shall try again next year, and I am thinking of leaving here about the first week in May 1955.

This brings up the question of when the proofs of the Arnhem Land paper will be ready, for I should not like them to arrive here when I was absent in Europe. The last time you wrote you said that the Botanical volume should be under way by the end of this year; perhaps by now you have more definite information, and I should be very glad to hear about it.

The three collections that Jim Blyth sent to you have not arrived here, so I suppose that something else went wrong. But last May I received an unexpected shipment from a man named Roger G. Gregson, who wrote a nice letter saying that Jim Blyth had left the Mission service, and had asked Gregson to continue collecting desmid material. He sent a small jam jar (!) and had to pay 24/- air mail postage on it (!). The screw cap of the jar had loosened in transit and all the water leaked out, but the sludge was left behind and most of it was still moist, so by adding water and formalin I was able to restore it almost to its original condition. This material came from a slough at Oenpelli, and is extremely rich in desmids, with many rare and beautiful species, and some exciting novelties.

Gregson wrote that he is the stockman for the Mission, and since he covers a large area he thought he could send me samples from many different waterholes. He asked for comments on his first shipment, so of course I wrote him a long letter with detailed instructions for collecting and shipping, and sent him a few of the small 1 dram vials that I use, and told him to send future shipments by regular mail instead of airmail. But I have heard nothing more from him, and the thought has occurred to me that perhaps he expects some remuneration for collecting, since he may not be getting a large salary. I should have no objection to paying a reasonable amount, say 20/- each for 25 collections. That is about as far as I could go, because since my retirement from business at the end of last year my income is greatly reduced, and I can no longer afford to spend as much money on my hobby as I used to. I wonder if you know anything about this, and about Gregson?

I shall be glad to hear from you at your convenience, and with my best regards I am

Sincerely yours,

Feb 20 1954

Dear Mr. Specht,

Many thanks for your letter of the 12th, with the good news that you are sending three more collections from Jim Elyth at Cenpelli. When you write to him again, please say that I appreciate very highly the trouble that he is taking. Do you think there is anything that I could send him from this country? For instance, a subscription to the National Geographic Magazine, or the Scientific American. Also I wish to thank you for your efforts, and I should be very happy to reciprocate in any way that I can.

Dr. Patrick's address is:

Dr. Ruth Patrick,
Curator of Limnology,
The Academy of Natural Sciences,
19th & The Parkway,
Philadelphia 3, Pa. U.S.A.

The last time I heard from her was Oct 20 1953, when she asked for your address so that she could send her manuscript directly to you; of course I gave it to her immediately. Both Prof. Prescott and I have worried her so many times about this matter that we both feel there is nothing more we can do; she simply pays no attention. But if you write her yourself perhaps you can get some action out of her. It is a darn shame that this had to happen; it is one of those bad deals that you encounter sometimes, and there is little consolation in the fact that we shall know better next time. For your new material I am going to write to Dr. Friedrich Hustedt in Bremen, Germany, to ask if he will undertake the identification of the diatoms, as well as for some other collections that I have on hand. He is probably the world's best diatomist, but such top authorities are usually very busy.

I am surprised to hear that Ophe! also is behind with his paper on the Characeae. I think this is a comparatively small group, and I should imagine that he has plenty of spare time to work on them. By the way, if your collections of Characeae are in water, there might be some desmids in them. It is true that Chara and Nitella usually grow in hard water with a high calcium content, which is unfavorable for desmids, but occasionally I have found that squeezings from these plants will give a good yield of desmids, generally small species of Cosmarium. So if you run across any beds of Chara or the other genera, don't pass them up.

I'm glad to hear about the progress on the Arnhem Reports, and that galley proofs will be sent direct to the authors for checking. This is by far more satisfactory, and if the editor of the Roy. Soc. S. Austr. had handled my paper this way, the regrettable mix-up would not have occurred. The publishing process is a very slow one, and I sometimes get impatient, but there seems to be nothing that can be done to speed it up.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

To open cut at top

BY AIR MAIL

AEROGRAMME



10¢ POSTAGE 10¢



AUSTRALIA
CELEBRATES
ROYAL VISIT

Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante St,
New Orleans 18, La
United States of America

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If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Botany Dept.,
University of Adelaide
South Australia

12 Feb 54

Dear Mr. Scott,

(three)
Jim Blyth has forwarded to me several more collections of desmid material from Capelli. They should have arrived before this, but, unfortunately, they ^{package} ~~was~~ damaged between Capelli and Darwin and the specimens were returned to him for repacking. In the meantime my parcel of formalin to him went astray, so I have just recently forwarded to him another bottle of formalin. Blyth is certainly very keen to further your collections. It is a pity that he has to suffer such set-backs.

I shall forward the material to you in a few days.

Please keep the copy of Aust. J. Bot. with my compliments.

We are still awaiting Dr. Patricia's ~~dictation~~ by the way, Ophelia's Characeae. If you could give me Dr. Patricia's address, I may be able to urge her on ^{with} the work. The first volume of reports is well under way (all in final galley-proof stage), so, it is hoped, that the end of the year will see the botanical report rolling. Mountford is going to send all authors the galley to correct themselves, so there should not be the horrible mess-up that the Roy. Soc. Sth Aust. made to your paper.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,
Ray Speck

2824 Dante St., New Orleans 18, La.
Jan 1 1954

Dear Mr. Specht,

Many thanks for the two new samples of algae from Groote Eylandt, and for the complimentary copy of the Australian Journal of Botany.

The new collections contain a nice assortment of desmids, which are in somewhat greater quantity and of more interesting species than the former sample from Umbakumba, though none of them can begin to compare with the truly extraordinary sample from Unawalerke Lagoon at Oenpelli collected by Jim Blyth. When Prof. Prescott was examining Blyth's material for algae other than desmids, he was able to make only slow progress, because he continually had to stop to admire and wonder at the many beautiful and strange desmids that he had never seen before.

I have applied to the National Science Foundation for a grant to defray travel expenses to the 8th International Botanical Congress, to be held in Paris next July, in which there will be a special section on phycology. If I am able to attend, I hope to present a short paper illustrated by slides that will show many of your desmids from the Northern Territory, and also others from Indonesia. Of course, this will not constitute formal publication of the new species, so I shall avoid mentioning the new (or proposed) names of the novelties.

I am very anxious to attend this Congress, to make personal acquaintance with several European algologists with I have been corresponding for several years. It would be a fine opportunity of making myself known to them, and to present some of the more striking "finds" that I have made during the last few years. Perhaps you or Mr. Womersley will be able to go to the Congress; it is needless to say that I should be delighted to meet you in person.

The Australian Journal of Botany is an excellent example of high-class scientific publishing; it is quite evident that the editing has been very well done, and the printing is a fine job of typography. It would be a pleasure to have a paper published in this Journal, and in due course I shall submit to the Editor the proposed paper by Prescott and myself, describing the algae in the new collections that you have so kindly sent me. In the meantime I am writing the Editor, asking for a copy of the "Guide to Authors", mentioned on the inside back cover. I hope that I may keep this copy for reference, and while awaiting your reply I am sending it to Prescott for his examination.

At long last I have been notified by the Editor of the Trans. Roy. Soc. of S. Austr., that he has sent to Prescott and me the required number of copies of the reprinted paper on desmids of S. Australia. His letter says "this will conclude an unsatisfactory episode", in which I fully agree. He also says that he has offered to Mr. Womersley half-a-dozen of the new reprints, in addition to some of the original ones.

Is there any recent news of progress toward publication of the Botanical Volume of the Arnhem Land Report?

With my best regards and good wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely,

To open cut at top
BY AIR MAIL

ADELAIDE
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1953

INTERNATIONAL
AEROGRAMME
OCTOBER

Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18 LA.
United States of America

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If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Botany Dept.,
University of Adelaide,
South Australia

20th October 1953

Dear Mr. Scott,

Although it would a complete set of illustrations of the Andean Land diatoms would help, with Prescott's and your paper on the other freshwater groups, to give Australian freshwater biology a tremendous boost, it certainly appears as though we shall have to be content with a list of species of the diatoms. This, in itself, will be quite valuable, for I believe Miss Patrick to be a competent worker in this group. Time always is a grave factor in research.

I shall forward a copy of Aust. J. Bot. to you for perusal. I am afraid that I can obtain no copy of Aust. J. Marine & Freshwater Biol. to send, but I can assure you that the same high standard as in Aust. J. Bot. is maintained.

Peter Worsley has now returned to Canberra — Dept. Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra Australia — after having completed his studies on Groote Eylandt. I have not, as yet, forwarded his final two tubes.

You are certainly receiving specimens from all corners of the world. It must be gratifying to find so many new species and especially a new genus to reward you for your tremendous zeal and energy in your research. You will certainly leave your mark on desmid research.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht.

Nov 16 1953

Mr. Peter Martin,
Waite Agricultural Research Institute,
Private Mail Bag, G.P.O.
Adelaide, S. Australia.

Dear Mr. Martin,

Our mutual friend, Ray Specht, has sent me for study five tubes of freshwater algal material collected by Mr. Dave Symons and yourself at Standley Chasm and Palm Valley. To the best of my knowledge this is the first lot of material ever collected in the central part of Australia; certainly there is no mention of that region in the literature.

Perhaps Mr. Specht has told you that I am interested in the Desmidiaceae, but I am collaborating with Prof. G. W. Prescott who will write up the other algae. Desmids are not too numerous in your samples, as might be expected from the arid country surrounding the places that you collected from, but already I have seen a couple of *Cosmaria* that have a "new" look about them; perhaps they may turn out to be new species. However, the genus *Cosmarium* is a large and difficult one, and it will require a good deal of checking to ascertain if they really are new.

I wish to thank you and Mr. Symons most heartily for your cooperation in making these gatherings, and to express the hope that you will continue to do so whenever the opportunity presents itself. Material from any part of Australia will be welcome and valuable; vast areas of your continent are completely unknown in the phycological sense, and nothing has been published during the last 35 years. Prescott and I had a short paper on South Australian desmids in *Trans. Roy. Soc. A. Australia*, Sept. 1952; and we have a longer paper that is to be published by the CSIRO (next year I hope), in the official report on the 1948 Arnhem Land Expedition.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Nov 16 1953

Mr. W. Bateman,
Forestry Office,
Darwin, N.T. Australia.

Dear Mr. Bateman,

Our mutual friend, Mr. Ray Specht, has sent me two samples of freshwater algae that were collected by you, one from Kilu-Impini Creek on Melville Island, and the other from a Hot Spring at Mataranka, N.T. The first one is a very nice collection and contains a good assortment of desmids, including a probable new species of Euastrum and several other interesting forms. The one from Mataranka contains no desmids, which are not found in the water from hot springs because of the hard water and high mineral content; but it does have some other algae which Prof. Gerald W. Prescott, with whom I am collaborating, will find of interest.

The two samples are prepared in exactly the right manner, and contain just the correct amount of material. They will fit in very nicely with some others that Mr. Specht has sent me, that were collected in the region lying 75 to 80 miles SW of Darwin, and with a couple of others from the Oameldji region, which has proven to be extremely rich in desmids.

I wish to thank you most heartily for making these collections, and hope that you will continue to do so when the opportunity offers. It is just such kindly cooperation that enables specialists to study material from distant parts of the world that they are unable to visit in person.

Sincerely yours,

List of freshwater algal collections from Australia, sent to G. W. Prescott Feb 17 1954.

From Alan B. Cribb, University of Queensland, Brisbane.

- Tasmania. 118, 119, 120. Lake Dobson, Tasmania. Collected by Miss M. Shields, Jan 1951.
124. Creek at Russell Falls, Tasmania. Collected by A. B. Cribb, Sept 5 1950
127. Lagoon at Port Arthur, Tasmania. " " " June 21 1951
- Queensland. 125. Pool betw. Harrisville & Ipswich, Queensland. Coll. A.B. Cribb, May 22 1951
126. Pools near Cunningham's Gap, Queensland. " " May 22 1951
128. Pools in creek at Springbrook, Queensland. " " Jan 9 1952

From H. B. S. Womersley, University of Adelaide.

- S. Australia. 200. Waterfall Gully, South Australia. Coll. by H.B.S. Womersley, Oct 20 1950
201. Mount Compass swamp, " " " " Apl 22 1951
202. " " " " " Coll. by Womersley & Ophel, Oct 15 1950

From Ray Specht, University of Adelaide.

- North Australia. 300, 301, 302. Palm Valley, Northern Territory. Coll. by
Peter Martin & Dave Symons, June 6 1953.
303. Water weeds, Palm Valley. Same Collectors & date.
304. Standley Chasm, Northern Territory. " " "
305. " " " " " "c "

Palm Valley is in a small side-arm of the Finke River, 15 miles south of Hermannsburg Mission, which is about 100 miles west of Alice Springs. It is a sandstone gorge with pools of water standing in its sandy base. The palm tree, Livistona Mariae, is prominent along the gorge. Marsilea sp. and other water weeds in the pools. This valley is a scientific curiosity because of the palms, etc., found there in the midst of arid country.

Standley Chasm is in the MacDonnell Ranges, 30 miles west of Alice Springs. A slowly running, muddy stream is in the bottom of this Chasm, and is shaded by trees of Eucalyptus camaldulensis.

- North Australia. 400. Kilu-Impini Creek, Melville Island, Northern Territory. Coll. W. Bateman, 1952.
401. Hot Spring, Mataranka, N.T. " " "

- North Australia. 501. Pools by the Katherine River, N.T., Coll. by Caulfield, July 1953.
502. Pools along the Darwin River, N.T., " " "
503. Lagoons 2 m. N. of Bamboo Creek, 75 m. SW of Darwin, " "
504. Paperbark swamps, Reynolds River area. " "
505. Berry Springs. " "
506. Bamboo Creek, 80 m. SW of Darwin. " "
507. Tube broken in transit. Contents lost. " "
508. Finnis River Lagoon. " "
509. Berry Springs. " "
510. Lagoons on flats betw. Darwin & Finnis Rivers. " "

- North Australia. X-100. Unawalerké Lagoon, Oenpelli, N.T. Coll. by Jim Blyth, April 1953.
X-101. Umbakumba, Groote Eylandt, Gulf of Carpentaria. Coll. Peter Worsley, Apl 9 1953.
X-102. Billabong at Umbakumba. " " " July 30 1953
X-103. Billabong behind Umbakumba. " " " July 11 1953

Apparently X-103 is from the same habitat as X-101, because Specht notes that "the water had receded somewhat since the last specimen was collected".

Note. X-100 and X-101 are not in this box. They were sent you on Sept 20 1953.

Mr. Caulfield,
Botanic Gardens,
Adelaide, S. Australia.

Dear Mr. Caulfield,

Our mutual friend Ray Specht (who forgot to give your initials) has sent me for study ten vials of freshwater algae that you collected last July in the vicinity of Darwin, N.T., and I give you below a very rough and preliminary report on their character, as regards their content of desmids. Of course, all of them will receive a detailed examination, and it is possible that this will reveal more desmids than were apparent at a first glance.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Pools by the Katherine River. | Very few desmids. |
| 2. Pools along the Darwin River. | " " " |
| 3. Lagoon 2 m. north of Bamboo Creek. | A very nice collection, with a good assortment of desmids. |
| 4. Paperbark Swamps, Reynolds River area. | Fairly good, some desmids. |
| 5. Berry Springs. | No desmids. |
| 6. Bamboo Creek, 80 m. SW of Darwin. | Few desmids. |
| 7. McCullums Creek. | Tube broken in transit. |
| 8. Finnis River Lagoon. | No desmids. |
| 9. Berry Springs. | Only one desmid seen (<i>Closterium lunula</i>). |
| 10. Lagoons on flats betw. Darwin & Finnis Rivers. | A very good collection, with plenty of desmids, including a giant <i>Pleurotaenium</i> that probably is a new species. |

I am interested solely in the Desmidiaceae, but Prof. G. W. Prescott, with whom I am collaborating, will undoubtedly find other algae which he will describe.

At first sight these results seem disappointing, but that is simply one of the hazards of the game. After more than 15 years of desmid hunting I can tell pretty well whether a given habitat is likely to yield desmids, from the "look" of the water and the character of the aquatic plants growing in it, but even so I am frequently mistaken. My best collections are squeezings from such plants as *Utricularia*, *Myriophyllum*, *Ceratophyllum*, *Cabomba*, *Potamogeton*, and various aquatic mosses that I cannot identify. *Chara* and *Nitella* sometimes give good yields, though they usually are indicative of hard water, unfavourable for desmids. *Nymphaea* is an indicator of favourable conditions for desmids, while *Eichhornia crassipes* and *purpurea* are unfavourable indicators. Good gatherings can frequently be made by stripping the flocculent "cottony" growths of algae growing on the stems of such aquatic plants as reeds, rushes, *Isaetes*, *Eleocharis*, etc. I am not acquainted with *Hydrilla*, which does not occur in America, but I have some very rich collections from Australia and Indonesia obtained by squeezings from this plant.

Desmids are found in the greatest profusion and largest number of species in still, sunlit waters that have abundant growths of the above-mentioned macrophytes. They prefer soft, slightly acid waters, with an optimum pH of 4.5 to 6.5, though they occur up to pH 8.0, and Ray Specht obtained some beautiful collections from Oenpelli, N.T., in waters with a pH of 7.5. Surface waters occurring on limestone soils contain a considerable proportion of calcium, which seems to be unfavourable for desmids; consequently such waters yield few desmids, and those that do occur are usually small and cosmopolitan species of little interest.

I wish to thank you most heartily for your efforts in making these collections. It is such kindly cooperation that enables specialists to study material from distant parts of the world which it is impossible for them to visit in person. I hope that you will make more gatherings whenever the opportunity offers. Although a number of papers have been published on the freshwater algae of certain regions in Australia, your continent is so vast that collections from any region are almost certain to reveal new species or varieties. West Australia is completely unrepresented in the literature on freshwater algae.

With my kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

P.S. Most botanical gardens have natural or artificial ponds for growing aquatic plants. Perhaps you could get a good haul of algae right in your own back yard.

Nov 16 1953

Mr. Peter Worsley,
Dept. of Anthropology,
Canberra National University,
Canberra, Australia.

Dear Mr. Worsley,

Our mutual friend Ray Specht has sent me a tube containing freshwater algae that you collected at Umbakwumba, Grootte Eylandt, and tells me that two more tubes are on the way to me.

I wish to thank you most heartily for your interest in obtaining this material, and to express the hope that you will continue to make collections when the opportunity offers. Material from any part of Australia will be welcome and valuable; your continent is so vast that it will be a long, long time before anything like an adequate comprehension of the distribution of the freshwater algae of Australia can be obtained.

With kind regards, yours sincerely,

New Orleans, La. Oct 25 1953

Dear Mr. Specht,

The new lot of 12 samples arrived a few days ago, and I thank you very much for all the trouble you have gone to in getting them for me. Sorry to say that one of the tubes (No.7) was broken, though for no apparent reason. The outer cardboard box was somewhat crushed, but the tin cans showed no damage; nevertheless when I pulled this tube out of the cotton, the bottom was broken out and the contents lost. I salvaged a little of the material by washing the cotton on which it had been absorbed, but got very little out of it.

A preliminary and very incomplete report on this material follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| #1. Pools, Katherine River. | Very few desmids. |
| #2. Pools, Darwin River. | Do. |
| #3. Lagoon, 2 m. N. of Bamboo Creek. | Very good, plenty of desmids. |
| #4. Paperbark Swamps, Reynolds River. | Fairly good, some desmids, mostly common species. |
| #5. Berry Springs. | Apparently no desmids. |
| #6. Bamboo Creek. | Few desmids. |
| #7. McCullums Creek. | Tube broken. |
| #8. Finnis River Lagoon. | Apparently no desmids. |
| #9. Berry Springs. | Only one desmid seen. |
| #10. Lagoons betw. Darwin & Finnis Rivers. | Very good. Many desmids, including a probable new giant species of Pleurotaenium. |
| #11. Kulu-Impini Creek, Melville Island. | Fairly good. A probable new species of Euastrum. |
| #12. Hot Spring, Mataranka. | No desmids; they are not found in water from hot springs. |

Although several of the samples are poor in desmids, all of them contain other Chlorophyceae and Cyanophyceae which will be of interest to Prof. Prescott, and also diatoms, if we can find somebody to work them up. In collecting from new territory it is a common experience to find that the gatherings reveal few desmids, showing that the water and soil conditions were unfavorable for their growth. After 15 years experience I have learned to judge from the "look" of the water, and from the aquatic and terrestrial macrophytes, whether desmids can be expected, and I avoid the unfavorable habitats. But even so I frequently am fooled. Habitats that appear quite favorable sometimes yield few desmids, or only common and uninteresting species; and occasionally a poor-looking pond or ditch will contain a new or rare desmid. So I am not disappointed in this lot, and I hope Mr. Gaufield (? Caulfield) and Mr. Bateman will continue collecting for you. I am writing to both of them, thanking them for their interest.

Yesterday I had a letter from Dr. Ruth Patrick, asking for your address, so that she can send her paper on diatoms to you when it is completed! She gives no indication when this may be. I gave her your address and that of Mr. Mountford when I first sent the material to her, but I have now repeated them. This has been a highly unsatisfactory experience, and she will never again get any more samples from me.

I wonder if you would ask Mr. Womersley to phone the Secretary of the Royal Society of S. Australia, and ask him what the editor of their Transactions is doing about reprinting our paper. On Aug. 15th I sent him a cheque for £2.11.0 to pay for the reprinting costs, and have not even an acknowledgement, though I got a return receipt from the post office for the registered letter.

With my best regards and many thanks,
Yours sincerely,

Sept 8 1953

Dear Mr. Specht,

Thanks, thanks, and thanks again for the new lot of samples. The parcel arrived yesterday, all in good shape, thanks to your very careful packing. Some of the tubes contained very little water, though there was no sign of leakage; perhaps it had evaporated through the corks, which sometimes happens. I should think you would find it more practical and convenient to use for shipping these samples the small screw-top bottles in which medicines are sold; they are stronger and there is no danger of the top coming off or leaking.

You were absolutely correct in saying that the sample from Unawalerke lagoon at Oenpelli is teeming with desmids. Among them are some of the most beautiful, the strangest, and the rarest species that I have ever had the good luck to see. Already I have seen two desmids that have not been reported since their original discovery more than half-a-century ago:

Xanthidium multicornis Borge (Queensland 1896).

Triploceras gracile var. *elegans* (Borge) Krieg. (Queensland 1896).

Also there are a number of specimens of *Micrasterias mahabuleshwariensis* var. *reducta* G.S. West (Victoria 1905) of which only one semicell was seen in the previous collections from Oenpelli.

I have noted also a new variety of *M. mahabuleshwariensis* which I propose to name var. *tetradonta* because it has four large teeth, two at the base of each semicell, an unusual feature in this species. There is a new giant *Euastrum*, resembling the Brazilian *Euastrum latipes*, but not assignable to that species, I think; it is probably the second largest *Euastrum* known. Also a new variety of *Micrasterias alata*; a new variety of *Euastrum longicollis* that is quite similar to one that I have found in Borneo material; another *Euastrum* and a *Xanthidium* that seem to be new species. And so far I have examined only a minute quantity of the material. I wonder how many more curiosities will turn up.

This Unawalerke collection is one of the best that I have ever received, and can be compared only with some of my richest collections from Florida, and with a few of those from Java and Borneo that were sent me by Mr. M. Sachlan. The other samples, from Groote Eylandt, Palm Valley, and Standley Chasm, contain many fewer desmids, as you know, but each of them contains something of interest and probably some novelties. Since these undoubtedly are the first algal gatherings made in these localities, they will add considerably to our knowledge of desmid distribution in Australia.

I fully agree with you that it would be highly desirable to include the Oenpelli and Groote Eylandt material in the Arnhem Land report, but to do so would involve some practical difficulties that must be considered:

1. At a guess I should say that there may be 20 or 30 additional desmids in the two new collections, to say nothing of the other algae which Prescott will have to work up. To incorporate these in the original paper would necessitate rewriting it in its entirety, and that would be a job that I should not care for at all.
2. It would be feasible to write a supplemental paper for inclusion in the botanical volume of the reports, but that might involve some delay. While I could probably complete my part of the work in a few months, it is unlikely that Prescott would be able to work up the other algae and check my desmid identifications in any such length of time. At the end of last year he spent three months at Point Barrow, Alaska, and early this year two months in Ecuador, and now has something like 1500 vials

of material to work up. Since the trips were U.S. Government projects, he cannot put the work aside.

3. Another consideration is that the Oenpelli region is proving to be so exceptionally rich in desmids that the additional collections that Jim Blyth is willing to make will undoubtedly reveal many more new and rare forms, so that even a supplemental report would still be incomplete. It seems to me, therefore, that it would be best to hold the two new samples until additional gatherings are received from Jim Blyth and Peter Worsley. Please tell me what you think.

By today's mail I am writing an enthusiastic letter of thanks to Jim Blyth, telling him of the exceptional richness of his collections. Probably he knows nothing about desmids, but I shall enclose sketches of a few of the most striking forms, just to show him what marvellous creations can be seen in a drop of pond water. Also I shall write to Peter's Worsley, and to Peter Martin and Dave Symons, thanking them for their interest and asking them to obtain additional samples when they find an opportunity.

The labels on the tubes seem to have been printed by somebody else, and two of the place-names differ from your spelling. Thus Oenpelli is spelled "Ompelli", and the lagoon on Goote Eylandt, which you spell Umbakwumba, is spelled "Umbakumba" on the label, and "Umba Kumba" in the National Geographic Magazine of Sept. 1949. I am in doubt which of the last three versions is correct.

While on the subject of misspelling, Prescott recently called my attention to the fact that I have been spelling *mahabulshwarensis* incorrectly, as *mahabulshwarensis*. This is true and quite incomprehensible to me, because I am quite familiar with this species and about eight of its varieties, and have had frequent occasion to look them up in the reference works, yet never noticed my error. The name is thus spelled wrongly in my Arnhem Land paper, and if it is not too much trouble I would like you to make the change from "a" to "e" in the Ms. The change will be required on pp. 49, 107 and 115.

The Council of the Royal Society of South Australia has agreed to a reprinting with full-page plates of the paper on Ophel's South Australian desmids, and I hope the work is now under way. A couple of weeks ago I sent a cheque to the Editor to defray the additional cost which proved to be considerably more than I had expected. Nevertheless I am satisfied to have the Editor's blunder rectified in this manner, because I should have been ashamed to distribute reprints of the paper as it was originally printed. I am glad to have your assurance that such a thing cannot happen in the Arnhem Land Reports.

Sorry to say that I have no more news about Ruth Patrick and the diatoms. There is a Convention of the American Institute of Biological Societies now in session at the University of Wisconsin, which she is probably attending, and Prescott also is presiding over the meeting of the Phycological Society. So last night I telegraphed him, asking him to find out what the hell she is going to do, and when she is going to do it. Of course I did not put it in those words, but I think I managed to convey my meaning in the telegram. Her neglect and inaction and silence are very aggravating and embarrassing to me, and I am sure to Prescott also. As soon as I hear from Prescott I shall write you again.

That's all for the present. Now I am going back to the microscope and take another squint at the Unawalerke stuff, and see what more I can discover.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. I have named a new species *Euastrum Blythii*, and am sending him a sketch of it. This ought to give him a small thrill. I get a big kick out of finding a new species, knowing that I am the first human being to see it.

Oct 10 1953

Dear Mr. Specht,

From the enclosed copies of correspondence you will see that Prescott and I have done everything that we could to get from Ruth Patrick a complete report on the diatoms in your original Arnhem Land collections. Since it is quite apparent that she does not want to illustrate the common species, I have requested her to forward whatever she has prepared, which, apparently, will be nothing more than a list of the species found, and drawings of a very few new ones. This is not what I had expected and hoped for, but I think you had better accept and publish it. However, if you and Mr. Mountford think it is inadequate and decide to reject it, that would be perfectly OK with me, for I shall never again have any dealings with Ruth Patrick.

The news that you have sent fourteen new gatherings is indeed exciting; the first lot ought to get here in another week or so. If any of them are as rich as the one from Unawalerke I shall be almost overwhelmed with new species, and you will note from Prescott's letter that he, too, is excited and puzzled with the many new forms. For the diatoms in the this new material, I am going to try to find another specialist to work them up. The only other diatomist in this country with whom I am acquainted is Mr. Paul Conger of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, but he is too busy with his official duties to undertake any other work. Nevertheless he may be able to refer me to someone else, or if he cannot make any suggestions I shall write to some of my friends in Sweden, Finland and Germany, who I am confident can put me in touch with some European diatomists.

I am glad to know about the two new journals, but after my experience with the Royal Soc. of S. Australia I should like to have an opportunity of seeing them. Would it be possible for you to send me a copy of each of them, which should quickly return after examination.

After I have had a chance to look over your new samples I shall gladly write to Mr. Caufield and Mr. W. Bateman, thanking them for their interest and asking them to continue making collections of algae whenever they have an opportunity. I had intended to write to Peter Worsley, but realized that I had no address, other than % The Mission, Gbote Eylandt, N.T., which seems hardly adequate. When you write again please give me a more exact address.

Recently I have received from Brazil a series of 30 collections, the first I have seen from that country. Many of them are almost devoid of desmids, but the others more than make up the deficiency. Among the many strange new forms that I have found is one that I regard as the most wonderful desmid in the world, differing so greatly from anything previously known that I suggested a new genus for it. When Prescott, and the Finnish authority Dr. Rolf Grönblad, saw my drawings, both of them thought it was some kind of monstrosity, but after seeing actual specimens both of them agree that a new genus will have to be established, and this is an extremely rare event in the Desmidiaceae, where only 30 genera are currently recognized. It is an ample reward for the many thousands of hours that I have spent peering through the microscope.

With my best regards,

Yours sincerely,



The University of Adelaide.

Botany Department.

14th September, 1953.

RLS/DTC.

Mr. A.M. Scott,
2824 Dante Street,
New Orleans, 18 L.A.
UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

Dear Mr. Scott,

I am very pleased that the specimens which I forwarded to you from Blyth and the Waite Agricultural Institute people have proved so interesting.

Since forwarding that batch of specimens to you, some 14 more samples have arrived. Ten samples were collected by Mr. Caufield of the Botanic Gardens, Adelaide, on a recent (July, 1953) collecting trip through the Northern Territory.

The localities recorded are :-

- (1) Pools by the Katherine River, N.T. *Very few desmids*
- (2) Pools along the Darwin River. N.T. *Very few*
- ✓(3) Lagoon 2 miles north of Bamboo Creek, (75 miles *New Glosterium* S.W. Darwin), N.T.
- ✓(4) Paperbark swamps, Reynolds River area, N.T. *Fairly good.*
- (5) Berry Springs, N.T. *No desmids*
- (6) Bamboo Creek, 80 miles S.W. Darwin, N.T. *Few desmids*
- Tube broken* → (7) McCullums Creek, 81 miles S.W. Darwin, N.T.
- (8) Finnis River Lagoon, N.T. *No desmids*
- ✓(9) Berry Springs, N.T. *No desmids*
- ✓(10) Lagoons on flats between Darwin and Finnis Rivers. *New Pleurotaenium*

- Two other samples were collected by W. Bateman, Forestry Office, Darwin, Northern Territory, during 1952, at:-
- (11) Kilu-Impini Creek, Melville Island. N.T. *Fairly good. New small Eostrum - ad E. bipartitum*
 - (12) Hot Spring, Mataranka, N.T. *No desmids*

These twelve specimens were forwarded to you four weeks ago.

A couple of days ago, two more tubes arrived from Peter Worsley from Grootte Eylandt. I shall forward these in the near future.

I feel, as you do, that it would be an impossible task to complete even a supplementary paper on the additional material from Arnhem Land, in time for inclusion in the botanical volume. It may be better to consider the desmids of the Northern Territory in a subsequent paper, especially as collections from a great number of localities have now been made. This could be published in either of the new volumes, Australian Journal of Botany, or Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research.

One of our technicians apparently misspelt Oenpelli on the label. I am not sure what is the correct spelling of the native name, Umbakwumba. It is not recorded on any official maps. It is usually written as one word and frequently as Umbakumba, although the natives pronounce the K as KW (Q). We decided to use the KW.

I have noted the corrected spelling of mahabulshwarensis in the Ms.

Yours sincerely,
Roy Speck

Botany Dept.,
University of Adelaide
South Australia
14th July 1953

Dear Mr. Scott,

By separate mail I have forwarded seven tubes of freshwater material which my acquaintances have gathered for you. Five of the tubes were collected in the centre of Australia by a group of scientists who went on a collecting trip for the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, Private Mail Bag, G.P.O., Adelaide. The persons directly responsible were Peter Martin & Dave Symons. They collected out from Alice Springs & found many interesting curiosities, espec. *Isotetes* & *Phyllocaerus*, two forms never reported in this arid centre before. The tubes of freshwater material were collected from: -

- (1) Standley Chasm in the MacDonnell Ranges, 30 miles West of Alice Springs. - A slowly running, muddy stream is in the bottom of this Chasm. It is shaded by trees of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*. (6 June 1953)
- (2) Palm Valley in a small sidearm of the Finke River, 15 miles south of Hermannsburg Mission. It is a sandstone gorge with pools of water lying in its sandy base. The ^{palms} trees, *Levistonera Masiaei*, is prominent along the gorge. ^{Mosses sp. & other waterweeds in the pools} This valley is a scientific curiosity because of the palms, etc. found there in the midst of arid country. (6 June 1953)

As well I have had some luck from Arnhem Land collectors

- (1) Unawaterke' Lagoon, Oenpelli, collected by Jim Blyth of the Oenpelli Mission, April 1953. He proposes to collect more sample from various lagoons throughout the year. He's very keen & would appreciate a letter from you. The material is teeming with Desmids.
- (2) Umbakwumba, Groote Eylandt, collected by Peter Worsley who is an anthropologist from the Canberra National University & working at this native settlement. He is going to collect further samples. This sample is not as rich as that from Oenpelli.

The publication of Volume I of the reports of the Arnhem



ADLAIDE
AUG 1 1948
A
AIRLETTER

TO OPEN CUT AT TOP
BY AIR MAIL

Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18, LA.
United States of America

Second fold here

Third fold here

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

First fold here

Digitized by *Humboldt Institute for Botanical Documentation*

Land Expedition is now under way. They are proceeding slowly but surely as most publishers do in Australia. I feel that it will be next year before they get on to the botany in Vol. VII. If you should find any extra species in the tubes from Andrew Land, you may be able to include them as supplementary paper. (or incorporate them ???). I can assure you that the plates will not be reduced to absurdity in the Andrew Land reports. They will be published as a complete page plate. The Royal Society of S. Aust. publication of your plates was shocking.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ray Specht

P.S. How is Dr. Patrick coming over with the diatoms? R.S.

2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18, La.
Jan 31 1953.

Dear Mr. Specht,

Recently I wrote to Dr. Ruth Patrick asking what was the status of the paper she is writing on the diatoms from your Arnhem Land collections. Here is her reply, dated Jan 25th:

"I have your letter of Jan 17. I have been working on the Australian diatoms and have their identification about completed. The difficulty I have is in producing illustrations. I fear that it will be impossible if you wish this manuscript sent in shortly to have any illustrations except those of new species in it. Please let me know your feelings concerning this matter".

But this is essentially the same as she wrote to Prof. Prescott last June, to which I replied (through Prescott) that it would be highly desirable to have all of the diatoms illustrated, because of the dearth of algal literature in Australia, which Mr. Womersley has mentioned several times in his letters to me.

As you probably know, it is unusual in a comparatively short paper on the plants of a given region, to illustrate the "common or garden" species, and I get the impression that Dr. Patrick is unwilling to do so.

Perhaps you will be kind enough to consult Mr. Mountford and then advise me his and your opinion on the matter. Also if a deadline has been set for the receipt of manuscripts for the botanical volume of the reports, let me know what it is.

Have any of the volumes of the report been published yet? If so I should very much like to see them.

Mr. Mountford has another very interesting article in the current issue of the National Geographic, describing the work of Mr. and Mrs. Grey on Groote Eylandt. In a previous article 2 or 3 years ago there was a colored photograph of a small native girl holding a bunch of mauve-colored water lilies. Perhaps you or Mr. Mountford could persuade Mr. Grey to get some algal collections from some of the billabongs on the island.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. A friend who has read the desmid Ms. has pointed out four errors in spelling of names, as follows:

Cosmarium Meneghini should be Meneghini. This occurs on p. 51 only.

Cosm. Regnesii should be Regnesi. On pp. 61, 105, 117.

Staurostrum pseudosebaldii should be pseudosebaldi. Pp. 81, 109, 121.

St. Sebaldii should be Sebaldi. Pp. 83 (3 times), 109, 121, 122, 123.

The last three are not spelled in accordance with modern rules, but the

2824 Dante St. New Orleans 18, La.
Jan 26 1953

Dear Mr. Specht,

I have just received a note from Mr. Mountford acknowledging receipt of the MS and plates for the paper on FW Algae from Arnhem Land. He appears to be much pleased with it, and uses the expression "an outstanding piece of research". This is music to my ears because Prescott and I have put a lot of hard work into it.

He says that you have taken the duplicate copy to look it over, which is all to the good. Because of your special knowledge of the Arnhem Land region, it is quite possible that you may find statements in the introductory part of the paper which may not be correct, or that could be improved. In such a case please feel free to make whatever changes you may think necessary or desirable, and without waiting to consult me.

Ivan Ophel wrote me some time ago that he was going to Ottawa, Canada, presumably to work with Prof. Elmer O. Hughes, who was formerly at the University of Oklahoma. I did not get a chance to see Ophel in Oklahoma, which is some 500 miles from New Orleans, and now he will be even farther away, so there is very little chance of our meeting.

Speaking of Ophel reminds me to ask if you would be good enough to enquire of the Secretary of the Roy. Soc. of S. Australia about the first paper by Prescott & Scott on desmids from Ophel's collections in S. Australia and Kangaroo Island. You gave me the reference some time ago, and I assume that it has been published by this time. I am getting a little anxious about the 200 reprints that I asked Ophel to order for us, including the 50 (or perhaps 100) copies that he said would be allotted to us free. I hope that no slip-up has occurred, and that the reprints are now on the way to New Orleans.

Prof. Prescott spent last summer and autumn in Point Barrow, the northernmost place in Alaska. Immediately after his return he flew via New York and Panama to Quito, Ecuador, where he now is. Apparently these travels are for some kind of Government mission, with Uncle Sam paying his salary and providing the air transportation. A lucky guy, eh what?

Sincerely yours,

30th Sept. 1952

Botany Dept.,
University of Adelaide,
Adelaide
South Australia

Dear Mr. Scott,

I regret that I have not replied to your letter of 10th August, sooner, as I have been attending a Science Congress in Sydney.

The paper on the desmids of South Australia is now in press and should be available within a short time. The editor of the Royal Society of S. A. informs me that it will appear in

Volume 75 (1952) of the Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia (Trans. Roy. Soc. Sth. Aust.), pages 55 to 69.

The typography which you propose to use seems most satisfactory. The citation of the references to each author in the bibliography seems ideal. For higher plants, however, the citation of the reference alongside the author of his species is usually used. Then there is, ^{usually} no bibliography given at the end of the paper. Nevertheless, if it is usual in algal papers to cite references in such a way, by all means be consistent with them.

While attending the Science Congress a few weeks ago I met some of the Western Australians and asked

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S. A. AIRLETTE
BY AIR MAIL



Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans, 18 LA.
United States of America

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If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

P.S. Perry should have collected some material
for you from the Kimberleys of Western
Australia. I think that he has just
returned

R.L.S.

14th April 1951

Botany Dept,
University,
Adelaide,
South Australia.

Dear Mr. Scott,

I was delighted to learn of your amazing finds in those tubes of fresh water algae which I collected in Anken Land. Dr. Frank Setzler gave me an account of his meeting with you in New Orleans.

In a recent discussion with Mr. C. P. Mountford, editor of the Anken Land Expedition records, he said that we should begin publication of reports in six months. He suggested that the third volume of the records be given to the botany of Anken Land. This volume should be in the hands of the printer's by two years from now. If, however, you would like your report on the desmids published earlier we could put it in the first volume. It is hoped to include the systematic & ecology of the land plants, marine algae, ^(Wormley) Charophyta (Opel) & Charophyta to interest anyone in the other algae found in the tubes?

In a letter from Mountford I note that there has been a slight change in page size to 5½" x 8 7/8", but I don't think that it will affect your plates. He also states that "foot-note references should be by author & date only as:

Mason, 1927, p. 249.

Works cited are to be placed in a bibliography at the end of the article, in alphabetical & chronological order, as for books:

Mosett, R. R., 1912 Anthropology

A second title by same author should be presented as follows.
_____, 1914. The Threshold of Religion

For citations from Journals:

Mason, J. A., 1927. Cahins Pictorial Art. Museum
Journal, Vol 18, pp. 248-83. "

With best wishes,

Ray Specht

31st May 1950

Botany Dept.
Adelaide University,
South Australia.

Dear Mr. Scott,

I must apologise for my delay in replying to your letter of the 31st January. The publication of the Expedition reports was in the hands of our Dept. of Information of the Commonwealth Govt. of Australia. This Dept. had been formed by the previous Labour Govt. & was removed from ministerial status when the new Liberal Govt. came in power at the beginning of the year. This almost threw a spanner in the works, but now the publications are on a sound footing. I can now safely give you all the details you require.

I was overjoyed that you found such a collection in my small samples. Your results were rather a surprise to me. Chatting with Brian Womersley, we thought it would be a good idea if you could illustrate all these species & varieties (as well as any new species & varieties) in your report. This would give anyone in Aust. who may become interested in this group, a good starting point. ~~to~~ If you feel inclined to undertake this task, I feel that it would be of great value. I guess that you could put several ~~about~~ species per plate.

Mr. C. P. Mountford, 25 First Avenue, St. Peters, South Australia is editor of the publications. The plates will be 8" x 5" i.e. equal in size to the printed page. 100 reprints will be provided gratis & more can be obtained at a cost to cover the price of printing. Mr. Mountford suggests that ~~the~~ your report be ready in 12 months time for the second volume of reports.

As regards the diatoms, Brian Womersley suggests that Dr. Ruth Patrick may do them. If you think this a good idea, would you be good enough to forward her samples.

2
Hoping that I have omitted no details,
Good wishes for your research,
Ray Specht.

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BY AIR MAIL

To open cut at top

AIRLETTER



Mr. A. M. Scott,

2824 Dante St.,

New Orleans 18, LA.

United States of America

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Second fold here

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Dear Mr. Specht,

Your letter of June 18th gave me an excellent idea of the typography that you are using in your report, and I am following it, with certain exceptions. For instance, I am not giving synonyms except in a few cases where they are of special importance; nor am I giving the geographical distribution. The reason is that there is no complete monographic treatment of the Desmidiaceae. Dr. W. Krieger, of Berlin, is writing a monograph which gives the geographical distribution, but the work is only about one-third complete, and I rather doubt if he will live long enough to finish it. I do not have the library facilities necessary to work out the distribution for the genera that Krieger has not treated.

I am a little bit surprised to see that you are giving the complete (or almost complete) titles for each reference. That must mean a lot of extra work, and it is not customary in works on algae, where only the year is given, and the reader must refer to the bibliography at the end of the paper for the complete title. Here are a couple of examples from our paper:

Fleurotaenium australianum (Borge) Scott comb. nov.

Doctidium australianum Borge, 1896, P. 29, Pl. 4, Fig. 60.

Triploceras australianum (Borge) Krieger, 1927, P. 448, Pl. 53, Fig. 3.

Staurastrum Dickiei var. maximum W. West, 1895, P. 72, Pl. 8, Fig. 19.

Desmidiium Baileyi fa. tetragonum Nordst., 1898, P. 25, Pl. 2, Fig. 5.

The works cited, by Borge, Krieger, West, and Nordstedt, will be listed in our bibliography, with the complete title, and the abbreviated name of the journal of publication.

In this bibliography I wish to include a paper by Prescott & Scott that is to be published this year (I believe) by the Royal Society of South Australia, on some desmids sent to me by Mr. Ophel. I wonder if you would be kind enough to ask the Secretary of the Royal Society when this will be published, and obtain the complete citation for me, so that I can include it.

I have noted the correct figures for the latitude and longitude of Yirkalla, and have changed the spelling of the name in all cases.

The rough draft of our manuscript is completed and has been sent to Prescott for criticism and any revisions that he may wish to make, also for a final decision on a few species as to whose determination he and I have slightly different opinions. When I get it back I shall have it typed up in final form by a professional typist, because my typing is very far from perfect. So if you can get me the citation requested above, I expect to be able to send the whole thing off to you by the middle of September, or thereabouts.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,



The University of Adelaide.

Botany Dept.,
12th June 1952

Dear Mr. Scott,

I am pleased to learn that the freshwater algae are progressing so favourably & that the manuscripts will be arriving towards the end of the year. Although all the botanical papers will be published in one volume of the Expedition reports and thus be a unit within itself, we consider it best for all papers to stand alone within that unit. Each report will be complete within itself, as if it were published alone in any regular journal. There will be some overlapping in the introductions, of course, but this will not be severe. I suggest, therefore, that you

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title the paper *Brachycome* ^{from Arnhem Land} in the Northern Territory of Australia

As regards typescript, I am using this system based on Rec. XXXII Quarter of the ^{International} ~~Botanical~~ Rules of Botanical Nomenclature.

eg.

~~*Brachycome*~~
Aristida utilis F. M. Bail. in Queensl. Agric. J. 17: 340 (1907).
 Compreh. Catal. 622 (1913).
Streptachne stipoides R. Br. Prodr. 174 (1810); Benth. Fl. Austral. 7: 572 (1878); Hughes in Kew Bull. 1923: 302 (1923).
Scipa streptachne F. Muell. First Census 133 (1882), sec. Census 223 (1889).

These are my own

Any other references used in the general manuscript will be ~~used~~ noted as foot notes with a complete bibliography at the end of the paper.

I personally am including such data as the collecting locality and the recorded distribution with all the *angiosperms*.

eg. FAMILY CYPERACEAE

Fuirena ciliaris (L.) Roxb. in Gram. 3: 174, t. 19 (1790).

F. glomerata Lam. in Kunth. Enum. 2: 184 (1812).

Life form: therophyte.

Recorded localities:

Hemle Bay, Groote Eylandt (Melaleuca leucodendron swamp): R.L.S. 345.

South Bay, Bickerton Island (Melaleuca leucodendron swamp): R.L.S. 513.

Distribution:

Australia: Northern Territory - Victoria River, Darwin, Gulf; Queensland - Gulf, Cape York, Coastal.

This is ecological-geographical areas

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Africa.

I do hope that this will give you some idea of the typography to be used. The ^{accepted name of the} species will be in bold face; italics for synonyms & any manuscript species names; roman for the references.

I definitely made a mistake over the latitude & longitude of Jirrkalla (Mr. Mountford is consistently using the double "l" in his manuscript & assures me that it is on the official map, so I am going to adopt it. Spellings on my maps vary.) Jirrkalla (12° 12' S lat. 136° 47' E long.); Oxapelli (12° 18' S lat. 133° 4' E long.).

As Brian Womersley said I didn't appreciate the tremendous distance between New Orleans & his itinerary. Brian is now in England & will be visiting Dublin for a month or so.

Regards,

Ray Specht

May 20 1952

Dear Mr. Specht,

In your letter of Nov. 24 1949, in which you gave the ecological data on the habitats from which you made the algal collections, you give the same latitude and longitude ($12^{\circ} 18' S.$, $133^{\circ} 4' E.$) for both Yirrkala and Oempelli. One of them is obviously wrong, and I think it is Yirrkala. Will you please give me the correction when you write again?

Sincerely,

May 9 1952

Dear Mr. Specht,

A few nights ago I telephoned to Prof. Prescott in Lansing, Mich., to find out how he is getting on with the remainder of the Arnhem Land algae, and was relieved to hear that he will be able to send me the balance within the next three or four weeks. He will have two plates of algae other than desmids, but it appears that most of the filamentous forms were in a sterile condition, and therefore not identifiable to species.

Also Dr. Ruth Patrick has written him that she will be ready with the diatoms about the same time. I don't know how many plates she will have, nor how many pages of typescript.

Of course, after I receive their material, there is a lot for me to do. First I have to send away to get Latin translations of the diagnoses of new species and varieties; this will take 3 months, because I know only one person capable of doing a good job of it, a lady professor in Dartmouth College, New Hampshire. Then there is the usual time-consuming job of re-arranging the genera and species in the proper sequence, verifying references, plate and figure numbers, etc., etc., with which you are no doubt familiar. But I can safely promise that I can have all the material in your hands by the end of this year. If this is not soon enough, set a deadline and I will do my best to meet it.

I am anxious that my typescript should conform to the editor's requirements. But there is great variation in the typography employed by various botanical journals. Presumably you have some of your own papers on the higher plants well under way, and if you could send me a specimen page of your typescript, showing the arrangement and typography that will be acceptable to Mr. Mountford, it would be of great help to me, and probably save him a lot of trouble.

Since our paper will form one chapter of the volume on botany, an adequate title for it would be simply "The Freshwater Algae", with perhaps a second chapter on "The Diatoms", if Ruth Patrick has a sufficient amount of material; otherwise the diatoms can be included with the other algae. But this will be an important paper that will be referred to and cited many times in future years, and for that reason I would like to use a somewhat more informative title, particularly as there are not many people outside of Australia who have ever heard of Arnhem Land. If it were an isolated paper appearing in a botanical periodical, I would use a title like "Some Freshwater Algae from the Northern Territory of Australia", but this seems inappropriate for a volume dealing exclusively with that one region. Can you or Mr. Mountford offer a suggestion?

Bill Hervey did not reply to my letter, but I am glad to hear that he is gathering some material for me. Also I am very grateful for the trouble you have gone to in contacting the other persons whom you mention, and shall be glad to receive material from any part of Australasia. Alan B. Cribb recently sent me a few vials of stuff that he collected near Brisbane, but evidently this locality is outside of the tropical part of Queensland, since the desmids are of quite different species than those from Arnhem Land, and more on the type of those that I have seen from S. Australia.

Womersley wrote me from California that he would not be able to visit New Orleans, and that you had probably underestimated the great distances in this big country. It is something like 2000 miles from here to San Francisco.

With best regards and wishes, Sincerely yours,

Botany Dept.
Adelaide University,
South Australia
26th April 1952

Dear Mr. Scott,

I am glad that the five tubes of algae (Amken Land) arrived safely. The new specimens which you obtained could be included as best figures as you suggest. Mr. Mountford thinks that this is a good idea. He thinks that the botanical volume on the Amken Land Expedition will be published early in 1953. Do you think that the diatoms & filamentous algae will be completed by then?

I have contacted Ray Perry & he is going to collect material for you in the Kimberley of Western Australia. Bill Hamer says that he is collecting material for you around Darwin & on his way to the Northern Territory, where I contacted a forester officer of Northern Territory, whom I contacted to collect material for you, collected material on the southern part of Melville Island but the natives packed the jars with the axes & spades — result was that they were completely lost! However he is returning this year to the northern part of the Island & will collect you from the northern rivers (like Garfelli). I'll contact Prof. Greaves re S.W. Western

With my best regards,

Yours sincerely

Ray Specht

Feb 26 1952

Dear Mr. Specht,

The five large tubes of algae arrived safely a few days ago, and I am delighted to have them, since I can now distribute samples to some of my friends who are specially interested in desmids. In looking over some of this material I found one new variety of *Triploceres* that did not show up in my examination of the first lot, and perhaps there may be a few more. This is always to be expected, because the longer you search such material the more you will find. But I had to set a limit somewhere, and as a matter of fact I spent several months in the examination, much more time than Prof. Prescott could have afforded. It will hardly be possible to include these new specimens, because the plates are finished, and it is not likely that I can find enough to make another plate. The only other way would be to insert them as text figures in the paper, which most editors don't like. Probably the best way will be to hold them for another paper. I now have on hand some samples from South Australia collected by Womersley and Ophel, a few from Tasmania contributed by Alan. B. Cribb, who is also sending me some from Queensland. Also there may be a possibility of getting some from Bill Herney, who has not yet answered my letter of January 23th.

If you would be kind enough to contact Roy Perry and Prof. Greaves, and if you get any kind of a favorable response from them, I shall be glad to write to them direct and make arrangements with them. Anything from West Australia will be very welcome, since nothing at all has been published on the algae of that region.

I note your postscript that I shall probably see Mr. Womersley soon, and I surely hope that he can include New Orleans on his trip, though he wrote before leaving Australia that he did not think he could do so. I wrote him about ten days ago, in care of Dr. Popenfuss, inviting him to come here and stay with us for a few days, but to defer it until after March 1st, because we are now in the midst of the Mardi Gras celebration, and the city is overflowing with visitors.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

3rd August 51.

Botany Dept.,
Adelaide University,
Adelaide
South Australia

Dear Mr. Scott,

The blueprints of your plates arrived a week or two ago. They are excellent. Mr. Mountford was very pleased with them.

I have recently written to my friend from Garfelli, who is now holidaying in Sydney and am sure that he will be pleased to collect material from Garfelli. I also recalled another acquaintance of mine who ~~has~~ is the forester for the Northern Australian Region. He travels extensively through the north & will try to collect some material for you, I'm sure.

I am including a small map to show you the locality of Mt Compass (M.C.) which is 30 miles south of Adelaide (A) and Waterfall Gully (W.G.) which is 6 miles from Adelaide.



Adelaide is built on a plain which rises at a scarp into the Mount Lofty Ranges (dotted) which run from Cape Jervis to about 20 miles north of Adelaide where

they become lower & lower until they reach & merge into the Flinders Ranges about 100 miles north.

Kindest regards,

Ray Specht.

6th Feb 1952

Botany Dept.,
University
Adelaide, S. A.

Dear Mr. Scott,

In reply to your letter of 27th Jan.,
I hasten to inform you that the plates for
your paper on S. Aust. desmids arrived safely ^{a fortnight ago} and I have handed them on to the editor
of the Royal Society volumes. As you know, the
proofs of the rest of the manuscript are well
under way and all being well the paper will
be printed in a few months. There was a
slight hitch regarding the bibliography, because
printing costs in Australia have soared over
the last year. However, the few deletions which
Joan Ophel will make, will scarcely alter it.

I am delighted that the Amherst Land desmid
are progressing so favourably. None of the volumes
on the Expedition are, as yet ~~complete~~ started, but
the first should be ~~to~~ in the hands of the type-
setters very soon. I shall send you a copy as
soon as it is published.

I know of very few people actively collecting in
the north-west & west coast of Western Australia.
Ray Perry of Plant Industry Division, C. S. I. R. O.,
Box 109, Canberra City, Aust. Capital Territory, Australia
is visiting the Kimberleys this year (I think) as one
of their survey trips. I'll contact him for you.
I can contact Prof. Greaves of the Botany Dept., University

Perth, Western Australia, for collections around the south-west corner of Western Australia, if that is of any help. Unfortunately the central & northern parts of Australia are very sparsely populated & collectors visit them rarely. Travel is very expensive and we rarely have benefactors to give us the grants which abound in the United States. However, we don't do badly compared with our much smaller population of 7 1/2 million.

Your trip to Central America sounds fascinating.

Kindest regards,

Ray Specht

P.S. I guess that you will see Brian Womersley soon!

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If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

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BY AIR MAIL

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ADL 178
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AIRLETTER

CHECK HERE FOR
INCOMING
WISE
AUSTRIALIA

Mr. & Mrs. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18, LA
United States of America

Jan 27 1952

Dear Mr. Specht,

I have been away from home quite a lot recently, which accounts for the delay in answering your letter of Dec 18th. In November and early December my wife and I took a plane trip through Central America to Panama and Colombia; then at Christmas we went to Florida for a week, and I had no sooner returned to New Orleans when I had to go to St. Louis on business.

It is disappointing to learn that you will not be able to get any more collections from the Mission Stations; let's hope that the missionaries will find some solution for their problems and will go back.

As you suggested, I have written to Mr. W. J. Herney at Darwin, and have asked him to get some material for me. Also I have sent him a sheet of instructions for collecting, since he is probably not familiar with algae. I hope to get some good collections from him, not only for my own pleasure in working on these tropical desmids, but also because practically nothing is known of the freshwater algae from that part of the world. Incidentally, if you know of anyone collecting in Western Australia, it would be of great interest to see how far the Indo-Malayan-North Australian desmid-flora extends down the west coast of Australia.

On my Central American trip I had hoped to get some nice desmids, but was greatly disappointed to find that the places we visited contained almost no suitable habitats. I made some collections in Guatemala, that turned out to have extremely few desmids, and those only of the commonest and least interesting species. I had somewhat better luck in Panama, where three or four of the collections are fairly good. Last night I found a peculiar *Bastrum*, quite different from anything that I can find in my books; it is probably a new species. But the Panama Canal was quite thoroughly worked a few years ago by Prof. Prescott, who spent three months there doing nothing but collect freshwater algae, so he didn't leave much for me to get in the way of novelties.

A few weeks ago I had a letter from Iven Ophel enquiring about the drawings to accompany the paper on South Australian desmids, which he could not find. I wrote him immediately advising that they had been sent by registered mail last October, and gave him a description of the package that was addressed to Mr. Womersley. Perhaps you know whether he found it. I hope he did; I wouldn't like to have to redraw those plates.

About half of the paper on your Arnhem Land desmids is finished, and I have sent it away to get Latin translations of the diagnoses of the new plants. Prescott is now working on the second half, and it ought to be ready soon. The 21 plates of illustrations are complete, and the paper will be a valuable addition to the literature on Australian desmids.

Has the first volume of the official record of the expedition been published? I should like to get a copy as soon as it is available, so as to see the style and typography.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

18th Dec 1951

Botany Dept.,
University, Adelaide,
South Australia

Dear Mr. Scott,

By separate mail, I am at last forwarding those duplicate tubes of the collections which I made in Arnhem Land.

I have had great misfortune over my contact at the mission. The missionaries at Gampelli had decided not to issue the natives with tobacco. Corruption resulted, as tobacco is their main joy in life. Finally the Native Affairs Board & the Mission Board ordered them to reissue tobacco. The missionaries, including my friend at Gampelli, resigned on the spot. I have received no reply to my letter. A similar result has come from my friend in the Forestry service, but I am not giving up hope there. He's not very keen on writing letters & is a hard worker, so I may have ~~top~~ results.

However, you may recall Bill Haney from that article on the Arnhem Land Expedition. I saw him in Adelaide a few weeks ago & he promised to get specimens for you. He lives on the western side of Darwin Harbour "under a banyan tree" beside a waterlily lagoon. I suggested that he get specimens from the lagoon throughout the year. Also he will probably visit the Liverpool River area in Arnhem Land next year with a survey party. This area is similar to the "black soil plain" area at Gampelli - see photographs in Nat. Geog. - & should offer wonderful specimens. To maintain his interest, he would appreciate

a letter for you, I'm sure. His address is "Box 241,
P.O. Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia". He
has been collecting water-lily bulbs all over the
Northern Territory & Queensland for another acquaintance
of mine, Mr. Trickett of Kew London.

Brian Monahan is now in California. Ivan
Opel is hoping to get a scholarship to Ontario Univ.
to do his Ph.D.

The seasons greetings to you,

Regards,

Ray Specht

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If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

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BY AIR MAIL

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Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dublin St.,
New Orleans, 18 LA.
United States of America

June 22 1951

Dear Mr. Specht,

Many thanks for your letter of June 5th. If you have no further use for the remainder of the algal samples that you sent me, I should be very glad to have them. Not only will they enable me to make a further search for novelties, but I shall also be able to distribute some of the material to other desmidologists in Europe who would be glad of an opportunity to see such interesting material.

As regards the *Microcystis* jelly, you may be sure that I tried everything I could lay my hands on in an effort to dissolve it, including HCl, H₂SO₄, HNO₃, H₃PO₄, acetic and lactic acids, sodium carbonate, potassium hydroxide, alcohol, acetone and chloroform, none of which had any effect. All of them had to be added to a very small quantity of material on a slide, since I could not risk losing the entire amount. The only thing that showed a certain measure of success was an old stand-by of mine, a household disinfectant and bleaching agent called "Chlorox", which is a 5% aqueous solution of sodium hypochlorite, that I use for bleaching the green chlorophyll color and partially dissolving the cell contents, so that SOMETIMES the wall ornamentation can be seen more clearly; it doesn't always work. While transferring my original sketches to the plates, I have had occasion to re-examine the material because the first sketches were not always complete. Strange to say, the *Microcystis* jelly in A-109 has apparently partially disintegrated during the 18 months that it has been standing. At any rate, the lumps are much smaller, and some of the desmids seem to have been freed, though the jelly is just as sticky as ever.

I have noted my error in reading the name Waterfall Gully from the slip enclosed in the vial. Part of the word was obscured by some of the sludge. It is rather surprising to learn that this gully is in a quartzite formation; I should have expected more variety in the desmids from such a location. But of course, there are exceptions to every general rule, and I have many times been disappointed in the gatherings from what seemed to be excellent locations, and on the other hand there have been good results from apparently unfavorable habitats. You never can tell until the material is examined under the microscope.

I shall appreciate it very much if you will ask your agriculturist friend in Campelli to make some collections, not only from the places that you visited, but as many more as he can find in the vicinity; also from Roper River and Groote Eylandt if possible. And I should be really delighted to get material from your friend Mr. John Womersley in New Guinea, because there have been very few algal collections made on that large island. A friend of mine, Dr. Clarence E. Taft, of Ohio State University, has a paper in press on some algae collected during the war, but he says it is rather poor in desmids, only 40 or 50 of them against the 240 that I found in your samples. You mention the central highlands of New Guinea, and I shall naturally be glad to get material from there, but I have found that I get better results in the lowlands near the coast, if the soil is suitable. In reading about New Guinea my attention was caught by the very extensive swamps in the Fly River region, but I think that access is very difficult, and further this area may not be within your friends domain. Also I have read about Pandanus swamps near the coast, which might be good for desmids if the water is not salt nor brackish as in mangrove swamps, such as we have in southern Florida, which contain no desmids at all.

Your trip to the Ninety-Mile Desert ought to be very interesting, and you might get some desmids there, if the water-holes contain a good growth of aquatic vegetation, even though the water may be slightly calcareous. But not if they are

infected with the water-hyacinth, *Eichhornia crassipes*, or its relatives *E. azurea* and *E. speciosa*. I have just been reading a paper on *Eichhornia* in Indonesia, and it appears that it is just as much of a nuisance in that region as in the southern United States. The paper states that some waters in South Australia have been infected with the plant, but I should think that there is little chance of its having reached the remote waterholes that you mention.

When you write again I wish you would give me the approximate location of Mt. Compass with respect to Adelaide; it is not shown on my small map. The Mt. Lofty range seems to be about 50 miles northwest of Adelaide.

I am now working on Plate #15 of the Arnhem Land material, and hope to have all of them finished in another couple of months, so any new material that you may be able to send will probably be too late to include. But they can form the subject of a future paper.

Two new books have just been published here. One is the 2nd. edition of G. M. Smith's "Freshwater Algae of the U.S.". As regards the desmids and diatoms this is practically the same as the 1st. edition, but there have been numerous changes and additions in the other families of algae, which however are of no interest to me. The other book is G. W. Prescott's "Freshwater Algae of the Great Lakes Region". This describes and figures all of the algae (except diatoms and desmids) known to occur in the States around the Great Lakes, i.e., Wisconsin, Michigan, etc. I have not yet seen this book, and am much disappointed that my friend Prescott did not include the desmids. If Mr. Womersley would like to have these books I shall gladly have them sent to him.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Correct title: "Algae of the Western Great Lakes Area".

April 20 1951

Dear Mr. Specht,

Many thanks for your airmail letter of April 14th., to which I have not been able to reply sooner because of ill-health. In fact, I have just got out of bed where I have been for the last ten days, owing to another gall-bladder attack, the third this year.

I heard Dr. Setzler's extremely interesting lecture on the Arnhem Land Expedition, illustrated with excellent colored moving pictures, and I was glad to see your picture, though I doubt if I should recognize you without the hirsute adornment. I had a few minutes talk with Dr. Setzler after the lecture, but it was only a short chat, because there were many others waiting to talk with him, as usual at these affairs.

Your collection A109 from the lagoon at Oepelli was the most interesting of the lot, containing a much larger assortment of desmids than any of the others. But it was a most exasperating one to deal with, since it consisted largely of gelatinous masses of a colonial alga (*Microcystis* sp.) in which were embedded many rare and curious desmids. In some cases it was possible for me to draw them, but in many other cases it was literally impossible to turn them into position for drawing, or even to make out the minute details, because of the obscuring effect of the surrounding mucus and debris. It occurs to me that this was perhaps due to the fact that the expedition was made during the dry season, when the water level was probably low. At certain times of the year *Microcystis* and other similar algae multiply with enormous rapidity. A few months ago a friend brought me a quart jar full of water from a place near New Orleans, the lower half of which was practically a jelly of *Microcystis*. If it were possible to obtain additional collections from this and the other stations, made during the rainy season, they would probably be easier to examine, and might contain additional species of desmids. If you are in communication with the superintendents of the several missions that you visited, you might be able to induce them to make more collections, or have their natives make them. As a small inducement, I should be glad to pay say \$25.00 for half-a-dozen collections from different habitats in the neighbourhood of Oepelli, which the superintendent could use as a reward to the native gatherers, or I could purchase in this country anything that he might need up to this amount, and sent it to him.

I have noted the slight change in page size, which will make no difference in my plates, and I have also sent photostats of your letter to Prof. Prescott and Dr. Ruth Patrick. Prescott tells me that he has finished his examination of the other algae, and Ruth Patrick has been working on the diatoms, but I do not know whether she has yet finished. Also the suggested typographical arrangement for the bibliography has been noted. It seems to me that it would be preferable to have all the botanical papers together, in the third volume, and I shall be glad of the extra time which this will allow. My poor health during the last six months has left me far behind in my desmidiological work.

By surface mail I am sending you proof prints of the first 10 completed plates; I estimate that there will be about 10 more to make. You might send these to Mr. Mountford for his examination, and tell him, please, that when the final paper is submitted I shall, of course, send the original ink drawings for reproduction. All of the desmids on these 10 plates have been identified, but in a few cases there is a slight disagreement between Prescott and myself as to their disposition, so I am not sending a list of the names.

When you see or communicate with Mr. Mountford, please ask him to put me down to receive a complete set of the Expedition reports, for which I shall be glad to pay. I am particularly anxious to see the first volume as soon as it is published, since this will give me a much better idea of the arrangement and typography than I have at present. No doubt the first volume will contain a map showing the location of the several stations, but I should like to include in our paper an outline map, which I can copy from the one published in the National Geographic Magazine, for the reason that many algologists will receive reprints of our paper, who will not see the complete reports. Please see what Mr. Mountford thinks of this suggestion.

Also will you please tell Mr. Womersley that within the next few weeks I shall send him the complete paper, with plates, on the desmids collected by Mr. Ophel in Kangaroo Island and other places? And that I have sent him, a couple of weeks ago, a new book by Gilbert M. Smith "Manual of Phycology", which I think he will find interesting.

With my best regards, Sincerely yours,

Australian samples

From Alan B. Corbett

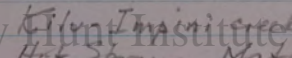
- | | | |
|-----|---|------------|
| 118 | } Lake Dobson, Tasmania. Coll Miss M. Shields | |
| 119 | | |
| 120 | | Jan 1951 |
| 124 | Creek at Russell Falls, Tasmania. Coll A.B. Corbett | Sept 5/50 |
| 127 | Lagoon at Port Arthur, Tasmania | June 21/51 |
| 125 | Pool betw. Hermsville + Ipswich, Queensland | May 22/51 |
| 126 | Pools near Cunningham's Gap. | " " " |
| 128 | Pools in creek at Springbrook | Jan 9/52 |

From H B S Womersley

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 200 | Waterfall Gully, S. Australia | Coll Womersley | Oct 20/50 |
| 201 | Mount Compass Swamp | " | Apr 22/51 |
| 202 | " " " | Womersley & Ephel | Oct 15/50 |

From Ray Specht

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 300 | Palum Valley, N. Territory | Coll Peter Martin + Dave Symon | |
| 301 | Palum Valley | | June 6/53 |
| 302 | Palum Valley | " | " " |
| 303 | Water weeds, Palum Valley | " | " " |
| 304 | Standley Chasem | " | " " |
| 305 | " " " | " | " " |

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|-------|--|-------------------|---------|
| 100 | Finlayson's Creek, Melville Island, NT | Coll W. Battersby | 1952 |
| 201 | Hot Spring, Mataranka, N.T. | | |
| 1. | Pools by the Katherine River, N.T. | Coll Caulfield, | July 53 |
| 2 | Pools along the Darwin River NT | " | " |
| 3 + | Lagoons 2 m N of Bamboo Creek, 75 m SW of Darwin | " | " |
| 4 | Paperbark swamps, Reynolds River area | " | " |
| 5 | Berry Springs NT | " | " |
| 6 - | Bamboo Creek, 80 m SW Darwin | " | " |
| 7 | Broken | " | " |
| 8 | Finnis River Lagoon | " | " |
| 9 | Berry Springs | " | " |
| 10 | Lagoons on flats betw Darwin + Finnis Rivers | " | " |
| X 100 | Unawaterke Lagoon, Campelli NT | Coll Jim Blyth, | Apr/53 |

- X 101 Umbakumba, Groote Eylandt, Coll Peter Worsley Apr 9/53
X 102 Bellabong at Umbakumba " July 30/53
X 103 Bellabong behind " " July 2/53
(apparently same habitat as X 101)

5th June 1951

Botany Dept., University
Adelaide,
South Australia

Dear Mr. Scott,

I am in receipt of your letter of 20th May & hasten to reply. I have a very good contact at Campelli who has recently collected me some flowering and fruiting material of some angiosperms which were new species(?). This material is perfect material. He is an agriculturalist and an ardent naturalist in his spare time (if any), so I am sure that he will be only too willing to collect material for you during the next monsoon season. He is on southern leave in Sydney until late September, so I shall contact him & give him the necessary directions and equipment. He may be able to interest the other two missions on Roper River and Gooite Gylardt to co-operate in making collections in their localities. (We did not visit the Roper River & my tubes & formalin didn't arrive in time on Gooite Gylardt.) The \$25 will be an inducement. I have no contacts at the other missions.

A close friend of mine, John Womersley who is forest botanist in New Guinea may be able to collect material for you in that locality. He is at present in Adelaide for a few weeks leave so I shall ask him before he returns to make several expeditions into the central highlands of New Guinea.

South Australia is unfortunately poor in natural waters. Mt Compass did possess excellent swamps but these are being drained for agriculture. Waterfall (not "Water from") Gully is the centre of one of our many quartzitic outcrops in the Mt. Lofty Ranges. I don't think that there is even a thin bed of limestone nearby.

Mr. Mountford (or myself) will forward you a complete set of the volumes as they appear. Each paper will necessarily have to be complete within itself, so Mr. Mountford sees no objection to including a small map of Amber Land showing the collecting localities in your paper.

By the way, ~~we~~ we kept about half of each sample which I collected in Amber Land in Adelaide. Would it be helpful if you examined the rest of the sample - especially A 109?

Also could you possibly dissolve the jelly of *Microcystis* with dilute hydrochloric acid without harming the desmids?

Mr. Brian Womessley was delighted to learn that you have forwarded him Smith's "Manual of Phycology". We have been awaiting it for our library for a long time.

Mr. Opkel is accompanying me to Keith in the Ninety-Mile Desert of South Australia where I have some experiments on our heath vegetation. This country was a desert 5, -10,000 years ago but is now densely vegetated. Occasional waterholes occur which may offer desmid material - although the clays in this area are slightly calcareous.

Hoping that you remain in the best of health,

Yours sincerely,
Ray Specht

First fold here

If anything enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

Third fold here

Mr. Arthur M. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18, L.A.
United States of America

BY AIR MAIL

To open on flap

AIR LETTER



Second fold here

18th Feb. 1953

Botany Dept.,
University
Adelaide,
South Aust.

cott,

I regret that I have not written to you before, but I have been up to my eyes in tasks (1) caring for my ailing (now recovered) wife and new infant, Allison, and (2) writing a PhD thesis.

I definitely agree with Mr Mountford. Fox and Prescott's paper on the "Fresh-water algae of Anken Land" is certainly an outstanding and invaluable piece of work to Australasia and world botany.

I can only suggest two minor alterations to the introduction. One is a misidentification of "Vitella" ~~from~~ one of the swamps at Capelli. The other is ^{or} a statement to be added that a duplicate set is held in the Botany Dept. of University of Adelaide. (I retained portion of each tube for Dr Womersley.)

You rather flatter me by naming two new

species after me. On my part, it seems a very easy road to fame. The collection of such a wealth of material involved such a small fraction of my time compared with other groups of plants. The honor should be all yours for separating and identifying ~~at~~ describing such a wealth of material.

Your introduction was most fascinating. The wealth of the Indo-Malayan species in this area is remarkable. An anthropologist, ^{with} whom I am in contact, is on Brooke Is. now. I may be able to get him to collect some from there. Also I renewed contact with Capelli so maybe some samples. I ~~first~~ ^{first} may visit Melville Island and collect some material for you there. I had no luck from the Kimberly contacts.

I have noted your corrections in the manuscripts.

There have been some further delays in publishing the reports of the Anken Land Expedition. It looks as if the volume on botany will be delayed until the end of the year. This may give Dr. Patrick the opportunity to complete ~~the~~ illustrations of all species

of diatoms, - a highly desirable thing in view of the dearth of literature on algae in Australia, especially when Dr. Patrick is such an expert in this field. However, if she feels loathed to illustrate the "common or garden" species, which are copiously illustrated in other journals I sympathise with her position. Valuable though complete illustrations may be to Aust. botany, she may feel that it is a waste of time.

Your paper on Ophele's collection in S. Aust. has appeared ^{a fortnight ago} in Volume 75 of Roy Soc. S. Aust. (1952). It is well printed. Even though the plates were reduced much more than we expected, they are very clear. The reports should be forwarded shortly.

Ophele has arrived safely in Canada & likes the work.

Regards,
Ray Specht.

To open cut at top

BY AIR MAIL



Mr. A. M. Scott,
2824 Dante St.,
New Orleans 18, LA.
United States of America

First fold here

third fold here

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.