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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.



Edited and published for
THE GRAY MEMORIAL BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION,
BOTANICAL GARDENS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
and
THE MICHIGAN BOTANICAL CLUB
by
Harley H. Bartlett and Rogers McVaugh

C O N T E N T S

BOTANICAL IMPRESSIONS OF TRAVEL IN MEXICO

by

Ida K. Langman

Author's Separate

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

Dear Dr. McVaugh: Until you suggested it, I hadn't thought of writing up my plant collecting in Mexico. But I can see that it ~~might~~^{would} be desirable to have available in recognized botanical publications certain basic information about all botanical collections-areas covered, dates involved, notes on dominant or unusual species observed, etc. So here you have my contribution for the files.

My first trip to Mexico was in the summer of 1939, and collecting, I must confess, was a side line-subordinated to getting a quick, general tourist's-eye view of Mexico, ~~gathering~~^{AKA} impressions of the country, the people, and learning a little bit of the language. Collecting was done almost along the automobile highways ~~selected from the comparatively few open at that time.~~ ^{and} entirely ~~comparatively few~~ ^{comparatively few} open at that time. The trip, though superficial, served several useful purposes. It infected me with a love of the country and its people from which I ~~never~~^{now} expect fully to recover. It introduced me to a new kind of fun-learning to speak a ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ language other than my own-and it plunked me down in the middle of a colorful strange flora which made the Pennsylvania Pocones where I had done my previous collecting seem dull, indeed, by comparison.

During that summer 324 numbers were collected and deposited in the herbarium of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. A large part of the collection came from along the Pan American ^{Highway} between Laredo and Mexico City-a region of great diversity both scenically and floristically. Certain plants still stand out vividly in my recollections of that highway: *Leucophyllum texanum*, so appropriately called "cenizo" by the Mexicans; *Cordia Boissieri*, the "anacehuite", whose fruit was eaten by the herds of goats that roamed the dry plains of the north; mezquite with its feathery foliage; *Argemone*, the Mexican poppy; and *Nicotiana glauca*, a wild tobacco. ^{the common} Here, too, I saw the first ^{specimens} representatives of ~~these~~ genera that were to become, ~~for me~~ familiar elements of the Mexican flora - *Cupheas*, *Ruellias* and *Cassipouia*. ~~Leucaena, Conoclinium~~

Trips out of Mexico included the following:

1. To the Pyramids of Teotihuacan, where I ~~was~~^{was} my first *Mirabilis Jalapa*, the four o'clock, growing wild, and where I became familiar with some of Mexico's most common weeds-*Stevia linoides*, *Sanvitalia procumbens*, *Sphaeralcea angustifolia*, *Mentzelia hispida*, *Bouvardia triphylla* and *Gaura cocinea*.
2. To Guadalajara: with a side trip, also by car, into the crater of the Nevada de

Toluca, 150,000 ft. high. This introduced me to such varied aspects of the Mexican flora as the brilliantly colored herbs of the forested mountain slopes - Salvias, Lupines, Pentstemons, Castillejas and Phacelias; the Dahlias, Cosmos and marigolds of the fields, and the diminutive alpine flora in the crater-Draba Jorullensis, Castilleja toluensis, Cerastium Purpusii, Senecio procumbens and Commelina orchinoides

3. To Acapulco, by way of Cuernavaca and Taxco, with the last part of the road still under construction. ~~Plants~~ I recall from this trip include the lioilita (Thevetia yecotli) in Taxco, an interesting collection of Adiantum, Pellaea, Notholaenas and Selaginella along the highway south of Taxco, and near ~~xxxx~~ Acapulco Martynia, Jacquihia axx Calliandra, and my first wild guava tree.

4. To Puebla and Tehuacan and from there by train to Oaxaca, with a side trip from Tehuacan to Orizaba. Again the roadside plants are remembered-Zinnias, Cosmos, Resedas, Anodas, Dodonaea?

Mention should be made here of the gracious assistance I was given by several members of the staff of the Instituto de Biología who helped me with the identification of many of the plants as I brought them back from each of the trips. Thanks go to Debora Ramirez Cantu and María Agustina Batalla in particular.

The next summer I was back in Mexico, this time for a year. I had been ~~xxxxxx~~ eligible for a sabbatical leave from my teaching job, according to a law just passed by the previous state legislature, but until I discovered the favorable exchange for an American, I had not been able to take advantage of it. The rapid survey of the previous summer had indicated where we would like to spend more time, and so the year divided itself up into a month or so spent at ~~xxxxxxxx~~ each of a number of different headquarters. Again, I am forced to confess, collecting shared time with other activities: sightseeing, shopping for ~~xxxxxxxx~~ native handicraft, trying to keep up with scheduled fiestas, etc. That, added to the fact that collecting is ^{really} rather poor in the dry season kept my numbers down to about 1000. These were, however, collected in quadruplicate-one set for the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, one for the Division of Plant Introduction in Washington, one for the Instituto de Biología in Mexico and one, as required by law, for the Mexican Department of Agr.

The calendar divided itself up as follows: July and August in Mexico City and the surrounding area; Sept. and October in the north-Monterrey, Saltillo

and Torreon, with side trips to San Luis Potosi, Durango and Tampico; November and December in Guadalaajara and the surrounding area; January in Uruapan; February in Acapulco; (with swimming and sunbathing taking up more than their deserved share of time) Orizaba, Coahuila and spent March in Oaxaca; April ~~in Veracruz~~ Veracruz and Jalapa; May in Orenavaca-~~xxxx~~ ~~xx~~ mainly with preparations to return home.

Characteristic plants associated with the different ~~xxxx~~ areas are noted below:

Around Mexico City

Daleas in dry sunny habitats; Distichlis and Maurandya on the shores of Lake Texcoco, Lamourouxias in the ravines, Buddleia and Montanoa along the roadsides, Begonias on wet cliffs, Milla biflora, lovely relic of a once common plant, in a dry field and the striking white flowered ~~xxxxxxx~~ tree Ipomoeas. The high spot of this period was a one day trip to the Lagunas de Zempoala ~~xxxx~~ when by some miracle it did not rain once and we collected close to 75 different species. Still remembered from this trip are the lovely shell pink Fecicularis mexicana, Pinguicula macrophylla with deep purple flowers, Calceolaria mexicana, Spiranthes aurantiaca and Fuchsia Pringlei.

In the North

The rains had ended and the rocky hillsides and dry roadsides were a mass of color with ~~xxxxxxx~~ the yellow cushions of Oryzodia Greggii, the tiny white Zinnia pumila, ~~xxx~~ Scutellaria potosina with blossoms of velvety purple blue, the rosaceous shrub Cowania plicata, the shrubby Colgenia Greggii and the trailing Colgenia mexicana, and hosts of others.

In the West

Banisteria Beecheyana climbing over trees, Bonplandias with attractive blue flowers, feathery flowered Iresines, an 8 foot Arbutus Xalapensis, the tall purple Wigandia the tall succulent Clusia Salvini and the fern like Coriaria thymifolia

Near Acapulco

Here the new genera really came at me from all sides: Swartzia, Gliricidia, Ocotea Arrabidea, Couepia, Podopterus, Cochlospermum, Conocarpus, and even what might have been a new genus in the legumes. But the fruits were missing and I have never gotten back to collect them.

Continue middle of p 8

under ~~number~~ ~~range~~ 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Collecting Summary of Iteneraries and Collections

1939

July 8-10	Nos. 1963-2010	Pan American Highway-Laredo to Mexico City.	
July 11	Nos. 2011-2048	San Juan Teotihuacan, ^{Estado de Mexico}	
July 13	Nos. 2049-2072	Mexico City to Toluca, ^{de Mexico}	
July 17	Nos. 2073-2079	Cuernavaca, ^{Mexico}	
July 18-21	Nos. 2080-2118	Cuernavaca to Taxco, and around Taxco	Guerrero /
July 23-25	Nos. 2119-2178	Taxco to Acapulco, and around Acapulco	Guerrero /
July 28-29	Nos. 2179-2199	To Puebla and Tehuacan, ^{Puebla}	
July 30	Nos. 2200-2213	Monte Alban, Oaxaca	
August 1	Nos. 2214-2228	Tehuacan, to Orizaba, ^{Veracruz}	
August 4	Nos. 2229-2251	Mexico City to Morelia, including trip into crater of Nevado de Toluca.	Michoacan
August 5	Nos. 2252-2259	Mexico Morelia to Patzcuaro, ^{Michoacan}	
August 6	Nos. 2260-2277	Patzcuaro to Zamora, ^{Michoacan}	
August 10	Nos. 2278-2289	Mexico City to Laredo,	

1940

July 7	Nos. 2435-2447	Laredo to Monterrey, ^{Nuevo Leon}	
July 17 to September 14	Nos. 2448-2824	Mexico City and surrounding area including trips to Toluca, Tlaxcala, Zempoala and Pachuca	
September 18-21	Nos. 2825-2862	Mexico City to Monterrey, with side trip to Pachuca	
September 22-October 20	Nos. 2863-2999	Monterrey, Saltillo and Torreon with side trip to Durango	
October 22-26	Nos. 3000-3046	Monterrey to Mexico City, with side trip to San Luis Potosi	
November 5-December 27	Nos. 3047-3212	Mexico City to Guadalajara, and region surrounding latter; nos. 3167-3212 on trip to Colima	
1941 January 6-25	Nos. 3213-3299	Uruapan and surrounding areas	
January 28-March 1	Nos. 3300-3371	Acapulco and environs	
March 5-16	Nos. 3372-3407	Mexico City to Veracruz via Jalapa	
March 20-24	Nos. 3408-3456	Fortin and surroundings	
April 2-14	Nos. 3457-3504	Oaxaca and nearby areas	
April 31-May 31	Nos. 3505-3518	Cuernavaca and environs	

1948-1949

October	Nos. 3530-3563	Mexico City, and Toluca ^(Oct. 22)	
November	Nos. 3564-3671	Cordoba and neighboring localities	
December and January	Nos. 3672-3700	Tepoztlan, ^{state?}	
April	Nos. 3701-3882	Chiapas (Tuxtla Gutierrez, San Cristobal las Casas, Comitán, Cerro Brujo)	
July	Nos. 3883-3921	Chiapas-near Tuxtla Gutierrez	
July	Nos. 3922-3929	Mexico City to Tecoluitla, ^{state?}	
August	Nos. 3930-3932	Yucatan	
August	Nos. 3933-3955	Chiapas-near Tuxtla Gutierrez	

Don't know why I omitted the dates on the last. Here ~~they~~ ^{they} are if you want them:
 October 18 and 22; October 31 to November 5; November 21;
 December 20 to January 5; April 15 to 17; July 26 and 31;
 August 12-14.

If this is not what you want, let me know or change it as you see fit.

UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, U. S. A.

UNIVERSITY HERBARIUM

February 4, 1953

Mrs. Ida K. Langman
Academy of Natural Science of Phila.
Philadelphia 3, Penna.

Dear Mrs. Langman:

Thanks for your note; the directory is being sent to you under separate cover.

My trip to Mexico was very profitable indeed, and I enjoyed every minute of it. My assistant had to return earlier than we had planned, because of illness in the family, but in spite of that we got more than 1700 numbers in 5 or 6 sets, which should keep me busy for a good while. We spent almost the entire 100 days in Jalisco, so that I am beginning to feel quite at home there. My Spanish is improving, but as yet it is nothing to brag about.

Have you seen the new Asa Gray Bulletin that Prof. Bartlett and I are editing? I think a copy is being sent to the Academy. Why don't you write for us an account of your travels in Mexico on botanical business? Our only criteria are that the account be interesting and readable, and at the same time contain some germ or germs of real information that needs recording, e.g. your places and dates of collecting, perhaps with a map, and specimens collected.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Rogers McVaugh

RMcV/mec

UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, U. S. A.

UNIVERSITY HERBARIUM

September 25, 1953

Mrs. Ida K. Langman
Acad. of Natural Sci. of Philadelphia
Nineteenth & Parkway
Philadelphia 3, Penna.

Dear Mrs. Langman:

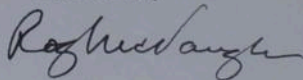
A very hasty note to say that I have taken the liberty of re-arranging your manuscript for the Asa Gray Bulletin, and having it typed for your inspection. I thought it would read better if it was arranged with the localities mixed up as they are now, with the flowers from each mentioned right along with them. May I have your comments on this? I think it is a very interesting paper.

Would you be willing to add to it a summary of collecting activity, for its record value? Like the one I put in for my Jalisco trip last fall, but not necessarily in such detail. If your collection-numbers are chronological, it would probably be enough to enumerate them by groups for each trip, or each State, or in some other convenient way.

I have not really read the revised ms. carefully, and I wanted to send it before the weekend, so please excuse any errors that I have not caught.

It was pleasant to see you in Madison, and I hope your work is progressing well.

Sincerely,



Rogers McVaugh

RMcV/mel

UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, U. S. A.

UNIVERSITY HERBARIUM

November 2, 1953

Mrs. Ida K. Langman
3509 Baring St.
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Langman:

Thanks for your kind words about the editing job. It has to be good material to start before one can enjoy editing it. I think you have an interesting article, and we are trying to assemble enough copy for two numbers of the AGB, so this is sent you post-haste for further expansion if you will be so kind. I started to mark your page of summary for the typist, attempting to indicate names of states where they might be doubtful. What do you think of this? You and I know where Cuernavaca is, but perhaps it would be better to put it in the table as Cuernavaca, Morelos. This of course may necessitate some re-casting of the entire table, especially in places where you enumerate several places together.

Then beginning on July 17, 1940, I began to worry about expanding your table: could you do this for these long periods, something like:

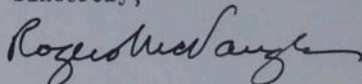
2448 - 2824 Mexico City and surrounding area, including:

- x - xx trip to Toluca
- y - yy trip to Tlaxcala, &c.

This would make the table longer, but only in the four places I have marked "expand". I think it would be much more useful if handled in this way. If you would also put in the dates correctly in the bottom year, and states where needed (or everywhere), and let us have it when convenient, I should be very grateful. Personally I want very much to get a rather full list of your localities and collections in Jalisco and Colima, as I am trying to write an account of botanical exploration in those states. Would you do that for me some day?

With thanks again, and best regards,

Sincerely,



Rogers McVaugh

RMcV/mel

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
~~BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS AND~~
~~AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ENGINEERING~~
Agricultural Research Service

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

PLANT INDUSTRY STATION
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

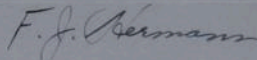
March 24, 1954

Mrs. Ida K. Langman
2316 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Langman:

I enjoyed the account of your botanizing in Mexico in the latest issue of the Asa Gray Bulletin, and your reference to a possible new genus in the Leguminosae suggested that the plant you had in mind may have been the one that came to me for identification years ago and that I was unable to place generically in the absence of fruit. Comparison of the collection data of this plant (Your Nos. 3323 and 3338, hills of Costa Verde, Acapulco, Feb. 14 and 16, 1941) with your itinerary strengthens the belief that this is the one to which you refer. You may be interested to know, therefore, that I came across a named collection of the same plant not long ago and so was able to dig out your specimens and match them with this. It turns out to be Aeschynomene interrupta Benth. (A. simulans Rose). Familiar as I had been with only the herbaceous, yellow-flowered members of this genus I should never have guessed that your arborescent plant with violet-striped, pink flowers would also be referable to it.

Very truly yours,



F. J. Hermann
Botanist

FJH:em

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

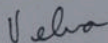
May 10. 1954

Dear Ida,

I was just reading your piece on Mexico in the Asa Gray Bulletin. While I found it all very interesting, I was especially intrigued by your reference, on page 293, to a "violet-striped legume" near Acapulco. I wondered if that might be your collections no. 3323 and 3338, which I recently saw from the National Arbo-
retum Herbarium, and identified as Aeschynomene palmeri Rose. I was interested to see your collections of that species which thus far I have seen represented only by the type collection, Palmer 106a (part of a mixture) and Hinton 14604, from Galena. If you get back in that neighborhood again, I hope you will find more material.

Will I see you on Ecological Society field trip in Florida, come September? It sounds as tho it might be fun.

Sincerely,



Velva E. Rudd
Assistant Curator
Department of Botany



March 25, 1954

Dear Mrs. Langman:

Thanks awfully for your "Botanical Impressions". I am terribly interested in the flora of Texas where I was last autumn, and many times I could almost look across the river into Mexico. I think I was only about 60 miles away.

Maybe someday I will get to Mexico, but at the present time our own various states intrigue me so that I do not dare step across the border in search of a new interest.

I wonder if you ever saw Arbutus tex-
ans in fruit? I think it is the most gor-
geous small tree I ever saw anywhere in my
life.

Very sincerely,

MWC:

Mrs. J. Norman Henry

HENRY FOUNDATION FOR BOTANICAL RESEARCH

GLADWYNE, PENNSYLVANIA, U. S. A.

MRS. J. NORMAN HENRY, PRESIDENT
DR. EDGAR T. WHERRY, VICE-PRESIDENT
MISS JOSEPHINE DE N. HENRY, SECRETARY

DIRECTORS

DR. CHARLES HODGE, 4TH DR. RUTH PATRICK
MISS ANNE ROWLAND

Dear Mrs. Langman:

3/10/55

I should have thanked you
before this for the interesting reprints
you sent me. I have read them
with pleasure and am amazed at
the amount of work you are able
to do. It was good to meet you
and to hear about your opus magnum.

W. C. Steud

Sincerely yours
W. Steud

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA
19 SOUTH TWENTY-SECOND STREET, PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

Thanks for [✓]leter of the 18th and for seeking
information for us on the "Datos..." - and,
finally, for the separate of the delightful
little "Botanical Impressions ... Mexico".

3.22.54

Wm. Daniel, Jr.

ARENTS TOBACCO COLLECTION
THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
FIFTH AVENUE & 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

ROOM 324
SARAH DICKSON, CURATOR

March 30, 1954

Miss Ida K. Langman
3509 Barry Street
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Miss Langman,

I have read your article
in the Asa Gray Bulletin with much
interest. Thank you very much for
sending it to me. You certainly had
some very interesting experiences.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Dickson

Washington 25, D. C., March 30, 1954

Dear Mrs. Sanguar:

Copy of your paper, "Botanical impressions of travel
in Mexico" [^{revised}Asa Gray Bul., n.s. 2(3): 291-296. 1953],
kindly furnished me by yourself, is received. Please accept my
appreciation of your courtesy in thus remembering me. I am very
glad to have the opportunity of reading this ^{interesting} publication and of
adding it to my library for future reference.

Yours gratefully,

W. A. Dayton

W. A. DAYTON, Chief, Div.
Dendrology and Range Forage Investigations, U. S. Forest Service.

SCENE ALONG PARKWAY, WESTCHESTER COUNTY



25 Prospect St, Apt. 1-K, New Rochelle, New York

MARCH 30, 1954

DEAR Ida,

It was a pleasure to get your reprint "Botanical Importance of Trees in Mexico" that's the real way to study a country - thru its fauna, flora and natural formations. I do wish that you would try to get an article on it published by a journal that could do justice to the colored photos which are sure you must have of the various species. Journals like The National Geographic, National History, Scientific American or Nature.

I hope you are in good health - that your work is interesting & enjoyable. You are at present in teaching duties - Comparative Zoology - small schedule job and in 18 years. Busy. Registered for the hygiene course which I was to teach this year. So I'm happy because I have a bit more spare time to spend on Bayesian research (a leisure-time + vacation period activity).

Take care of yourself. Best regards,

Don



POST CARD



Mrs OSCAR LANGMAN
3509 BARING ST
PHILADELPHIA 4
Pennsylvania

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING IS RESERVED

PHILADELPHIA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
SPRING GARDEN AND SEVENTEENTH STREETS
PHILADELPHIA, 30

March 29, 1954

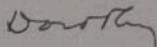
Mrs. Ida Langman
Academy of Natural Science
19th and Race Sts.
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Ida:

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of the ASA GRAY BULLETIN containing the reprint of your article on "Botanical Impressions of Travels in Mexico." I am consumed ^{with} admiration for your energy and devotion to your career as a botanist. The itinerary alone exhausts me.

All good wishes and thanks.

Sincerely,



Dorothy B. Crawford

Principal



TOURING CLUB DE FRANCE

FONDÉ EN 1890.

POUR PROPAGER LE TOURISME EN FRANCE
ET
RECONNUE D'UTILITÉ PUBLIQUE PAR DÉCRET DU 30 NOVEMBRE 1907

HAUT PATRONAGE DE MR. LE PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE

SIÈGE SOCIAL — 65 AVENUE DE LA GRANDE ARMÉE — PARIS, XVI^e.

DÉLÉGATION, PRINCIPALE POUR LE MEXIQUE ET L'AMÉRIQUE CENTRALE

PROF. JUAN BALME

MEMBRE FONDATEUR

ET

DÉLÉGUÉ PRINCIPAL
APARTADO 1651
MEXICO, D. F.

BUREAU:

APRÈS 16 HEURES,
ATLIXCO 163 A.
TÉLÉPHONE 37-02-63

MÉDAILLE ET PLAQUETTE
D'ARGENT DU T. C. F.
POUR SERVICES TOURISTIQUES
1930-1937

Mexico, D.F. 6 de Abril de 1954.

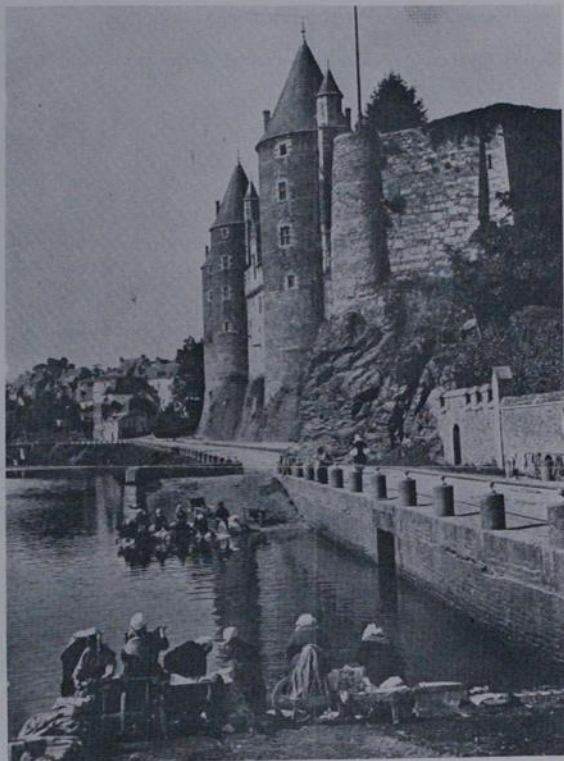
El Profesor Juan Balme saluda muy respetuosamente a la Señorita Ida K. Langman y le agradece el envío que ha tenido la bondad de hacerle, de su interesante resumen de Impresiones acerca de sus viajes a México.

Con sincero aprecio, le es grato removerle las seguridades de su mas atenta y distinguida consideración.

SI DESEA USTED CONOCER LA BELLA Y DULCE FRANCIA, INSCRIBÁSE EN
NUESTRA GRAN ASOCIACION TURISTICA

TODOS LOS AMIGOS DE FRANCIA Y QUIENES PIENSAN VISITARLA DEBEN SER MIEMBROS DEL TOURING CLUB DE FRANCE, PORQUE, ADEMÁS DE LAS NUMEROSAS VENTAJAS QUE OBTIENEN EN SUS VIAJES, RECIBEN GRATUITAMENTE, CADA MES Y PUBLICADA EN FRANCÉS, SU INTERESANTE REVISTA ILUSTRADA.

PIDA USTED DATOS AL DELEGADO.



Castillo de Josselin, en Bretaña.



Iglesia de la Magdalena.



Base de la Torre Eiffel.



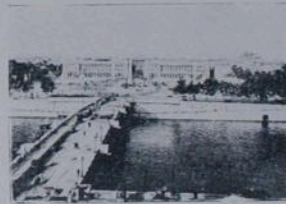
Catedral de Nuestra Señora.



Palacio del Louvre.



Teatro de la Opera.



Plaza de la Concordia.



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE
ANTROPOLOGIA E HISTORIA
S. E. P.

DIRECCION DE PUBLICACIONES
Y BIBLIOTECAS

MONEDA 13

MEXICO, D. F.

México, D.F., 10 de abril de 1954.

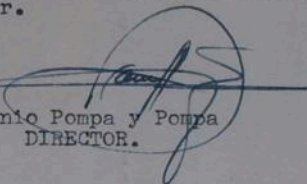
Sra. Ida K. Langman.
3509 Baring Street.
PHILADELPHIA 4, PA.
(U.S.A.)

Muy estimada Sra. Langman:

He recibido y con mucho agrado la separata que contiene BOTANICAL IMPRESSIONS - OF TRAVEL IN MEXICO, que se sirvió usted dedicar me.

Con verdadera satisfacción el go su estudio y me siento honrado con su envío. Ya daré cuenta a la Academia de esta atención.

De usted afectísimo amigo y ---
atento seguro servidor.



Antonio Pompa y Pompa
DIRECTOR.

APP/ jpv.

THE ATHENEUM OF ARTS SCIENCES of Chiapas has asked us to publish a list of books on Chiapas that are available for consultation in the Fray Bartolomé library, located on Avenida Vicente Guerrero 38, San Cristóbal las Casas, Chiapas. These books are: "Teoría y Práctica de la Educación Indígena" (Theory and Practice of Indian Education), a study on the intellectual and cultural development of the Indians, written by Gonzalo B. Aguirre.

"Botanical Impression of Travels in Mexico," Ann Arbor, Michigan, a pamphlet published in English with interesting notes on Chiapas by Ida Langman K.

"Nebenbarn des Himmels" (Neighbors of the Sky), by Swiss writer Peter Schmid. Published in German in Stuttgart, Germany.

A photographic album on the ruins of Bonampak and La Carja by architect Alberto T. Aral, based on the expedition organized by the National Institute of Fine Arts.

"Taitoani," anthropology magazine, with excellent articles and photographs describing the discovery of the royal tomb in Palenque. Alberto Roz L. wrote these articles in editions 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the magazine.

DIRECTORY: THE MEXICAN CULTURAL BULLETIN is an organ of cultural dissemination of the Anthological Magazine "AMERICA" directed by the poets Roberto Guzmán Araujo, Marco Antonio Millán, Juan B. Climent and Efrén Hernández.

Since the principal purpose of the Bulletin is to promulgate, although in summary form, the cultural and educational movement in our country, said Bulletin is sent free of charge in three special editions: Spanish, French and English, to the university newspapers, the libraries, museums, magazines and scientific and literary centers, to the big hotels and tourist centers of the U. S., Canada, England, France, Spain, Italy and all Latin-American countries. We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the airlines of Mexico in carrying the Mexican Cultural Bulletin as reading material on their planes.

Those interested in the Bulletin, or desiring exchange, may write to: Boletín Cultural Mexicano, Edison 84-A. Tel.: 13-61-34, México, D. F.

The photographs in this issue are by the artist "Maya" and are granted through the courtesy of the Department of Public Education.

THE MEXICAN CULTURAL BULLETIN is issued toward the end of each month. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office Bureau January 24, 1952. Translated into English by Ernesto Araiza. Translated into French by Nicole Pauliat. Printed under the typographic care of Gerardo Dávila, Miguel González, Alvaro Hernández, Enrique Gallindo, Edmundo Fernández, Agustín Torres, Angel Arenas G. Drawings by Miguel Briseño and Aurora Reyes.

No 29 - Sept 1954

Dear Mrs Ida Langman:

Heemos recibido una copia de
su Trabajo Botanical Impresiones y
Formul in Mexico, y puedo decir que
me intereso mucho.

Jelicitos a ud por su activa y provechosa
labor.

Muchos saludos de todos

Mexico D.F.



La Srta Brown me ha
escrito pronto porque
está enferma desde hace
2 meses

27 marzo 54

"The Vegetation of Chiapas" is a popular work written in Spanish, for the general public. However, it contains sufficient scientific information to be useful to botanists, agronomists, foresters, anthropologists, etc. who may be interested in the taxonomic, ecologic and phytogeographic problems, as well as the related phytocenotic and ethnobotanic problems, presented to us by the exuberant vegetation of one of the most beautiful and intriguing regions in the American tropics—the state of Chiapas in Mexico.

In this work there are brief descriptions of some 1100 of the plant species found most frequently in the state of Chiapas. Included also are their best known properties and uses. These species are identified by their scientific names, in addition to some 1800 common names, by which they are known in the different parts of Chiapas.

The book contains many photographs of the vegetation types characteristic of Chiapas and a number of drawings of trees which typify the plant formations of the state. These drawings were made expressly for this work by Hector Ventura Cruz, one of the most distinguished of the younger generation of Chiapanecan painters.

The first part of the work, consisting of 334 pages, 94 figures and 2 maps, has already been published and the second will appear shortly. Orders can be directed to the Department of Informacion y Prensa del Gobierno de Chiapas, or to the "Libreria El Progreso", Calle Central No. 2 Apartado Postal No. 4 Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico. The price of the first part is \$15.00 (Mexican currency) in Mexico and \$2.50 (U.S. currency) outside Mexico.

To publicize Dr. Merriam's work 1953
publisher?

INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR THE
PROTECTION OF NATURE

BRUSSELS, 8 July, 1954.
42, RUE MONToyer
TEL. 12.81.33



M 1/16 16.543

Dear Mrs. Langman,

Thank you so much for your letter of June 17, enclosing the most interesting excerpt from the speech given by Dr Faustine Miranda on the Chiapas.

We prefer very much having the English version rather than the Spanish and we shall be glad to use the information for our bi-monthly Bulletin.

We shall put your name down on our regular mailing list to receive this Bulletin.

With repeated thanks.

Yours sincerely,

The Secretary General

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jean-Paul Harroy', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Jean-Paul HARROY

Mrs. I. K. Langman,
The Academy of Natural Sciences,
of Philadelphia,
Nineteenth and the Parkway,
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

International Union for the Protection of Nature



BULLETIN

Vol. III. — N° 6. — December 1954.

< Protégeons la Nature

Elle nous le rendra >

The size and the presentation of this *Bulletin* reflect the present limited possibilities of the I.U.P.N. It will be up to readers to increase its importance and its scope. For the time being it will be restricted to information, where such is considered to be of importance internationally. It is hoped that the Members of the Union and the greatest possible number of Organizations and Editors wishing to serve a cause so vital to the future of Humanity as nature protection will help to disseminate the information contained in it. No charge will be made for the reproduction of material published in it and acknowledgement of source is optional: I.U.P.N., 42, rue Montoyer, Brussels. We should be glad however to receive clippings of any matter reproduced.

Two hopes are strongly expressed here and we address them to all our readers, but in particular to our own Members.

First, we should like to receive criticism and advice.

Secondly, in order to allow the I.U.P.N. to play its natural role as an information exchange, our readers, and once again our Members in particular, are invited, besides making use of this *Bulletin*, to contribute to it. Whenever a difficult problem, a disturbing situation, an interesting experience, new protective legislation, or useful offers of cooperation or exchange are brought to our attention with a short and concise note, it will be distributed as soon as possible through the medium of these columns. Such help from our readers would enable us to increase the size and widen the scope of our *Bulletin*, thus increasing our service to them. We might also hope to appear more frequently and in larger circulation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

I. — NATURE IS THREATENED.

C. — DISTURBANCES.

5. Introduction of exotic animal species. — The invertebrates.

In the different ramifications of the animal kingdom, other than vertebrates, baneful introductions are quite as frequent, though more often involuntary.

A crustacea, a clandestine passenger in long voyage ships, the Chinese Crab (*Eriocheir sinensis*) began to invade Europe forty years ago. Noticed for the first time in 1912 in a tributary of the Weser in Germany it has spread rapidly into Scandinavia, Holland, Belgium, France. Rivers such as the Escaut are infested right up to their source. Now, the Chinese Crab causes damage of different sorts. It burrows in the banks of rivers, veritable labyrinths of galleries, some as wide as 4 inches, thereby causing erosion of these borders; very omnivorous, it eats up the fishes nourishment; it breaks fishing nets, mutilates the fish caught in them, and finally it has been proved to be a dangerous carrier of a human malady: parasitic hemoptisy. In fact its depredations have been such that war has been declared against it. In Germany operations for its capture and destructions have been carried out especially near certain dams, where up to hundreds of tons of these animals have been captured, and still the invader has not been arrested; but on the contrary, advances.

In Madagascar, a giant slug imported into the island, is disturbing the authorities by its prolixity and voracity. But among invertebrates, insects obviously contribute the most numerous examples of exotic introductions with disastrous consequences. The increased means of transport is once more the determining factor. Mosquitoes, transported in aeroplanes, have brought malaria from Africa to South America, where the malady finds undefended fields for expansion and energetic and costly action has to be taken to stop its startling progress. Moreover a number of domestic plants have been brought into the new continents, with the usual supply of predatory insects attached to them, and these predatory insects have found excellent conditions for reproduction, while their natural enemies, have not made the voyage.

If one goes further down in the zoological scale, what is to be thought of the consequences of the introduction of the virus of myxomatosis in France, which was only too successfully carried out by Dr Armand Delille at the beginning of 1952?

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

An Association for the Conservation of Natural Areas

607 G STREET, S. E.

WASHINGTON 3, D. C.

The American Museum of Natural History
New York 24, N. Y.

April 5, 1954

Mrs. Ida K. Langman
Museum Teacher
The Academy of Natural Sciences
Nineteenth and the Parkway
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

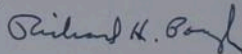
Dear Mrs. Langman:

Although the Nature Conservancy is far from being in a position to do all they would like to do about preserving natural areas in the United States, we are interested in this problem in other countries, particularly in the case of our neighbors Canada and Mexico.

George Fell, our executive director, who is located at our Washington office, would be in a better position than I to decide just how we might use excerpts from the speech made by Dr. Fostino Miranda, the author of "The Vegetation of Chiapas".

It also occurs to me that his subject might be of considerable interest to Dr. Jean-Paul Harroy, the Secretary-General of the International Union for the Protection of Nature, 42, Rue Montoyer, Brussels, Belgium. Either of them, to judge its merits, would probably like to see an English translation of at least excerpts, and I would encourage you to make such a translation and forward it to them.

Sincerely yours,



Richard H. Pough
President

RHP:c

cc Mr. Fell
Dr. Harroy

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Delmar, New York

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

An Association for the Conservation of Natural Areas

607 G STREET, S. E.

WASHINGTON 3, D. C.

April 6, 1954

Mrs. Ida K. Langman
Museum Teacher
The Academy of Natural Science
Nineteenth and the Parkway
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Langman:

Your letter of March 31, 1954 has been referred to us by our president, Richard Pough of the American Museum of Natural History. We are quite eager to have you translate Dr. Miranda's speech for us. There is a good chance that we may be able to print part of it in a future issue of Nature Conservation News.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Alden E. Smith

Alden E. Smith
Assistant

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ALVIN G. WHITNEY
Delmar, New York

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

An Association for the Conservation of Natural Areas

607 G STREET, S. E.

WASHINGTON 3, D. C.

June 19, 1954

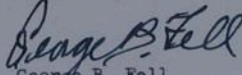
Mrs. Ida Langman
Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia
Nineteenth and the Parkway
Philadelphia 5, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Langman:

We are indebted to you for discovering the speech by Dr. Miranda, translating it, and bringing it to our attention. It is very good and we will certainly be able to use it in some way!

when published?
where?

Sincerely,


George B. Fell
Executive Director

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Delmar, New York

Following is an excerpt from the speech given by Dr. Faustino Miranda, of Mexico, in accepting the "Chiapas" prize recently awarded him for his latest work, "La Vegetación de Chiapas". The excerpt was taken from the printed version of the speech which appeared in "El Heraldó", published in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, México, on December 4, 1953.

"My first contact with Chiapas was in the year 1941. At that time I became acquainted with the coastal area and the luxuriant forests of Soconusco. Later, in 1943, while attending the Congreso de ~~los~~ Amigos de las Orquideas, which was held in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, I travelled over the central part of the state. I returned in 1948, and since 1949 have lived in this "promised land". Many times have I felt the refreshing breath of the north wind, as it heaps cloud scarves over the mesas and mountains north of the central valley. At other times, in the almost impenetrable jungles, I have breathed the humid air saturated with the moisture of the upper altitudes. There, in the mysterious gloom, ~~where~~ ^{and} leaves shine like unmoving eyes, orchids which never seem to die, open their showy flowers, strange and varied in form.

contradicted (?)
I have walked over the boundless savannahs with their far-reaching, luminous horizons. I have admired the colossus of the jungle, the giant mahoganies, whose vigorous trunks disappear upward in a supreme effort to raise their columns to the sky. I have filled my lungs with the balsam-laden air of the quiet and peaceful pine woods in the northeast, where the skies are unbelievably blue. I have partaken of the generous ~~and never exaggerated~~ ^{deserved} hospitality of the Chiapanecans, and at other times have slept on beds of fragrant ~~sedge~~ ^{pine needles}. Thus have I learned to love Chiapas.

Because I love Chiapas, I want to call the attention of its citizens to an urgent problem intimately related to the botanical researches that I have carried on in the state. This is the problem of the conservation of all the rich resources which belong to Chiapas: its archaeological monuments, its varied indigenous traditions, its magnificent landscapes, its lush forests, its notable and beautiful wild animals. Of prime importance is the conservation of the woods and forests in the hills and mountains, because these represent water for the lowlands - water for man, for animals, and for cultivated crops..... In addition, much of the beauty of the scenery in Chiapas depends on the abundant forests and dense woods.....

corrected by Dr. Faustino Miranda
→ *Juncia en la región de Comitán y otras partes de Chiapas se llama a las agujas (hojas) de los pinos. En España se aplica originalmente ese nombre al junco (Sedac) oloroso.*

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

With the opening of new means of communication ^{on the coast,} there is great danger that the original plant cover along and near the highway will disappear. This is already happening along the Pan American Highway. Increasingly, there are fewer places where one can admire the beauty of the natural vegetation, in spite of the fact that Chiapas is renowned all over the world for its extensive forests and heavily wooded areas..... Before it is too late, we must save a few spots along the highways, and, to do that, it is absolutely necessary that the federal government declare them National Parks or Wild Life Preserves. Only in this way can we be sure that the trees will not be cut and the animals not exterminated.

There are three regions that should be singled out for this conservation, some of them already famous in legend for their beauty. First the Selva del Ocote, some 32 kilometres northeast of Ocozucuatla, about 30 kilometres from the Pan American Highway. Secondly, a belt of some 5 kilometres in width along the steep cliffs of the Sumidero, about 17 kilometres from Tuxtla; from the Mirador de la Coyota up to about 3 kilometres beyond the spot known as La Laguna or La Peñita, including the so called Grotto of Montecristo. Third, the Lagos de Montebello, some 45 kilometres directly southeast of Comitán, or 35 kilometres east of Zapaluta.

The Selva del Ocote is a magnificent, dense, evergreen forest, made up mainly of mahogany and chicle trees, averaging 40 metres in height. Among them is one mahogany tree which rises to a height of 65 metres and measures 5 metres in diameter at the base. The forest contains not only a variety of arboreal species but also a large number of ^{howler} spider monkeys, toucans and ~~meeking~~ ^{unique humid tropical jungle which is close to} birds. It is the ~~only spot near~~ the Pan American Highway from Ciudad Juarez to the Guatemala border, ~~which is close to the humid tropical jungle.~~ If we succeed in conserving this area, the tourist will have the opportunity of enjoying the unique and fantastic spectacle of giant mahoganies, chicle trees, bands of howler and spider monkeys and, in general, the superb setting of an almost virgin forest. But we must work quickly, for already the trees are beginning to fall, destroyed by the axe, and the wild animals are disappearing, pursued and exterminated by the hunters.

In the Sumidero, there remain only traces of very dense evergreen forest, with trees averaging 25 metres in height, and abounding in beautiful orchids. If we can succeed in protecting this area, which now is planted principally to corn, in 30

to 50 years the jungle will be able to return to its natural state. If, on the other hand, the cutting is permitted, the jungle may finally disappear for good.

The Lagos de Montebello are deservedly famous, not just as lovely bodies of water which vary in color from azure to yellow through all the shades of green, but also for the great natural arch of limestone beneath which a river disappears, and for the superb vegetation made up of open stands of pines and oaks, forests of liquidambar, and dense jungle areas, where branches are hidden under a mantle of epiphytes, among which are orchids in amazing variety. Already some of the settlers in the area have cleared large sections of the woods for corn fields. The water level of the lakes, which communicate with each other, is descending in an alarming manner. Since 1943, there has been a decrease of about 8 metres in the water level of some of the lakes. Here, as in the other areas mentioned, protective intervention is necessary if these lakes of legendary fame are not to vanish completely.

We find ourselves in this crucial moment at the crossroads. We still have a choice! Let us not, by our lack of foresight, subject ourselves to condemnation by future generations. We know that the Governor of the state has been conscious of these problems and has taken steps directed toward their solution. But all the citizens of Chiapas must also be ready to contribute, with all their forces, toward this crusade for the conservation of the riches of the state; above all for the conservation of the woods and forests which are the basis of their lives, as well as the lives of their children."

THE MUSEUM THROUGH THE EYES OF YOUTH

Editor's Note: The almost daily presence in the Academy's Museum of public, parochial and private school classes is a fascinating and at times thrilling spectacle. Perhaps not known as well as it should be to members of the Academy, the school service directed by James A. Fowler is one of the major contributions to the life and training of the children of South-eastern Pennsylvania and nearby New Jersey. He is assisted by two full-time teachers—Lorene McLellan and Ida K. Langman, the latter from the staff of the Philadelphia School District. Claire Rimmer is secretary and Frank W. McLaughlin a part-time aid.

Classroom equipment and visual aids must be refreshed, replaced, modernized constantly. The great need, however, is substantial financial help so that the trained staff may keep pace with growing demands. The Department of Education is one outstanding reason why the Academy has an appeal to generosity, both in the form of current contributions and bequests.

The following article shows what the Museum means to children, told in their own language.

Classes coming to the Academy for lessons in connection with their school work often write thank-you notes on their return to school. We have selected a few from the many, not only because they show that the students find their visits enjoyable, but also because they are examples of the good work being done in many schools in the field of written English. In the light of criticisms of the schools, a little evidence on the other side will help to give a more nearly balanced picture.

After a lesson on "Nature Awakens," a second-grader prints in large, scrawly letters, "I enjoyed my trip today. I learned that the crow is black. I saw a robin with a red breast. I saw a twig with buds. Flowers come from buds. Thank you." Or it may be signed "Love and kisses."

A third-grade student, after a similar lesson, sends the following report: "On Monday afternoon, April 16, our class went to the Academy of Natural Sciences. We saw slides about birds, flowers and animals. Then we saw some birds and their nests. One bird was the Blue Jay. Then we played a game of guessing animals that sleep all winter. Last of all, we saw snakes, tadpoles and turtles. We even touched the back of a live King Snake. This trip was really fun."

Letters from older children indicate the growth and development expected in language skills. The following are taken from various sections of the city and from various grades. An eleven-year-old from South Philadelphia writes, "As you well know we are studying Africa this term. I've heard a lot about Africa but never did I dream I would come to study this fabulous continent. As you showed the slides of different animals, it seemed as if we were on safari. It really looked as if you took bits of Africa for some of the scenes." A classmate of hers writes: "Another peculiar animal we saw is the gnu. His

head is like an ox, his mane and tail are that of a horse and he has very unusual horns. In modern lingo, he really is 'something.'"

Another in the same class was evidently more impressed by a mummy. "I am going to save my money, and when I grow up I am going to take a trip to Egypt and become an archaeologist and explore all the unopened tombs of the Kings of Egypt. If no one beats me to it, that is." Another noticed the scorpion in the Tahr exhibit and writes, "My favorite hobby is astronomy (study of stars, planets, etc.) and in the winter there is a constellation in the sky called Scorpio, the scorpion, and I always thought that if there were a real one, it should be as big as an alligator."

Sometimes the note is brief, like this one by an eighth grade student from Mt. Airy. "We would like to show our appreciation for a delightful and most interesting afternoon. I especially enjoyed the live specimen which you shared with us." (This was probably the King Snake again.) "We do hope that we may find time in the near future to visit the Academy again."

Others are flowery. From a junior high school student in southwest Philadelphia we get this: "The variety, the beauty and the wealth of material we saw have inspired a desire to come on many more such visits. It is really next best to visiting the haunts of animals in far away places." Or this, from a younger student in the Oak Lane area: "I am writing this letter to express my sincere appreciation for your excellent supervision of our trip to the Academy. Never in a millenium have I enjoyed myself more than I did today. Natural habitats increase the splendor, interest and enjoyment of the exhibits. I am sure the class acquired a curiosity and an interest in wild animals of North America since our visit to the Academy."

At times one chance phrase lifts a letter out of the commonplace. "Today when I entered the Academy of Natural Sciences, I had a feeling of adventure." Or, "Thank you so much for brightening a dull afternoon." And, "For a long time now I've tried to tell people how wrong they are for shooting wild life. Not that I have ever convinced anyone, but I've tried."

Some of the most interesting letters are from children who have been in this country only a year or two. "I am thankful to you for being able to see and hear all the wonderful things. It is very interesting to learn about animals. I was in the Academy for the first time last year with the class, but I couldn't understand anything then, because I didn't know much English. Last year the lesson was about hibernating animals and because I didn't understand, the lesson wasn't interesting to me. I have been in many museums in Philadelphia but best of all I enjoyed the Academy of Natural Sciences. (I came from a village in Albania.)"

A Cuban boy was impressed by the explanation

of contour farming in connection with the lesson on the Delaware River Valley, and wrote, "I liked very much about farming instructions because my grandfather owns a farm. He also owns a hill that he doesn't know what to do with it. I'm going to tell every word you said to my grandfather." Sometimes the new arrival knows more than the teacher. Here is a boy who had lived in the Belgian Congo for eleven of his eleven and a half years with his missionary parents. He writes, "I don't believe that the gorilla does not attack unless you have made him afraid, because some natives in Africa were near us and they had been attacked walking on a path."

The following excerpts more or less speak for themselves. "The opportunity of touching a live snake without fear is an experience that we shall never forget." Or, "It was very nice to meet the snake and you."

Occasionally students are moved, or perhaps inspired by their teachers, to burst into poetry. Here are some of the results that have come our way:

"I learned about the Delaware River of long ago.
I found where it started, which I wanted to know.
The river looked better before the European came.
Now it doesn't look a bit the same. What a shame!"

"Oh, how exciting it was to be a visitor at the Academy.

Where there is so much to learn and see.

The stories and pictures were all so good.

You explained the facts and we all understood.

We'll watch for these animal friends of ours

And read about them to pass pleasant hours."

It would not be quite honest to leave the impression that all the letters are of an equally high level. For the sake of some light relief, and to give a more balanced picture, we choose the following:

"The little toad sang so well he could be in a opera."

"But most of all I like the dineshore."

"I am very interested in science, especially in entomology." (And we don't think he meant entomology.)

"The stuffed animals looked so real as though they were human. I knew humming birds were small but when I saw the ones at the museum. Wow!"

"I enjoyed your conversation about superstitions, and I hope you put some sense in other people's heads. Good luck."

"Thank you very much for wasting your time to take us through Africa and Asia."

Bob-White's Orphans

Quail are gregarious birds, living in groups or coveys, throughout most of the year. In late summer a covey may consist of the parent birds and their offspring, together with the young of other birds which have perished. Adult birds which have lost their own young also may adopt the brood of another, ill-fated, pair.

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Washington 6, D. C., E. U. A.

Junio 27 de 1955

Estimada Dra Langman:

En mi poder su grata del 22 corriente y la nota bibliográfica sobre la obra de Goodspeed: "The Genus Nicotiana", que me parece excelente. Salvo algun pequenísimo detalle no creo necesario retocar su castellano. Quiero agradecerle nuevamente su colaboración.

Habría observado que acostumbramos a dar un breve "curriculum vitae" de nuestros colaboradores. Le estimaría mucho tuviera la gentileza de enviarme el suyo.

La saluda muy cordialmente y queda a sus gratas ordenes

Cortés Pla, Jefe
Sección Ciencia y Tecnología

Dra Dra Ida K. Langman
3509 Baring Street
Philadelphia, Penna.

Electo sus estudios en

[Se educó en las escuelas de] Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

[Curso la] Universidad [de Pennsylvania] y recibió su bachillerato en Botánica y después el grado de Master de Science,

también en Botánica.

Al principio se interesó en estudiar la flora de Monroe Country, en Pennsylvania. Después de una visita a Mexico por dos meses, volvió a Mexico por un año y regresó con una numerosa colección de plants. Entonces, empezó la

compilación de una bibliografía de la flora de Mexico, la cual sigue dedicándose en su tiempo libre.

[Recibió una beca del Departamenato del Estado de los EE.UU. en 1948 para hacer sus investigaciones en las bibliotecas mexicanas, y paso otro año en Mexico, compilando fichas para la bibliografía y haciendo mas colecciones botánicas.]

[Trabaja ahora] como docente en el Museo de la Academia de Ciencias Naturales en Philadelphia. Es miembro correspondencial de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias de Mexico. Ha publicado artículos sobre temas botánicos en Bartonian, Frontiers, "evista de la Sociedad Mexicana de Historia Natural, Boletín del Club Botánico de Mexico, Asa Gray Bulletin, y Memorias del Congreso Científico Mexicano.

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Número 18

Volumen V

Julio-Septiembre 1955

LA CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA UTILIZACION DE LA ENERGIA ATOMICA CON FINES PACIFICOS

Prof. Ing. Germán E. Villar
Instituto de Tecnología y Química
Facultad de Ingeniería
Montevideo, Uruguay

La sesión de apertura

La gran sala de asambleas del Palacio de las Naciones presenció el 8 de agosto de 1955

uno de los acontecimientos más extraordinarios de los últimos tiempos al inaugurarse la Conferencia Internacional para el uso de la energía atómica con fines pacíficos. Jamás en la historia de las ciencias se ha visto reunido un mayor número de sabios de renombre mundial. Para mencionar solamente los premios Nobel de la Física y de la Química, señalaremos a la delegación de la República Federal Alemana, presidida por Otto Hahn, el descubridor de la fisión del átomo de uranio; la delegación de Dinamarca, presidida por Niels Bohr, el gestor de las teorías atómicas modernas; la delegación de los Estados Unidos, integrada por Glenn T. Seaborg, co-descubridor de los actínidos, entre los cuales se encuentra el plutonio y el neptunio; y también por John H. Lawrence, descubridor del ciclotrón; la delegación del Reino Unido, presidida por Sir John Cockcroft, famoso por sus investigaciones en la trasmutación de los elementos y junto a los premios Nobel, las figuras estelares de la Física y de la Química Atómica, acompañadas de centenares de técnicos y expertos vinculados a todas las ramas de la ciencia que en el presente momento contribuyen a la resolución del más apasionante de los problemas del mundo actual: la utilización de la energía atómica con fines pacíficos.

Lo numeroso y excepcionalmente calificado de las delegaciones, pone en evidencia el enorme interés que los setenta y tres países representados han dado a esta Conferencia.

Una muchedumbre inhabitual colmaba el Palacio de las Naciones y la vasta sala inaugurada antes de la guerra por el Aga Khan estaba repleta, incluso las escaleras. Las delegaciones eran tan numerosas que no pudieron ubicarse todas en

* El profesor Villar fue delegado del Uruguay a la Conferencia de Ginebra.

NOTAS BIBLIOGRAFICAS

Goodspeed, Thomas Harper: The Genus Nicotiana, Waltham, Massachusetts, U. S. A., "The Chronica Botanica Co." and New York City, U. S. A.: "Stechert-Hafner Inc.", 1954, XXII-536 pp., 118 figuras e ilustraciones, u\$s 12.50.

Esta obra maestra del catedrático de Botánica y director del Jardín Botánico de la Universidad de California, (Berkeley, California, U. S. A.), forma el volumen 16 de "Chronica Botanica". Consta de seis partes. Las cuatro primeras forman la base de una interpretación (que se desarrolla en la quinta) de los orígenes, relaciones y evolución del género, nicotiana (el tabaco). La Parte VI presenta una reorganización taxonómica de esta importantísima planta, con claves de los sub-géneros y descripciones de todas las categorías incluidas en el género.

Durante más de treinta años, el autor se ha dedicado a investigaciones de la planta nicotiana, por medio de exploraciones, experimentos de cultivo de varias especies, y estudios en la distribución, morfología y citología de la planta, lográndose reunir una colección de plantas vivas de 56 de las 60 especies reconocidas, la cual hizo posible estudios muy extensos sobre la morfología y citología del género, y experimentos en la hibridación de las varias especies. Ahora, en este libro, cumbre de sus trabajos, ofrece al mundo científico todos los resultados de estas investigaciones en una forma que seguramente servirá como obra básica por largos años en el futuro.

En la parte primera de la obra hay un resumen de la distribución (actual y prehistórica) de nicotiana en el mundo: en América del Sur, en Norteamérica, en Australia y en el Sud-Pacífico. Mapas bien detallados acompañan los cuatro capítulos de esta sección. Esta parte ha de tener gran interés no solamente para los estudiantes de la fitogeografía y la historia de la distribución de las plantas, sino también para todos los que se interesan en la historia geológica de las regiones del mundo donde la nicotiana es planta indígena. Para los lectores de Ciencia y Tecnología, los capítulos 3 y 4, sobre la distribución de nicotiana en América del Sur y en Norteamérica tendrán especial importancia porque el Dr. Goodspeed presenta sus teorías sobre la distribución de nicotiana, bien apoyadas con datos detallados de la historia geológica de gran parte del Nuevo Mundo.

La segunda sección presenta informes sobre la morfología y anatomía de nicotiana, y la tercera, una de las más importantes secciones del libro, trata de su citología. Aquí se consideran los

números de las cromosomas, la citología de la reproducción de la planta, la citología de los híbridos, y estudios en euploidía, aneuploidía y amphiploidía. La parte cuarta ahonda más en la citología de los híbridos inter-específicos. En la quinta, el Dr. Goodspeed ofrece sus teorías de la evolución del género: por medio de amphiploidía, hibridación, introgresión y reorganización de los cromosomas.

En la última sección hay descripciones de más de 60 especies y variedades del género nicotiana. En esta parte el autor reconoce la colaboración de la Dra. Helen-Mar Wheeler y del Dr. Paul C. Hutchison. Las ilustraciones (hay un dibujo para cada especie y variedad), demuestran muy claramente todas las diferencias de importancia en la morfología de la planta. También hay ilustraciones de todos los cariotipos, con la excepción de cuatro especies. La evolución entera del género se presenta en diagramas, en las cuales se incluye la derivación de cada una de las 60 especies. Completa el libro una bibliografía muy extensa de todos los trabajos citados.

Como se ve por este resumen, la obra del Dr. Goodspeed debe ser incluida en todas las bibliotecas científicas que se especializan en la historia natural, particularmente en la botánica. Servirá como obra de consulta para los estudiantes en todas las ramas de la botánica, tanto como para los que se dedican a estudios de la genética, citología, fitogeografía, etnobotánica, etc.

Dra. Ida K. Langman
Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Hall, Thomas S. and Moog, Florence: Life Science, New York, U. S. A., John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 1955, X-302 pp., 411 fig., u\$s 6.50.

Los autores, ambos profesores universitarios de Washington, especializados en Zoología, son muy conocidos entre los biólogos. Y si esto no fuera garantía bastante para leer este libro, ellos mismos nos dicen en el prólogo que los distintos capítulos han sido sometidos a la revisión y crítica de biólogos especializados en la respectiva materia. El libro viene anunciado como de texto para el "College" americano; esto es, para la formación de una cultura superior. En los once capítulos de que consta se trata de la vida celular, de las plantas, de los vertebrados e invertebrados, reproducción, origen de las especies y el organismo frente al medio. Es tanta la cantidad y tal la calidad de las ilustraciones, con esquemas, grabados, fotos y

Ciencia y Tecnología
July - Sept. 1955

COLABORADORES DE ESTE NUMERO

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Germán E. VILLAR</p> | <p>Véase II, 7, octubre-diciembre 1952.</p> | <p>tria de origen desarrolló una intensa acción en campañas sanitarias, así como en labor de investigación, docente y de publicista, haciéndose acreedor a varios premios. Radicado en México, cuya ciudadanía adquirió, revalidó su diploma de médico en la Universidad de Nuevo León, siendo catedrático en la misma Universidad de la cátedra de su especialidad. Es autor de numerosos trabajos entre los que citaremos: "Fitoparásitos"; Patogenia de las eritrodermias exfoliantes"; y "Neurotropismos en la sífilis"; entre las primeras y "El censo de la lepra en La Urbana, Venezuela"; "La lepra en Monterrey"; "Contribución al conocimiento del Vitiligo"; "La aftosis generalizada"; y "Etiología y patogenia de las reacciones cutáneas", entre las últimas. Pertenece a academias científicas de España, Francia, Cuba y México.</p> |
| <p>Ida K. LANGMAN</p> | <p>Efectuó sus estudios en Philadelphia, (Pennsylvania, U. S. A.), en cuya Universidad obtuvo posteriormente el "Master of Science" en Botánica. Al comienzo se interesó en el estudio de la flora de "Monroe County", en Pennsylvania. Luego su interés se centró en la de México, habiendo iniciado la compilación de una bibliografía de la flora mexicana, trabajo al que sigue dedicando gran parte de su tiempo. Actualmente actúa como docente en el Museo de la Academia de Ciencias Naturales de Philadelphia. Pertenece a varias sociedades científicas y es miembro correspondiente de la Academia Nacional de Ciencias de México. Sus trabajos botánicos han sido publicados en <u>Bartonia, Frontiers, Revista de la Sociedad Mexicana de Historia Natural, Boletín del Club Botánico de México, Asa Grey Bulletin</u> y en <u>Memorias del Congreso Científico Mexicano</u>.</p> | <p>Mario O. GONZALEZ Véase IV, 12, enero-marzo 1954.</p> |
| <p>Antonio PEYRI</p> | <p>Nació en Tarragona, España, en 1889. En 1912 se doctoró en medicina en la Universidad de Madrid, especializándose en dermatología y sifilografía, ocupando más tarde en la Facultad de Medicina de Barcelona la cátedra de esa especialidad. En su pa-</p> | <p>Félix CERNUSCHI Véase IV, 13, abril-junio 1954.</p> <p>Modesto BARGALLO Véase IV, 15, octubre-diciembre 1954.</p> <p>Horacio E. BERGNA Véase III, 11, octubre-diciembre 1953.</p> |

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