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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.

SEPTEMBER 11 1969
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September 11, 1969

Dr. C.A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Dear Chester:

Thanks for the copy of "The proper designations of the ^{foliage} ~~foliage~~ and stems of the Cordaitales". This apparently came while I was at the International Botanical Congress. It seems that your suggestions regarding Cordaites, Mesoxylon and Cordiaoxylon are perfectly reasonable. I only wish that I had had the imagination to make the same suggestion 20 years ago when I was working on Mesoxylon!

It was a disappointment to me not to have more a chance to visit with you at Seattle. I always have the feeling of frustration of meetings for the reason of not being able to spend enough time with old friends. This time was the worst ever because I was traveling with my wife and the four children and camping 50 miles outside of Seattle. The commuting problem made it more difficult to spend time in casual visiting than is usually the case, but I suppose one should be grateful for what one does have, and I was glad at least to be able to see you again if only in passing!

I have a very warm recollection of the visit I made to your laboratory in 1953 (I think it was) at which time you, Chaloner, and I spent a delightful day at Grand Ledge. The thought crossed my mind as Chaloner was giving a lecture at Seattle. A lot has happened inside and outside of paleobotany since that day.

Best wishes to you as always.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traversse
Associate Professor of Geology & Biology

AT:kc

March 13, 1968

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Dear Chet:

Under separate cover I am returning to you photographic materials which you lent the Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen for use in Volume 27, which I presume that you have now seen. I am grateful to you for letting us have the illustrations and for your patience in waiting to get them back.

It has been a long time since I last saw you--too long. I no longer make it to AIBS very often, largely because of the scheduling of the thing lately in mid-August. This year may be a different matter. It would be good to visit with you again.

Perhaps you have seen my recent small paper in Science on jet--that was a long-term result of an interest kindled by the sample of Whitby jet you gave me years ago.

Best wishes as ever.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology
Editor
Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen

AT:kwc

Review for the American Journal of Botany of:

Conrad → "A Rhexoxylon-like stem from the Morrison formation of Utah" by
Chester A. Arnold.

Professor Arnold has presented a note on an interesting, somewhat anomalous fossil plant. It would evidently be foolish to expect a more detailed study of this plant, considering the author's statements about the meager and relatively poorly preserved material available. I think Dr. Arnold has done just what needed to be done with this specimen, and the note is an interesting contribution to paleobotanical knowledge.

I find little to criticize in this paper - I do have two suggestions about parts of the paper I would like to see changed:

p. 3, l. 7. The statement that the wood has been transformed into nearly clear chalcedony seems wrong to me. In the first place, I don't think it agrees with what is known about silicification. Embedding, involving replacement of a large part of the organic matter with silica, is what occurs. Secondly, Dr. Arnold's photomicrographs (Pl. 2, fig. 2) show a wood that would surely yield a significant organic residue if desilicified.

p. 6, l. 3-4. The diagnosis should not speculate about the reasons for the absence of the anomalous medullary tissue but should merely state that it is absent.

April 4, 1962

February 13, 1969

Prof. C.A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Dear Chet:

Enclosed are the photographs you loaned us some time ago of fossils we "covered" in Volume 27 of the Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen. I hope that they are in substantially the condition they were in when you sent them. We have appreciated the use of them and your patience.

All goes well here, though I am finding that professing is a much harder job than I had imagined. Before Mr. Bell invented the phone, it must have been considerably easier.

Best wishes to you, as ever.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Editor
C.F.S.P.

AT:kwc

Enclosure: photos

Colbeck

Fidelity Onion Skin

100% COTTON

June 10, 1959

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Department of Botany
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Chet:

You are right. At the Bloomington meeting, R. A. Scott introduced a motion that the secretary of the Section represent it at all future B.S.A. Council meetings. The motion was carried unanimously. You will probably remember that I had tried to get the same thing through at Stanford but was voted down. I had not been smart enough to see that it was not a politic thing for me, as secretary, to propose this. The idea has obvious merit, since the chairman is really a "ceremonial" figure in the Section, and the secretary holds the actual reins. I thought I had sent a copy of the printed minutes of the Bloomington business meeting to the Society secretary, when they were circulated to the Section's membership last September, but I may have slipped up. Since you were out of the country, you may have failed to get your copy also.

The by-laws of the B.S.A. state that the Sections may designate whomever they choose for membership on the council, so that statement on the A.J.B. cover, while not inaccurate up to the present time, isn't binding. I have a feeling that some of the other Sections may follow our lead in making this rational change. I will write to the B.S.A. secretary explaining all of this, and will send you a copy of the letter.

One duty you definitely do have is to preside at that luncheon meeting in Montreal. We already have something like 40 reservations, so it should be a pretty good meeting. I will prepare an agenda for you, and I see no reason why the very few items of business can't be shoved through in 30 minutes. What is required is the election of the 1960 officers (I'll remind you in Montreal to name a nominating committee a day or so before the meeting), approve plans for the joint meeting with the Paleontological Society in Pittsburgh in November, if Schopf, as chairman of the committee charged with bringing that into being, has such a program in shape, and a couple of other matters. Since we'll only have about 90 minutes for luncheon and meeting, we'll have to railroad the business through, but I don't think there's anything very controversial that can't be left on the docket until the 1960 meetings in Oklahoma. Your job will be that of combined toastmaster-chairman!

Like you, I am not over-anxious to attend the Council meeting. But I am very interested in keeping the paleobotanical organization strong and will do my best to act toward this end at the Council meeting. I very strongly hope that a secretary can be found to succeed me who will be as pro-PBESA as I am! I should add, for the record, that the members of the Council said last year that both the chairman and the secretary could attend the meeting but would have only one vote. So come ahead, I'd enjoy your company!

With all best wishes.

Very truly yours,


Alfred Traverse, Secretary
Paleobotanical Section, B.S.A.

AT:mpd



BIRBAL SAHNI INSTITUTE OF PALAEOBOTANY
LUCKNOW

14 Nov. 1958

Dear Sir,

Enclosed are my notes
as requested in the
circular dated Sept. 22
which came yesterday.

The heat is over for this
season and the weather
is now quite agreeable.
Day after tomorrow we
are starting on a week's
collecting trip into the
Rajmahal hills and the
Raniganj coal fields in
eastern India. Then in
December there will be
another one into the
Deccan of Central India.

Am not accomplishing
much by way of research.
Most of my time is taken
up answering correspondence.

preparing lectures, and
just talking about
matters in general. The
experience is a wonderful
one - worth a million.
most sincerely,

Arthur C. Arnold

October 20, 1958

Dr. C. A. Arnold
Sahni Institute of Paleobotany
53 University Road
Lucknow, India

Dear Professor Arnold:

Many thanks for your very interesting letter of recent date. Your experience sounds most fascinating. I too would find it hard to do and see everything I needed to in a few months, much less do any useful work. I do hope the flood waters have receded by the time you get this.

I was fascinated by the "fossiline" story. Have you tried it yet?

Very truly yours,



Alfred Traverse

AT:mpd

Shell Development Company
Exploration and Production Research Division

Don
Lover

C.D. 158

B. Sahni Institute of
Palaeobotany
53, University Road
Lucknow, India

Dear Al,

Thanks for your letter of 26/9 that came yesterday. I had not been informed that I am Section Chairman for '59 though Herop McInroy asked me last summer whether I would accept if elected. I thought this might be a good time to be chairman because the last I had heard, it had not been decided whether there would be a meeting of the Bot. Soc. in '59. I guess there will be plenty of time to familiarize myself with the business to be attended to when I get back next March.

I am having a wonderful experience though I don't expect to accomplish much in the way of research while I am here. I have quite a heavy lecture schedule, and there are to be two collecting trips, one to the Rajmahal hills (Gymnosic) and the Ramgarh coal field (Lower Gondwana), and the other to the Deccan (early Tertiary).

The greatest excitement right now is a post-monsoon flood flood. The Gomati River, a tributary of the Ganges, has gone on a rampage and much of Lucknow is under water. The university is closed, and I can get to the Institute only by a round about way. Two of my scheduled lectures for this weekend have been cancelled because the auditorium has a foot of water in it.

An Indian lady Palaeobotanist, a Ph. D. of
Hurt Institute for Botanical Documentation

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र
AEROGRAMME
NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



Dr. C. Arnold
Shell Development Co.
3737 Ballou Blvd.
Houston 25
Texas, U. S. A.

CORR-56

Third fold here

Sender's name and address :-
C. A. Arnold
P. Sakin Palakotam
Bantele.
57, Munnayy Road
Kuzhmanur, India

To open cut here

First fold here

Tom Harris, claims to have discovered "fossiline", a curative principle found only in fossils, that cures everything from TB to insomnia. He says it worked wonders on his husband! Dose: 5-10 grains of fossil powder + 10-20 grains of black soil. Mixture sterilized and given 3-4 times daily with glass of water, the latter to dissipate the heat caused by the reaction! So I told them about our "astropaleolectant".

Please pardon the handwriting, but I have no typewriter, and it is necessary to keep an all-around mail under my arm. Temperature is close to 90°F. However cooler weather is promised for November.
Most sincerely,
Chata C. Arnold

April 16, 1958



Professor C. A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

Per the recent form letter from Dr. Boureau, I have sent him a list of my pertinent publications, etc. I enclose a copy of the list.

Had lunch yesterday with Alan Graham, the graduate student at the University of Texas who will be transferring to Ann Arbor next year. I have got to know him reasonably well during the past year. He is pretty quiet and has a lot to learn, but I think should work out well under your supervision. Wish I could be turning the clock back and starting off again at it in his stead.

Best wishes.

Very truly yours,

Alfred Traverse

AT:hmp

Enclosures

Shell Development Company
Exploration and Production Research Division

May 22, 1957

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

On advice of Professor Chaney, we have decided to schedule your Clarno paper as part of our all day "symposium" on Tertiary floras of the Far West. There will be eight papers in all, plus (we hope) much informal discussion, and the emphasis will be paleoecological to a considerable extent. Professor Chaney agreed with me that your paper would be more at home on this program, along with the other Tertiary material, than it would be with cordaitan branching, etc., in the other sessions.

The field trip is taking shape very nicely. In fact, we now have a waiting list, as MacGinitie and I feel that we can't handle more than 15 comfortably. We are certainly delighted that you will be along. Transportation will be furnished by Magnolia, Carter, and Shell (Grayson, Funkhouser and Traverse, respectively). You will be getting more information during the summer.

Best wishes.

Very truly yours,



Alfred Traverse, Secretary
Paleobotanical Section, B. S. A.

AF:kk

Shell Development Company
Exploration and Production Research Division

June 6, 1956

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Department of Botany
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

In response to your recent request for titles for the
Second Report on World Paleobotany, I submit the following:

Alfred Traverse. Pollen Analysis of the Brandon Lignite
of Vermont. U. S. Bureau of Mines Report of
Investigations 5151, 107 pp., 7 figures, 6 plates,
1955.

Alfred Traverse. Occurrence of the Oil-forming Alga
Botryococcus in Lignites and Other Tertiary Sedi-
ments. Micropaleontology, vol. 1, no. 4, pp. 343-
350, 1955.

Preparation of these reports must be a tedious business.
Yet, it seems to me that such efforts are very desirable, and we
all will benefit from the greater availability of information.

Yours very truly,


Alfred Traverse

AFT:rlw

Shell Development Company
Exploration and Production Research Division

Region V
Box 11, University Station
Grand Forks, North Dakota

October 6, 1952

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Department of Botany
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

Thank you for your "Lesquereux" card of September 14. It was thoughtful of you to send me the information about Paleontographica. I think it would be wise to follow through with the G. S. A., as a matter of principle, now that I have gone as far as I have. If, as seems not altogether improbable, Dr. Alérich feels that the Geological Society cannot publish such a paleobotanically slanted work, I shall send it to Dr. Weyland. At present I am working on a short paper for presentation at the geological meetings in Boston, so progress on the Brandon monograph will wait until mid-November. Anyway, I naturally much appreciate your suggestion.

We enjoyed seeing you at Ithaca, and I still look forward to a possible visit in Ann Arbor some year soon!

Sincerely yours,

ALFRED TRAVERSE
Coal Technologist

cc Region V
Dr. Traverse ✓
File



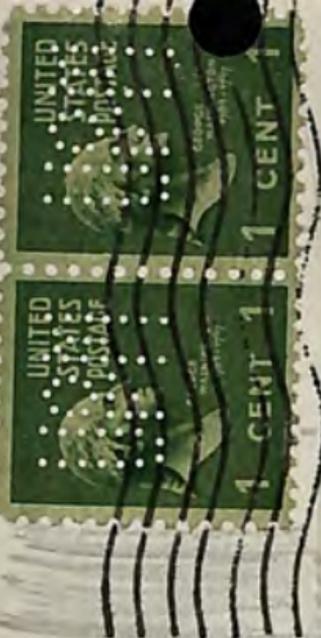
LEO LESQUEREUX

LABOR, MICH. 7
SEP 14
9-PM
1959

Dr. H. Weyland's
address is Wuppertal-
Elberfeld, Müllerstr.
139. Germany. You
may state, if you
wish, that I recommended
sending you MS to him.
It was a pleasure to
see you at Ithaca
I sincerely, C.A. Arnold

ADDRESS

Dr. Alfred Cronquist
U. S. Bureau of Mines
Branch Forks
North Dakota



Box LL, University Station
Grand Forks, North Dakota

September 23, 1953

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

The two days I had with you last week will long be remembered with great pleasure. I learned much about the Michigan coal basin, and had a fine visit with you in the bargain. It was certainly wonderful of you to give me so freely of your time. I hope that the experience can be repeated often in the future.

I am glad to have the copies of "Fossil Flora of the Michigan Coal Basin" and "Megaspores from the Michigan Coal Basin" that you gave me and also the interesting specimen of Whitby jet, which I am adding to my small but growing collection of coal types.

It was thoughtful of Mrs. Arnold to insist on giving me supper last Tuesday - it made the drive to St. Joseph considerably more pleasant. I much enjoyed meeting your family.

Yours very truly,


Alfred Traverse
Coal Technologist

ATraverse:dk

cc: Reg. V.
Lankford
Traverse

File 825.1
C file

Region V
Box LL, University Station
Grand Forks, North Dakota

September 23, 1954

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

Copy of your interesting general paper, "The Michigan Coal Basin", came today. It evoked pleasant memories of the two days I spent with you last year. I have just returned from the Gainesville meetings, or rather from an extensive collecting and observation trip Spackman and I took in various Florida swamp localities after the meetings. We were particularly fortunate in being taken into some of the remote Everglades mangrove swamp localities, where we found a rather interesting peat picture.

At the meeting of the Paleobotanical Section I suggested that you might be willing to lead a pre-meeting field trip next year, to the Grand Ledge locality, which is ideally located with reference to the meetings in East Lansing. I hope it will go through. It would be very profitable, and it would be a good shot in the arm for a not-too-vigorous organization.

Very truly yours,

AT
Alfred Traverse
Coal Technologist

ATraverse:vh

cc: Lankford
Region V
Traverse
File 625.1
C File

Building 20
Federal Center
Denver 2, Colorado

April 13, 1955

Through Chief, Branch of Coal Tech.

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

The information of the I.O.P. Report on World Paleobotany was forwarded here recently. I presume that papers on coal petrography are not to be included in the list of publications. Hence, I submit the following meagre list of two publications:

1. Traverse, A. The primary vascular body of Mesoxylon thompsonii, a new American cordaitalean. Amer. Journ. Bot., 37 (4): 318-325, 1950.
2. Traverse, A., and E. S. Barghoorn. Micropaleontology of the Brandon lignite, an Early Tertiary coal in central Vermont: Preliminary note. Journ. Paleont., 27 (2): 289-293, 1953.

Please also note my new address, which is:

Fuels Microscopy Laboratory
U. S. Bureau of Mines
Building 20, Federal Center
Denver 2, Colorado

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours

AT

Alfred Traverse
Head, Fuels Microscopy Lab.
Branch of Coal Technology, Reg. III

cc J. H. East, Jr.
Traverse
AT/dw

July 12, 1955

Through Chief, Branch of Coal Tech.

Professor Chester A. Arnold
Museum of Paleontology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Arnold:

Just read your extremely interesting article on Parataxodium. I was especially interested because of my identification of taxodiaceous pollen in the Brandon lignite. I would be extremely interested to see the pollen of Parataxodium, if it would be possible to sacrifice enough of a staminate cone to make macerations. As you may remember, I put the Brandon stuff in Glyptostrobus, with sidelong glances at Sequoia, and I've never been too happy about the identification.

I enclose an extra copy of the A. J. B., with your paper. I have no use for the duplicate copy and thought you might be able to use it.

Very truly yours,



Enclosure
cc ATraverse/dw

Alfred Traverse
Head, Fuels Microscopy Laboratory

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MUSEUM OF PALEONTOLOGY

ANN ARBOR

L. B. KELLUM, DIRECTOR, CURATOR OF
MESOZOIC AND CENOZOIC INVERTEBRATES
G. M. EHLERS, CURATOR OF PALEOZOIC
INVERTEBRATES
C. A. ARNOLD, CURATOR OF
FOSSIL PLANTS
C. W. HIBBARD, CURATOR OF VERTEBRATES

E. C. STUMM, CURATOR OF PALEOZOIC
INVERTEBRATES
R. V. KESLING, ASSOCIATE CURATOR OF
MICROPALEONTOLOGY
W. H. BUETTNER, PREPARATOR
W. G. FARGO, HONORARY CURATOR OF
PALEONTOLOGY
HARRIET A. MAY, SECRETARY

July 17, 1955

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Building 20
Denver Federal Center
Denver 2, Colorado

Dear Dr. Traverse:

Thank you for your recent letter and the spare copy of the Journal.

We were unable to find any pollen in association with our Parataxodium. In fact, as we stated, no cutinized substances of any kind were observed. It seems that something about the conditions of preservation were not favorable for cuticle preservation. However, I intend to describe some other plants in association with Parataxodium, and another look for pollen will do no harm. Lack of cuticles, and inability to see the arrangement of the scales of the seed cones, are the two big gaps in making a complete story about the new genus. If those cone scales should turn out to be opposite instead of alternate as are the leaves, it would be a little difficult to retain the cones in the same genus with the leaves. However, I endeavored to provide for that eventuality by designating a purely vegetative specimen as the diplotype. So if in the future it should become necessary to separate the cones from the leaves, the genus would still have a type specimen.

I was in Colorado last month, but didn't get to Denver. Found a nice calamite, a good specimen of Sigillaria brardii and a small specimen much like Lepidodendron obovatum down in Huerfano County. Nothing else, however, in the Carboniferous.

Hope you will be up this way in September. However, collecting at Grand Ledge right now is at an all time low.

Most sincerely,

Chester A. Arnold

Chester A. Arnold