



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
5th Floor, Hunt Library  
Carnegie Mellon University  
4909 Frew Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890  
Telephone: 412-268-2434  
Email: [huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://www.huntbotanical.org)

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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.

October 18, 1957

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Radiation Laboratory  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Ralph:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. I am glad to know that you're back on the scene. It was surely a disappointment to miss having you with us in August. Your substitute, Erling Dorf, did a fine job. Above all, we are all grateful to Mac for the wonderful job he did on the field trip. I think the trip was an unqualified success.

I enjoyed the afternoon and evening with Mrs. Chaney very much. She may have told you I was particularly thrilled at seeing Glyptostrobus in the bark, (I almost said in the flesh). I hope that the B. scandens survives, as a reminder of the meetings you helped plan. It is a liana but will not strangle a tree of any size it grows on. It seems to survive severe pruning, so can also be trained to a dense shrubby growth in our climate. I look forward to getting the Metasequoia. My Umbellularia specimens are doing fine so far. They have about doubled their original size. I have them set out in the yard now.

Best wishes always.

Very truly yours,



Alfred Traverse

AT:rdh

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

RADIATION LABORATORY  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

October 10, 1957

Dr. Alfred Traverse  
Botanical Society of America  
3737 Bellaire Boulevard  
Houston 25, Texas

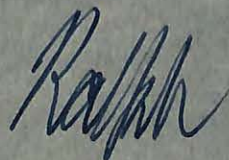
Dear Al:

A new crop of leaves on the Texas Berchemia prompts me to thank you for this addition to my Tertiary garden. A Metasequoia or two will be sent to you in the spring, and I shall be much interested to hear how this now montane tree gets along in Texas; it should thrive there.

All reports of the Stanford meeting indicate that it was well attended and that your efforts were completely successful. I am sorry that I was not present to meet a large number of the younger paleobotanists. Also I regret that I was not in Berkeley at the time of your visit. Mrs. Chaney greatly enjoyed seeing you, and we hope to have the pleasure of another visit soon. Wayne Frye seems to be taking hold here in good style, and I like him very much.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



RWC/bh

MILLERS FALLS  
ERASE  
COTTON CONTENT

*ALSO*

August 1, 1957

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Radiation Laboratory  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Ralph:

Yours of the 22nd, with the sad music, somehow failed to be mailed until the 30th and got here today. Of course, I am very sorry about this turn of events and should like to find a convenient way of evaporating before angry people get after me for failing to produce the star that was advertised.

Erling Dorf seems a most happy choice, and I hope he'll consent to take over the job. I am getting off a letter to him at once.

About the various other arrangements: can Mac act as guide, etc. for the group that may materialize in Berkeley on the day or two before the meetings? As you know, I indicated that interested persons could arrive a day or so before the field trip to look through the collections. Could you secure parking space for us, per my earlier letter? If some space could be reserved for us somewhere near the Paleontology Department it would give us a good place for marshalling, as well as a place to store the excess cars during the trip. It seems to me that if this is possible, the earlier the request for reservation is made, the better.

Do hope you can brief Dr. Dorf. I agree that he should be able to do an excellent job, though there is no substitute for Chaney, and you will be missed sorely. If you phone him the Section will reimburse you.

I plan to be in Berkeley on Monday, August 12. Will that catch you before you leave for Washington?

Very truly yours,

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

AT:hmp


July 22, 1957

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Ralph:

One matter just occurred to me that I may not have broached earlier. We will need parking space in the neighborhood for cars of participants in the field trip. First, we'll need space for, say, 10 cars during period (20-21 August) when we'll be around the Museum. Then we'll need space for say 6 cars that will be left behind in Berkeley for the period 22-25 August, while we're on the trip. Can you arrange?

Very truly yours,



Alfred Traverse

AT:ml

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Research Division

May 22, 1957

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Chaney:

It was good to talk to you the other day. Everything seems to be in pretty good shape at this moment. About the luncheon: if possible it would seem best for us to have a flexible arrangement, such as a separate dining room off a cafeteria. That way we would not have to be too concerned about numbers. If we get a regular dining room with service, we will presumably be responsible for the number of plates we order. This we could probably handle by a show of hands at the beginning of our first session and a promptly relayed phone call to the dining room, but it would be a bit more troublesome than the cafeteria arrangement. On the other hand, if a reservation were made at a private restaurant I think we would find that they wouldn't mind a reduction in the number indicated in the original reservation, up to an hour before the set time.

I would like to hear about whatever deal you can cook up on this.

Very truly yours,



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

AT:pjd

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Division

April 4, 1957

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California


Dear Professor Chaney:

Thanks for the draft of the program. I presume that a copy of the draft has also gone to each of the participants.

The second circular for the Section, which I read over the phone to you in part, has gone out to the members. That means that everybody on your program will have received a copy, except Charles J. Smiley, for whom I have no address. Will you please send me Smiley's address when you get a chance. I'd like to get him on our mailing list and especially would like to send him a copy of this circular.

All goes well here, except for the usual respiratory illnesses in my family and my finding a coral snake under the children's sandpile.

Yours very truly,

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

AT:rlg

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

February 7, 1957

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Chaney:

Thanks very much for a very warm welcome and good visit. I think we got about as much done as possible in the length of time available. It seems to me that the program for Stanford is in pretty good shape, as of right now. Of course, everything depends on our getting the various possibles and probables to gel into certainties.

I intended to beg copies of the following papers of yours but forgot. Are they available?

1. A revision of fossil Sequoia and Taxodium in western North America based on the recent discovery of Metasequoia. Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. n.s., 40, pt. 3, 1951.


2. Paleocological interpretations of Cenozoic plants in western North America. Bot. Rev., 4, 371-396, (no date in my notes)

I enclose a blurb of mine that has a little telegraphic information about the pollen work done on the Japanese Tertiary.

The two little Umbellularia trees were carried on my lap to Los Angeles, packed with moist paper towels there and arrived in good shape in Houston. I have them in 5-quart cans now. Since it has been over 80° every day since I got back, no greenhouse has been necessary so far. I look forward to getting the Metasequoia material when available.

All best wishes,

Yours very truly,

  
Alfred Traverse

AT:rlg

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

January 18, 1957

Professor R. W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California


Dear Professor Chaney:

Thanks for yours of the 15th. I am rearranging my schedule in order to be in Berkeley on the 30th, and am hoping that this will not be too soon after your return from San Diego. I shall use the extra days to pay MacGinitie a visit.

I am planning to spend the 23rd (or as much of it as he will allow) with Axelrod. From his letter to me of a few days ago I do not feel sanguine about persuading him to join with us. Perhaps he will prove less recalcitrant in person.

Looking forward to meeting you, I am

Yours very truly,

  
Alfred Traverse

AT:rlg

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

December 19, 1956

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Chaney:

Your enthusiastic endorsement of my proposition for a paleobotanical field trip and symposium in connection with the Stanford meetings of A.I.B.S. was most encouraging. I have felt for some time that the Stanford meeting presents a great opportunity to benefit paleobotanical research by increasing rapport between the diverse groups of American paleobotanists, and I knew that your cooperation would be essential. When Professor Hopkins' illness gave me the responsibility of arranging the program I decided to put it directly to you, but, frankly, I had feared that you might not embrace the idea.

I suggest, as I said over the phone, that it would help greatly if you would be willing to contact the people concerned. I would like you to consider yourself program chairman. When I get word from you as to who are the people concerned, I shall follow up with the official invitation of the Paleobotanical Section, B. S. A. At the moment, the program for the meetings looks like this to me:

- A. Pre-meeting field trip: *Lead* by MacGinitie and/or Axelrod. Possibly a two day affair. This will take quite a bit of planning, and I should get into collaboration with the leader(s) as soon as possible.
- B. Symposium, titled, "Fossil Floras of the West and Their Importance in North American Paleogeology" (Or whatever you think might be better).
- C. At least one session of contributed papers, per the Section's usual custom. These sessions usually have a rather small attendance but are used as a forum for presenting short papers. I expect that we shall get at least a few papers presented by Eastern paleobotanists on diverse subjects, but it would be very good if some of the Western group could present papers in this session also. For example, some of your graduate students, or MacGinitie's, might like to give papers.

Professor R. W. Chaney

2

For the symposium, I suggest the following people:

1. R. W. Chaney
2. H. D. MacGinitie
3. D. I. Axelrod
4. E. Dorf
5. J. Gray (to summarize microfossil work)
6. Dither Herun (who has done much microfossil work for California Standard Oil, out of their La Habra laboratory; he has expressed great interest in participating.)
7. Chester Arnold (who has done considerable work on fossil floras of the Northwest, from Oregon to Alaska)
8. Richard Scott (U.S.G.S., Denver, perhaps the most competent young paleobotanist in the country, in my opinion. He has done some beautiful work on the Clarno formation, Oregon, and is an excellent speaker.)
9. H. P. Hansen (Oregon State College - could give Quaternary picture)

I am aware that this is a longer list than can take part in a workable symposium for one afternoon, but I ask you to select the five you think would make the best program. I think it would be very good if Dick Scott could be worked in, as I know from past meetings that he presents a splendid paper.

Thanks again for your wonderful cooperation, and I look forward to hearing more from you about this and, in particular to seeing you in January to complete the preliminary arrangements.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

At:rig

cc - Professor J. H. Hoskins

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

*See for your information*  
*AL*

December 19, 1956

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Professor Chaney:

Your enthusiastic endorsement of my proposition for a paleobotanical field trip and symposium in connection with the Stanford meetings of A.I.B.S. was most encouraging. I have felt for some time that the Stanford meeting presents a great opportunity to benefit paleobotanical research by increasing rapport between the diverse groups of American paleobotanists, and I knew that your cooperation would be essential. When Professor Hoskins' illness gave me the responsibility of arranging the program I decided to put it directly to you, but, frankly, I had feared that you might not embrace the idea.

I suggest, as I said over the phone, that it would help greatly if you would be willing to contact the people concerned. I would like you to consider yourself program chairman. When I get word from you as to who are the people concerned, I shall follow up with the official invitation of the Paleobotanical Section, B. S. A. At the moment, the program for the meetings looks like this to me:

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Professor R. W. Chaney

2

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1. R. W. Chaney
2. H. D. MacGinitie
3. D. I. Axelrod
4. E. Dorf
5. J. Gray (to summarize microfossil work)
6. Luther Noren (who has done much microfossil work for California Standard Oil, out of their La Habra laboratory; Lu has expressed great interest in participating.)
7. Chester Arnold (who has done considerable work on fossil floras of the Northwest, from Oregon to Alaska)
8. Richard Scott (U.S.G.S., Denver, perhaps the most competent young paleobotanist in the country, in my opinion. He has done some beautiful work on the Clarno formation, Oregon, and is an excellent speaker.)
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Thanks again for your wonderful cooperation, and I look forward to hearing more from you about this and, in particular to seeing you in January to complete the preliminary arrangements.

Yours very truly,

  
Alfred Traverse

AT:rig

cc - Professor J. H. Hoskins

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

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

November 30, 1953

Professor Ralph W. Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Professor Chaney:

Is there a chance that you still have available for distribution copies of your monograph, "The Goshen Flora of West Central Oregon", C.I.W. Pub. 439, 1933? I am doing research here on the Fort Union lignite and would like to have a copy of the Goshen flora monograph for laboratory reference.

Very truly yours,

  
Alfred Traverse  
Coal Technologist

ATraverse:dm

cc: Region V  
Lankford  
✓ Traverse  
File 083.3  
C. File

March 9, 1956

Professor Ralph Chaney  
Department of Paleontology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Professor Chaney:

During a recent trip to Germany, I made contact with a young geologist, Karl Krames, who has been doing some work on the taxodiaceous (?) stumps that are such a common feature of certain parts of the brown coal deposits of Germany. He has been especially interested in the stumps found in the mines of the Cologne region. Indeed, it was at one of these mines (in Knappsack) that I met him.

Krames has sent me several of his reprints dealing with his calculations of the direction of the earth's pole at the time of the brown coal deposition, from measurements of the stem radii of the stumps.

In a recent letter Krames asked me if I could locate some acceptable photographs, presumably for use in technical publications, of living Sequoia trees. I have taken the liberty of referring him to you, feeling that you probably can help him get the photographs he wants, and also because I thought you would be interested in his work. I suggested to Krames that he write and send you reprints of his work.

I hope that I have not been unduly presumptuous.

Very truly yours,

  
Alfred Traverse

AT:lbd

Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF PALEONTOLOGY  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

March 19, 1956

Dr. Alfred Traverse  
Shell Development Company  
Exploration and Production Research Division  
3737 Bellaire Boulevard  
Houston 25, Texas

Dear Dr. Traverse:

Many thanks for your recent papers. I am glad that you are going so far with pollen studies.

I shall be glad to send Karl Krames such photographs of Sequoia as I have.

With my best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

*Ralph W. Chaney*  
Ralph W. Chaney

RWC:vj

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF PALEONTOLOGY  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

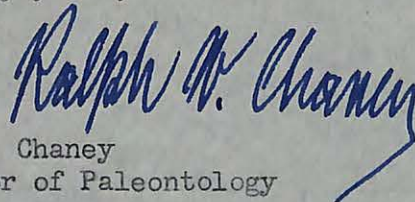
December 7, 1953

Mr. Alfred Traverse  
Coal Technologist  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Mines  
Box LL, University Station  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Traverse:

I regret to say that there are no available copies of the Goshen Flora. I have sent several to the Geological Survey and the National Museum, and one of these should be available on loan if the Bureau of Mines is not able to purchase a copy for you from the Carnegie Institution. I am sorry not to meet your need immediately.

Sincerely yours,



Ralph W. Chaney  
Professor of Paleontology

RWC:pjp