



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

125 Old Oak Rd.
Newark, Delaware
December 8, 1954.

Dr. George L. Slato
Genova, New York.

Dear Dr. Slato:

Your letter regarding the financing of the
Arnold Arboretum I am referring to Professor E.P.
Brucher, Horticultural Department of the University of
Delaware. Since I retired last June, I shall now
send him the Professor Brucher, Head of the Department.

Personally, I should like to see the Arboretum continue
to be a source of biological information, as it was
in the past and to improve with time.

Very truly yours

L.P. Dwyer

the National Peach Council

SERVING HER DELICIOUSNESS, THE QUEEN OF FRUITS
OFFICE OF SEC.-TREAS., 1502 S. LINCOLN, URBANA, ILL.

April 21, 1955

23

Mr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

I have at last gotten around to your letter of January 28th to which you attached a copy of a paper by John C. Wister.

I was very much interested in going over this material. I studied with East 'way back in 1914 for a winter, and at that time came to know Dr. Bailey very well. I didn't know there was so much difference between horticulture and botany - which seems to have flared up at Harvard. We always thought in the mid-west here that we dealt with plants in both cases - one having an economic slant to its handling, and the other - shall I say - just pure science? Personally, I have always been cordial to the applied phases of plant problems, but I expect that in large city centers where the time element enters into the handling of acres, it soon becomes the problem of getting space enough. We have had to face this in every department of horticulture - or just about. Maybe the way out is to move and clean house every so often. The plant collection at the Arnold Arboretum, however, had a big influence during the active working period of Dr. Sargent and others.

It is going to be a slow process financing memberships in an association such as the one you propose, - but it can be done if there is widespread interest. Since my retirement here I have been trying to reduce, but in spite of that, I find it very difficult to get away from a long list of dues and subscriptions. For this reason, I hesitate to take on another. When this matter gets straightened out further, however, give me another letter.

Sincerely,

M. J. Dorsey
M. J. Dorsey, Sec.-Treas.
NATIONAL PEACH COUNCIL

MJD:b

the National Peach Council

SERVING HER DELICIOUSNESS, THE QUEEN OF FRUITS
OFFICE OF SEC.-TREAS., 1501 S. LINCOLN, URBANA, ILL.

*ans. Langford
1/28/55*

January 19, 1955

Dr. George L. Slade
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slade:

I have your communication dated December 1st in regard to the Arnold Arboretum. I know full well what this has meant to American horticulture and botany. But at a time when I am trying to reduce my obligations I do not feel like taking on another, as much as I would like to do so. Isn't it possible to find someone who is interested in plants who may still have some money to put into such a project? Taking the long look, what is the way out for institutions of this kind.

Undoubtedly you have canvassed the situation thoroughly and have decided as a last resort upon the course you have taken. Personally, I do not like to write you in this way, and if conditions change I may feel differently about it. But as matters stand at the moment, there are just too many demands for the few dollars one has left in retirement to do some of the things put off long ago.

As a final word though, let me know how you're coming along, and I'll see what I can do.

Most sincerely,

M. J. Darsey
M. J. Darsey, Sec.-Treas.
NATIONAL PEACH COUNCIL

MJD:bjs

July 1, 1955

Dr. M. J. Dorsey, Sec.-Treas.
NATIONAL PEACH COUNCIL
1502 S. Lincoln.
Urbana, Ill.

Dear Dr. Dorsey;

This is a delayed reply to your letter of April 21 about the Association for the Arnold Arboretum. I wonder if you have received the publication entitled "A Review of the Arnold Arboretum Controversy". If you have not received it, let me know and I shall have one sent to you. This will bring you pretty well up to date on this matter. With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

110 Ferris Lane
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Dec. 13, 1954

Mr. George L. Slate,
37 Highland Ave.,
Geneva, N. Y.

Dear George:

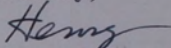
Thanks for your letter on behalf
of the Arnold Arboretum.

I became a member of The Association for the Arnold Arboretum in October, and have spoken to several of my friends about joining, with good effect I believe.

It is to be hoped that it is not too late to check the move on the part of Harvard University to change the character of the Arnold Arboretum; which has done so much to disseminate material and information relative to woody plants.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Henry E. Cowney

Keep this copy

3rd June 1955

Dr. William B. Drew
Dept. of Plant Pathology
Michigan State College
East Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

A copy of your letter of April 25th to Mr. John T. Hemenway, president of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, has been sent to me. I propose to comment on your letter as follows:

The question is not what is best in the long run for Harvard University. Harvard would like to have us all think that that is the point at issue and that what Harvard says is the last word on this matter. The point at issue is Harvard's violation of the trust under which the Arboretum was established. Very competent lawyers are clearly of the opinion that Harvard has violated the trust and that the issue should be resolved in the courts.

The Arboretum through the years has accumulated an endowment of over \$4,000,000. This money came to it because of the taxonomic work of Sargent and his associates. His work had great horticultural as well as botanical value and it attracted some very substantial gifts. This money was not given to Harvard for the botany department at Cambridge. The botany work at Cambridge does not have the popular appeal that the Arboretum's work had and has not attracted support from horticulturally minded persons. Therefore, under the guise of integration the Harvard botanists have taken over the Arboretum's endowment to be used for other purposes than for which it was given. The lawyers tell me that it is a first principle of law that a trust must be managed in the interest of the beneficiary, which in this case is the Arboretum, not the botany department at Cambridge. The new set-up is certainly not to the interest of the Arboretum, and the activities of those who seek to restore the Arboretum to its previous position of greatness cannot be lightly dismissed.

The "isolated, independent and self-duplicating" Arboretum made great contributions to botany and horticulture. These contributions have been ended by integration, the same type of integration that occurs when a fat juicy mouse is integrated by a big and hungry cat.

Dr. Drew:-

-2-

You refer to the work of Johnston, Kobuski, Allen and Bailey, names that mean little to the taxonomist and horticulturist. If you would know who made the Arboretum great read the obituaries of Sargent, Wilson and Rehder.

You state that we "are rendering a distinct disservice to the University and to plant science through this campaign to enlist dollars from people who are scarcely aware of the issue at stake."

It is not a disservice to plant science to attempt to restore the Arboretum to its former great position. We propose to educate those who are not familiar with the issues at stake. Many who have not studied at Harvard have given freely to the Arboretum's endowment. They should know what is happening to the institution built through their generosity.

Plantmen the world over use Rehder's "Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs." There is no substitute for it. It was produced because the Arboretum had a great library, a great herbarium and great living collections. It matters little whether its users ever visited Cambridge or Jamaica Plain. It matters greatly that it cannot be revised or that other much-needed taxonomic studies with woody plants cannot be undertaken.

The present director of the Arboretum is bragging about the Arboretum's horticultural activities. These are trifling - classes for garden club ladies, exhibits, etc. that fool no one who knows what it takes to make an Arboretum great. This stuff is designed to distract the attention of the less discerning horticultural persons from the very real disintegration of the Arboretum's research in the taxonomy of woody plants.

The Association for the Arnold Arboretum is no upstart organization. It developed from the Visiting Committee for the Arnold Arboretum which realized that a violation of the trust was involved. Only as a last resort was this Association organized.

These are some of my thoughts on reading your letter.

Very truly yours,

3rd June 1955

Dr. William B. Drew
Dept. of Plant Pathology
Michigan State College
East Lansing, Michigan.

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These are some of my thoughts on reading your letter.

Very truly yours

January 18, 1957

Mr. Henry F. duPont
Winterthur,
Delaware

Dear Mr. duPont:

I have prepared the enclosed reply to President Pusey's letter to you about the Winterthur statement. Before I send it I should like your approval, and, of course, any suggestions as to additions and deletions that you may have.

Copies are being sent to Mr. Clark and Mr. Rankin for their suggestions. Several others have seen preliminary drafts and their suggestions have been incorporated.

I propose to send copies of this letter to the other members of the Corporation and to as many others as you, Mr. Clark and Mr. Rankin think should see it.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

H. F. DU PONT
WINTERTHUR, DELAWARE

March 12th, 1957.

Professor George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology,
New York State Agricultural Experiment
Station,
Geneva, New York.

Dear Professor Slate,

Many thanks for sending me a copy
of your letter to Dr. Fogg. It explains
the Association for the Arnold Arboretum's
point of view very clearly.

Sincerely yours,

H. F. du Pont

H. F. DU PONT
WINTERTHUR, DELAWARE

January 21st, 1957.

Dear Dr. Slate,

Many thanks for your letter of
the 18th with the copy of the proposed
letter to President Pusey, which I think
is very clear and to the point.

I am enclosing the second letter
I received from Dr. Pusey.

Sincerely yours,

H. F. Du Pont



HOME GARDEN GUIDE

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40th Anniversary

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Hyde Park N.Y.; Dec. 3rd., 1954

Dear George:

Thanks for sending me the dope on the Arboretum. Ix have
joined up and have sent in additional names.

Our best to the Slate family.

Yours,

in reply

Sent at request of Mr. du Pont.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE MORRIS ARBORETUM
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18

February 18.

Dear Mr. du Pont:

You will, I hope, forgive my delay in replying to your letter of December 20th. I was in Mexico on a collecting trip when it arrived and my rather prolonged absence has placed me considerably in arrears with respect to my correspondence.

I have read your statement on the Arnold Arboretum with considerable interest and would like to offer a few comments concerning it.

In the first place, let me say that I consider myself almost as much of a horticulturist as I am a botanist. As Director of this Arboretum I am dedicated to the introduction and improvement of woody ornamental plants. As Professor of Botany I am interested in teaching and research in the Plant Sciences. I can see no dichotomy between the two and deplore the point of view that seeks to place them in separate compartments instead of emphasizing the manner in which they supplement and strengthen each other.

I will readily admit that the same problem may have both its horticultural and its botanical aspects. Henry Skinner's work on azaleas is a good example of this many more might be cited. When I have visited the Arnold Arboretum, as I did last October, with a problem the primary emphasis of which was "horticultural", I have found the library and herbarium facilities there entirely adequate for its solution. I have also found staff members like Don Wyman and Roger Coggeshall well qualified to assist me. When, as also happened, I desired to probe more deeply into the "botanical" aspects of my problem, the combined library, herbarium and staff resources of the Arnold-Gray collections made this possible to a degree which was not formerly the case.

Of course, if it were possible to have all the botanical resources of Harvard centered in one place, this would be ideal. But since this seems out of the question I believe that the best possible compromise has been effected. I believe that a very wise division of materials was made and do not feel that a return of library or herbarium materials to Arnold is necessary or even desirable.

In other words, I am not convinced, on the basis of my own knowledge and experience, that the interests of "theoretical botany" have been advanced at the expense of the horticultural interests of the Arnold Arboretum.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr., Director.

5th March 1957

Dr. John M. Fogg
Morris Arboretum
University of Pennsylvania
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia, 18
Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

Mr. du Pont had sent me a copy of your letter to him dated February 18th. As I have followed the situation closely I am taking the liberty of offering my thoughts on this matter.

The point at issue is whether Harvard, as trustee of the Arnold bequest and subsequent gifts, has acted in the best interest of the beneficiary the Arnold Arboretum. Harvard refuses to have the matter settled in the courts as is customary when responsible parties charge that there has been a breach of trust.

As you well know the Arboretum made its reputation and great contributions in the field of taxonomy of woody plants, especially those of horticultural interest. This work required that the herbarium, library and living collections be maintained as a unit in one place. The division of the library and herbarium as has been done makes it difficult to do this work in the future. Rehder could not have prepared his manual with the cultivated material in Jamaica Plain and the wild species in Cambridge or with the horticultural books in one place and the strictly botanical books in another.

It is as if a carpenter would try to work with his saw in Jamaica Plain and his hammer in Cambridge.

While this is serious it is far more serious that the Arboretum is now dominated by and largely staffed with personnel who have no interest in, and little knowledge of cultivated plants. There is very little interest in horticulture now in spite of the Director's statements. His reports are filled with trivial things. The horticultural activities are good as far as they go, but when you start looking for the kind of work that made the Arboretum great you will find nothing. I refer to the work of Sargent,

5th March 1957.

Dr. Fogg:-

Wilson and Rehder. Read their bibliographies then read the Director's three reports and take a broad look at the Arboretum.

I do not question the ability of Wyman and Coggeshall to assist you on a horticultural problem and I am sure that you found the combined library, herbarium and staff at Cambridge useful. But you did not find, and you will not find the kind of research, or any intention of doing the kind of research that made the Arboretum a great institution and so useful to American horticulture that it attracted the substantial gifts that make up its endowment. And you well know that this money was not given to strengthen the botanical work at Cambridge. It was given by horticultural people because the Arboretum did what it did where it did, and because the donors wanted that kind of work continued.

I feel the loss of this work very keenly because the Arboretum is just about the only place on this continent with the resources to do this type of work. We need this work continued, and until the Arboretum is again a separate institution divorced from the Cambridge botanists it is not going to do the work that it was set up to do by the Arnold trust as was done by Sargent during his lifetime.

I enclose a copy of the Review which you may not have seen. Later I shall send you a copy of a letter that represents my thinking on other points that have been raised.

Very truly yours

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
Plant Science Bulletin

HARRY J. FULLER, *Editor*
203 Natural History Building
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

April 8, 1957

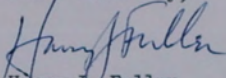
Professor George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Professor Slate:

Thank you very much indeed for your encouraging note of April 2nd about the publication of Mrs. Merrill's letter in PLANT SCIENCE BULLETIN and for the copy of your letter of March 22nd to Dr. Pusey. Your note came at a most opportune time; for the preceding mail brought a letter * from a Harvard botanist castigating me for the publication of Mrs. Merrill's letter! This gentleman wished his letter to me to remain confidential, so that I cannot mention his name. Your letter to Dr. Pusey is certainly forthright and direct, and I congratulate you upon its quality.

Again my thanks to you for your kind note.

Yours sincerely,



Harry J. Fuller
Editor

HJF:A

* Confidential, if you please!

NEW YORK
**HORTUS
CLUB**
INCORPORATED

HAROLD EPSTEIN • 5 FOREST COURT • LARCHMONT, NEW YORK

December 9th, 1954

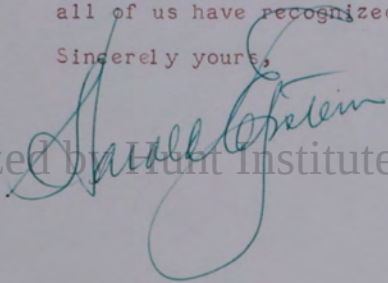
Mr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Mr. Slate,

Thanks for your letter of December 1st relative to the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc.

I just want to advise you that this group has already forwarded a collective sum to the Association so that all of us have recognized the need for action.

Sincerely yours,



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
HORTICULTURAL CROPS RESEARCH BRANCH
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

December 10, 1954

Dr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

Thanks for calling my attention to the situation at the Arnold Arboretum and I have sent on my membership. The Arnold Arboretum has done such a wonderful job along its line that I hate to see anything lacking which will in anyway weaken the work they are doing. I hear reports of rather severe destruction from the hurricane up that way.

Sincerely,

G. F. Gravatt

G. F. Gravatt
Senior Pathologist
Section of Fruit and Nut Crops

April 19, 1957

Mr. G.F. Gravatt
Plant Industry Station
Beltsville, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Gravatt:

Thanks for your letter about the Arboretum. The organization that you belonged to that contributed \$1,000 a year to the Arboretum, I believe was "The Friends of the Arnold Arboretum," and it has no connection with the Association for the Arnold Arboretum.

If you will send me the addresses of your Board of Directors I shall forward them to our secretary, Thomas Rankin, 50 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts to send what literature he has available.

If you want to write to someone at Harvard I shall suggest President Fusey. A copy of a letter that I wrote to him recently is enclosed and you may circulate it as much as you wish.

Sincerely

THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

1000 WASHINGTON AVENUE

BROOKLYN 25, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: MAIN 2-4433

255 South Main Street
Wallingford, Connecticut
December 4, 1954

Dear Dr. Slate:

Thank you for sending me the circular letter about the Arnold Arboretum. I am very glad to know that you are on our side. I joined the Association some time ago and will be glad to do anything I can to prevent the great injustice that is being done to the Arboretum.

Shall we see you at the Annual Meeting of the Association at the Harvard Club Library Thursday, Dec. 9? I intend to be present.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur H. Graves

AHG/htg

Arthur H. Graves

Name

E. P. Wyman. *Letter sent*

Address

Dr. D. F. Jones Conn. Agr. Expt. Station
 123 Huntington St. New Haven.
 Dr. James G. Henshall Same address Conn.
 Prof. Wendell D. Cragg Univ. of Conn. Storrs Conn.
 Prof. Ed. Loomis " " " "
 Prof. A. E. Moss Moss " " " "
 Dr. George A. Garratt Yale School of Forestry
 New Haven Conn.

I am (~~am~~ not) willing to have my name used in writing to the above.

5

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

50 STATE STREET, BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS

I wish to become a member of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. and enclose (will send later) the \$2 membership dues for 1954-'55.

Name

Address

already a member.

Arthur H. Davis

(Please draw checks to Endicott Peabody, Treasurer)

I suggest the following names for membership in the Association:

(OVER)

*Prof. Slater:-
I thought you
might be ac-
quainted with Graves
and might write him
I.J. Rankin 11/11/54.*

COPY

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND
HOME ECONOMICS STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Agricultural College and
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Cooperating

Extension Service

State College Station, Fargo, N. Dak.

November 11, 1954

Mr. Thomas V. Rankin
Executive Secretary
Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc.,
50 State Street
Boston 9, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Rankin:

In reply to your letter of October 20 let me say that I have received the material entitled "Harvard's View of the Controversy over the Arnold Arboretum", as well as material sent to me by Mr. John Wister.

You will appreciate my position, I am sure, in that I am a long ways away from the Arnold Arboretum and find it difficult to get the picture in proper focus here. I have talked to a Harvard graduate here in North Dakota who is head of a Pioneer Seed & Nursery Company and he has indicated that there are two sides of the question, as there undoubtedly is.

The man from whom I took my horticulture, Dr. A. F. Yeager, Head of Horticulture at New Hampshire is no doubt much better informed than I could possibly be and I hope to hear from him in the near future.

As to taking out a membership in your association, I will have to defer that for the present for personal reasons.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Harry A. Graves

Harry A. Graves
Extension Horticulturist

HAG:bb

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK
NEW YORK 58, N. Y.

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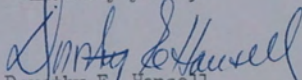
June 18, 1957

Dr. George Slate
N.Y. State Agr. Exp. Station
Geneva, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Slate:

I want to compliment you on the excellent presentation of facts you laid before Dr. Nathan M. Pusey in your letter to him of March 22, 1957, copy of which I have just received from the executive committee of the Association of Arnold Arboretum, Inc. I am giving my copy to Miss Hall, our Librarian, to add to her files on this important subject.

Sincerely yours,



Dorothy E. Hansell
Editor, The Garden Journal

DEH:md

COPY
Professor Slate

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

Incorporated in 1953 as a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation

50 STATE STREET • BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS • LAFAYETTE 3-6604

The Association is an independent organization having no connection with Harvard University and is not to be confused with the Harvard-sponsored "Friends of the Arnold Arboretum". Organized to protect and support the Arnold Arboretum in the public interest, the Association is opposed to Harvard's present plan for the Arboretum.

November 29, 1957

Dr. George Taylor, Director
Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew, England

Dear Dr. Taylor:

I understand that you are going to be in this area from December 4 to 15 in connection with your duties as a member of the Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum.

Would you be able to join me for luncheon at the Somerset Club some day during your stay here. The officers of this Association would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you some of the problems of the controversy over the Arboretum.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Hemenway
President

JTH/ap

Please return to State

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE

E. Lansing, Mich.

Department of Botany
Plant Pathology

April 25, 1955

Mr. John T. Hemenway, Chairman
Executive Committee
Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc.
50 State Street
Boston 9, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

My attention has recently been called to the continued efforts of a group of people calling themselves the "Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc." to destroy the recent move toward consolidation at Cambridge of certain plant collections and libraries.

I am indeed distressed to learn that this unfortunate battle is being further promulgated by your group, for the longer it continues, the less good it will do for all concerned. It seems to me that it is not so much a question of public interest as it is a question of what is best in the long run for Harvard University. For years, the effectiveness of Harvard's contributions to plant science have been handicapped by the operation of isolated, independent and often self-duplicating units, including the Arboretum. Though there may well be disagreement as to the methods followed in achieving a long sought amalgamation of resources, certainly those plant scientists not involved emotionally in the dispute can testify overwhelmingly to the tremendously increased value of the integrative move to Harvard, to science and ultimately to the public interest.

The use of the living collections of the Arboretum, while of some value to scholars, surely ranks as an extremely secondary consideration in comparison to the value of the herbarium and library. How many plant scientists--Harvard faculty, past and present graduate students and visiting scholars--have based a substantial portion of their research on the permanent living collections of the Arboretum? Indeed, how much of the research of such Arboretum staffers as I. M. Johnston, Clarence Kobuski, Carolyn Allen, or even I. W. Bailey have been based upon the living permanent collections of the Arboretum? The results would indicate, I firmly believe, that only limited use was made of these materials. Therefore, your argument on page 8 of the pamphlet entitled "A Review of the Arnold Arboretum Controversy" that "three elements" must be integrated loses its force in relation to the effects of recent consolidation.

To circularize plant scientists who have never had any connection with Harvard University and who, in the case of landscape architects and numerous horticulturists actually have no adequate background as to all the issues involved, seems to me to be adding needless confusion to the controversy. It is especially noteworthy that in your campaign to defeat the consolidation plan that recipients of advanced degrees in plant science fields from Harvard have not been contacted. Yet such persons are those most intimately acquainted with the situation as it used to be under the old regime of separate institutions and who, in many cases

Mr. John T. Hemenway

April 25, 1955

are among those most competent to judge the long term value of the move to the University and to plant science.

You and your group are rendering a distinct disservice to the University and to plant science through this campaign to enlist dollars from people who are scarcely aware of the issues at stake, who have never studied at Harvard, and who in some cases have never even visited either in Cambridge or in Jamaica Plain.

Very truly yours,

William B. Drew
Ph.D., Harvard, 1934

WBD:led

cc: Mr. Thomas V. Rankin
Mr. Endicott Peabody

COPY

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

Incorporated in 1953 as a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation

50 STATE STREET • BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS • LAFAYETTE 3-6604

The Association is an independent organization having no connection with Harvard University and is not to be confused with the Harvard-sponsored "Friends of the Arnold Arboretum". Organized to protect and support the Arnold Arboretum in the public interest, the Association is opposed to Harvard's present plan for the Arboretum.

July 30, 1957

Mr. Daniel J. Foley, Editor
Horticulture
300 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Foley:

Your June, 1957, issue contained an informative article by Dr. Donald Wyman, on the Arnold Arboretum, under the title, "Whence Came our Shrubs and Trees."

Admittedly it is difficult for any one to write about the Arnold Arboretum today without clarifying some of the persistent issues of the Arnold Arboretum Controversy. Dr. Wyman, by seeking to avoid any mention of that debate, has conveyed in some respects a misleading impression of harmony and of integration at an institution that in the last few years has suffered from the most drastic disruption of its plant and staff.

For example, Dr. Wyman speaks of the great library of the Arnold Arboretum. He omits to say, however, that some six-sevenths of that library has been removed to the Harvard University Herbarium Building in Cambridge. Again he refers to the fine herbarium of the Arboretum, but he does not make it clear that about six-sevenths of the whole herbarium is no longer at the Arboretum's headquarters in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, but instead has been transferred to the Harvard University Herbarium Building in Cambridge.

No mention is made in Dr. Wyman's article of the shift of a substantial portion of the professional staff from the headquarters of the Arboretum to the new Harvard University Herbarium Building,

Mr. Daniel J. Foley

-2-

July 30, 1957

in Cambridge. Nor does he make any reference to the allocation of the necessary funds from the Arboretum budget to operations at Cambridge.

It is understandable that Dr. Wyman, the respected horticulturist at the Arnold Arboretum, should try to write about the institution without emphasizing the differences that have lead to the formation of our Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., with a membership of over 1,200, devoted to the objective of restoring and re-integrating the Arboretum. It does seem appropriate, however, that this note be carried in HORTICULTURE to remind those interested readers that the fight on behalf of the Arboretum continues and to invite those of them who are concerned to write to the Association, 50 State Street, Boston 9, Massachusetts, for further details about the continuing controversy over the Arnold Arboretum.

Sincerely yours,

J. T. H.

John T. Hemenway
President

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JTH/ap

April 10

Dear Mr. Slate,

Thank you very much for your letter including a copy of your comments on the Bundy leaflet and a copy of your reply to a letter from Donald Wyman.

I think that you brought to Wyman when you speak of the "activities" in Jamaica Plain "to distract --- from the very real disintegration" of course this is largely caused by the diversion of funds to Cambridge.

I hope that you will like the "Review", which should cause a great deal of comment.

I think that Rankin has performed a tremendous job on this. Few people realize the work involved in such a large mailing. Since hundred people will receive many copies, the Corporation should receive a good deal of pressure.

Sincerely,

John Hemmaway

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P.S. Sorry about my delay in writing, but I have been on vacation in Ga.

Copy to Professor Slate

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

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50 STATE STREET
BOSTON 9,
MASSACHUSETTS
LAFAYETTE 3-6604

JOHN T. HEMENWAY
President

FRANCIS BLAKE
Treasurer

THOMAS V. RANKIN
Secretary

The Association is an independent organization having no connection with Harvard University and is not to be confused with the Harvard-sponsored "Friends of the Arnold Arboretum". Organized to protect and support the Arnold Arboretum in the public interest, the Association is opposed to Harvard's present plan for the Arboretum.

DIRECTORS

JOHN S. AMES
North Easton, Mass.

MRS. OAKES AMES
North Easton, Mass.

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Boston, Mass.

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MRS. WILLIAM J. WALTERS
New Brunswick, N. J.

WILLIAM P. WHARTON
Groton, Mass.

JOHN C. WISTER
Swarthmore, Pa.

December 21, 1956

President Nathan M. Pusey
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear President Pusey:

On December 21, 1954 you wrote me a letter which stated in part as follows:

"The Corporation feels that it has a duty to protect the Arboretum against this unauthorized use of its name by your Association. The need for this protection is emphasized by a number of instances which have come to my attention where donors have given money to your Association under the mistaken impression that your Association is acting on behalf or with the approval of the Arboretum administration or that the appeal has been made by the administration itself."

Careful investigation on our part has failed to reveal any foundation for the above assertion, and I must therefore ask that you retract your statement.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Hemenway

John T. Hemenway
President

JTH/jf

3 Joy Street, Bowton, Mass.
December 20, 1954

Mr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Mr. Slate:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your letter about the Arnold Arboretum. I think it is an excellent letter and we owe you a lot of thanks for all of your work in winning new members.

I enjoyed very much seeing you at the annual meeting.

Sincerely,

John

John T. Hemenway

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ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

*A nonprofit Massachusetts corporation organized to protect
and support the Arnold Arboretum in the public interest*

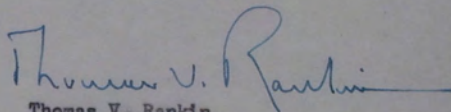
ROOM 815
50 STATE STREET
BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL.: LAFAYETTE 3-6604

January 18, 1955

Memorandum for the Directors:

You recently received a copy of a letter from
President Pusey to Mr. Hemenway, dated December 21, 1954.

Enclosed you will find Mr. Hemenway's reply
dated January 15, 1955, stressing the rising indignation
caused by the Corporation's continued refusal to submit
the issues of the Arboretum controversy to the courts.



Thomas V. Rankin
Executive Secretary

TVR/k
Encl.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

JOHN T. HEMENWAY
President
ENDICOTT PEABODY
Secretary-Treasurer

*A nonprofit Massachusetts corporation organized to protect
and support the Arnold Arboretum in the public interest*

50 STATE STREET
BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS

TEL: LAFAYETTE 3-6604

THOMAS V. RANKIN
Executive Secretary
JOHN M. WOOLSEY, JR.
ENDICOTT PEABODY
Counsel

January 15, 1955

DIRECTORS

JOHN S. AMES
North Easton, Mass.
MRS. OAKES AMES
North Easton, Mass.
MRS. HAROLD GREENE ARNOLD
Boston, Mass.
FRANCIS BLAKE
Dover, Mass.
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Lutherville, Md.
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Boston, Mass.
MRS. WILLIAM J. WALTERS
New Brunswick, N. J.
WILLIAM P. WHARTON
Groton, Mass.
JOHN C. WISTER
Swarthmore, Pa.

President Nathan M. Pusey
Massachusetts Hall
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear President Pusey:

In your letter of December 21, 1954, you referred to the name and activities of this Association as a matter that is troubling the Harvard Corporation. May I, in turn, refer to something that is troubling many members of this Association and, we believe, many others, including many alumni and friends of Harvard?

I refer to the continued opposition of the Corporation to a judicial hearing on the questions raised by experienced counsel as to whether the carrying out of the Corporation's vote of January 19, 1953 regarding the Arnold Arboretum involves a breach of trust.

The attitude of the Harvard Corporation, Trustee for the Arnold Arboretum, in opposing such a hearing is incomprehensible to a great many people and has created a strong feeling of indignation.

It is indisputable that a number of lawyers of high standing have raised serious questions as to whether a breach of trust is involved. No one can resolve those questions except the duly constituted judicial tribunals of Massachusetts. The accepted practice of trustees when such substantial doubts are expressed is to petition the court for instructions. Therefore, the Harvard Corporation's refusal to submit this question to the court for instructions, being contrary to such accepted practice, has created a painful impression.

We are familiar with the explanations given for this opposition, but they seem to us clearly untenable. One of these is that the Corporation is so perfectly sure that it is right that its vote of January 19, 1953 is in the Arboretum's best interests that it has no duty to consent to a judicial ruling, no matter what doubts others may express. This argument appears to us lacking in substance. It is refuted by what actually occurred in the Gordon McKay case in 1915-17. There also the Corporation expressed confidence in the legal validity of its plan and so stated in the petition for instructions which it was finally induced to file in the Supreme Judicial Court at the instance of a group of Harvard graduates. But in that petition the Corporation also said that the existence of doubts on the part of others made it "incumbent" on the Corporation to seek a ruling from the Court. In the McKay case, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts unani-

President Nathan M. Pusey

-2-

January 15, 1955

mously ruled that the Corporation was in error, and that the Corporation's plan was illegal as involving a breach of trust.

In the case of the Arboretum, it is very possible that the Supreme Judicial Court would reach a similar conclusion regarding the plan of January 19, 1953. An impressive body of testimony could certainly be produced showing that the Corporation's view that the plan is in the best interest of the Arboretum is an erroneous one.

Such a conclusion, though disappointing to those supporting the Corporation's view, would be, we believe, in Harvard's long-run interest. The Harvard Corporation would not then rest under the reproach of having avoided a judicial hearing on its conduct as trustee in the face of serious doubts raised by eminent counsel and scientific experts.

I would not be frank unless I referred also to the feeling among many people that Harvard's course of action in this matter has been arbitrary and even autocratic. As an example I cite the Corporation's action in June, 1954, making an accomplished fact of the removal from Jamaica Plain to Cambridge of most of the Arboretum's herbarium and library, notwithstanding (1) that the Corporation knew that such removal was a principal ground for the claim of breach of trust, and (2) that the Corporation was fully aware of the pendency at that time of a suit in the Supreme Judicial Court in which the petitioners were seeking a "day in court" to assert the illegality of such removal.

The above and other acts or attitudes have created a widespread impression that the Harvard Corporation has sought to ignore the protests against its policy toward the Arboretum. As a result of this obduracy on the part of the Corporation, resistance to the Corporation has grown.

I have referred frankly to this situation, understating it rather than otherwise, because the Governing Boards of Harvard may not know of the deep feelings of indignation which widely exist in respect of Harvard's conduct in this matter especially in respect of the opposition to a judicial hearing.

This Association stands ready to continue its resolute effort for a "day in court". We do so however only with reluctance and because there appears no alternative.

Is it not still possible to agree on the simple proposition that the legal issues be voluntarily submitted by the Corporation for hearing and decision by the courts of Massachusetts?

Sincerely yours,

/s/ John T. Hemenway

John T. Hemenway

HERBERT M. BLANCHE

226 Columbia St.

~~226 Columbia St.~~

ITHACA, NEW YORK

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

February 12, 1955

Professor R. S. Hosmer
209 Wait Avenue
Ithaca, N. Y.

Dear Professor Hosmer:

I have read with a great deal of interest the statement on "The Arnold Arboretum Controversy" and agree completely with John C. Wister's conclusions.

When a student at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, I early developed a tremendous respect for the Arnold Arboretum both as a horticultural and scientific institution. After graduation from Cornell in Landscape Architecture; as an employee in the "Olmsted Office" of Brookline, I lived for almost five years in Jamaica Plain. During that period hundreds of visits to the Arnold Arboretum were an unfailing source of information and interest. At that time three "Kew graduates" were employed on the arboretum staff, namely Ernest Wilson, William Judd, and Christian Van Der Voet.

This close association with the arboretum and its work is my justification in expressing an opinion on the "Arnold Arboretum Controversy".

At Kew great values developed from the intimate association of horticulture and the so-called "Scientific" side of plant life; viz. herbarium, library, etc. The record of Kew graduates all over the world is adequate proof of the above contention.

At the Arnold Arboretum close and intimate association of a magnificent living group of plants, and herbarium, library, etc. react upon one another to give life and vitality to each of these intimately associated subjects.

I hereby return your copy of John C. Wister's statement, with many thanks for the opportunity to study it.

Sincerely,

Herbert M. Blanche

Herbert M. Blanche
Member, American Society
of Landscape Architects

HMB:dw

To Prof G.L. Slater
(a copy?)
R.S.H.

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Personal

14 Arnold
Arboretum

RALPH S. HOSMER
209 WAIT AVENUE
ITHACA, NEW YORK

Feb. 18, 1955

Prof. Emeritus
George L. Slate
New York Agric. Expt. Station
Geneva, New York

Dear Prof. Slate:

I presume you have seen
the mimeographed copy of the
address given by Director John C.
Winters of Philadelphia, ~~given~~ to
the Federated Garden Clubs of
Massachusetts - at Swampscott
Mass - Oct 22 - 1954 -

It was sent me recently by
Ex. Sec'y, T. V. Rankin - of the Assn.
for the Arnold Arboretum.

If not, you should send for it at
once, as it is excellent material.
I have two copies. I could send
you one - But I think you can
make use of several, so suggest you ask
Rankin for some.

you, of course, ² know Herbert M.
Blanche, landscape Architect
of the Finger Lakes Park Commⁿ -
[He is retiring March 1. [at 70]
& moving to Florida.]

When he read Wister's address,
last week, he was moved to sit
right down & write the accompany-
ing letter ~~for~~ whom it may concern.
I've sent the original to Rankin.

I suggested to Blanche that
he have his stenographer type
off some copies. Here with is
one of these new "originals".
Suppose you keep it, for your
self - I have 8 carbons, these I
mean to pass on - If you wish
to copy it Blanche would not object.
That's what it was written for. But
leave out my name & the final P - and
use it as an article.

Always cordially yours

Ralph S. Hoar

11 LEND.
RALPH S. HOSMER
209 WAIT AVENUE
ITHACA, NEW YORK

7 Dec., 1954

Prof. George L. Slate
Geneva, N. Y.

Dear Prof. Slate:

my sincere thanks to you
for sending me one of your Arnold
Arboretum letters. A check is now
en route to Boston, with
several names, suggested for
membership.

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I have a cousin - a young lawyer
in N.Y. City - a Harvard man, from
Cambridge - who is already in touch
with some of this Arboretum matter.
When I saw him in Westport, 3 weeks
ago, he was to send me certain briefs,
for my information. I am sure he will
have seen the Assoc.'s memo. But I
think he would be interested in
your letter of Dec. 1. May I ask that
a copy be sent to him, as at my
request? Many thanks - (See over)

Sincerely yours
Ralph S. Hosmer

Sent
12/13/54
John Noble, Esq
The Arabian-American Oil Co.
505 Park Ave
New York 22, New York

Sent
12/13/54
my former colleague,
A. B. Recknagel
107 Cayuga Heights Road
Ithaca, N. Y.

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said he should like to be informed.
So I pass on that request - Could
you send him one, too? RSH

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
Harvard University
Jamaica Plain - Cambridge - Weston
Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Herbarium, Library and Laboratories
22 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

January 7, 1955

Dr. John Einset
New York State Experiment Station
Geneva, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Einset:

At the last annual meeting of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., one of the speakers, if not the featured speaker, for this group which opposes the program for the Arnold Arboretum, maintained by its trustee, the Harvard Corporation, and the Director, was a member of your staff, Dr. George Slate. Since that time Dr. Slate has become a member of the board of directors of that Association. Frankly, I consider it a little irregular, to say the least, when a staff member of one organization actively interferes with the administration of another scientific institution.

Dr. Slate, in taking this position, is guilty of violating a procedure expected of an intelligent person; that is, of at least examining both sides of the question. Dr. Slate has not contacted me or, to my knowledge, any other member of the staff of the Arnold Arboretum authorized to speak for the administration, and he has certainly not examined with me the program which I direct, involving the housing for the Arboretum's horticultural work in Jamaica Plain and Weston and its non-horticultural work in Cambridge.

You may be interested to know that the President and Fellows of Harvard College feel so strongly regarding the activities of this association that they have officially requested the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., to cease using the name of the Arnold Arboretum.

I am writing to inquire if Dr. Slate represents the New York State Experiment Station, and so the State of New York, in his activities in opposition to the administration of the Arnold Arboretum. May I ask if his trip to Boston for the December 9th meeting of the association was paid for by the Geneva station, the State of New York, the association, or was a personal expenditure.

Sincerely yours,

Richard A. Howard
Director

RAH/sw

(Copied as written 1/17/54 by PAR)

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN — CAMBRIDGE — WESTON
MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.



HERBARIUM, LIBRARY AND LABORATORIES
22 DIVINITY AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

November 13, 1956

Dr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

I was pleased to have your note of November 6th and to learn that you make periodic trips to Massachusetts. I will hope that during your visit at Thanksgiving you will have time to stop by the Arboretum and I will look forward to chatting with you.

I divide my time during office hours between Jamaica Plain and Cambridge and the phone numbers are Jamaica 4-1717 and in Cambridge, the Harvard exchange, Kirkland 7-7600, extension 2381. I now live in a house which the Arboretum recently acquired on the Case Estates in Weston and my telephone number there is TWinbrook 3-7948.

I will hope that you can squeeze enough time into your visit so that we can make the trip to all three locations where Arboretum collections are now located.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Howard
Director

RAH/sw

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN—CAMBRIDGE—WESTON
MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.



HERBARIUM, LIBRARY AND LABORATORIES
22 DIVINITY AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

October 30, 1956

Dr. George Slate
New York Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

Both C. E. Kobuski and Carroll Wood told me of their conversation with you during the Storrs meeting of the AIBS. I am sorry that the Howards were in the process of moving to an Arboretum house at the time and I was able to attend only two evening sessions in Connecticut. I regret that I did not see you at Storrs and that we were unable to talk over privately the same matter discussed with Kobuski and Wood.

From their report of the conversation I feel that you and I have the same ideas concerning goals for the Arnold Arboretum and the types of work which the Arboretum can and should do with, and in addition to, maintaining a collection of living plants. Implementation of these ideas requires time and also the cooperation of the horticulturists and botanists who understand what the Arnold Arboretum is, has been and should be.

I would very much like the opportunity of discussing with you the many aspects of the Arnold Arboretum and its problems. I would suggest that I meet you in Geneva for this discussion, but I feel you would gain a fuller comprehension of our potentials if you could see the facilities and environment for this program. Would it be possible for you to make a trip to Boston for this purpose? I would hope it could be soon and I would be pleased to cover your expenses for the trip. I know such a discussion would be mutually profitable. I am free for the next several weeks and if you can make the trip on short notice don't hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Howard
Director

RAH/sw

6th November 1956

Dr. Richard Howard
Arnold Arboretum
22 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge 38
Massachusetts.

Dear Dr. Howard:

Thank you for the invitation to come down and discuss the Arboretum situation with you. This I hope to do before too long, but at the moment I cannot set a definite date owing to other commitments.

My Mother is still living in Massachusetts about 100 miles west of Boston and as I go there several times a year, I could probably arrange to be in Cambridge on one of these trips. I expect to go there for Thanksgiving and shall hope that I can get to see you around that date.

You might give me your office and residence telephone numbers which would make it wasier for me to contact you.

Sincerely yours

December 4, 1956

Mr. Thomas Rankin
Association for the Arnold Arboretum
50 State Street
Boston, Mass.

Dear Tom:

Here are a few notes on my interview with Dr. Howard.

When I arrived and again when I left he indicated that he was disappointed at not seeing me alone. As you know John Hemenway and Karl Sax accompanied me.

Early in the interview he handed me the proposed program which you have seen. I indicated that I thought that it was a good program. It is, but I cannot see how it will be carried out. There is no indication except Howard's statement that the Arboretum is going to work extensively along the lines set forth in this statement. He asked for more time to get settled after moving as it is a big job to integrate the libraries and herbaria of the Arboretum and the Gray.

I pointed out at the start that I wanted to see the Arboretum work with modern techniques along the lines charted by Sargent and his colleagues, that I believed there was a breach of trust and that I appreciated because of my associations with L.H. Bailey and George Lawrence, the usefulness of taxonomy to all who work with plants. I laid much emphasis on the usefulness of Rehder's work. I indicated that Harvard had tipped its hand when Bailey referred to the Arboretum as "the goose that lays the golden eggs," and in stating that the integration was for the good of botany at Harvard.

I indicated that I did not think that a taxonomist working with cultivated plants could possibly do research with a divided herbarium and library. I pointed out that much was being made of the horticultural activities which I thought were unimportant in relation to the overall program. I attacked Pusey's refusal to see Grenville Clark and hear our

December 4, 1956

Mr. Rankin:-

side of the story from Mr. Clark, or someone else. I ~~also~~ indicated that the Bundy leaflet was a weak document.

He indicated that the present horticultural work was necessary to attract those with horticultural and not botanical interests.

He evaded my statement that the divided herbarium made research difficult by saying that there was everything needed at Jamaica Plain for identification of cultivated plants. This is, as you know, a routine service that is of little value except to the person who brings in the specimen. The identification that botanists do for each other is another matter and can only be done with the complete herbarium and library in one place. He referred to the messenger service between Cambridge and Jamaica Plain, the usefulness of which I doubted.

He indicated that work was being done on keeping Rehder's Bibliography up to date for a future revision of the Manual. He also referred to Wood's work on the southeastern flora which I believe is a legitimate activity if vigorously pushed to completion. I believe, but am not certain that he referred to expanding Rehder's Manual to include Pacific Coast plants, or possibly to a separate manual of cultivated plants of that region. There was also a reference to work to be done for the proposed revision of Bailey's Encyclopedia of Horticulture.

I tried to keep as close to the central point, namely that there was a breach of trust, and avoided the side issues of petty tyranny.

When I left I said that we would judge the Arboretum by what came out of it.

I hope that you will check this with John Hemenway and Karl Sax to make sure that my recollections are correct.

When the Winterthaus statement is printed I should like to have it sent to a number of persons. I assume that there will be a good supply for this purpose. Am I right in assuming that it goes only to the secretaries of the organizations

December 4, 1956

Mr. Rankin:-

referred to or will it go to the entire membership?

I have no travel expenses this time as I had to come as far as Cambridge to see Howard and I can absorb the cost of travel between Park St. and Harvard Square.

The N.Y. Times article will be read by a lot of people in the right circles.

Sincerely yours

Confidential

January 18, 1957

Mr. John C. Wister
Scott Horticultural Foundation
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Wister:

I read with interest your mimeographed release to the members of the Overseers Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum. First, I should thank you for sending me a copy. By contrast, I received a copy of the Winterthur statement only through my membership in the AABGA, judging from the mailing address used, so one credit to you for courtesy.

One demerit to you, however, for failing to recognize that any statement of goals is in outline form. The "Program" upon which you comment in its written form was an outline to guide the attention of those members of the Visiting Committee present at the October meeting. My discussion of this outline took nearly an hour for elaboration and could, of course, have received even more time. Items in it were questioned by members of the committee and further discussion was given in the form of reports by other staff members. You, of course, are not a member of the committee and Mr. duPont, who is a member, was not present so you both are to be excused for "ignorance of the situation and misinformation" in part. I believe, however, that when the members of the Visiting Committee have received and checked for themselves on the accuracy of your statements, their conclusion will be that you yourself are guilty of ignorance of the situation at the Arboretum. I could comment on this document item by item and, if the Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum so wishes at its spring meeting, will do so. You state that the Program "apparently was never sent to any staff member at Jamaica Plain." It is difficult to determine whom you had in mind. The program was discussed with Don Wyman and I have Sax's comments on it in writing. Professor Johnston neither acknowledged nor replied to copies of the Program which were left in his mail slot. I didn't send it to the ground crew, it is true.

Mr. John C. Wister

January 18, 1957

I learned from your comments that you have "with the help of other members of the Conference" prepared the analysis you submit. Since you had the Arboretum's "Program" as a basis for discussion, it is easier to understand why the "conclusions" of the Winterthur Conference listed under the heading "Program" are so similar as to suggest plagiarism.

Only one part of your letter to the Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum remains a mystery to me. This is the so-called "totally incorrect story about Chosenia.....which was also published in the American Nurseryman." You hesitated to say this was a deliberate hoax, but I must confess I do not know the item in the American Nurseryman to which you refer. Would you please supply the reference?

Sincerely,

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

RAH/sw

Richard A. Howard
Director

Confidential

January 23, 1957

Professor Richard A. Howard
The Arnold Arboretum
22 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Professor Howard:

Your letter of January 18th with 1 credit and 1 demerit received. The Winterthur Conference did not have before it a copy of your "Program." If it had, the Statement would have referred to it. I do not agree that the conclusions are similar. President Pusey sent Mr. du Pont a copy of the "Program" in December, and this in due course reached me.

As to ignorance of the situation, you apparently do not realize the long years the members have known the Arboretum. I, like the others, have been a constant visitor over the years. Since my accident I have had to rely upon your Reports, and those of other qualified persons on both sides of the fence.

The Chosenia comment refers to the April 1, 1955 American Nurseryman, page 87, and your elaboration of this before the Visiting Committee later that spring.

If I was incorrect in believing that the "Program" had not been submitted to Jamaica Plain staff members I shall be glad to write to the Visiting Committee acknowledging the mistake.

Yours sincerely,

John Wister

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, *President*

COLUMBUS 10

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
and
OHIO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
L. L. REMMELL, *Dean and Director*

DEPARTMENT OF
HORTICULTURE AND FORESTRY
FREEMAN S. HOWLETT, *Chairman*

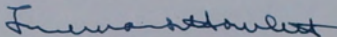
May 15, 1956

Dr. George L. Slate
Department of Pomology
New York State Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 7 together with
copies of several letters with respect to the Arnold Arboretum
situation. I have not yet had a chance to read these letters,
but I will do so very shortly.

Sincerely yours,



Freeman S. Howlett, Chairman

FSH:sb

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

Incorporated in 1953 as a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation

50 STATE STREET • BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS • LAFAYETTE 3-6604

The Association is an independent organization having no connection with Harvard University and is not to be confused with the Harvard-sponsored "Friends of the Arnold Arboretum". Organized to protect and support the Arnold Arboretum in the public interest, the Association is opposed to Harvard's present plan for the Arboretum.

May 8, 1956

Dr. Freeman S. Howlett, Chairman
Department of Horticulture & Forestry
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Dr. Howlett:

Prof. George L. Slate, a member of our Board of Directors, has informed me of your questions regarding the facts in the Arboretum controversy. I understand that you found the recent statement "A Denial of Justice", issued by a Special Committee of the Association, somewhat obscure.

The controversy has gone on for a number of years and naturally has become complicated. Any very brief statement of the details of the controversy risks the danger of over-simplification. I think that the issues are succinctly summed up in the two marked paragraphs of page one of the enclosed "Review of the Arnold Arboretum Controversy." You will understand, however, that in the balance of the Review the controversy falls into full perspective. The concise, one-page view of a lawyer approaching the question objectively is given in the enclosed letter dated May 3rd, 1955, from Malcolm S. Millard.

I think you will be interested in examining the enclosed Membership List of the Association, as of January 1, 1956.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS V. RANKIN, Secretary

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, *President*

COLUMBUS 10

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
and
OHIO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
L. L. RUMMEL, *Dean and Director*

DEPARTMENT OF
HORTICULTURE AND FORESTRY
FREEMAN S. HOWLETT, *Chairman*

April 27, 1956

Dr. George L. Slate
Department of Pomology
New York State Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of April 23.

In due time I trust that you will send me further information about the whole matter. As far as I am concerned, I am completely confused; and I think quite a few other people are as well. It looks to me as though the Association is fighting a losing battle unless it can make its ideas much more forceful and clear.

Sincerely yours,

Freeman S. Howlett
sb

Freeman S. Howlett
Chairman

FSH:sb

April 23, 1956

Dr. Freeman S. Howlett, Chairman
Dept. of Horticulture and Forestry
Ohio State University
Columbus 10, Ohio

Dear Freeman,

I shall send you copies of several letters that I have written to others about the Arnold Arboretum situation. It is a rather complicated situation. It may be a few days before I can get these to you as I expect to be out of town for several days shortly.

I shall send your letter along to the Secretary of the Association, Thomas Rankin, as I think he will be much interested in your reaction to the method of presentation of the Association's views. I believe that in addition to the members whose names are in the membership list that there are a great many others, particularly botanists, who agree with our ideas but who do not care to have their names on the list of members because obviously they would be denied the botanical facilities of Harvard.

The Association, as you probably gathered from the literature that you have seen, wishes to have the matter presented to the courts for a decision as to whether the trust has been violated. Very good legal minds are definitely of the opinion that the trust has been violated. After I get these letters to you and you have had time to digest them, I hope you will write me again if there are any points in your mind that are not clearly resolved. Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, *President*

COLUMBUS 10

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
and
OHIO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
L. L. RUMMELL, *Dean and Director*

DEPARTMENT OF
HORTICULTURE AND FORESTRY
FREEMAN S. HOWLETT, *Chairman*

April 19, 1956

Dr. George L. Slate
New York State Agricultural
Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

I seem to be continuously receiving information relating to the Arnold Arboretum situation. It is all very confusing to me. I hardly know what it is all about. There are those in the horticultural field who feel that the situation will not be too bad, as Harvard University proposes.

It would seem to me that the whole problem must be put up in a much more popular fashion than was done by the Special Committee of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., under date of March 15, 1956. Cannot some kind of information be presented in parallel columns, showing just what the stand of each group is? From the names of the directors of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, I would gather that most of them are amateur horticulturists.

There must be more to this problem than meets the eye, and naturally I am somewhat sympathetic to the viewpoint of an educational institution. As it is, I am in no position to take a stand or to contribute money to either side.

Sincerely yours,

Freeman S. Howlett
sb

Freeman S. Howlett, Chairman

FSH:sb

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

JOHN T. HEMENWAY
President

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MRS. OAKES AMES
North Easton, Mass.
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Boston, Mass.
FRANCIS BLAKE
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New Brunswick, N. J.
WILLIAM P. WHARTON
Groton, Mass.
JOHN C. WISTER
Swarthmore, Pa.

May 11, 1956

Prof. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Prof. Slate:

I thank you for sending me copies of the correspondence with Prof. Howlett. I return them herewith and include a copy of my letter to him under date of May 8. You will note from the enclosure the references to paragraphs from the Review.

We are all concerned to try to clarify the essential issues in the Arboretum controversy, but it is not an easy matter. I think one of the basic problems is in explaining to people that this is not a matter of academic policy, at least not solely so, but is instead a question of administration of a trust. Unfortunately, many people probably react by saying, "Well, if Harvard has decided to arrange things this way, why should any one interfere?" They view the problem as an internal one. On the other hand, people who are familiar with the Arboretum's history consider it as a separate institution and are concerned that it shall not be diminished. We have to remember that far and wide there is the erroneous conception of the Arboretum as another department of the University.

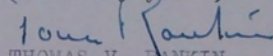
Many people have tackled the problem of stating this case. When the Association issues a statement it is necessary to check it care-

fully for accuracy and soundness. Especially in the case of the Denial, which was originally conceived as a statement for lawyers, it was essential that the real legal issues be promulgated. However, the first half dozen paragraphs of the Denial sum up the background of the Arboretum controversy in pretty lucid terms, I think.

I saw Dr. Avery in Brooklyn on May 1. He is strongly in favor of the Symposium of experts. Dr. Sax was in touch with us yesterday and he, too, is very much behind the idea. I would like to see Dr. Lawrence, at Cornell, and go over the idea with him in a preliminary way. When I was in New York I talked with Arthur Dean, Esq., counsel for Cornell, and he has since written asking us for further information on the controversy.

As the above suggests, I still hope to come out to New York State. Shall have to hold the date in abeyance. I trust you had a good trip to the Holden Arboretum this past week-end.

Sincerely yours,


THOMAS V. RANKIN
Secretary

Sent to
Harvard

A REVIEW OF THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM CONTROVERSY

Introductory

As of March 31, 1955, the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. had 1032 members from 41 States, the District of Columbia and Canada. The membership is widely representative of those interested in preserving the Arnold Arboretum as a distinguished horticultural-botanical institution and of those concerned with the reputation of Harvard University as a guardian of trust funds.

The purpose of this statement is to review the essential facts and present status of the Arnold Arboretum controversy for the information of our members and others.

Such a review is opportune at this time because of the recent decision of the Supreme Judicial Court in *Ames et al v. Attorney General*. For although the Court in no way dealt with the merits of the question whether Harvard's plan for the Arboretum involves a legal breach of trust, some have misinterpreted the decision as having approved the legality of the plan and as bringing the controversy to an end. In fact, as the Court's opinion makes clear, the ruling did not deal with the merits of the breach of trust question at all. Expressing no opinion whatever as to whether Harvard's plan involves a breach of trust, the Court merely decided that what the Court called the "purely executive decision" of the Attorney General in refusing the use of his name for a test suit was not reviewable in any court.

Despite some confusion caused by the technical character of this decision, it should be clearly understood that it still leaves undecided by any court whether or not Harvard's plan is legal, and that this issue still remains undetermined.

The Issues

The future of the Arnold Arboretum is now gravely threatened. The Arboretum has ranked as one of the most distinguished institutions of its kind, not only in the United States but in the world. This standing has been based upon a carefully balanced combination of the art of horticulture and the science of botany. This has been achieved through the integration of the three elements necessary to the combination: (a) a great living collection of trees and shrubs containing some 6000 species and varieties; (b) an almost unique library of nearly 50,000

books and 16,000 pamphlets; and (c) a fine herbarium containing nearly 700,000 dried specimens. Until recently all of these were located together at Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.

Now, however, under a plan adopted on January 19, 1953 by the Corporation of Harvard University, trustee for the Arboretum, the Arboretum has been disintegrated through the removal in June 1954 of most of the Arboretum's library and herbarium from Jamaica Plain to a new botanical building in Cambridge. Beyond this, the plan calls for the use in Cambridge of a substantial amount of the Arboretum's income toward the maintenance of the new building. Through this separation of its research tools, the consequent separation of its staff and the diversion of income, the position of the Arboretum as a scientific institution would, in the opinion of many authorities, be gravely impaired if not destroyed.

The Arnold Arboretum controversy exists for three main reasons: *firstly*, because many believe that the present Harvard plan is a serious mistake of policy, in that it would greatly impair the usefulness of an institution which has been of great public value in the past and could be in the future; *secondly*, because many believe that the Harvard plan is a breach of faith toward donors to the Arboretum, in that these donors made their gifts in confidence that the Arboretum would be continued as an integrated horticultural-botanical institution, and did not give their money to aid botany in Cambridge or for any other purpose; and *thirdly*, because, although many are convinced that the Harvard plan also involves a legal breach of trust, Harvard, as trustee for the Arboretum, has opposed any judicial proceedings to test this strictly legal issue.

It is the last of these reasons which has caused the strongest indignation and the most adverse comment. The invariable practice of responsible trustees is to welcome a judicial ruling where serious questions are raised as to the legality of the trustees' administration. And yet, notwithstanding the opinion of eminent counsel that serious questions exist as to whether a legal breach of trust is involved, Harvard has refused to ask for court instructions and still continues obdurately to oppose all efforts to obtain a judicial hearing. This rigid attitude has aroused vigorous protest, not only among those interested in the

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A DENIAL OF JUSTICE
and
A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

A STATEMENT BY A SPECIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.*

MARCH 15, 1956

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.*

Incorporated in 1953 as a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation

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JOHN T. HEMENWAY
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A DENIAL OF JUSTICE AND A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

At the annual meeting of members of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., on December 1, 1955, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: That this annual meeting of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. records that a denial of justice exists by reason of the prevention of a judicial hearing on the legality of Harvard's plan for the Arboretum, notwithstanding serious doubts expressed by eminent counsel; and that it is a matter of principle to seek relief from this denial of justice; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Association should express this conviction and continue to seek a day in court through public statements and other appropriate means.

The undersigned Special Committee was appointed to prepare a statement setting forth the reasons why the existing situation concerning the Arnold Arboretum involves a denial of justice and why it is deemed a matter of principle to make a persistent effort to remedy this injustice. The Special Committee submits the following.

The Arnold Arboretum was founded in 1872 under a trust indenture between the trustees under the will of James Arnold and the President and Fellows of Harvard College, commonly known as the Corporation of Harvard University.

In accordance with this trust agreement, the Corporation dedicated for Arboretum purposes certain lands in West Roxbury, Massachusetts (now Jamaica Plain) that had been left to Harvard in trust by Benjamin Bussey. This property, with later additions, now includes some 265 acres. On it a great collection of living trees and shrubs has been assembled over the years.

By the trust agreement the Harvard Corporation agreed to hold the funds (originally about \$100,000) in trust for the "establishment and support" of an arboretum "to be called the Arnold Arboretum, which shall contain, as far as is practicable, all the trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, either indigenous or exotic which can be raised in the open air" in the climate of what is now Jamaica Plain. The agreement provided that the Arboretum was to be under the "care and management" of a professor, to be called

the Arnold Professor, who was to "teach the knowledge of trees" in Harvard University. It also provided that the fund was not to be used for "any other object however meritorious or kindred in its nature."

Over the years and under the leadership of the noted Charles S. Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum for 55 years (1872-1927), the Arboretum was developed into the leading institution of its kind in the United States and acquired a world-wide reputation. A superb collection of trees and shrubs gathered from many parts of the world was assembled on the Arboretum's 265 acres in Jamaica Plain; a fine herbarium was there built up which by 1954 numbered nearly 700,000 specimens; an almost unique horticultural and botanical library was there assembled; and a substantial endowment was acquired. By 1954 this endowment (including a \$1,000,000 memorial fund subscribed in memory of Professor Sargent) had a market value of some \$5,000,000, with an income of \$200,000. For two generations, a steady stream of important scientific publications was produced by the Arboretum's staff; and the institution had the respect of horticultural-botanical authorities the world over.

Notwithstanding this development, the Harvard Corporation early in 1946 approved the Bailey Plan, under which the Arboretum would be disintegrated through the removal to Cambridge of the major part of its library and herbarium, thus separating its great living collections from its herbarium and library and shifting its focus and a substantial portion of its staff to Cambridge. Strong objection was made to this plan by the Visiting Committee on the Arnold Arboretum, appointed by the Board of Overseers of Harvard and composed of some 25 persons experienced in the field of horticulture-botany. The grounds of objection were that the proposed plan would be gravely detrimental to the Arboretum's work and prestige; that the plan was conceived primarily in the interest of strictly botanical work in Cambridge without proper regard to the Arboretum's interests as an integrated institution; and that counsel for the Visiting Committee had advised that the plan was very likely illegal as a breach of trust.

All these objections were overruled by the Harvard Corporation and although the plan was somewhat

modified in form its essentials were left unchanged. Moreover, the Corporation even refused, after repeated requests, to apply to the courts of Massachusetts for instructions as to whether the plan was legally valid, notwithstanding the serious doubts still raised by experienced counsel. And finally, after prolonged but futile efforts to reach an agreement, Harvard in 1954 made an accomplished fact of the plan by removing to Cambridge about six sevenths of the Arboretum's library and herbarium and by utilizing some of the Arboretum's endowment toward the maintenance of a new botanical building in Cambridge.

When Harvard in 1953 still declined to seek judicial instructions, interested persons applied to the Attorney General of Massachusetts for leave to bring a "relators" suit in his name to test the breach of trust issue. This procedure was made necessary by the Massachusetts law, which denies independent status to interested citizens or even donors to bring legal proceedings of this character. Harvard then went to the extreme length of opposing this application and presented an elaborate opposition argument in a letter to the Attorney General. The Petitioners and their counsel had no knowledge of that letter, which contained certain erroneous statements of law, until long afterwards. They therefore had no opportunity to answer it and Harvard was successful in persuading the Attorney General to deny the application. His decision was a clear case of administrative lawlessness since he purported to decide that no breach of trust was involved without conducting a hearing in any real sense and without hearing testimony from the numerous witnesses upon whose evidence the issue of breach of trust would necessarily turn.

The Petitioners thereupon sued directly in the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts asking alternatively for a writ of mandamus or certiorari to review the Attorney General's refusal to permit a suit, stating that this refusal was contrary to all precedent and plainly arbitrary and erroneous. The Supreme Judicial Court, however, on February 11, 1955, dismissed this suit, *Ames v. Attorney General* (1955 Massachusetts Advance Sheets 111, 332 Mass. 246, 124 N.E. 2d 511). In this decision the court in no way passed upon the breach of trust question or upon the propriety of the refusal by the Attorney General. The court relied solely upon the ground that the Attorney General's action was a "purely executive decision" and not subject to review by the court.*

Since under the law of Massachusetts neither a donor nor an interested citizen has any standing to sue to establish a breach of trust concerning a public institution, the net result of the various steps in this controversy is that, in spite of serious doubts of the legality of Harvard's plan expressed after long study by eminent counsel, Harvard has so far been able to avoid any judicial hearing whatever. And despite the fact that the courts of Massachusetts can alone decide whether a breach of trust exists, and despite the fact that there is alleged a continuing breach of trust from month to month and from year to year, no present way has yet been found whereby those who wish to litigate the breach of trust issue can obtain "a day in court".

This unusual and perhaps unique result has come about, as above noted, through the extraordinary combination of three factors: (1) The refusal by the Harvard Corporation as trustee (improper and arbitrary, as we assert) voluntarily to ask court instructions, notwithstanding the opinion of experienced counsel that there are serious questions as to the legality of its plan that ought to be decided by the courts; (2) The refusal of the Attorney General of Massachusetts (arbitrary and erroneous, as we claim) to permit the use of his name for a test suit; (3) The decision of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts that it can do nothing, since the Attorney General's decision is "purely executive" and "not reviewable in a court of justice".

This situation, it seems to us, involves an injustice, because the Harvard Corporation's continued and obstinate refusal as trustee to seek judicial instructions was and is contrary to the established practice and duty of responsible trustees. It is unjust because the refusal of the trustee was compounded by an arbitrary and erroneous decision of the Attorney General, the propriety of which the highest court in Massachusetts has said it cannot even examine. Further it is unjust because the Attorney General's refusal to lend his name was instigated by Harvard's opposition.

As this situation has been comprehended, conviction has grown in the minds of many benefactors of the Arnold Arboretum, of many supporters of horticulture throughout the nation, and of many friends of Harvard University concerned for Harvard's repu-

* A memorandum, September 1955, by Messrs. Robert G. Dodge and J. W. Farley, leading lawyers of Boston, explains in detail what was and was not decided by the Supreme Judicial Court in this case.

tation as a reliable guardian of trust funds, that resistance to this injustice is a matter of principle. They feel that it is a matter of principle for the simple reason that resistance to plain injustice ought always to be a matter of principle for responsible citizens. This, they think, is a clear case where, if ever, that responsibility should be fulfilled.

We make it clear that we do not positively assert that a breach of trust is involved, because that is a matter which the courts alone can decide after full and careful hearing of testimony. What we do say is that there is serious doubt, as certified by eminent counsel, concerning the legality of Harvard's plan for the Arboretum and that an injustice exists by reason of our being deprived of a day in court to submit our claims. This is indeed a situation so intolerable that it should be apparent to all that an obligation exists to resist the injustice and to attempt to remedy it.

We are conscious that to remedy this may require a long time. We are conscious that many examples can be cited where serious injustices have gone without remedy despite all efforts. But we also know that other instances can be cited where even after many years an injustice which seemed almost beyond recall has finally been remedied through the efforts of those who, convinced that they were right, had the persistence to see it through.

The Association for the Arnold Arboretum was incorporated in 1953 as a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation. It has a membership of over 1150 persons from 41 states, the District of Columbia, Canada and England. Its members include many supporters of the Arnold Arboretum, devoted to the development of horticulture, who are dismayed at the disintegration of the Arnold Arboretum and the prospective loss of its position as a leading horticultural-botanical institution. Its membership also includes others who, without having any special interest in the Arboretum or horticulture, are loyal friends of Harvard University and are jealous of its reputation as a responsible trustee of educational funds and who are disturbed

by the serious impairment of that reputation which has already occurred in this case. Beyond this, the Association has some members whose primary interest is rather the broad question of principle as to whether a trustee of large educational funds can be permitted entirely to avoid a judicial hearing on a claim of breach of trust made by responsible persons under advice of distinguished counsel; these members see in this issue implications extending beyond the interests of the Arnold Arboretum, or of horticulture, or of Harvard University. Accordingly, we invite anyone interested in this matter for any of the above reasons to become a member of our Association and thus lend a hand in the effort to remedy the injustice we have described.

Our expenses will be met by an annual voluntary subscription among the members, the next of which will be in the autumn of 1956; but it should be clearly understood that membership involves no obligation, moral or otherwise, to subscribe at all.

If you are not already a member of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum you should find enclosed an enrollment card, which we hope you will sign and return with the \$2 enrollment fee.

We shall also welcome your comments. To anyone who wishes to make a careful study of the circumstances, we shall be glad to send two documents which together quite fully cover the subject: "A Review of the Arnold Arboretum Controversy" (April 1955), and the above-mentioned memorandum by counsel, Messrs. Robert G. Dodge and J. W. Farley (September 1955), dealing with the decision in *Ames v. Attorney General*.

Mrs. Oakes Ames
Mrs. Harold Greene Arnold
Francis Blake
Grenville Clark
John T. Hemenway
Lewis Perry
Thomas V. Rankin
SPECIAL COMMITTEE

May 7, 1956

Dr. Freeman Howlett
Department of Horticulture
Agricultural Experiment Station
Wooster, Ohio

Dear Freeman,

Enclosed are copies of several letters that set forth my ideas on the Arnold Arboretum situation. They were written to answer questions raised by those to whom they were written. The Bundy leaflet comments refer to a pamphlet circulated widely by Harvard a year or two ago and you undoubtedly received two or three of them. If I can do anything more for you in this matter, please feel free to call on me.

I am forwarding your two letters to Thomas Rankin, the Association's secretary as I am sure that he will be interested in your comments and I am sure that they will be useful to him when further statements are drafted. We certainly want our ideas to be clearly stated and understood.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

Slote

COPY

October 11, 1955

Dean McGeorge Bundy,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dean Bundy,

The time has arrived when I must appeal to you for some clarification as to what I should expect as a member of the faculty of Harvard University. It has been my disillusioning experience to discover that because one may hold certain opinions, that here at Harvard he can be treated with great unfairness and can be subjected to much pettiness and vindictive intolerance. I can only hope that the treatment I have received is not in the best tradition of Harvard and that it does not represent local notions of academic freedom. In any case, I would appreciate it if you could find time to give me official reactions on several matters that should be faced up to and settled in the near future.

For more than thirty years (since 1922) I have been intimately associated with the herbaria and libraries of the Arnold Arboretum and the Gray Herbarium and have done considerable in building them up into their present eminence as research centers. However, because of my views on the Arboretum Controversy, I am now denied the right to continue my research in these collections, except only under the most humiliating restrictions and under the threat of constant petty harassment. In effect this denies me the use of a Harvard building and shuts me off from research materials of the University that I have been using daily for many years. The results are disastrous for my work and research program, as those responsible for this punitive action are fully aware. My usefulness as a research botanist and teacher has been affected. My rights as a professor have been abridged. My use of University property has been curtailed. Has all this been sanctioned by University authorities? If this be possible then perhaps a member of the University can also be denied use of Widener Library and thereby also be harmed as a scholar and so punished should the Librarian, per chance, not like his thinking. I can not believe that such bald vindictive intolerance should pass unchallenged at Harvard.

Of late there has been a great to-do at the University concerning Academic Freedom and the right of qualified professors to hold and express an opinion even though it might be unpopular in some quarters. I would like to know if these principles are paraded forth only to shield certain members of the University, or if they are applied to all professors, even to members of the botany department who might be holding opinions that are not appreciated in some places. Does the University condemn persecution for beliefs and damn intolerance outside of Harvard, while at the same time it blinks at or even condones such manifestations inside its walls? At Harvard I have imagined that the right to pursue research and the right to arrive at and express independent judgment would be vigorously defended as fundamental in a society of scholars. From my experience, I say it is not the case! Is this of any concern to the University authorities?

As a member of the Harvard faculty I need information as to my obligations to the Director of the Arboretum. I have worked under the three previous directors of the Arnold Arboretum. These men showed continuing interest and helpfulness in my research and other activities, but none of them ever made an attempt to boss me, or tell me peremptorily, with threats, that I was or was not to do thus and so. My loyalty to my institution has never been questioned, nor has my devotion in furthering its interests. As seems to be the pattern at Harvard, as a faculty member I was independent, given freedom of action, and allowed to carry on my research and teaching as I thought best without interference from the director. In the past I have been treated as a faculty member associated with the Arboretum, and not as part of the hired help that has its every task assigned by the director. My allegiance to the director of the Arboretum has been that to a leader and a friend, not to the man with the bull-whip!

The independence and individualism of the Harvard faculty member is well known to you. I mention it only because the new director of the Arboretum is not only arbitrarily withholding the facilities for research formerly available to me, but is also asserting the right to control my remaining activities both at the Arboretum and away from it, and, furthermore claiming the right to be constantly informed of all I do. I do not believe this accords with University practice. I can not believe that my independence within the University and the other prerogatives I have exercised as a free member of the Harvard faculty can be arbitrarily revoked by the present Director of the Arboretum. I would like some information from you on this matter.

The third matter on which I need some trustworthy information concerns the conditions under which it is permissible for a Harvard faculty member to receive pay from an outside source for expert services rendered. I have been told that I can be paid for such services only during my month of vacation. This surprises and puzzles me for it is scarcely in accord with examples of professors who have received and continue to receive pay for expert services not only during vacations but also over various periods during the year. As far as I can determine it seems to be a general rule that outside services for pay are not frowned on by the University administration if such assumed obligations add to the experience of the professor and bring credit to the University, and if, in addition, they do not take a disproportionate amount of time and always remain distinctly secondary to the professor's primary obligations to the University.

I have an opportunity to do botanical work in the forests of Panama cooperating with the United States Army Engineers. I am the only one at Harvard and one of a few botanists in the country fitted for this particular technical work. The work is stimulating and gives me a marvelous opportunity under exceptional circumstances to continue my past studies of jungle flora. It happens that the engineers with whom I collaborate are well paid and as a botanist I see no reasons why I should not be paid also. I am a better botanist and teacher because of this unusual work; I am helping in an important job for the U.S. Army; and I assure you, bringing credit to my university. Is such field work to be restricted solely to my vacation? Must I refuse to again join the engineers in Panama, for two or three weeks in November and again in February, simply because I will be paid and because my month of vacation is spent?

I find that paid work with the Army can be open to me from time to time if I am free to accept it. Trips to Asia, the Pacific, and other areas are a possibility. The opportunities for a botanist are superb! Very important, the money realized could be put to very good use. For reasons not far to seek, I have not been advanced to a full professorship or to a full professor's salary, and, significantly, I was passed over in the general salary increase of the Harvard faculty publicized last spring. What is more, it has been made clear that in my research I can no longer hope for financial help from Arboretum funds. I hope, therefore, that there will be no objections by University authorities if from time to time I absent myself from the University for outside paid use of my technical knowledge. In this way I can obtain funds for the financing of my research and field-work, and for travelling to New York and Washington from time to time for the herbarium work which has been made impossible to carry on in Cambridge.

I am enclosing copies of my correspondence with Howard late last year. These letters (all that were exchanged) have some bearing on the matters mentioned in the present communication and should be available to you.

Trusting I may look to you for some help and advice on the matters I have mentioned, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Ivan M. Johnston
Associate Professor of Botany.

(COPY)

Professor Richard Howard, Director
Arnold Arboretum,
22 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

Jamaica Plain
December 15, 1954

Dear Dr. Howard,

This morning in your office in Cambridge, I asked you concerning office-space in Cambridge.

My lectures in Biology 201 start the first of February. As you know it has been my plan to transfer my headquarters (from Jamaica Plain) to Cambridge when my spell of lectures begin.

This morning you stated that there was no office for me in the new Herbarium Building, and you remarked that since I have had an office usually assigned to me in the Biological Laboratories that I should make my headquarters there. You assured me, however, that for use in research a table in the Herbarium Building would be reserved for my work. You also expressed the opinion that my lectures should be given in the Biological Laboratories since Rollins and Barghorn both had prior claims on the lecture room in the Herbarium Building.

I believe I have given the important points covered in the conversation this morning. I would appreciate it, however, if you would favor me with a letter confirming them. I want to be certain that there has been no misunderstanding.

Hoping you will send me an official statement, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Ivan M. Johnston.

Dr. Richard A. Howard, Director
Arnold Arboretum
22 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

Jamaica Plain
(Dec. 28, 1954)

Dear Dr. Howard,

In answering your letter of Dec. 21st, I must first disclaim the statement you attribute to me, namely, "I will take no part in this organization until the legal cases have been settled to my satisfaction". If you believe you heard such an absurd statement from me, I assure you that you are the victim of a misunderstanding. Neither the statement nor the sentiment expressed are mine. They have never been mine! I consider them unrealistic and ridiculous. It is regrettable that you, the Director of the Arboretum, could believe you had heard such an astonishing statement from me, a staff member, and failed to have repeated and rephrased it so as to be certain you had heard and understood it correctly. How could you have accepted such an idea without some comment at the time? At this late date all I can say is that I am very sorry to learn that you have been deceived so long by a gross misunderstanding of some harmless remark made by me. I regret that it is only after the lapse of the better part of a year that I have been informed of the mistake and given my first opportunity to correct it. You may rest assured that I have never subscribed to the sentiment it expresses. I can not imagine what possible remark of mine could have been so incredibly misunderstood.

In your letter you accuse me of being uncooperative. Only if you have accepted the statement discussed above as true, I can understand why you should believe me uncooperative and act accordingly. As a matter of fact your appointment as Arnold Professor I favored and pushed. I did all I could to prepare the Arboretum staff for your coming and to have their full support assured you. I was there to welcome you when you assumed control of the Arboretum last February, and was prepared to give wholeheartedly any and all help and support you wished in your new position. For what transpired last February I was totally unprepared. I was treated coldly and subsequently in many ways it was made known that in your sight I was a discredited member of the discredited previous administration. After some weeks, having been received coolly when I sought you out, and having some time before been stripped of

all my administrative duties, I turned to my research and became engrossed in it. The very few times you sought me out, you will admit I was agreeable. I wanted to be so. I am and have been willing to work under the Director and, to the best of my abilities, supply him with any information or advice he might request.

If I have not been sociable it is not because it is my nature or because I do not wish to be so. If I have not been "cooperative" it is because I was given good reasons to believe my help was not wanted and would not be accepted. I have been ignored and told practically nothing of the developments at the Arboretum during the past months. From their behavior I assume that the other members of the staff have been told to clam up in my presence and to have as little to do with me as possible. Since what has transpired has so much of the same pattern as that with which I have become familiar in Cambridge, I assumed that the attitude towards me, established in the Morphological Institute, had come with you to Jamaica Plain. To learn at this late date, that a year of strained relations goes back to words misunderstood last February, is saddening. With a bit more determination to remain friends, on the part of both of us, this spell of unpleasantness would have been still-born.

On the afternoon of Thursday, May 27th, you dropped in at my office and we had a fifteen minute talk. It was a pleasant one and unique. You told me plans for moving were fixed and asked me what my plans were. I told you that if I could be of any help with the moving I would be available. I also told you that I had on hand material and notes for research in sufficient quantity to keep me busy in my office at Jamaica Plain until fall when I would like to move to Cambridge. You asked me what function I would take in the new organization in Cambridge, whether it would be in the field of Asiatic plants, Mexican plants, or horticultural plants. I felt you were trying to be friendly. Your questions, however, caught me by surprise and as I was fumbling for an answer you were called away to answer the phone. In leaving you said, "We will continue this later". You did not come back. That was the end of the matter. The old coolness was reassumed. For some reason you seemed to have a change of heart. I was not asked to help with the moving. No quarters were assigned me in the new building in Cambridge.

The organization of the so-called "Horticultural Herbarium" has some unusual features. A year ago, some months before you became director, Kobuski was called to Cambridge and there told, presumably by Irving Bailey, to start segregating horticultural specimens from the then intact Arboretum Herbarium. Although Sax was then Director of the Arboretum and I was in charge of the herbarium, and Kobuski supposedly taking orders from me, neither Sax nor I was contacted by those who were trafficking with Kobuski. The latter told me he had instructions to select out material for a Horticultural Herbarium. On the assumption that the work was authorized by those who spoke for the Harvard Corporation I raised no objections, even when he enlisted the services of Perry and Hu. I was not consulted as to the nature of the specimens to be selected out. I am sure that if I was expected to participate in the work that I would have been consulted and asked to carry on the work by those authorizing the job. I would not have learned of it from a subordinate!

Since 1922, over thirty years, I have held positions either at the Gray Herbarium or at the Arnold Arboretum, and have continuously worked in their herbaria and libraries. No one knows them as intimately as I! More to the point, in recent years I have made it my job to become especially well informed in all details concerning the Arboretum herbarium and library, and especially those features which would need consideration if there was to be any change in their status. Nevertheless, since you became Director I have not been consulted concerning the herbarium or the library, even once. I have had absolutely no part in the decisions concerning the disposition of the herbarium or library, or of their parts. I have not been approached on these matters by you, Kobuski, Schwarten, Wyman, or Perry. Any statement to the contrary is incorrect.

I cannot believe that you take seriously some of the things you mention as reflecting on my willingness to cooperate with you. The Jessup matter you bring up is not my affair. I turned over to you the letter of transmittal from the Chicago Museum when it arrived, as you had previously ordered me to do. Much later you suddenly accuse me unjustly of withholding the package of specimens concerned. I had not received nor had even had a glimpse of these specimens. Since last summer packages addressed to me in Jamaica Plain, without my permission or knowledge, have been opened, taken to Cambridge, and disposed of without my ever seeing them or even learning that they have arrived. Accordingly, why should the non-arrival of a package from Chicago disturb me? The day I was unjustly accused of sequestering the package it occurred to look where missing packages have been found in the past - in the fumigating case in the front hall at Jamaica Plain. That is where the package was. Where doubtless Kobuski or Perry had placed it when it arrived. This matter should be taken up with them.

The loan from Florence should be covered by letters in your file in Cambridge. As I recall I wrote Florence when the specimens arrived saying that the official acknowledgment would come from the new director. My letter should be in my file (which Kobuski carried off to Cambridge) or it may be filed with the covering correspondence which I turned over to you for your official reply. If you can not find the letters I will write to Florence asking for copies. I do not believe that this matter shows any lack of willingness to cooperate. Indeed, I would say it shows the contrary. The matter involved, however, is one to be straightened out between the Director and his curator, Kobuski.

According to your letter I have "backed out" of my written and published promise to supervise the "Flora of China Project". This is all news to me. Your curator knows my relation to the project and if he had briefed you correctly you should know I have had nothing to do with its functioning. Merrill has directed it, as published statements indicate and as Miss Hu will tell you.

Your letter of the 21st was in reply to mine of Dec. 15th in which I asked you to confirm the important points covered in our conversation of that date. For your convenience I quote from my letter, "This morning you stated that there was no office for me in the new Herbarium Building, and you remarked that since I have had an office usually assigned me in the Biological Laboratories that I should make my headquarters there. You assured me, however, that for use in research a table in the Herbarium Building would be reserved for my work. You also expressed the opinion that my lectures should be given in the Biological Laboratories since Rollins and Barghorn both had prior claims on the lecture room in the Herbarium Building". In your letter of the 21st you enlarged on the desirability that Biology 201 be given in the Biological Laboratories. This is agreeable to me. In your letter, however, you stated that several topics in my letter were not touched on in our conversation. Do you, by any chance, refer to any of the statements just quoted? If so, will you please let me know just where I misunderstood you?

Our relations since you became Director have been marred by a series of very serious misunderstandings. Certainly I am not happy with the situation and I would be very pleased if bygones could be forgotten and if we could make a fresh start at continuing the easy congenial relationship which was formerly maintained over a good many years. For the future, I beg that in possibly questionable matters involving me that you give me the benefit of the doubt and also the opportunity to explain or defend myself.

Sincerely yours,

Ivan M. Johnston

Dr. Richard A. Howard, Director
Arnold Arboretum
22 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, Mass.
Dear Dr. Howard,

Jamaica Plain
January 5, 1955

In our conversation of Friday afternoon last week (Dec. 31st) you were very outspoken on a number of topics. I have been hoping that some of these would be given official written statement in a letter replying to the one I mailed you on Dec. 28th. Apparently you have considered my recent letter answered by our conversation. However, so that there can be no further misunderstanding, such as that which has so unhappily marred our relationship recently, I am putting on paper my understanding of the most important matter touched on during our last talk. Since this is a matter of some importance to me I beg a letter of confirmation.

Last Friday (as previously also on Dec. 15th) you stated that you would not assign me an office in the new Herbarium Building in Cambridge. As I understand it the Arboretum pays the largest share towards the upkeep of the building and accordingly has some claim on the office-space therein. In our earlier conversation you had intimated that no room was free in the building. Friday, however, you said there was a vacancy and that, furthermore, you had sufficient authority to free office-space for me, were that your pleasure. You could not have made it more clear that I was being denied an office in the building in a very deliberate manner.

The reasons given for excluding me from the Herbarium Building were a surprise. I have been expecting something of the nature as that which has transpired, since back in 1948 Irving Bailey held out the threat of exclusion from the building when I dared to differ from him when he insisted on planning an Institute of Morphology rather than the kind of University Herbarium originally promised the taxonomic botanists. To my surprise I learn from you that pressure to exclude comes not from this anticipated source. You state it comes from the staff-members who only a year ago were working under my direction in Jamaica Plain and giving no evidence of being unhappy or nervously upset because of it. According to you I am now so hated by these same staff-members that my presence in the Herbarium Building with them would destroy their morale and would disastrously lower their efficiency as workers.

I am given to believe, accordingly, that because some of the supporting staff objects to it, that a member of the Harvard Faculty is now being denied a room (which he needs for research) in a University building. Because those who formerly worked under my direction might be upset, I am denied quarters in a building which all my past work and research associates me. Students here at the university and visitors from outside are given the convenience of a room in the Herbarium Building. The most experienced taxonomic botanist at Harvard and the one who has been associated with, has worked in and done much to build up the Gray Herbarium and Arnold Arboretum Herbarium, is, after thirty odd years of constant association with them, now being denied quarters in the new building housing them.

The reason given me is that the happiness of the house-keepers of the Arboretum herbarium-staff is now paramount and must be guarded. Since Clarence and Lily for their own reasons have now decided they dislike me, I am denied facilities adequate for the continued efficient use of the herbarium in my research. Since I was added to the Arboretum staff as an expert taxonomist, being shut off from the herbarium in which I must work, must affect in some degree the nature and quality of the work which the Arboretum should expect in return for my salary. It would appear that I am expected to start de novo a new type of work in which the detailed use of the Arboretum herbarium and library is no longer required.

If I have misunderstood your reasons for denying me an office in the Herbarium Building I do hope you will provide me with a corrected statement in writing. In replying to questions, from inside and outside the University, as to why I am not quartered in the new Herbarium Building, I would like to feel sure I am giving correct answers.

Sincerely yours,
Ivan M. Johnston

"Values that Guide the Organization of Scholarly Activity at Harvard."

Nathan Marsh Pusey, in Harvard University President's Report for 1953-54
(issued Feb. 1955).

"What members of the faculty think of "The Climate for Intellectual Activity at Harvard" is revealed in a section of the new Report on the Behavioral Sciences. On the whole, the University comes off quite well in this report, for with very few exceptions the members of the faculty interviewed state frankly that they would rather be here than at any other university. They like Harvard's devotion to excellence and feel pride in her recognized standing among universities. They enjoy the twofold responsibility for both teaching and research, though this report says less about teaching than one might wish. They recognize and are grateful for the unusual opportunities to do research, for fellowships, for sabbatical leaves, and the like. They enjoy their colleagues and receive stimulation from them. Most of them appreciate the relative freedom to inquire where and as they will, and are grateful for the deeply imbedded tradition here which permits each man to be "the conscientious judge of his own responsibilities."

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
The Behavioral Sciences at Harvard, pg. 57, Report of a Faculty Committee
(issued June 1954).

"President Lowell's ideal of staffing Harvard with the best men to be found anywhere is an ideal with organizational implications. We take it to imply that the University has sought eminence not in collective, but in individual brilliance. A large element of individualism must be present in an organization which puts its hopes on the quality of its component members, rather than on the way they fit together in a co-operative scheme. In this survey, we repeatedly heard mention of a "Harvard pattern" which seems to consist in appointing an outstanding man and then letting him have his hand to do as he pleases. Such a pattern is inimical to hierarchy, to fixed assignments to fields, and to the activities which depend on these organizational devices. We accordingly find resistance among the Harvard faculty to large, hierarchical research organization and rigid commitments of scholars to fixed responsibilities. If it proves desirable in a man's own judgment that he should enmesh himself in collaboration with his colleagues or build for himself a little principality of subordinates, the pattern does not forbid it. Basically, however, the ideal seems to be that of a company of scholars more or less on the same footing and working independently."

C O P Y

May 10, 1956
34 Fernald Drive
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dean McGeorge Bundy
5 University Hall
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

In compliance with your request of February 24th, Drs. Cobb, Solomon and Stetson have met eight times as a panel (and Dr. Stetson has performed one physical examination.) At these meetings they interviewed six members of the staff of the Arnold Arboretum, one former member, three other officers of the University, and an attorney, to wit:

Dean Bundy
Mr. Bentink-Smith
Dr. Farnsworth
Mr. Wait (attorney for Professor Johnston)
Professor Johnston
Professor Howard
Curator Kobuski
Professor Sax
Miss Perry
Miss Hu
Professor Smith

They have also had access to a considerable amount of correspondence, notes and published material.

As a result of this investigation, it is the unanimous opinion of the panel that Professor Johnston is not suffering from any recognizable impairment of his health, mental or physical. None of the other persons interviewed gave evidence that they were mentally ill or incapacitated at the present time.

Very truly yours,

H. C. Solomon

Richard P. Stetson

Stanley Cobb (Chairman)

Psychiatric Inquest; person mentioned in the report of May 10, 1956

Dean McGeorge Bundy

Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University.

Mr. William Bentink-Smith

Assistant to Nathan Marsh Pusey, President of Harvard University.

Dr. Dana Lyda Farnsworth

Professor of Hygiene and Director of Harvard University Health Service.

Mr. Richard Wait, attorney

Choate, Hall & Stewart, 30 State St., Boston.

Professor Ivan M. Johnston

Associate Professor of Botany, Arnold Arboretum.

Professor Richard A. Howard

Arnold Professor of Botany, Professor of Dendrology,
Director of the Arnold Arboretum (since 1954).

Dr. Clarence Emmeren Kobuski

Curator of the Arnold Arboretum and Gray Herbarium,
and Supervisor of the University Herbarium Building.

Professor Karl Sax

Professor of Botany; Arnold Arboretum and Bussey Institution.

Dr. Lily Perry

Botanist, Arnold Arboretum.

Dr. Shiu-Ying Hu

Flora China Project, Arnold Arboretum.

Dr. Albert C. Smith

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
Resigned from the staff of the Arboretum in 1948.

Dr. H. C. Solomon

Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School;
Medical Director, Boston Psychopathic Hospital.

Dr. Richard P. Stetson

Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Stanley Cobb

Professor of Neuropathology, Emeritus, Harvard Medical School;
formerly, Chief Psychiatrist, Massachusetts General Hospital.

COPY
Not Confidential

383 South Street
Jamaica Plain 30, Mass.
January 29, 1957

Dear Dr. Wister,

The first I ever heard of Howard's "Program" (which he is said to have presented to the Visiting Committee Meeting on Oct. 22, 1956) was late in November. George Slate was in Boston and had visited the Arboretum and had been given a copy of the "Program" by Howard. Slate had shown the "Program" to Dr. Sax and, I believe, had provided him with a copy which he showed to me. The next reference to the "Program" which I met was in the letters (both dated Dec. 4th) which Mr. du Pont sent me in a letter postmarked Dec. 10th.

Previous to Slaters visit I had not seen a copy of the "Program," nor heard any comment concerning it, nor had any intimation that it even existed. I knew nothing about it. Any statement to the contrary is simply not true!

I understand that Howard now claims to have put a copy of the "Program" in my mail slot at the Arboretum and that he sought my comments concerning it. I do not believe this. Frankly, I believe it to be a lie without any foundation in fact. In any case I have never found any such program (or any on this or a similar subject) in my mail at the Arboretum.

During the past year I have received only a very few communications from Howard and these only on herbarium matters. Indeed, it has been Howard's policy from the moment he took charge of the Arboretum three years ago to ignore me and treat me as a pariah. I have been kept in the dark as to plans and developments at the Arboretum and other members of the staff have been led to believe that they had best not talk to me or associate with me. Against this background it strikes me as very amusing to learn that Howard now claims that he made an effort to inform me on this particular matter of his "Program" and thus in this one instance deviated from pattern of behavior towards me that has shown no change for several years!

Howard, of course is not telling the truth! You can quote me to this effect. When Howard is pressed and in a corner or is very angry he looses any respect he may have for the truth. He will concoct a lie on the spur of the moment. Just as he will deny the lie later if he can get away with it. I am convinced that Dean Bundy, President Pusey and Washburn are fed regularly on lies of this sort and they are believed and never questioned. The statement that I was advised of his "Program" before the Winterthur Meeting is a lie of this class. Given the opportunity I will take my oath on it and to Howard's face tell him that he lies! You can quote this.

I might add that for over a year I have had all my mail directed to my home since I have had indications that from time to time my outgoing and incoming mail at the Arboretum has been inspected and even tampered with. Letters seem to have been lost and some addressed to me not come to hand. Amusing, isn't it, that Howard now claims that something he claims to have placed with my mail also didn't reach me.

With best regards,

Ivan M. Johnston

The Connecticut

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

OFFICE AND LABORATORIES 123 HUNTINGTON STREET NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
EXPERIMENTAL FARM, EVERGREEN AVENUE, MT. CARMEL TOBACCO LABORATORY, WINDSOR



P. O. BOX 1106, NEW HAVEN 4, CONN.

August 6, 1957

Dr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Doctor Slate:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to President Pusey of Harvard concerning the Arboretum. It is most unfortunate that a situation has arisen about which there is so much controversy. I am sure that I am not fully informed about all the angles of this problem but as a student of the Bussey Institution and one who has spent a great deal of time in the Arboretum, as well as being concerned with the development of botany at Harvard, it has seemed to me that the centralization of the libraries and the arboretum in Cambridge was a move in the right direction. I can see no reason why the arboretum cannot remain as fully useful in the future as in the past, and I believe that it will work out satisfactorily in the long run.

Sincerely yours,

Donald F. Jones
Department of Genetics

DFJ:fw

CC: Dr. N. M. Pusey



Woodson K. Jones
Secretary
1827 Devine Street
Jackson, Mississippi

MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS of AMERICA

December 28, 1954.

*and 1/26/55
sent with this summary of work.*

Mr. George L. Slate,
37 Highland Avenue,
Geneva, New York.

Dear Mr. Slate :

I have read your letter concerning
the Arnold Arboretum with a great deal of interest.
It is the first information on the subject I have
received.

Before making any statement the Men's
Garden Clubs of America would like more time and
information for a thorough study of the situation.

I suggest that you contact our President,
Harvey Sanderson, University College, Syracuse, N.Y.
and acquaint him with the circumstances as they now
exist.

Sincerely,

Woodson K. Jones
WOODSON K. JONES, SECRETARY.

WKJ:c

cc: Harvey, Herb, Larry,
Ray Tillman, Bruce Krasberg, File.