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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.

38 Dorset Road, Wellesley 82
April 12, 1957. Mass.

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

Dear Mr. Slate,

A short time ago I received a copy
of your letter of March 22nd to President
Pusey of Harvard in reference to the
Arnold Arboretum controversy.

I appreciated your thoughtfulness
in sending me this copy for the problem
of the Arboretum's future is of the
greatest interest to me. I know how much
the Arboretum meant to my husband
and how thoroughly he shared the same
ideals which animated Professor Sargent

and Mr. Wilson, ideals which made the Archæetum the great institution it used to be. I know too that he was not happy over the changes which were under discussion in the late forties and I know that he would be strongly opposed to the present arrangement.

I feel that your letter puts the case clearly and forcefully and I hope that it will help bring the University to change its course, or at least will bring it to admit free discussions of the whole problem.

Sincerely yours
 Ameliese Rehder.
 (Mrs. Alfred Rehder.)

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN
BRONX PARK
NEW YORK 58, N. Y.

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December 6, 1954

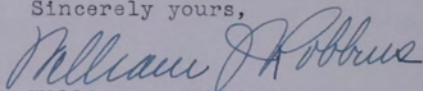
Mr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Mr. Slate:

Just a note to acknowledge the letter which you
have written about the Arnold Arboretum which I think
presents the position of the Arboretum in clear and
strong terms.

It was nice to see you hear and have the opportunity
to talk with you. With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,



William J. Robbins
Director

wjr/bw

GRAYROCK
VAN HOUTEN FIELDS
WEST NYACK, NEW YORK

PHONE: NYACK 7-2618

January 28, 1955.

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

Dear George:

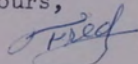
This a somewhat belated reply to your letter of December 1st re the Arnold Arboretum situation. I have sent my check for membership to the treasurer.

I have taken the matter up with John Whiting suggesting that we should do something in the Flower Grower, but so far he has not reached a decision. It is a general policy of the magazine not to engage in controversial matters, particularly where organizations are concerned. Personally I feel that in this case an exception might well be made.

Were you able to get down to the Daffodil meeting last Saturday? I had hoped to be able to go but could not make it. However I sent in a list of nominations for the various offices to be filled, including yourself as one of the regional vice presidents. I really wanted to get to this meeting but unfortunately have been laid up during much of December and the early part of this month with a persistent low grade virus which very greatly handicapped my various activities. However this seems to have finally cleared up and I am feeling in top notch condition again.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,



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Dear George: The Director is at
the International Hort Congress
trying to make them think
that he is a horticulturist!
Wyman had to stay here.

Have been told by
the Director that I can
not occupy the house
at 380 South St. after
my retirement.

Have you received
the Geneva *P. tomentosa*
plants - budded from
Geneva plant in A.A.
on seedling *P. tomentosa*.

Bert Worshe
Karl Fox

617-696-9741
131 Randolph St.
Milton, Mass.

Feb. 1, 1966

Dear George,

The Arboretum case was decided yesterday, 3 to 2 against us.

The majority of three (Whittier, Cutter, and Spalding) found no breach of trust. They did order reconsideration of the abeyance of the "working library and herbarium" at Jamaica Plain. The two dissenters, Spiegel and Kirk, filed a strong opinion of theirs and a half page assenting that in their view there was a breach of trust.

You will be interested in the opinion. Hope you are both well. Yours - Tom Kirk

Whittemore, A.E. B.S. Harvard, 1917. LL.B. 1922

Cutter, R.A. A.B. Harvard, 1922. LL.B. 1925

Spalding, J.V. A.B. Harvard, 1920. LL.B. 1923

Spiegel, J.J. LL.B. Boston Univ. 1922

Kirk, R.H. A.B. Harvard, 1926 LL.B. 1929

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

3/12/53

Dear George;

Copies of the Directors report have not been displayed here, but I took a copy from the Journal. One would think that the major work was in horticulture after reading the report, but the breakdown of the professional staff tells the true story. There were 11 taxonomists part or full time, all of them except Johnston stationed at the Univ. Herbarium. Including our propagator, there are three professional staff members at J.P. Conybeare House for a commercial job next month and is being replaced with one of the crew - a good man, but far from the professional type. I doubt if my position will be filled when I retire. With the exception of Dr. Hu, the taxonomists devote almost all of their efforts to tropical flora of no significance to horticulture or forestry.

As long as we are here there is always a room for you and Mabel at 170 South St whenever you may be in this area.

Best wishes

Karel Sax

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.
3/12/58

Dear George:

Have been told by Pursey that I am to retire at 66 - but no Arboretum staff member has ever before been retired before the age of 70. However it was not a surprise, since I had not followed the "party line".

When Jas. Taylor of Kew was here last fall he was told that Johnston could move into an office at the Univ. Museum with no restrictions. Rollins had to retract this story when I asked him to prove it, but in the process of retraction he told a lot of new lies, which he will also have to retract.

When a rule follows him Rollins will deliberately lie in following the party line conditions are hopeless, and I do not regret leaving at the end of another year.

Had a wonderful trip to the West Coast on an AIBS assignment and for a symposium on world resources and population at Washington State College. Last week I talked at Longwood garden - one of the very few botanic gardens not facing bankruptcy.

Best wishes

Karl Sey

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

3/12/58

Dear George:

Have been told by Pusey that I am to be retired at 66, 1 Sept. 1959. I have the dubious distinction of being the first Arboretum professor to be retired before the age of 70 - the average age was 74. But it was not unexpected. I doubt if the plant breeding program will be continued.

Our propagator, Mr. Caggashell - a very good man - is leaving for a nursery job and will probably be replaced by one of the older members of the crew. Instead of getting a bright young man who can do some experimental work and teach the propagating classes.

The Arboretum's Merrill house is for sale and I expect that the other houses will be sold as soon as they are vacated by present occupants. Howard is trying to dispose of the Bursary land and building to the Mass. Dept. of Public Health. It looks like the beginning of the end for the Bursary and the Arboretum and perhaps I am fortunate in leaving before these great institutions are completely destroyed.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

Dear George:

Enclosed is Miss Craghton's letter. Hally is writing to her regarding the story that Mrs. Merrill did not write the letter published in Bot. News letter, and I will write regarding the story that I was now an officer waiting for him at the Univ. Herbarium.

Rollins told me that the reason Avery, Sanner, Tauschen et al joined the Winterthur conference was that they were disappointed because they had not been asked to join the Harvard staff. Harvard should better abandon the motto "Veritas".

Best wishes

Karl Sax.

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

12/13/57

Dear George:

Our Wellesley friend has certainly been
misinformed. At the Assoc. for HA meeting on
Dec. 10th. Mr. Hunnwell told Mrs. Sax that
according to Harriet Creighton Mrs. Merrill
did not write the letter published in AIBS
- instead some one connected with the Assoc.
wrote the letter and practically demanded
that she sign it. The truth is that Mrs.
Merrill initiated the action and fully approved
of the letter to Howard, Bussey and the
AIBS. She wrote the letters, although Tom
Rankin may have checked them for
legal safety and may have made slight
changes. But the letters were written
by Mrs. Merrill and she stands back of
what she has written.

Geo. Taylor is conferring with Ivan
at the moment and will see me later.

Will expect you for the night of
Dec. 19th and/or the 20th. Hope you
can make it.

Sincerely,

Karl Sax

Oct 2, 57

Dear George:

I am surprised that your letter to Remy has not resulted in more response, but perhaps it has been effective in creating doubts even though we hear few comments.

I was especially interested in Harriet Creighton's letter since I know her well and had thought that she was at least neutral, but apparently the Cambridge group has been working on her. ~~But~~ Since she is influential in botanical circles I think that you should answer her letter, and ~~especially her statement as to whether the~~ "Orboretum is clinging on its honorable tradition or not"

Certainly you have been acquainted with the Orboretum far longer than she has and know that the collections are not in the condition that they were in Sargent's time. Many of the rarer species have disappeared and have not been replaced.

But the basic breach of trust is the recent trend to use the taxonomic staff for pure herbarium taxonomy of little or no value to horticulture. The fact that the horticultural library and herbarium were left in

Jamaica Plain when the major part of the collections and staff were moved to Cambridge is ample evidence that the taxonomists had no intention of working on plants of horticultural interest. Yet from the time the Arboretum was founded ~~until~~ ^{as} the objectives were, and are still, described as a study of trees and shrubs related to dendrology and horticulture. Most of the recent publicity from the Directors office still stresses horticulture.

Most of the ~~Arboretum~~ ^{members} staff ~~is~~ in Cambridge are working on the flora of southeast Asia, the Caribbean, or S.E. United States. Of what value is ~~this~~ to Does Miss Cragg think that this work is following the honorable tradition of the Arboretum ~~or is in accord with the wishes of~~ With the possible exception of Dr. Hu no Arboretum staff member is ^{primarily} working on the horticultural ^{interest} in the temperate zone.

You have visited the Arboretum both at Cambridge and at Jamaica Plain and you know that at the Jamaica Plain branch is ~~essentially~~ ^{one} ~~may~~ ^{may} ~~antidote~~ ^{antidote}

only Dr. Wymann is the only regular occupant of the building and the only staff member devoting all of his time to horticultural work. Dr. Sax does considerable horticultural work in plant breeding and rootstocks, but much of his work is not very closely related to the original objectives of the Arboretum. There is no one at the Arboretum to take the place of Rehder in the identification of horticultural varieties. For all practical purposes the Arboretum staff consists of only 2 or 3 persons. The other ~~three~~ ^{other} ~~staff~~ ^{staff} might as well be working in Hong Kong as far as any benefits to the Arboretum are concerned.

I see no reason why Dr. Creighton should be disturbed about publishing Mrs. Merrill's letter. It did not involve the Arboretum controversy and was simply a statement of fact to clear up a false impression made by Dr. Howard. Does Mrs. Creighton approve of statements by the Corporation and by Pres. Rusey that the former directors approved of the Bailey plan without stating that all of them later opposed it and that

the Corporation, ^{itself} in 1953 rescinded ^{its} approval
of the Bailey Plan as it applied to the Arboretum?

As you wrote to Mr. Pusey it is evident that
many Harvard officials have been misinformed since
statements made by them are misleading or
completely false. Perhaps the most misleading
aspect of the entire affair is the professed interest
in horticulture by the Director, the Dean, and
the President and certain other officials. They
must be judged by what they do, not what
they say.

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This should provide you with some
ammunition. Mrs. Sax has made a copy of this
Creighton's letter for Ramsay.

Best wishes,

Karl Sax.

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



JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS.

Sept 20, 1957.

Dear George:

Sorry I did not get to talk with you
more at Stanford, but between the horticulture,
botanic and genetics meeting there was so little
time.

What reaction did you get from the
horticulturists you visited on your western
trip? Tried to pump Weyman re his trip
~~and the only response was that the botani-~~
garden people had heard both sides of the story.
But I got a report from a former student
that the Harvard group were effective in spreading
the story that Ivan was crazy in spite of the
results of the psychiatric inquest and of the
statements of those who know him well.
I had very few questions from the western botanists
to whom I sent copies of your Pursey letter.
The party line at Harvard is that the controversy
is dying, but they may be surprised this fall.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

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



JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS.

July 30, 1957

Dear George & Mabel:

Arrived home at 10 pm Thursday in good shape after a pleasant and profitable conference. Was especially pleased with the performance of *Malus sinensis* as a semi dwarfing rootstock and the use of *P. superna* as a dwarfing stock for sweet cherries. Am not convinced that EMIX interstock will make a small enough tree for home garden. These claims it will, but with severe pruning, which the average home gardener will not do.

It was a great pleasure to be with you and enjoy your hospitality. You are certainly in an excellent position to continue your hobbies after retirement.

A letter from Edgar Anderson was waiting on my return. Had sent him a copy of your Pusey letter. He thought it the best thing sent out by the Assoc. because it dealt with the essential issues.

Thanks & best wishes
Karl Day

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



JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS.

7/17/57

Dear George:

Thanks for the copies of the Bussey letter. I want to send them to about 100 botanists before the A.T.B.S. meetings at Stanford. Holly and I leave on the 15th of Aug. to visit our oldest son and family near Berkeley before the meetings.

We'll be in Geneva July 24-25 for a rootstock conference - Eggert of Maine is picking me up in the car and expects to see you if you have not already left for the West.

I don't know what is happening at the "Kremlin", but I got a notice of a \$1000 raise in salary beginning July 1st. I find it difficult to believe that this move was initiated by either Howard or Brundy. It is not the result of a mandatory increase since I was already above the minimum.

The wood here is going well in spite of the worst drought in history, but we have plenty of water for irrigation. Our greenhouse man and caretaker of the Bussey grounds

left this spring and has not been replaced,
but at the moment I have several good
high school boys who do the field work and
a girl to take care of the greenhouse.

The Administration Bldg. is like a morgue
this summer with Wyman gone all summer.
Williams, the grounds dept. and Coggeshall the
propagator take turns sitting over there
to answer questions. Howard is there
Wed & Fri., but is on vacation now.

Enjoyed your article in Horticulture.

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Karl Sax.



THE HUNT INSTITUTE FOR BOTANICAL DOCUMENTATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARY
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48106-1000

June 23, 1957

Dear George:

I want to tell you and Muriel that we think your letter to President Pusey is superb. Nothing hits home so strongly as the plain unvarnished truth.

When I told Mrs. Arnold that I liked your forthright letter so much, she said she had a telephone call from Mrs. Gummery (Mr. G. was for many years in charge of admissions at Harvard). Mrs. Gummery said your letter was the best thing the association sent out.

Of course, I told Karl I would write to you while he was away. He is at the meeting of the nurseryman's association in Missouri. Perhaps you are together!

Karl would have liked to take that trip west with you. He would really have gotten a lot out of it and had a good time with you. He seems always so short on time. We plan to go to the Stanford meetings. Our son Karl lives in Orinda and ^{"at least"} wants us to visit him a couple of weeks or more but Karl can't get it in for more than a few days. Perhaps something will loosen up a few more days.

Our best wishes to you and
Congratulations on the excellent letter and the spirit that goes with it.

Remember George and Muriel
we would love to have you
stay with us when you come
this way. Very sincerely
Hally J. Sax

May 10, 57
380 South St
Jamaica Plain, Mass

Dear George:

Enclosed my comments on Styer report in compliance with Tom Rankins request. I was in Boston when Styer was here and wanted to talk with him, but had no opportunity.

Visiting Committee met last Monday. Neither Wyman or I asked to meet with them, but I hear that the Cambridge taxonomists were present. Wyman and I attended the annual meeting of Mass Hort Soc. on P.M. of Visiting Committee to Arboretum.

Also enclosed proposed statement of Winterthur Committee in reply to Pursey + others to be sent to Overseers, but Mr. Clark not enthusiastic about it.

Enclosed also Morburg's article which is being circulated by Harvard. Morburg is a member of Corporation and is badly misinformed as the others.

I spent Sunday prior to V.C. meeting with Mr. du Pont, but on Tues. he was worked on by Pursey, Washburn (Chairman of P.C.) and Howard. I do not know what his final reaction was.

Best wishes

Karl Lox

President Pursey, + several members of the Harvard Corporation and of the Harvard Board of Overseers have written to Mr. Henry F. du Pont criticizing the recommendations of the conferees who met at Winterthur Delaware in November 1956. These letters contain so many false or misleading statements that we can only conclude that the authors have been grossly misinformed or have deliberately attempted to distort the facts.

The essential facts are as follows. Although the Harvard Corporation in 1953 voted that the so-called Bailey Plan should not apply to the Arnold Arboretum it nevertheless decided that it was for the best interests of the Arboretum to transfer most of the Arboretum's herbarium, library and professional staff from Jamaica Plain to the University Herbarium in Cambridge.

The Administration Building of the Arboretum in Jamaica Plain is largely empty or devoted to dead storage. Only Mr. Wayman, the Arboretum's horticulturist, spends most of his time at the Administration Building. The Director and Dr. Sax spend about half of their time there, as does Dr. Johnston ~~who was a taxonomist~~, ^{but} who also works at the Acad. Boty, only because denied office in the Univ. Herbarium in Cambridge. The rest of the professional staff

spend practically all of their time in Cambridge with little or no contact with the horticulture activities of the Arboretum.

The Wintertown conferees believe that the original objectives of the Arnold Arboretum should be restored and that the botanists and horticulturists should work in close association on problems relating to temperate zone horticultural plants. It was for this purpose that the ~~Arboretum~~ Arnold Arboretum was founded and for which most of the endowment was given.

~~This discussion regarding Harvard's policy for the Arnold Arboretum involves major problems of policy.~~

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We believe that Harvard's policy is damaging to the Arboretum's work and prestige and therefore contrary to the best interests of the Arboretum, but the only way to settle the discussion is by a court hearing. Therefore, we repeat what we said in our "Statement of the Wintertown Conference" as follows. "We are informed that the above mentioned removal of property, together with certain other features of the present policy, form the basis of a claim involving breach of trust. In our view it is proper and essential that the various legal issues be decided by the courts." Signed by
members of Wintertown conference

May 16, 1957

Dr. Karl Sax
380 South St.
Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Dear Karl:

Thanks a lot for the copy of the Martbury leaflet with your comments. Do you want it returned? If so, I shall have Muriel copy it. With your comments and what Wister can do to it, I am not sure that I can add much.

I hope to write Styer as his report is weak. Cascio should be briefed on this report as he is influential in the nurserymen's association. He was a classmate of mine in college and perhaps I can see him this summer.

I am up to my ears in writing now which is pressing me hard. Fruit material for the Wise Encyclopedia is being rewritten and 10,000 Garden Questions fruit stuff is also on my desk. Lily yearbook is pushing me and Carol Woodward is after a home fruit growing for Macmillan. So you will understand when I let some of my letters slide awhile.

Expect to be crossing strawberries soon if it stops raining. It has gone from too dry to too wet. Frost did some damage and cold weather in January did more, but there will be some fruit.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

Apr. 13, 1957

Dear George:

Marbury of the Corporation has written up a talk alleged to have been given to a Baltimore woman's garden club, which is being distributed by Harvard. A student gave Johnston a copy today + I will try to get a copy. It is as dishonest as Brundage's document and should be answered by the the Assc. or by the Winterthur group through the Assc. Wister has long tried to have a talk with Marbury, but without success. Apparently Harvard officials are not interested in the truth.

The present policy seems to one of ignoring Johnston's charges, since there is no rational answer and with Joan's lawyer familiar with the facts they don't dare deny the truth of the charges. I know that some of my colleagues do not approve of Harvard's dictatorial techniques, but apparently they have no backbone and remain silent. It is an incredible situation in the land of "Veritas".

Best wishes

Karl Day

Will try to get copy of Marbury document.

24th April 1957

Mr. Ellery Sedgewick
Long Hill
Beverly
Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Sedgewick:

Your letter with its comments on my letter to President Pusey, is much appreciated. I had thought that perhaps it was worded too strongly, but as the President's letter to Mr. du Pont was misleading and not in accord with the facts it seemed to me that it was time to speak plainly. Your approval is therefore doubly welcome.

Mr. Grenville Clark, for whom I have great admiration, has briefed me thoroughly on the legal aspects of the case. He also checked my letter carefully. If it were not for his feeling that we have a good case I would be hesitant about speaking out so strongly. I feel certain that the present course of the Arboretum is far from that charted by the original indenture and by Sargent for more than fifty years. How to get that feeling before an impartial judge is the \$64,000 question for which we are all seeking an answer.

Sincerely yours

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

Apr 4, 57

Dear George:

Thanks for the invitation to join you on the trip to California. I certainly would like to travel with you and visit experiment stations, but Hally and I plan to go by plane because of shortage of time. It will be the first time that she has been to Stanford since she received her Ph.D. degree there in 1911. We also plan to spend a week with her sister and her family at Orinda near Berkeley.

I saw Styer's confidential report on the Arboretum controversy prepared for the American Nurseryman Assoc. He has certainly been fooled by Howard's profession of a major interest in horticulture, altho Styer does deplore current emphasis on the taxonomy of tropical plants.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

Mar 30, 37

Dear George:

Johnston's correspondence was sent to all of the Querevais, all of the biology professors (and given to the students in his taxonomy class) and to some of the leading taxonomists. I sent copies to all of the Winterthur conferees and some of my former students and a few ~~Querevais~~ V.C. members. There are very few copies left, but I am sending you half a dozen copies of the letter sent out by the Assoc.

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Presumably you have seen this Merrill letter in the Plant Sci. Bull. issued by the Bot. Soc. This has been an even greater blow to the Cambridge botanists than the release of the Johnston correspondence, judging by their reaction. The Director shows signs of worry - and no wonder, since the Johnston correspondence, the Assoc. letter to members, your letter to Pusey, de Ponts letters to Kane and Cabot and the Merrill letter have all presumably been brought to his attention within the past month. He comes over to the Laboratory on Wed and Fridays and brings his Corobola specimens over here for study. I kidded him about this "horticultural" work and he seemed me about

380 South St.
Fornace Plain Mass
mar 26

Dear George:

The Assoc letter accompanying Johnston's correspondence with Bussey with the statement that it was prepared with advice of counsel, is charged with the intention to split the Harvard line that all who oppose Harvard's policies are senile or insane.

Johnston has been dropping in on Cambridge colleagues asking them what they think of his letters to Bundy and Rusey. They try to avoid discussion, but some are sympathetic. But one, at least, has deliberately lied about one of Johnston's charges. It is an incredible situation.

About half of the work is on Arboretum projects. He told me that I could have ^{\$}300 - enough to pay for little more than 6 weeks work by one student! Even with 3 boys I do a lot of the moving and routine work - today I went to Weston to help plant my experimental dwarf trees - most of which I had dug in my nursery at the Bursary. But I enjoy physical labor and have an excuse to get out in the sun.

I stopped in Montreal on way to a Chuck Roy's son showed me the Mt Royal cemetery and Wilson's grave. Wellie was in Kingston at a curling match but met me between trains on my return. He gets to Boston several times a year and always comes out to see us. It is an inspiration to know him since at 32 years he has more pep than most men of 50.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

Enclosed list of spring courses at H.A. which may impress! you.

1/1/57

Dear George:

An excellent letter might compare the taxonomic publications of 1920's with those of recent years. Following are a number of comments

- ① "Trust" and the publications of the taxonomic staff.
- ②. Correct to include men since about a third of the class members are men.
- ③ Add. It is evident to those who know the situation that the Dean was misinformed or was deliberately attempting to distort the facts.
- ④ Add. He must be judged by what he does and not by what he says. What he has done to promote horticultural work bears no relation to his professed interest in such work.
- ⑤ Add. There is no evidence that he has made any effort to hear the other side of the controversy.
6. ~~Add~~ Alter. You appear to have relied on information from Dean Bundy, Troy Mangelsdorf and Dr Howard without making any effort to obtain information from ~~unbiased~~ those who oppose Harvard's policy.
- ? Some of the statements made by your advisors are hardly in accord with Harvard's motto "Veritas"

Best wishes

Karl Sax

380 South St
Jamaica Plain 30, Mass
3/20/57

Dear George:

Johnston sent out several hundred copies of his "Correspondence" to botanists and I have sent copies to all Winterthur conferees and others. We have had little response and get no reaction in Cambridge. Robbins of U.V. Bot garden did ask Ivan for several additional copies. I suspect they pass it off as a bunch of lies. (which it is not)

I shall be glad to have a copy of your letter to ~~Bundy~~ Pusey. I will predict that you will get the usual evasive brush-off.

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It is my opinion that Pusey was selected as a pious "front" for the hard-boiled members of the Corporation and Faculty who really run the University. I think that Pusey is a stupid man.

As I understand the Assc. is to send out only Ivans letter and supporting document sent to Pusey, with perhaps a summary of Pusey's and Bundy's reaction. The Assc. may send complete copies to board members only. Ivan and I have only a few copies left, so will wait until Assc. decides on complete document for board members.

Ivan is waiting for Harvard response before taking the case to the Amer. Assc. Univ. Profs.

Best wishes

Karl Lay

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



Feb. 10, 1957

Dear George:

Just returned from a two week trip which included Univ. Minn., College of Wooster (as AIBS lecturer) and the Holden Arboretum. Lipp is doing an excellent job.

Did you get a copy of Howards Jan. 14 letter to Wister with insinuation that the Wisterthus grows stole Howards "program" for their report! How crazy can one get and still be declared sane?

Johnston is getting out a summary of the ~~the~~ ~~own~~ ~~with~~ ~~correspondence~~ ~~with~~ ~~Howard~~ and Bundy. We plan to submit it to A.A.U.P. soon.

Apparently some of the Overseers have been told that if Johnston and I would shut up the whole controversy would collapse! Such charges are hardly in accord with Howards' tradition and motto.

Best wishes
Karl

Feb. 3, 1957

Dear ^{George} Muriel:

Karl is away at present. He was in Minnesota when your (George's) letter arrived. Since I am practically certain that Karl also received a copy of the "infuriating" letter from the President to Mr. Du Pont, I am returning your copy in case you need it. Karl would have answered immediately if he had been at home.

Karl left ^{Minneapolis} Minnesota late Friday night. Pres Pusey talked to the H. Club in Minneapolis Sunday night. Karl was there for a Symposium but some Harvard men entertained

him. He had a wonderful time in Minneapolis. The PpL also entertained the group who were at the Human Genetics Symposium.

Karl will write you after he returns. I write little notes so his friends won't think he has forgotten them. There is one little item which I consider detestable that has happened and I think it should be known.

Dr. Johnston was about to start his teaching this semester. He went over to Cambridge to the room where he kept his material for his class. He found the case with his name in it, but no material. He asked the (new) fellow in the adjacent room what had happened to the material. He answered "Wetmore told me to throw it out." I am not exact in that quotation, but that was the idea.

However, I believe it because Wetmore gave Karl's reprint room to a new member of the staff's secretary when Karl first opposed the move to Cambridge and told them to dump the reprints in the library. (Karl's personal reprints).

At Wisconsin this would receive
condemnation as interfering with
one's notes even if you were
only a graduate student.

Mr. King found out in time - telephoned me and I got Karl and saved them.

We hope the drastic changes and low temperatures will not injure your plants. The animals may work on them too, which seems probable here, as there seem to be so many rabbits, etc., this year.

Our very best wishes. I think enough literature is going out to worry them a little more, and they may all write again.

With love

Hally J. Sax

380 South St.
Jamaica Plain 30, Mass.

1,20,57

Dear Mr. du Pont:

I hope that you will accept Mr. Washburn's invitation to spend several days at the Arnold Arboretum in early May and see the Arboretum grounds, the Administration building (all of it, not just the first floor) the Case Estates in Weston and the University Herbarium in Cambridge. I doubt if I will be included among the members of Prof. Howard's staff who will show you around, but you might bear in mind the following comments and suggestions.

With one or two exceptions the Arboretum staff at Cambridge is working on plants of little or no significance to horticulture. In an earlier letter I listed these eight staff members and their major research projects. May I suggest that you ask some one at Longwood Gardens to go through the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum (staff and publications listed each year in Oct. issue) and list the titles of the papers published by Arboretum staff members during the past 10 years. Then judge for yourself if they represent the legitimate objectives of the Arnold Arboretum.

It is possible, of course, that the Arboretum staff members at Cambridge will shift their work to horticultural taxonomy by May 6th, but if they do, they will be greatly handicapped by the fact that the herbarium material of wild species is in Cambridge, and the herbarium material of horticultural varieties, and the living collections, are at Jamaica Plain. The fact that the herbarium, library and staff were separated as they were, is ample evidence that the taxonomists now in Cambridge had no intention of working with horticultural varieties of trees and shrubs. Any profession to the contrary must be considered a temporary expedient.

Mr. Washburn suggests that he may have been chosen as chairman of the Arboretum Visiting Committee because he had not taken any active part in this controversy. Obviously he has been thoroughly indoctrinated by Dr. Howard. You might ask him if he has ever made any attempt to hear the other side of the story. If not, why not?

I can understand why Mr. Washburn has been impressed by Dr. Howard. So was I, until I knew him better. Dr. Howard is an able man, an excellent teacher and lecturer, a convincing talker and has a charming smile. He is, however, dictatorial in his actions and dishonest in his implications, but whether these traits are inherent, or only reflect the dictates of others, I do not know. In either case Dr. Howard must be judged by what he does, not what he says.

Mr. Washburn may "honestly believe that the present status of the Library and Herbarium represents a substantial scientific and administrative forward step for the Arboretum". but what was the endowment given for - pure taxonomic work unrelated to horticulture or botanical work related to trees and shrubs of horticultural interest in the temperate zone? Certainly this move is a moral, if not a legal, breach of trust. I can understand why Mr. Washburn wishes to avoid a judicial hearing in the courts, and attempts to confuse the issue by referring to court action as "mere legal gymnastics".

Mr. Washburn charges that "distortions" by the opposition "are making it extremely difficult for Professor Howard and the competent and devoted members of his staff to run the sort of Arboretum for which we are all most desirous". Just what sort of Arnold Arboretum do we all desire?

Under the current program the eleven professional staff members include one horticulturist and one plant breeder and cytologist. The

other nine are taxonomists who, with one or two exceptions, work almost exclusively in Cambridge and with plants of little or no horticultural interest. With very rare exceptions none of the taxonomists are now doing any work with the herbarium or library in the Administration Building in Jamaica Plain, or with the living trees and shrubs in the Arnold Arboretum. Is this the type of Arboretum "for which we are all most desirous"?

You might also ask Mr. Washburn to list specific examples proving that the opposition is "creating a tragically inaccurate picture of what has happened". These are serious charges and should be substantiated, if he has any evidence. If not they should be retracted.

Able taxonomists are the key men in an Arboretum organization, but they should be working primarily with trees and shrubs of some horticultural significance. An arboretum also needs among its professional staff, plant breeders, plant explorers, horticulturists and propagators, all working together in close association. And at least one "naturalist" type of botanist, such as Jack or Palmer of earlier years, is a great asset in public relations.

I would suggest that you send Mr. Washburn a copy of Dr. Seibert's excellent article on Botanic Gardens and Arborea, (published in the last issue of the American Journal of Botany) and ask him to compare these objectives with the current program of the Arnold Arboretum.

This letter is not confidential and may be used in any way you may desire.

Sincerely,

1/22/57

Dear George:

The enclosed letter may jeopardize my job, but I have taken about all I can stand. I wrote a similar letter to Mr. de Pont commenting on Rusey's letter, which was just as dishonest as Washburn's. The staff situation is as follows.

at Jamaica Plain -

Technical Staff	Wigman, Sax, Johnston - professional staff	3
	Williams, hort grounds	1
	Fordham, Asst. " " "Straw boss"	1
	Coggshall, propagator (2 yr. Ass. Coll)	1
	Miss Renshaw, my asst. pl. breeding - records, labels.	1
Laborers	9. (1 with Coggshall in greenhouse)	9
	permanent (1 part time painter) on grounds	7 1/2
Stenographer		1
1/2 time typist		1/2
Permanent		18 1/2
Summer help		6

on computer + material record

—

At Cambridge & major ones

Mr Howard Director - Flora of Caribbean

Mr Kobuski Curator - " " S. E. Asia

Mr Perry " " " "

Mr. The Flora of China

new appointment by Howard

Mr Wood - Flora S. E. U.S.

Mr Channell " " "

Mr Rock " " "

Mr Janet

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Schwartz Librarian

Whitehouse - Director's secretary

Green - " Technician

Janet

Maud

(many of above spent appointment)
with Gray

No one but Carpenter + possibly Miss the
ever use herbarium at J. P.

Sincerely + best wishes.

your friend

Karl Sax

1955/12

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

12/14/56

Dear George

I expect that you have received copies of the Ferry-Washburn letters to Mr. du Pont. These fantastic letters can be based only on a deliberate attempt to deceive Mr. du Pont or upon inexorable ignorance. None of the staff members at Jamaica Plain were given copies of the Directors plans submitted to the V.C. in 30., but I did see the copy he gave you. There is as yet no evidence of any relation between the new plan and what is being done. The taxonomists continue to work largely on tropical plants of no horticultural interest and only rarely does one of the ten come here to use the herbarium of cultivated varieties. There has been no expansion of horticulture. If I had not seen the V.C. report, I would never have known that there had been a change in the "party line" and I believe that this report was largely, if not entirely, propaganda. Certainly the transfer of the wild species herbarium + most of the library to Cambridge and retaining here the cultivars and the horticultural part of the library

indicated that the taxonomists in Cambridge had
no intention of working with horticultural
varieties of trees + shrubs. With tax taxonomists
on the staff not one is interested in, or
capable of, continuing the work on Rehder's
"Manual of Cult. Trees & Shrubs".

I would expect such a letter from Pusey
in view of his past performance, but
I would have thought that Washburn would
have made some effort to hear the opposition

side. But in view of his recent lectures

I suppose that he has been given the
impression that all who oppose the Harvard
plan are ignorant, irresponsible, senile
or insane.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

December 10, 1956

Dr. Karl Sax
380 South St.
Jamaica Plain 30, Mass.

Dear Karl,

Thanks for bringing me up to date on the Johnson matter. Pusey's confidence in the Arnold Professor is much greater than mine.

Howard's three reports as director do not indicate much interest in cultivated plants.

His Christmas decorations activity would make Sargent turn over in his grave.

I shall try to get a copy of the Agronomy statement. It will probably be published in the Agronomy Journal. One of our men who was at a seed meeting recently said there was general disapproval of Jones and Mangelsdorf's action. He said Jones's colleagues at Connecticut also disapproved. He also said that this action stimulated the Pennsylvania State University lawyers to tell the staff that if they had anything that seemed to have any possibilities at all for patenting that they should consult the lawyers. Maybe this action by Jones and Mangelsdorf could result in a general locking up of ideas. I hope that their patent is challenged in the courts.

I hope that we can get the Winterthur statement circulated widely. I hope to send some to Europe and to a number of my Horticultural connections here. I shall be interested in learning what is said about it at Cambridge.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate

Dec 3, 1956
380 South St
Jamaica Plain 30 Mrs

Dear George:

Johnston got a reply from Pusey who brushed him off with the statement that he had confidence in the Arnold Professor and would take no action contrary to his wishes. Bundy will now permit Ivan to enter the Herbarium Bldg, but he can not have an office there unless he agrees to be transferred to the Biology staff. He will remain at the Adm. Bldg. and bring material from Cambridge for his studies, but only under protest of discrimination.

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I suppose that Howard can profess a major interest in taxonomy of horticultural species while he and his staff work on the flora of Indonesia, the Caribbean, and S.E. United States, - most of it unrelated to any groups of horticultural interest. Again this year he is preparing an exhibition of Christmas decorations in the lecture room at the Adm. Bldg. On Friday several girls from Cambridge worked here, stringing pop-corn and making wreaths. This is his idea of horticulture? Or is it just "winter dressing"?

For several weeks our tree pruner has parked his car in front of the Adm. Bld with Wyman's 52 Plymouth, my 51 Ford and Johnston's 49 Ford. His is a 33 Mercury polished like new. I and formerly parked in the rear with cars of other crew members.

I asked him if he was trying to add tone to the staff
cars and he said it was done at Williams (Sept 1904)
orders at suggestion of the Director. Another case of
window dressing and of hypocrisy.

The Agronomy Soc. has censured Mangelsdorf and
Jones for patenting the male sterile technique of
producing hybrid corn seed. According to my informant,
a plant breeder in the corn belt, they objected especially
to the "deliberate deceit or inexcusable ignorance" in
their statements to the patent officials. I am told
that a copy of the resolution was sent to all
members of Experiment Stations. Is there any
chance that you could get a copy for me from
your Director?

Did you see the Life Magazine writings of Pursey?
A Bostonian is quoted re Pursey - "He believes
in God and goes to the football games - that is
enough for any college president".

Did you follow Howard's suggestion and ask
Mr. Clark why he withdrew from the Corporation?

Howard shows no resentment when I address him
as "comrade", but when I pulled in on Carl Wood he
exploded, showing that they get the implication.

Best wishes

Karl Boy

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

Dec 3, 51

Dear George:

Enclosed are the letters you sent to me. They show how difficult it is to get the basic problem over, even to those one might think would be reasonable. I suspect that Dr Yeager was influenced by one of Bailey's former assistants, Miss Nash, who is on the botany staff at U.N.H. and cooperates with the dept of horticulture. Of course Yeager gets everything he wants, so long as Wymann and I are here, but we wouldn't be here if the Director could have his way about it.

Drew of course sees only the botanical aspect, and to argue that Ph.D. grads in botany know more about the merits of the case is insane.

I do not know Allen or anything about his background, but at least he is open to arguments and does not appear to have a closed mind.

The Director and 2 secretaries spent the morning fixing the Christmas decorations.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

380 South St
Jamaica Plain 30 Mass
Nov. 2, 1956

Dear Dr. Slat:

I hear from Tom Ransin that you and Dr. M. Daniels may come up to visit the Arboretum next week. We have an extra room and would like to have both of you stay with us while you are here. We plan to leave for Wintertown a week from tomorrow, ^{Sat. m¹⁰} stopping to see our second son & his family on the way, but our youngest son is with us and could take care of you if you planned to come as late as Saturday. I am assuming however that you would arrive on Thursday or Friday. Hope you can make it.

If you discuss the AA controversy with Howard I would advise that you have a witness present, and in case of any obviously false statement ask for a written and signed statement. This sounds as if I do not trust the Director, or have any regard for his integrity. I don't, and with ample reason.

Some pointed questions could be asked. In a Garden Club article Howard stated that one objective of the Bailey plan was to make space in the Administration Bldg. for the expansion of horticulture. The only expansion is a lecture room and popular courses at the garden club level. Since Howard became Director he has made three new appointments - all taxonomists and all working in Cambridge. There are now in Cambridge 3 taxonomists of the AA staff - at

Jamaica Plain there are 3 professional staff members,
Jobston, Wayman & Sax, and Johnston is not permitted
to move to Cambridge unless he is dropped from the
Arboretum staff and is placed in the Division of
Biology. You are of course familiar with the "psychiatric
inquest."

You must also read the Directors annual report
in the fall issue of the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum. You
will learn that the grounds never looked better! If
you look at the publications by the staff you will
find that the fine taxonomists in Cambridge published
5 papers, three of them by Miss Lee, who is financed
by the China Foundation and not by the Arboretum.
Yet according to the Corporation the move was made
to facilitate the work of scholars and students. Only
1 student is doing taxonomic work under the direction
of an Arboretum staff member and he leaves for Korea
at mid-year after obtaining his M.S. degree under Howard.

x by implication, not
a direct statement.

Best wishes

Karl Sax.

380 South St.
Jamaica plain 30
Mass.

Dear George:

On further consideration I think that it would be a good idea for me to accompany you on the tour with Dr. Howard. I could say truthfully that I had not seen all the facilities at the Univ. Herbarium and was interested in present projects and future plans. I expect however that his story in my presence would be quite different than the one usually told.

At any rate we hope to see you, and whoever you may bring with you on Thursday to spend the night with us or as long as you can stay.

Sincerely
Karl Sax.

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

6/1/56

ans. 7/24/56

Dear George:

In spite of charges of insanity the medical panel of two psychiatrists and a physician in a report to Dean Bundy dated May 10, 1950 conclude as follows -

"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"

Among those interviewed were Dean Bundy and the following members of the Arboretum staff - Howard, Johnston, Sax, Kobuski, Perry and Her.

I don't know what the next charge will be, but expect further efforts to eliminate all who do not follow the party line.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN 30, MASS., U.S.A.

3/17/56

Dear George:

You may be interested in the latest episode at the Arboretum. As you know the director has been inventing excuses for refusing Big Johnston quarters in the Herbarium in Cambridge, which now houses most of the Arboretum's herbarium and library. First it was lack of space, next personality factors, then lack of work, and the latest - crazy. Johnston agreed to take a psychiatric test if the director would also take one - together with the ~~director~~ ^{entire staff} to be exposed to Johnston in Cambridge. Bundy was put in a difficult position, and finally decided that all Arboretum staff members be examined by a medical group including two psychiatrists. Johnston has had his conference and I expect to be called next week. Someone may be crazy, but I am sure it isn't Johnston - and I don't believe that I am any crazier than some of my colleagues.

Have had a good winter and a lot of fun running down discoveries of the early English horticulturalists. Leaf bud cuttings, the use of interstems as compatibility bridges, the

use of moss as a potting medium and the gibbering
of grape vines to induce earlier ripening and better
fruit were described in the 17th, 18th and early
19th century. Some of the old-timers also had
an amazing knowledge of plant physiology.
We have an excellent library for such excursions
and the reports may be of interest to some of the
younger horticulturists. Have sent a short paper
to the National Horticultural Magazine.

Had a note from Grenville Clark yesterday.
He gets back from a world cruise on Apr 14th.
Before he left he wrote a strong letter to the
press with some serious accusations, but
got a very rude brushoff. I suspect that
the controversy will really get hot when he
returns.

A botanist who visited us about two months
ago also stopped at Yale, New York and Washington.
On his return home he wrote that the Assoc. for
the AA had many friends, and that he was
convinced that Harvard was sponsoring a
campaign of "organized falsehood".

Best wishes

Karl Sax

Ans. Longford
5/29/55

380 South St
Jamaica Plain
May 8/55

Dear George:

Hope Wister can get something published on "Horticulture at Harvard". Had "open house" at Case Estate in Weston Sat and Sunday and a good crowd both days. Yet Bailey in his report recommended that the Arboretum sell the Case Estate as soon as possible. Perhaps they would now prefer to sell the Arboretum and keep the Case Estate for experimental work. Actually it is only a nursery and testing plot for Arboretum material, but some of the Bussey and Cabot work is also done there.

I expect that you are so amused, and also angered, by Harvard's recent profession of an interest in horticulture. Now that spring has come one of the Cambridge taxonomists comes to the Arboretum nearly every day and

even the Director has spent an entire day here each week. All of them came over when the Visiting Committee met on Friday altho the new director does not include any staff members at the V.C. meeting. Some of my colleagues are irritated when I refer to them as "unlabeled dressing".

I never discuss the Arboretum controversy with Wyman, but I know that the screws are put on him to make him leave. He and Dr. Johnston got no salary increase, altho it was mandatory for all ranks up to full professor and these 44 staff members hold associate professorships or the equivalent. One of my former students was refused permanent tenure as forest geneticist and is leaving for a permanent post in Minnesota. But of course there is no intimidation of those who refuse to follow the "party line". Best wishes ^{and love} to the Sax

Get any information from Udel?

Dear George:

The controversy is still boiling. Peabody brought the matter before the Harvard Alumni Assn at Cambridge early this month. The Boston Globe carried a front page article in Sunday edition a tendency to attribute the major objection to a group of elderly ladies, but suggested Peabody might run for attorney general and open up the case. Pictures of Percy in Arboretum exploring controversy to several newspapers - also pictures of opponents Clark, Farley, Mrs Ames, Bliss et al.

The Harvard party since seems to be apacement for the moment. Think they are getting worried.

Would invite you and would to stay with us in case you

should come up on 14th, but we are
going to Brookhaven at that time.
However you always have a standing
invitation to stay with us any
time you are in this area.

Nebel was non-committed and
probably there was no reason to
question Green's delay in clearing
A.E.C. contract. Strange however
that so many people are afraid to
tangle with Hawaii.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

12/9/55

Dear George:

Am glad to hear that Lawrence is on our side. Howard told me that Lawrence was bitter because he was not offered the directorship of the A.A. The best way to find out if a statement is true is to ask the party concerned - which I did. Lawrence assured me that he would never consider the directorship at the A.A. unless and until the current controversy is settled and that he did not feel disturbed in any way about the situation. So you can add his number 11 to the list.

I do not believe that it would do any good to write to Pusey. Bundy told me that he could retain his job as propagator at the A.A. as long as he obeyed orders and did not oppose the plan for the Arboretum. Bundy then told Lipp that Howard was determined to put over the Bailey plan regardless of any opposition and that he, Mr. Pusey, Mangelsdorf and Howard were united and would work together. In my opinion Pusey is a weak sister appointed as a pious front for a gang of ruthless dictators. After hearing him talk at a medical meeting shortly after he arrived, I returned home and told my wife that William Johnston, a neighbors boy, then a high school senior, could have done a much better job. When Bundy asked me for a list of friends of the A.A. in order to send them the Corporations report

in the Alumni Bulletin. I wrote to both Bundy and Rusey asking them to correct the errors of fact and the errors of implications before sending out the document. Rusey never replied to the letter. Bundy called me in but dealt only with minor matters. They are not interested in facts - only propaganda. It may be that they are not free agents and ~~are~~ receive orders from the Corporation. After all both Coolidge and Burr are members of the law firm who advised Harvard that the transfer of the Botanicum herbarium and library involved no breach of trust. But perhaps I have been reading too many gangster stories.

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Harvard must have sent out an enormous number of the annual AA reports with Rusey's blessing. Wicker wrote me that he had received 3 of them, presumably from 3 different mailing lists. Had a letter from a former student who is a professor of forestry at Minn. He said that copies were sent to the Harvard Forest list. This noon a former student who is an instructor in horticulture at B. Mass. called me regarding a job and told me that he had just received a copy. He had read the list of publications and was well aware of who is doing the work here. But propaganda can be effective - even if dishonest. I feel frustrated at times, but have great faith in Gravelle Clark and the Assoc. Am getting a lot of work done, and take pleasure in addressing some of my colleagues as "Comrade" and referring to the Cambridge headquarters as the "Kramlin". Best wishes

You & Muriel always welcome at 320 South St. Koefsky

4th December 1955.

Dr. Karl Sax
380 South Street
Jamaica Plain
Massachusetts.

Dear Karl:

I surely do appreciate your briefing on the situation at the Arboretum. Things are certainly not improving there. The great blast of trivial items in Howard's report as director does not increase his stature. I do not see how President Fusay could lend his endorsement to a report as weak as that. While reading that report I could not help thinking of the accounts of the works of Sargent, Wilson and Rehder as set forth in their obituaries or of Merrill's accomplishments.

Lawrence is still very much on our side and likely to remain there. He remains friendly with Howard because he wants to use the Harvard botanical facilities. I spent an hour with Lawrence just before coming to Boston to get up to date on his thinking.

Howard spent a day in Ithaca trying to convert the Hortorium staff. He also made the rounds of the botanical establishments in Europe about a week ahead of Lawrence. He peddled a rosy picture and Lawrence was quieried about the Arboretum wherever he went. His answer was that they should judge the Arboretum by what it published rather than by what Howard said. They were together a number of times and Howard worked hard on Lawrence. Lawrence asked him to put in a letter his statements about the wonderful things he was going to do, but he has not done it and is not likely to do it. Lawrence told him that he would judge him by his works, not by his words.

Howard told Lawrence that H.F. Dupong had withdrawn his support from the Association and that Mrs. Crowninshield had gone over to the side of Harvard. These two statements now bring Mr. Clark's list of lies by Howard to a total of eight.

4th Decamber 1955

Dr. Sax:-

I wish that I might present the horticultural-botanical aspects of our case to Pres. Pusey. Mrs. Arnold went to him with Butterick and Burrage, but they jerked the rug out from under her just before they went in, a very disconcerting experience. So far as I know Pusey has not had the Association's side fully and fairly presented to him either by a horticulturist or by a lawyer. I doubt whether it would do any good, but it might raise some doubts in his mind and eventually be worth the effort.

It was nice to see you again, but I was sorry not to have an opportunity to talk with you.

Best regards,

Sincerely yours

330 South St.
Jamaica plain, Mass.
11/28/55.

Dear Dr. Slate:

Hope you can get to the Assoc. for AA meeting, but if not will try to bring you up to date on the fantastic events of recent months. Five years ago Bailey spread the word that Johnston, an senior taxonomist since Merrill's retirement, would not be permitted to move into the new Herbarium building if and when built. Howard has adopted this line, but finds it embarrassing to explain why Johnston is refused quarters in the building which contains nearly all of the Arboretum's herbarium and library. Johnston can do little at Jamaica plain. Howard first claimed that the people in Cambridge did not like Johnston and that he would ruin the morale of the staff - specifically two old maids, Kobuski[♂] and Parry[♀]. The second and current excuse is that there is no room, yet several visiting taxonomists have offices there. The latest is that Johnston is getting senile and is doing no work. This charge, told to the Dean by Howard, was so utterly fantastic that I checked the past 10 years work of the AA taxonomists. A reasonably satisfactory measure in the field of taxonomy is pages of research published per year. The average was for Merrill, 168, Johnston 105, Hu 54, Kobuski 23 Parry 21. Most of Merrill's work done since retirement. Only Johnston does any teaching. Howard's record for

1.5 yrs was 20, and Wood for 1 year was 24. The most productive members of the AA staff, Merrill Johnston and I have been subjected to constant abuse. Merrill was denied typing service and was not permitted in the building in Jamaica Plain about a year ago. This treatment led to another stroke and he has been helpless ever since - has been unable to talk and is fed by tube since Sept. 1st. Johnston has not only been denied quarters in the new Harbortown, but both he and I have inadequate typing and phone service - the phones were removed from my office and in the room next to Johnston's office, but we were told that we could use the phone of the Supt. of grounds on the lower floor! A 16 hr. a week typist is supposed to handle part of Wyman's work, and correspondence and ms for Coggeshall, Johnston and me. In addition, she must answer the phone and meet visitors!

I protested to the Dean, when Howard told me that the AA could not afford more phone or typist service. Bundy upheld Howard on the grounds that only administrative officers rate phone and secretarial service at Harvard! - and that many distinguished professors pay for phones and typists from their own funds. Yet the basic pay for full professors at Harvard is the same as it was in 1939. Will admit that '39 rate was very good, but it will not permit much outside help either in the home or at the office. I did pay to have my last ms typed.

Wyman too is having a rough time, but tries to hold his temper. He is in a more vulnerable position than Johnston and I, because he does not have academic tenure. While I was at Yale giving a series of lectures several weeks ago, Howard fired Wyman's secretary without consulting Wyman, who considered her satisfactory. The girl - actually a grandmother - called at my office when George Avery and Tom Rankin (Assoc Sec) were there and blew off steam. Said she was fired for talking with me and Johnston - had been told by Howard to have nothing to do with us. Actually we said little more than goodmorning and exchanged occasional comments on our respective grandchildren. We never even mentioned the AA controversy to her, and she did no work for us. She was no sycophant, and apparently only sycophants are tolerated by Howard, regardless of their ability or who they work for.

Johnston was told by Howard that he could work for the Army and get paid for it only during his one month's vacation. Yet some professors earn more as consultants than they get in salary. He is also supposed to work half time on routine work for AA, such as sorting herbarium specimens, and work half time on his research. Yet Johnston has worked for

for 30 years and is Harvard's senior plant taxonomist. Perhaps Whyman and I will be asked to spend half of our time cultivating the shrubs and trees in the AA!

Actually, I do dig and plant most of my nursery plants each year, but only because I enjoy the work and can learn more by working with the plants in the field. Yet Howard refers to the girl who helps with the plant breeding, stratifies and takes care of seed collections, maps and labels the nursery and field plots, and ships plants to cooperating nurserymen, as my personal research assistant.

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I have had two research assistants in recent years, one paid by a grant from Stark Bros. nursery, and the other, who is still with me, has been paid from an Atomic Energy Commission grant for the past 6 years.

The situation here is so fantastic that many people might suspect me of being a crackpot if they read this letter, but you are familiar with the situation so that I do not need to assure you of my sanity.

Has Harvard been able to convert Lawrence yet? They are trying to convert the opposition and even Prof. Engelm. has written to an Assoc. member upholding Harvard's position.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

May 3, 1955

Dr. Karl Sax
Arnold Arboretum
Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Dear Karl;

I am enclosing a copy of a talk by Henry Wallace who spent a day here recently going over our strawberry breeding. He is much interested in plant breeding. In view of your interest in population problems, I asked him for a copy of his talk for you and he was good enough to autograph it.

I looked up a reference to the Arboretum matter in the American Nurseryman and shall send copies of that note to Mr. Rankin and Mr. Clark. I hope to find time to write the editor about it but unless the letter is published, it will probably not do much good.

The line that Dr. Howard is passing out is certainly easy to answer as he has nothing to hold up for admiration except the very insignificant horticultural work such as his classes and displays.

I get from a recent letter from Mrs. Arnold that Harwood is perhaps feeling somewhat uneasy over the situation and that perhaps eventually the matter may come to the courts.

I wish I could pay you a visit at this time but there is too much going on around here now to get away easily. Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

380 South St
Gunnville Plains, So. Mass.
Mar 22, 55

Dear George:

You have done as well as anyone could with the Bundy report. It is so evasive and so full of double talk that one can't do much with it. He cites Merrill as approving the move yet in 1946 Merrill wrote "no honest man could possibly condone what has been accomplished in wrecking a great heritage".

Don't blame Wyman too much. Early in the controversy I told him to remain neutral if possible because he could not afford to expose himself to risk of reprisal since he does not have academic status or patronizing. He never discusses the controversy, but I am sure that he is not happy about the present situation. Much of the time he and his secretary are the only occupants of the Adm. Bldg. A few staff members from Cambridge come over for window dressing when a garden club group or other visitors are expected. Recently a man has been sent over several times although they have no work to do here - apparently have heard comments about our vacant Adm. Bldg. Howard must do as he is told, and he has been told to get rid of all who oppose the move and those who are friendly with the opposition. He can be arrogant and ruthless, but perhaps he is only following orders.

Have had ONR and AEC support
for work in radiation cytology for
past 5 years and according to
E. B. Wilson, the local representative
of grants, I have delivered more
for the money than most grant
recipients. Last spring at NY Botanical
Academy I was introduced as the
"father of radiation cytology".
In 1954 this year was green all in

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evidence of work done - perfectly
legitimate but I wonder if
some of my colleagues have tried
to interfere. Could you sound out
Bernard Habel who is now with AEC
to find out if any opposition to
the grant has come from Harvard?

KS.

33 A 600 200 200 200
You are quite right about the horticultural activities here. The garden club classes have a place I believe, but are a minor factor in AA horticultural work. Whyman does a good job in compiling horticultural information in books and articles, but of course he does not do any experimental research. The only experimental horticultural research is horticulture the work I am doing in rootstocks, flower induction and genetics + cytology. When Wood was appointed, Howard told me that he was to work at J. P. in the horticultural botany field but he is in Cambridge working on a flora of S. E. United States. Proser and Robins. Would be impossible to do horticulture taxonomic work at J. P. because most of the herbarium and library is in Cambridge. Woods work does have some horticultural significance which is more than can be said of the taxonomic work of Kobuski, Perry, Johnston and Howard or of Bailey work in anatomy.

Best wishes

Karl Sax

1929

380 Smith St.
Jamaica Plain 30 Mass
Mar, 10, 1955

Dear Dr. Slate:

It is incredible to what lengths the Harvard administrators will go in trying to suppress all who oppose the Arboretum move to Cambridge. Howard asked me to resign from the Assn. for the Arnold Arboretum with very thinly veiled threats if I did not. I refused and will oppose even more vigorously the disintegration of the Arboretum.

If the Corporation is as mislead as is Mr. Greene it is easy to understand why they feel sure they are right. I answered Greene's letter but all he did was to turn it over to Pres. Rusey who presumably passed it on to Bundy. I would welcome an open discussion with my colleagues in the presence of a responsible member of the governing boards, but am sure that no such opportunity will develop. Bundy told Lips that he, Rusey, Mangelsdorf and Howard were united in putting through the Bailey plan, and they are not going to let anyone influence the Corporation or Overseers if they can help it.

The secretary who served under Merrill and me for 18 years was fired because she passed on information. She should not have done it but - . She heard a phone conversation between Bundy and Howard. Bundy told Howard to get rid of all dissenters and Howard agreed, but said it would take some time since some had tenure. Mrs. Gilman was fired on a day's notice, Lips had to leave to avoid a complete breakdown - yet he did the work of two men and made more friends for the AA than anyone else on the staff. Miss Ha has been removed from AA payroll and is financed by the China Foundation, yet she is the only taxonomist who does any work on plants of horticultural interest. Johnston has been refused quarters in the new building in Cambridge. He and I occupy 2 small rooms on the top floor of the Administration Bldg - all phones removed from our floor, but we are graciously permitted to use the phone of the syst. of grounds in his office on the second floor. We have the part time services of a half time typist who knows nothing of botanical & scientific terms. We are never invited to laboratory meetings.

My respect for the new director has not increased by his bringing AA staff members to the Laboratory only when there is a garden club meeting or other visitors. They sit around and pretend to be busy but there is nothing for a taxonomist to work with here. The Administration Bldg is virtually empty most of the time - often Wyman and his secretary are the only staff members in the building. The old conifer room is now a lecture and exhibition room - a good idea - but is available to garden club groups only if they ask for a lecture and pay the usual fee.

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The official party line is now that the move was made to make space at the Admin Bldg for horticultural work - this statement appeared in recent Harvard Alumni Bulletin and in an article by Howard in the Garden Club Bulletin. Nothing could be further from the truth. In the Bailey Report the only reference to horticulture was that the living collection should be continued because this was "the goose that laid the golden eggs." Monocot orthodox taxonomy was also opposed in early plans and space limited to prevent expansion of herbarium.

Of the Arboretum staff members in Cambridge
Howard, Bailey, Kobuski, Wood, Perry and Her
only Her is doing work related to horticultural
botany. As is evident from articles in Annual
Arboretum Journal that at least 3/4 of the
work is the taxonomy of tropical plants of little
or no horticultural value. The three of us at
the Arboretum, Wyman, Johnston and I
all do some horticultural work altho only
Wyman puts all of his time in horticulture
Johnston does a little work on identification

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and most of his time is in horticulture.
About half of my work is in horticulture -
plant breeding and restoration, but even the
X-ray work has proved to have horticultural
significance. I approve of basic botanical research
but can see no justification for routine taxonomy
of tropical plants of no horticultural significance.

Have not been happy about Arboretum situation,
but am glad to have time for research. Since last Feb
I have written 10 papers and finished a book which
should appear next month - "Malthus and the Modern
World" published by Beacon Press of Boston

Best wishes

Karl Sax.

Confidential to L.S.

March 5, 1955.

Dear Mr. Clark:

Mr. Greene's letter, sent to members of the Association, was so unfair and so reckless with the truth that I had to answer it to keep my self-respect. Mr. Hoag advised me not to send it, but thought that Mr. Greene should see it. I sent it to Greene contrary to Mr. Hoag's advice and thereby relieve him and you of any responsibility for what may happen to me. I would rather lose my job than lose my self-respect.

As is apparently the usual custom of Mr. Greene, he answered briefly denying any responsibility as a spokesman for the Corporation and wrote that he was sending the letter to Mr. Pusey - although I gave him no authorization to do so. I would not object if Mr. Pusey would read the letter or pass it on to other members of the Corporation, with the hope that some member of the Corporation would ask me to disavow the case. But I suspect that Pusey simply passed the letter on to Bundy who in turn probably passed it on to some of my colleagues. I would welcome an open discussion of the controversy with my colleagues or with any member of the Corporation or Governing Boards of the University, but there is little possibility of such an opportunity under the present administration.

The director asked me to resign from the Association, with the assurance that the controversy was now at an end. I refused to resign and will be glad to work openly and aggressively to restore the Arberetum. I am scheduled for punitive action any way. Early in the present director's administration, Mrs. Gilman overheard Bundy phone to Howard to get rid of all who opposed the move to Cambridge. Howard replied that he would, but that it would take time, since some had permanent tenure. Mrs. Gilman should not have passed this information to us - (it was partly this indiscretion that lost her her job - at any rate it was a legitimate excuse) but she had personal ~~loyal~~ loyalties to

Merrill and me and her own future was in jeopardy anyway.

Mangelsdorf and the new director have done rather well in eliminating the rebels. Merrill was put out of the Administration building - Lipp had to leave to avoid a complete mental and physical breakdown, Mrs. Gilman was fired; I was threatened with removal from Arboretum and Bussey staff, Miss Hu is subjected to abuse and remains only because she is financed by the ^{China} Foundation, and Wyman can say nothing because he would be fired if did not follow the party line. As you ~~know~~ know Johnston has been refused quarters in the new building and is accused of trying to blackmail Bailey, i.e., would oppose Bailey plan unless given a full professorship. Bailey says yes, Johnston no - both men of high integrity and which is right I do not know - but ~~Johnston~~ in any case Johnston was never given a chance to refute the charge which is widely disseminated in Cambridge. As Miss Hu observes, "Conditions could not be much worse in Communist China."

I had a bad time last spring, but seem to thrive on controversy and abuse. Have written 10 papers and completed the book since February 1954. Reading proof on book, which should be out early in April. Have a grant of \$2000 a year from Stark Bros. Nursery in Mo. for dwarf tree work, and about \$8000 a year from the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission for my radiation work so that the Arboretum and Bussey do not have to provide technical assistants. Am short on secretarial help, but manage O.K.

The radiation stimulation of plant growth was a dud, but many able scientists as well as I ~~were~~ were fooled by preliminary results. But I do have clear evidence of stimulation of earlier flowering and a former student gets increased growth of snapdragons in the gamma radiation field at Brookhaven.

Best wishes,

Karl Sax

Confidential to S.T.S.

March 6, 1955.

Dear Mr. Clark:

This morning I listed all of the papers published in the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum under the following general classification.

	Taxonomy of tropical plants	Horticultural Taxonomy	Experimental work	Wood Anatomy
1920-30	22%	76%	3%	0
1930-40	32%	29%	38%	2%
1940-55	71%	16%	5%	4%

In general the taxonomy of tropical plants has little or no value so far as horticultural plants are concerned. The same is true of wood anatomy - it does clarify certain taxonomic problems, but adds little to any understanding of horticultural plants. Most, but not all, of the experimental work in cytology, plant pathology and physiology is directly related to horticultural plants.

The trend is evident. The taxonomic and wood anatomy work included 22% of all publications in 1920-30; 34% of all publications in 1930-40; 80% of all publications in 1940-55.

The reason for this trend away from horticultural botany is because the staff members appointed since Sargent's death were primarily taxonomists with but little interest in horticulture - Merrill, Kobuski, Smith, Johnston, Perry. The tropical plants have not been worked on as much as plants of the temperate zone and offer the taxonomist a new field. Another factor is that a botanist gets little credit in academic circles for work directly related to horticulture.

The transfer of the collections to Cambridge will stress still more the strictly botanical aspect of the Arboretum's work. Of the 6 Arboretum staff members in Cambridge, only Dr. Hu is doing any work directly related to horticulture, and she is paid by the China Foundation - not by the Arnold Arboretum, except indirectly. If the China Foundation grant of \$12,000 per year is terminated, she and her assistants will be without a job.

The work at the Arnold Arboretum along horticultural lines - aside from

the upkeep of the grounds, is done by Dr. Wyman and me - and some of my work is not horticultural. I have been, and still am, paid partly from Bussey funds and under this heading my radiation work is justified since it is related to genetics. Wyman handles the publicity work - writes for *Arnoldia* and horticultural journals. He has written four good books on horticulture and is in charge of the grounds. My work in horticultural research includes plant breeding, cyto-taxonomy and rootstock studies.

My work could be done largely without either the herbarium or the library.

For all practical purposes Wyman and his secretary are the only occupants of the Administration Building. The lecture room is used occasionally for lectures and classes, but the rest of the building is either empty or used for storage. The "working" herbarium is of no value to a taxonomist and of little or no value for routine identification work without a taxonomist trained in this field.

The present status of the Arboretum is in effect as follows:

1. The taxonomists are doing little or no work directly related to horticulture.
2. The Administration Building in the Arboretum is virtually empty - except for storage - and the remaining collections are used only by Wyman and to a very limited extent by me.
3. The director comes to the Arboretum for a few hours each week. Other staff members come over only when there is a garden club or other meeting - except that the director's secretary comes over on Friday p.m. to sign payroll and the librarian drops in a few hours per month.

It would be safe to say that of the work done by the professional staff (not including upkeep of grounds) three-fourths has little or no relation to horticulture.

Sincerely,

Karl Sax

All this can be verified by John Wister. Perhaps he could write up this trend of A. A. for inclusion in next letter from Association.

Notes of a talk with Sax
at time? of A.H.C. meeting Oct. 1952

The general idea of uniting the several independent botanical agencies is not new and ^{may} have started with Ames and Merrill, the latter being brought here to reorganize the botanical empire and save expenses by consolidation.

Ames insisted that no money be transferred to Cambridge and he wanted court action to clarify the situation.

The Bailey plan may have started with Mangelsdorf who helped write it and has the ears of both presidents. The original idea AA, Gray, Economic Botany, ~~flower~~ flowers, and Farlow Herbarium was to have everything under one roof. Inflation decreased the

size of the building so that the space ~~allotted to the library and~~ ^{for} ~~was adequate for only the A.H. and the Gray collections~~ herbarium is nearly full now. The entire first floor is devoted

to plant anatomy. ~~Sax~~ ^{Sax} ~~then~~ ^{then} a fourth of the AA administration building is now used for active work.

Merrill transferred Bailey from the Bussy to the Arboretum payroll in 1936. ^{was} as good ~~pro~~ ^{posed} for part of Sax, Wyman & Fudd's from Bussy staff. Sax ~~is~~ ^{was} under Mangelsdorf and Bailey. ~~when~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{was} Director of AA. Bailey retains on Arboretum payroll, but Arboretum staff members removed from Bussy payroll. Effect of present set-up on the Arboretum

Johnson is still working at the Arboretum and brings his material over there from Cambridge. He is waiting for the court decision before he moves. ^{when he moves only Wyman} ~~will be~~ ^{will be} at AA. Both ~~are~~ ^{are} out on the grounds, at Weston, or at Bussy much of the time as the secretary will be the only person at the Odor. Bldg. all of the time.

All wild material is at Cambridge; only cultivated material is at the Arboretum.

The library at the Arboretum is only good for routine identification. The best of the books for identification have gone to Cambridge. Horticultural monographs are at the Arboretum. It is impossible to do horticultural taxonomic research at the Arboretum.

Duplicate books are worth \$200,000. The plan ^{was} ~~is~~ to sell the Gray Herbarium duplicates to give it funds.

The Arboretum librarian is chief librarian for the Gray Herbarium as well as for the Arboretum. *may be paid in part by Gray*

Kobuski is curator of the herbaria of both institutions.

Rollins is the only full time taxonomist on the Gray staff.

There are no startling changes evident yet, but the overall picture indicates a gradual change of emphasis and gradual shifting of funds to the other phases of botany at Cambridge. Sax believes that wood anatomy will be stressed and that ^{Howard} ~~Harvard~~ will gradually work into it. Howard has always been interested in that field. He has stated that he feels that Bailey's work has

not received the recognition that it deserves. He plans to devote a special issue of the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum to Bailey's work.

Lipp was not fired, but the pressure that was put on him was so uncomfortable that he resigned.

The director's secretary was fired on the grounds that she talked. Mangelsdorf suggested to Sax that he fire her ^{in 1946} because she would be loyal to Merrill. *A very efficient secretary.*

Merrill had an understanding with Conant when he came that he stay two years beyond the retirement age because he came to the Arboretum late in life. He had Guggenheim funds for his work after retirement and also drew Arnold Professor pay for *as Director of AA.* *and Bailey took over the AA.* two years after retirement. He resigned when Mangelsdorf came, *dealing with AA controversy* ~~was treated very shabbily and was talked to as one would talk to~~ *but allowed to have* a ~~janitor~~ *He had* a desk in the Arboretum. At the time of the removal to Cambridge a manuscript *of Merrill's* ^{dealing with AA controversy} ~~was either lost~~ or stolen. Merrill accused Kobuski of stealing it. Harvard made Merrill apologize to Kobuski and turn in his keys. ~~Merrill,~~ ~~however, was soon unable to get to work.~~

However, ^{he} was soon unable to get to work. *because of ill health.*

Wyman has been treated poorly. Sax advised Wyman to remain neutral and not stick his neck out.

Sax has been deprived of the chairmanship of the Bussey Institution on the ground that he was opposed to University policy. He is still in actual charge ^{of the grounds} but no longer has charge ^{the budget on} of the income of \$20,000 per year. Mangelsdorf told Sax that eventually the Bussey money should be turned over to Economic Botany.

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The AA aims controversy every effort should be made to acquire Bussey land where much of AA experimental work is conducted - also greenhouse site, and to get AA endowment which provides fluctuating income of 20 - \$30 thousand per year for horticultural research and teaching. Teaching might have to be limited to popular adult level, or for college students during summer months.

The general idea of uniting the several independent botanical agencies is not new and may have started with Ames and Merrill, the latter being brought here to reorganize the botanical empire and save expenses by consolidation.

Ames insisted that no money be transferred to Cambridge and he wanted court action to clarify the situation.

The Bailey plan may have started with Mangelsdorf who helped write it and has the ears of both presidents. The original idea was to have everything under one roof, Arnold Arboretum, Gray, Economic Botany, Glass flowers and Farlow Herbarium. Inflation decreased the size of the building so that space was adequate for only the Arnold Arboretum and the Gray collections. The entire first floor is devoted to plant anatomy. Less than a fourth of the Arnold Arboretum administration building is now used for active work.

Merrill transferred Bailey from the Bussey^e to the Arboretum payroll in 1936 as quid pro quo for part of Sax, Wyman and Judd's^(from Bussey). Sax was under Mangelsdorf and Bailey when Director of Arnold Arboretum. Bailey retained on Arboretum payroll, but Arboretum staff members removed from Bussey payroll.

Effect of present set-up on the Arboretum.

Johnson is still working at the Arboretum and brings his material over there from Cambridge. He is waiting for the court decision before he moves. When he moves only Wyman and Sax will be at the Arboretum. Both are out on the grounds, at Weston or at the Bussey much of the time so the secretary will be the only

person at the Administration Building all of the time.

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Sax has been deprived of the chairmanship of the Bussey Institution on the ground that he was opposed to University policy. He is still in actual charge of the grounds but no longer has charge of the budget or the income of \$20,000 per year. Mangelsdorf told Sax that eventually the Bussey money should be turned over to Economic Botany.

If the Arnold Arboretum wins the controversy every effort should be made to acquire the Bussey land where much of the Arboretum experimental work is conducted; also the greenhouse site, and to get the Arboretum endowment which provides a fluctuating income

of \$20,000 to \$30,000 per year for horticultural research and teaching. Teaching might have to be limited to popular adult level, or for college students during the summer months.

January 31, 1957

Mr. T. V. Rankin
50 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Tom:

If, as you and the others have suggested, there is an intellectual snobbery included in the Harvard attitude towards horticulture, the Harvard folks come by it quite naturally and legitimately.

We have the record of Asa Gray in 1883 trying to prevent Liberty Hyde Bailey from leaving Harvard botany to establish a chair of horticulture at the Michigan Agricultural College. Dr. Gray considered a botanist a scientist, but a horticulturist only (underlining mine) a gardener. The view of the botanist he considered intellectual, of the horticulturist only (underlining mine) practical. Research had to be conducted in the laboratory or herbarium, not in the garden or orchard. Dr. Gray had the patronizing attitude of the white collar theorist for the man in overalls and heavy boots. Dr. Gray and fellow botanists shared the view that Bailey was throwing away a promising career in botany. One man even said, "You will never be heard from again" (some prediction!).

About 1929 President Lowell was quoted in the Harvard Crimson as saying something to the effect that as horticulture was of comparatively little importance to the University, it seemed best to give up the Harvard Botanic Garden and devote the income from its endowment fund to work in botany.

Then there is to be considered the attitude of Professor M. L. Fernald, great Harvard botanist and editor of the seventh and eighth editions of Gray's Botany. Confronted with plants one of his students had brought for identification from a nearby rock garden, he exclaimed, "cultivated rubbish. Send them to Bailey."

Those now making the distinctions between horticulture and botany and between those pursuing activities in these two fields probably never heard of the three opinions quoted above, yet they have been, perhaps, subconsciously influenced by the Harvard attitude as it has come down for three-quarters of a century.

Yours sincerely,

JCW:MF

THOMAS V. RANKIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
50 STATE STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

Feb. 13, 1967

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

Dear George:

I enclose the annual report of the Association to be filed with the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth for the year 1966.

You will note that it has been signed by Mrs. Arnold, John Hemenway, and Francis Blake.

Would you be good enough to sign as a director, where your initials appear, and return to me.

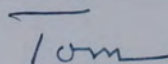
I ought to explain that attendance at annual meetings has been perforce minimal, and that at the meeting of Dec. 28, 1965, specified on the enclosed report, a quorum did not show up, which in itself was not unusual. We were anticipating at that time a final result in the lawsuit pending before the Supreme Judicial Court, and it seemed wiser to adjourn subject to call of the President (when a final result was obtained). But the final decree did not come down until Dec. 13, 1966, hence the President did not call another session. Hence, the officers and directors simply continued in office for the year as before.

I might mention further that at the meeting held in 1966 the list of directors was drastically limited to permit a proper quorum of the board to meet and conduct business, for we intend to wind up the Association's activities in the next few months.

It was very good to have a visit from you.

Sincerely,

Enclosure



THOMAS V. RANKIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
50 ~~24~~ STATE STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
02109

December 19, 1966

MEMORANDUM

To: George Slate

Re: Final Decree in the Arnold Arboretum Case.

As you will recall, the Supreme Judicial Court on January 31, 1966 upheld, in a three to two decision, the validity of the Harvard Corporation's vote to remove the bulk of the library and herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum from Jamaica Plain to Cambridge. Attorney General ex rel John S. Ames et al v. President and Fellows of Harvard College, Mass. Advance Sheets 89.

In its rescript the Court set out certain requirements for the respondent Corporation to comply with and fixed a time period of six months for such compliance. The rescript called for a report by the Corporation within said period on three items: 1) the adequacy of the "working library and herbarium" at Jamaica Plain; 2) the catalogues and listings utilized; 3) designation of the Arnold Arboretum "on or within the Harvard University Herbarium."

On June 24, 1966, the Respondent Corporation filed a report in the court in purported compliance with the rescript.

The petitioner, on June 29, 1966 filed a memorandum arguing the inadequacy of said report. The petitioner also filed a motion for counsel fees in a limited amount to be paid from the trust fund.

On November 3, 1966, respondent Corporation filed a motion for entry of a final decree in its favor. It also filed a memorandum in opposition to the allowance of counsel fees to the petitioner.

Mr. Justice Spalding, the Single Justice assigned to the case during a period of several years, on December 13, 1966 granted respondent's motion for entry of a final decree. The Single Justice, in so doing, stated that he was satisfied that the respondent's report of June 24, 1966 complied with the terms of the rescript "so far as it is reasonably feasible to do so."

On the same day, December 13, 1966, Mr. Justice Spalding denied petitioner's motion for counsel fees and ordered the entry of a final decree, a copy of which is enclosed.

T.V.R.
Thomas V. Rankin

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

Supreme Judicial Court
No. 68735 Equity

ATTORNEY GENERAL, ex rel.
JOHN S. AMES, et al

vs.

PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE

FINAL DECREE

This cause came on to be heard, and was argued by counsel, and it appearing that, in accordance with the rescript entered January 31, 1966, the defendant filed with the clerk within six months of rescript a Report of Defendant consisting of a certified copy of votes adopted by the President and Fellows of Harvard College on June 6, 1966 and a report to the Corporation by the Arnold Professor, referred to in said votes, which Report of Defendant shows that in the defendant's judgment an adequate working library and herbarium exist at Jamaica Plain and sets out defendant's proposals and action to amplify the catalogues and general listing references and the defendant's proposals with respect to a general designation within the Harvard University Herbarium, and it appearing to the Court from said Report that changes adequate to conform to the opinion of the Full Court have been made or are assured, thereupon, upon consideration thereof, it is

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the resolutions of the President and Fellows of Harvard College relating to the removal to a central building in Cambridge of the main body of the library and herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum and the retention at Jamaica Plain of such books and specimens as may be required to provide there a working library and herbarium, and the acts taken pursuant to said resolution are valid.

By the Court,

SPALDING, J.

John E. Powers, Clerk

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Entered: December 13, 1966