



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Alban Towers

3700 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
WASHINGTON 16, D. C.

March 28 '57

Dear Mr. Stoli: Will you allow me to
congratulate you on your vigorous and cogent
letter to Mrs. Pusey. You bring up heavy artillery
and you have the range. With some of the
propaganda wrought by our association, I have
been out of sympathy, thinking it at once too
personal and of secondary importance - but
your letter brings out boldly and clearly the
two causes of our just grievance - The
degradation of the abortion and the injustice
of the corporation in presenting a appeal
to the courts.

My own deep interest comes from the
decline, plain for all to see, of the
influence and usefulness of a great institution

Founded by genius for far-reaching ends
which as I must conclude, it can never
hope to reach.

Last summer I had a personal vision by which
I hoped a fresh start might be made at
all business forgotten. I wrote to Prof. Pursey
offering to fund a \$400,000 professorship of
Horticulture. It is incumbent to be Arnold Professor
with no other university duties. Mr Pursey
was at first greatly interested & drove down
to Beverly to see me. But on the show-down
all that Mr Pursey could offer was the
appointment of a specialist, subject to the
Board Arnold Professor. To be appointed by the
ad to him solely to report. This was of course
a ^{more} ^{transitory} ^{offer} of my offer. However, we
parted in friendship. Obviously the Corporation
tie his hands. Sincerely yours,

Ellery Sedgwick.

P.S. I shall be at this address for some 3 weeks.



Lilium Margaret Johnson

Skinner's Nursery Limited

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H. B. Skinner
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W. A. Cumming, B.S.A.
Vice-President & General Manager

DROPMORE
Manitoba

Dec. 10th 1954

Dr. G. I. Slate,
37 Highland Ave.,
Geneva, N.Y., U.S.A.,

Dear Dr. Slate,

I was very sorry to hear about the Arnold Arboretum and think it would be a great mistake if Harvard University were allowed to carry out the changes which it proposes. I have therefore returned the envelope you sent me with my membership fee and have sent in the names of two parties who I believe will be quite interested.

Yours very truly,

Stark Bro's
Nurseries & Orchards Co.
(ESTABLISHED 1816)
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Louisiana, Mo.

December 28, 1954

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

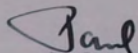
Dear George:

Enclosed is our check to cover our membership in the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc.. As you probably know we are now supporting a rather substantial research project in the Arnold Arboretum on dwarf fruit trees having started this back in the fall of 1953.

We definitely feel that the Arnold Arboretum is doing a fine job with the limited means at hand and we are happy to give them our full and complete support now and in the future.

I hope to see you either in Geneva or at one of the New York Meetings later in January and wishing you and yours a Happy and Prosperous New Year, I remain,

Very sincerely,



Paul Stark, Jr.
STARK BRO'S NURSERIES

PSjr:bb

RECEIVED

JAN 3 1955

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN
BRONX • NEW YORK 10458 LU 4-8500

February 18, 1966

Dr. George L. Slate
Department of Pomology
Cornell University
New York State Agricultural
Experiment Station
Geneva, New York 14456

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of February 16 and for sending me the copy of the story in the Boston Evening Globe. Somehow, I missed this release in our New York papers, and so I was not prepared to discover that the court had gone against the recommendation of the master, whose report you so kindly allowed me to read. Like you, I am appalled by this verdict, not so much because the special case, but because of the implication involved that the trustees can modify and even overturn the expressed wishes of a benefactor. I am returning the news story herewith, although I am taking the liberty of making a xerox copy of it.

I would be grateful, indeed, for a copy of Sturtevant's Notes on Edible Plants, which I don't have here on my own shelf, and it should be very useful. I have just written a new introduction to Medsger's Edible Wild Plants, and wish I had thought to take a look at Sturtevant's work again before finishing it.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

WCS/gd

COPY

Feb 1, 1964

Boston Eve.

Greene

Arboretum to Harvard

High Court Upholds Herb Display Move

The removal by Harvard University of most of the books and herb collection from Arnold Arboretum in Jamaica Plain to the Botany Department of Harvard at Cambridge was upheld Monday by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

In a majority 27-page opinion written by Justice Arthur E. Whittemore, the high court said the President and Fellows of Harvard College, did not "violate the duty of loyalty" imposed on them by the trust established in 1872 by James B. Arnold of New Bedford when he gave the funds that led to the founding of the famed Arboretum.

In a sharply worded, 13-page dissent, Justices Jacob J. Spiegel and Paul G. Kirk said Harvard should be required to return the thousands of books

and specimens to the Jamaica Plain buildings.

The two dissenting justices charged the three majority justices had "palpably misinterpreted" the purposes of the original trust as given to Harvard by Arnold.

Justices John V. Spalding and R. Ammi Cutter joined in the majority decision with Justice Whittemore. Chief Justice Raymond S. Wilkins and Justice Paul C. Reardon, disqualified themselves from participating in the case.

Controversy over removal of the world-famed collection of more than 700,000 items of living plant species, herb specimens, and most of the 46,000 books and 14,000 pamphlets from the Arboretum library and herbarium has been raging for more than 10 years.

The items were first re-

moved to the Cambridge location in 1953 to create a centralized botany department at Harvard. The move at that time, recommended in a report by Prof. Irving Bailey, was supported by the then Harvard Pres. James B. Conant.

Members of the Assn. for the Arnold Arboretum who opposed the change petitioned the attorney general to bring suit against the Harvard corporation to require compliance with the terms of the original Arnold trust.

The majority opinion noted that court-appointed master Henry E. Foley's report said that by the removal to Cambridge, Harvard had "created one of the greatest libraries and herbaria in the world and a world famous scientific station identified with Harvard."

The majority justices said the Harvard officials were entitled under terms of the Arnold trust to consider the move in "the effect on botany as a whole." Advancement of the study of botany was implied in the Arnold trust to Harvard, the majority justices said.

By removing the collection to Cambridge, Justices Spiegel and Kirk said Harvard had

made the Arnold Arboretum "a mere adjunct of Harvard," with resulting decline in the Arboretum's prestige.

It was not Arnold's intention, Justices Spiegel and Kirk said, to make the Arboretum "just another of the many departments of Harvard." They said, "We think there was a breach of trust."

Cal Documentation



Stern's Nurseries INC.

GENEVA, NEW YORK

GROWERS AND IMPORTERS OF NEW AND RARE PLANTS FOR AMERICAN GARDENS

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

December 3, 1954

Dear Mr. Slate:

Thank you for your kind letter.

I am glad to join the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, and I want you to know that I am sending my contribution directly to the Association today.

Very truly yours,

STERN'S NURSERIES, INC.
By

Otto Stern

OS/ba

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN

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Concordville, Pennsylvania

JOHN T. BREGGER
WILLIAM FLEMER, III
H. C. SWIM

April 13, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Slate:

In reply to your letter of April 9th, I have sent a report to the Board of Directors of the AAN on this matter, and enclose a copy of it. Very probably you will take issue, but I am inclined to believe the real problem is that of education. The Arnold staff has not scratched the surface in making the institution effective in a broad sense. My criticism is that Harvard treats the Arboretum as a botanical garden for the taxonomic staff.

Very truly yours,

Frank Styer.

J. Franklin Styer

JFS/lc
Encl.



ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME



Mr. George L. Slate,
37, Highland Avenue,
Geneva, N.Y.,
U.S.A.

First fold here

Second fold here

Sender's name and address: The Director,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew, Richmond,
Surrey, England.

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AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

To open cut here

All communications to be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,

quoting the following number :—

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, RICHMOND, SURREY.

27th January, 1958.

Dear Mr. Slate,

Thank you for your letter of 1st January, accompanying the copy of a letter which you sent to the President of Harvard University on 22nd March, 1957. Since becoming a member of the Visiting Committee, and particularly since I was invited to visit the Arboretum, I have been bombarded with papers conveying widely conflicting views. It would be easiest to despair in the confused tangle of arguments but, only because I am a member of the Committee, I have felt it my duty to read all the matter that has come to me and to talk, as I did at Boston, with all who wished to meet me. I am glad to have met some of my colleagues on the Visiting Committee and also to have been to the Arboretum to see how the place is functioning and to meet the members of the staff. I did not go to act as a referee in this lamentable dispute but merely as a new member of the Visiting Committee. There was no obligation placed upon me to pay any attention to the controversy but the Association has lost no opportunity in providing me with voluminous expressions of its views.

If the matter is raised at future meetings of the Visiting Committee, I am now better able to express my views.

Yours sincerely,

George Taylor

(Dr. George Taylor)

Mr. George L. Slate,
37, Highland Ave.,
Geneva, N.Y.,
NEW YORK,
U.S.A.

RECEIVED

FEB 3 1958

C O P Y

Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey

20th January, 1958.

Dear Mr. Rankin,

Thank you for your letter of January 10th, with the copy of the memorandum dated May 5th, 1952, and the accompanying copies of minutes of the Visiting Committee for April 29th, 1952. I have read these documents with great interest and appreciate the paramount high desire expressed in them to assist the Arnold Arboretum. More than four years have passed since this resolution was recorded and (and I must emphasize that this is only a personal judgment) it seems hardly realistic now to expect a rescission of the University's programme. My own feeling is that with a little judicious compromise, combined with a sincere desire to reach a settlement, on each side, the problem is not insoluble.

As I made clear to you and your colleagues at the pleasant function I attended at the Somerset Club on December 11th last, I visited Cambridge not in the role of an arbiter to the controversy, but as one anxious to play his part as a member of the Visiting Committee and keen to see the staff and discuss with them any matters concerning the Arboretum which they wished to raise with me.

I note the remarks in the last paragraph of your letter concerning the constitution of the Visiting Committee. This subject is one on which I do not feel called upon to comment but I have seen recent minutes of the Committee in which the Chairman has ruled out of order any attempt to debate matters relative to the Controversy.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

S/ G. Taylor

(Dr. G. Taylor)
Director

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

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TELEPHONE:
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DR. LEWIS E. THEISS
 HISTORIAN
 110 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
 LEWISBURG, PA.



PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY

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December 4, 1954

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 MYER SOLIS-COHEN, M.D.

My dear George Slate:

The only thing wrong with me is the fact that I am not a millionaire. The spirit is willing enough. I surely would like to make a generous contribution to the Arnold Arboretum. But it is out of the question. I am long since retired, living on a very modest pension, and both my wife and myself are enriching the doctors at a frightful rate. Our bill for medical care and medicines are appalling. So far, we have been able to pay them, and we hope to continue in that fortunate state. But we have to watch the pennies. On the other hand, I have long been associated with a number of local efforts that must have support and such gifts as I can afford must go to them. I truly wish it were otherwise.

It hurts me to have to write this, for there is no one whose effort I would like more to support than yours. I am of course interested in the arboretum, and I am more interested in your support of it. I hope you may be most successful.

Even though I have to write this, it is a pleasure to be writing to you. And that is because it is a pleasure to hear from you. One of the unfortunate aspects of life is that, as one's interests widen and one makes more friends, it is next to impossible to have the warm relationship with these friends that one would wish to have. For years I was unable to get up to Geneva for the autumn meetings of our Fruit Testing Society because of the early opening of college. And now due to injuries received in athletics which have become aggravated- I have a hard time to get about, even though I may have the time. So it goes. In such a situation friendships mean much, and it is a joy to hear from friends.

I read with great interest the items in your publication. My own orchard went to pot during the war. For eight years or more I was wholly unable to find any one who would do orchard work. I myself am no longer able to do any sort of manual labor, but I have been fortunate enough to find local highschool lads who help me out in summer. They cut the grass and work in my garden, and that is all I now have done. The orchard is going back to weeds, my vineyard is already gone, and I now care for only an acre or a little more at my country home. Inasmuch as the ruins are not pleasing to see, I shut my eyes and don't look at them and simply forget about it. But it would be a joy to be able to go on with the many efforts that meant so much to me.

However, don't think that I am crying on your shoulder. I am having a wonderful time, doing what I am able to do, and enjoying it hugely. Also, as I am still able to write, I get keen enjoyment from my typewriter.

Over

ORGANIZED NOVEMBER 23, 1893

In winter we live in Lewisburg. But we spend our summers out at our country place, which is three miles from Muncy. You have never been to see us, and if you ever get down into this region please do not fail to look us up. The latchstring will always be out for you. At the farm we have ample accommodations for our friends and are pleased when they use them. Here is town we are somewhat limited.

I hope I may see you at some future Nut Growers gathering, but if I am to attend one it will have to be held not too far away. I have ceased to be a long-distance traveler. At any rate, please accept my kindest wishes for a happy holiday season. I send warm regards.

Cordially yours,

Robert E. Thiers

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

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RHODE ISLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

17 EXCHANGE STREET PROVIDENCE 3, RHODE ISLAND

TELEPHONE GASPEE 1-9291

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DR. ERNEST K. THOMAS,
SECRETARY

WILLIS E. CHANDLER,
TREASURER

June 18, 1957
Dear Doc.

Congratulations on your letter
to Dr. Pursey.

How can Harvard continue its
policy to Arnold Arboretum in view of the
criticism from responsible and distinguished
Scientists like yourself?

What kind of TNT is needed to
blast them out of their ill advised policy?

Could the Committee for instance,
now back with persons of meagre pay
in view of Harvard's campaign for gifts of
many millions now going on, be persuaded
to write letters to Dr. Pursey stating frankly that
they would refuse to contribute, and that they will
change their wills etc. etc. unless Harvard agrees
to a board decision on the arbitration case?

(over)

Money talks more effectively than any words
we can send the authorities of Harvard University.
This is now the only weapon in your hands,
that will wake them up. The loss of several
thousands, or millions, of dollars will tip the balance
in our favor, as nothing else can.

How can you persuade the committee to follow
this policy up, with this kind of threats?

Hope you will write the committee and strongly
urge this procedure.

Yours truly

E. K. Thorne

May 6, 1957

Dr. H. B. Tukey, Head
Department of Horticulture
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Mich.

Dear Harold:

I thought you understood why we could not get the Arboretum case into the courts but the reason is very simple. According to Massachusetts law, suit in the matter involving a breach of trust of this kind has to be brought in the name of the State Attorney General. He gives permission to bring suit in his name but in this case Harvard has apparently been able to prevent him from giving permission so that we are stymied.

The Harvard corporation is a self-perpetuating body and answers to noone except itself. We can say and do anything we want but unless they change their mind, there is nothing we can do legally to bring them into court. Our high command, however, does not feel unduly discouraged but we may have to wait until we get a good Irish Catholic from the butt end of Boston in as Attorney General and then I think we might get into the courts.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE • EAST LANSING

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE • DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE

April 23, 1957

Mr. George Slate
New York State Agr. Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

Your letter to President Pusey is a dandy. What a man you are!
Everything you take hold of you put your teeth into and really
stay with it.

What bothers me is that you cannot get this thing into the courts.
Why not?

Cordially,

H. B. Tukey, Head
Department of Horticulture

B.

December 23, 1954

Mr. H. B. Tukey, Head
Department of Horticulture
School of Agriculture
Michigan State College
East Lansing, Mich.

Dear Harold,

I can well appreciate your situation as regards membership in the Association for the Arnold Arboretum. It is likely that many of the taxonomists are in the same position that you are in. I am going to suggest that the association establish a list of persons like you who would like to be informed on this matter and send you the literature.

However, even though you do not take out a membership you can at least let people know about the situation and send in some names. With best regards and the season's greetings I am,

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate
Professor of Pomology

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MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
EAST LANSING

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE

December 13, 1954

Mr. George Slate
N.Y. State Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

I have handed your letter to several members in the department. As a result, one or two checks have already been sent to the proper authorities and some of the names have been sent for their consideration.

For myself, George, I am in too difficult a position to take aside. You may call it "being yellow" although I do not think you will. However, I have very close friends in the Botany Department at Harvard and anything I might do or say would not be well received. Likewise, I have many friends at the Arnold Arboretum. To get in the middle of this sort of thing would do nobody any good. So, all I can do is pass your letter around to other folks who are less timid than am I, perhaps, and maybe do some good in this way.

Cordially,

HBT
H. B. Tukey, Head
Dept. of Horticulture

HBT:pb

P. A.

*Have send me number already!
HBT*

January 31, 1955

Mrs. William J. Walters
180 College Avenue
New Brunswick, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Walters:

I had hardly mailed you my letter of the 28th when I received one from a friend in the Botany department of a western college and here is what the friend says about one of the botanists there:

"He is quite scholarly and comes into my office and orates about the situation (of Harvard v.s. the Arnold Arboretum) without even really making it clear, and he ends by saying that it is expedient for him to be on the side of Harvard because he needs to borrow specimens (from the Herbarium) from time to time."

This is directly in line with the orders given to the propagator of one of the newer arboretums who was and is strongly on the Arboretum's side against Harvard. He was told on taking the position in this arboretum not to make any public statement because this new Arboretum would want to ask the Arnold Arboretum for plants from time to time.

I don't know how you feel about it but to me these statements are very enlightening as showing why many people have taken the Harvard side. I do not for a minute think that this would include Bob Clark as he would not be looking for any favors from Harvard.

Yours sincerely,

COPY

Science Park Boston 14,
Massachusetts

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

December 4, 1956

Mr. E. F. du Pont
Winterthur
Delaware

Dear Mr. du Pont:

I have just received your letter of November 28th on my return from a trip to St. Louis. I am very sorry that you have been unable to attend our last two Arboretum Visiting Committee meetings -- particularly the recent one, at which a very clear and precise statement was made with regard to the present program and plans of the Arnold Arboretum. The committee members were given a full opportunity for comment and a very interesting and constructive discussion took place. The very reason why several members of the Association have remained on our Visiting Committee is because we are eager to have our program evaluated from every angle, and we should have welcomed your comments, had you been there.

The statement of the Winterthur Conference represents both misunderstanding and misinformation to an extraordinary degree. Such a document could never have taken shape, I am sure, if those who prepared it had been aware of the simple facts of our program and our objectives.

Both Dr. Howard and I hope that you may be able to visit the Arboretum in the near future, as no satisfactory substitute has ever been found for seeing and hearing at first-hand. It is my firm belief that the Arboretum, its program and its physical assets are in competent and devoted hands and that no one need have fears for its future.

Sincerely yours,

Bradford Washburn
Director

December 13, 1955

Mr. Sargent Wellman
Topsfield,
Mass.

Dear Sargent;

Karl Brase answered your paragraph about the pear stocks. On the matter of the Arboretum controversy, I think that we shall have to keep the matter alive. If we quit, we are certainly licked and that is the end of the Arboretum as they would certainly take it over completely if we do not maintain the pressure.

I have great faith in Grenville Clark and the lawyers who have handled the case for us are certainly among the best in Boston and their opinion should not be taken lightly. Our principal hope now seems to be to get a new Attorney General who will let the case come to trial. I remember once that Mrs. Clark said that her husband had lost only one case in his career. I admit that it is going to be long and drawn out and that the situation does not look very hopeful.

I have again appointed you Legal Advisor for the Northern Nut Growers Association. I hope you will not find the duties of that job burdensome.

I am sorry that you will not be able to attend the meeting at New Haven but perhaps when you are in Turkey and Greece, you can find out something about nut culture over there and prepare a few notes on your observations for our Proceedings next year.

I called your office recently while I was in Boston and was sorry to hear that you were on the sick list. I hope that you are well on the way to recovery now and that everything goes along nicely.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

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Falmouth

June 24 1957

My dear George State

So glad to get your letter
to Harvard president and it certainly
lets me get home to the fact but I am
afraid they don't want fact because they
have acted and it would "lose face" I guess
clean now. Guess ago Harvard acted
in some such way about the Bussey
Museum. I never knew the job but from
board they sound like as they have
done now. You would have read up
on the Bussey Institution really there
should be a lot more known about
what happened with that money and

I know very little about it but the Bussey
and Arnold were closely related and
something happened to wreck the
Bussey Institution which had all the
land which later was acquired by the
Arnold in some sort of a deal. I was
at the Bussey for quite a while but was
quite young and did not know what
was going on. There was about 350 acres
in the Bussey land as well as greenhouses
and the store building.

I have little hope that we will be able to
get Harvard to let the question go to
court even tho they have great
strength in the courts. I think that
Pusey is helpless in the bunch
about him.

We are so dry that the Cape looks like
winter no rain for 12 weeks and hot and
windy. Sincerely Wilfred Wheeler

June 27, 1957

Mr. Wilfrid Wheeler
Ashumet Farm
R.F.D. 1
Falmouth, Mass.

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

I was pleased to have your letter about the Arboretum matter. I did not realize that you had been attached to the Bussey at one time. I have suspected that perhaps the Bussey funds may not have been used as they were supposed to be but the Bussey had no one to go to bat for it as the Arboretum has. I suspect, but do not know of course, that perhaps the reason the University is fighting this matter so hard is that there may be other trusts involved and if they should lose the Arboretum case, they might be in an awful mess. However, some people think that eventually the matter may reach the courts. With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

GIS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

RICHARD P. WHITE
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
CURTIS H. PORTERFIELD
SECRETARY
ELLIS E. MEREDITH
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

American Association of Nurserymen, Inc.

635 SOUTHERN BUILDING
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.
REPUBLIC 7-4060

April 25, 1957

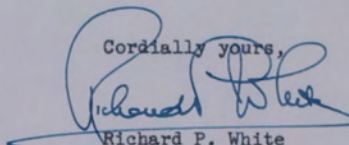
Dr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Avenue
Geneva, New York

Dear Dr. Slate:

I had previously received the Winterthur Statement and letters in support of the statement from several sources.

I have read your statement to President Pusey with a great deal of interest and I am sure you express the thoughts of great many people interested in horticultural research as we are. However, my Board has not taken an official position in the matter.

Cordially yours,



Richard P. White
Executive Vice President

RPW:gs



11/10/55

25

Dear Slate -

If we can carry out our plans we hope to be in Turkey and Greece next August & so can't get to New Haven. I'm sorry, because even tho it's so near I've never yet seen the graves chestnuts, which I am sure you'll include in the plans. Under the circumstances either date goes with me and if plans fall thru I'll put New Haven next on the list.

Can I bother you with a couple of questions? Who can best tell me the latest information on the various stocks for pears. I have specimens of *P. calleryana* & *P. serrulata* and have grown seedlings of them as stock. There was some report that all the *P. calleryana* at Arnold Arboretum had died - is that so & was it blight or cold? Is there any other pear which is regarded as better as stock?

The other point is about the A.A. I'm much troubled by the literature put out by the Association for the A.A. They say they intend to keep the issue alive and do something, but are so indefinite, that many of my friends are saying, "what's the use?" As a lawyer I haven't thought there was anything left to do ^{in court}. Under these circumstances can the Association really do any more good? I don't want to bother you but would appreciate any comment you care to make?

Yrs

Sargent H. Wellman
Topfield, Mass

Experiment Station
Geneva, N. Y.
November 4, 1955

Dear Member;

It has been brought to my attention that the meetings of the Northern Nut Growers Association and the American Society for Horticultural Science will be held on the same dates in 1956, namely August 27-29. This conflict was brought about by earlier than usual dates for the Science meetings, which we did not know at the time of the N.N.G.A. meetings. This conflict is highly undesirable as many of our most active members from the experiment stations and the agricultural colleges attend the Science meetings and would not be available for the N.N.G.A. meetings.

Therefore, I propose that we change our meeting dates to August 20-22, Monday through Wednesday, or to August 23-25, Thursday through Saturday. A later date would conflict with the opening schools, Labor Day traffic, and the facilities at Yale would not be available.

Please let me know as soon as possible your preference as to dates. This letter is going to the directors, Connecticut members and others known to me to attend more or less regularly. No reply by December 1 will be taken to mean that either date is acceptable.

Very truly yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
President

(over)

June 10, 1957

Mr. John C. Wister
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.

Dear John:

I have read your Comments on the pamphlet "The Arnold Arboretum" and have nothing to add or correct. You seem to have squeezed as much out of it as it is possible to squeeze.

It is all based on past work as they have nothing to brag about now and there is no indication that they have anything coming along to brag about in the future.

They are just trying to hold us off and make people think that they are really doing something until an older and strongest supporters die off and the rest of us tire of the fight. Then the Arboretum will be closed out completely as was the Harvard Botanic Garden.

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Sincerely,

GLS:CD

G. L. Slate
Professor of Pomology



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Geo L Slate
37 Highland Ave
Geneva NY

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J. RUSSELL SMITH

Swarthmore, Pa.

Glad you are trying
to save Arnold
Greetings JRS

May 25. 57

George

Here is my 3rd draft
of notes about which I
wrote for May 3

Sax gave me most of
the information I did not then
have

What comments have
you to add?

Allen

COMMENTS ON THE PAMPHLET
"THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM"
"EIGHTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR 1872 - 1957"

This 8 1/2 x 11 inch pamphlet has an illustrated cover page, a second page entitled "IN 85 YEARS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS TO HORTICULTURE AND TO SCIENCE", and a third page referring briefly to the history of the Arboretum and asking for contributions.

The cover page has some beautiful photographs of the Arboretum grounds.

Page 2 lists "CONTRIBUTIONS" "TO HORTICULTURE AND TO SCIENCE" under ten general subjects with a total of eighty-four items.

In these COMMENTS the general subjects are identified by the letters A to J, and the items by the numbers 1 to 84. As far as possible the items are further identified by dates and by the name of the Staff Member responsible in order to place them properly in the two main eras of the Arboretum, namely: (First) the Regime of Sargent 1873-1927 and of the staff members appointed by him, but surviving him, which include Jack, Rehder, Wilson, and Judd; and (Second) the Regimes of Ames 1927-1936; Merrill 1936-1946; Biological Committee and Sax 1946-1953; and Howard 1953-1957, and their appointees.

(A) EDUCATION

No Arnold professor taught the "Knowledge of Trees" or any other subject in the University as required by the 1872 Agreement until 1956. Sargent is reported to have given special instruction (1) about 1900 in landscape gardening to Miss Beatrix Jones (who later became Mrs. Max Farrand), and (2) about 1920 in horticulture and probably botany to Mrs. S. D. McKelvey. For other instruction see below.

1. Guidance to Graduate Students

Started under Ames in early 1930's. Following approximate number of students obtained Ph. D. degrees under following staff members:- Ames (Economic Botany) 1; Faull (Plant Pathology) about 10; Raup (Ecology) several; Merrill (Taxonomy) several; Johnston (Taxonomy) 3 (One was Howard, the present Director); Sax (Cytology and Genetics) 20.

2. College Courses in Horticulture

None up to college year of 1956-1957. Wyman helped in course to students of Landscape Architecture before 1953.

3. College Courses in Botany - Approximate dates and approximate average number of students a year:

Ames - Economic Botany - undergraduate & graduate	1927-1936	30
Faull - Forest Pathology - largely graduate	1929-1942	12
Raup - Plant Ecology	1932-1946	20
Johnston - Taxonomy	1936-1957	10
Sax - Cytology, Genetics	1934-1957	6
Howard - Taxonomy	1956-1957	6

4. Field Trips

Started by Jack perhaps in early 1900's and continued until his retirement; Anderson, 1930-1935; Wyman, 1936-1957. Whether confined to Arboretum area not known. Presumed to teach elementary horticulture only, but may have included botany.

5. Visiting Scholars

Probably refers to post doctorate students: - Merrill, several - botany only; Sax, several - botany (with possible bearing on horticulture.)

6. Public Classes

Lipp before 1953. Howard, Wood, Sax, Wyman, Coggeshall, beginning 1954. All elementary. Botany and horticulture; Christmas decorations and even visits to Boston restaurants to study foods. Are these last two horticulture??

7. Lectures to Clubs

Wilson in 1920's - mostly horticulture. Anderson in Ames era - probably horticulture. Wyman, Lipp, Coggeshall, Heman Howard - all horticulture. Sax - botany and probably horticulture. Howard - botany.

(B) EXPLORATION

8. China

Wilson - 2 expeditions -(probably between 1904 and 1917?) Rock (dates?) Purdon (dates?). Note: - Sargent mentioned also Schneider, Hess, Meyer, and Henry, not on Arboretum Staff.

9. Japan

Sargent 1891 or 1892. Wilson about 1917 (dates?) Jack (1905?)

10. Korea

Jack 1905, Wilson 1917.

Note: - Numbers 8, 9, and 10 resulted in introduction of great number of valuable new plants.

11. New Guinea

Botanical work by Kobayashi and Perry based on explorations probably financed by Arboretum, but not by staff members. No horticultural value to New England.

12. Tropical America

Howard 1953-1957? Johnston (dates?) No horticultural value to New England. No introductions to AA.

13. Alaska Highway

Raup (1935-1946) No horticultural value, no introductions.

14. Forest Surveys

Sargent for 10th U. S. Census about 1880, published 1884 and 1885.

Note: - Howard does not mention Anderson's exploration in the Balkans in the early 1930's, the only horticultural exploration since Sargent's day. Anderson introduced valuable horticultural plants.

(C) FLORISTIC STUDIES

Largely herbarium research and not related to horticulture^{al} plants.

15. Eastern Asia

16. Fiji

17. Other Islands of the Pacific

18. Philippines

19. Panama

20. MacKenzie River Basin

Merrill

Kobayashi

Perry

Johnston in recent years

Raup 1930 - 1940

(D) FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

21. The Cambium and Secondary Xylem

22. Vascular structure of the Flower

23. The "Ranalian" Complex

The above three by Bailey (a "quid pro quo" staff member stationed at the Bussey and in Cambridge 1946-1956). No bearing on horticulture.

24. Growth Substances

25. Chemical Weed Control

On above two is there any record of any original field research and original publication? It is generally believed that most of the work in this Country was begun by Boyce Thompson Institute and State Experiment Stations. This to be checked. Lipp and Coggeshall lectured or wrote about propagation.

26. Cytology of Lilac - Sax
27. Cytology of Forsythia - Sax

28. Cytology of Ash - Sax

29. Cytology of Other Woody Plants - Sax

Botanical studies of
some value to horti-
culture in showing origins
in relation to hybrid
sterility.

30. Cytological Mechanisms of Inheritance - Sax-Pure Botany

31. Conduction Through Bark and Dwarfing of Trees - Sax - Of horti-
cultural value in dwarfing trees.

(E) MONOGRAPHS - Practically all in Sargent's time or by his appointees

32. Asaleas

Wilson and Rehder 1921.

33. Lilacs

McKelvey about 1928.

34. Relatives of Camellia

Wood in Arnoldia 1957. This brief report is said to be the only
work on horticultural taxonomy by an Arboretum taxonomist in the past twenty years.
Kobaski may have helped on this.

35. The Pines

Shaw (Was he on Arboretum staff?) 1914

36. Lonicera

botanical? (Author ?) (Date ?) Are these two horticultural or purely

37. The Rose Apples. Syzygium

(Author ?) (Date ?) botanical only.

38. The Screw Pines

(Author ?) (Date ?) Tropical. No horticultural value in North.

39. Yucca

McKelvey (1938)

40. Crataegus

Sargent. And Palmer? (Dates ?) Sargent does not mention this in his history.

41. Sorbus

(Author ?) (Date ?) Horticultural or botanical?

Note: - Howard does not mention Wilson's "Cherries of Japan". Is this a monograph?

(F) PLANT BREEDING

42. Incompatibilities of Ornamental Shrubs

43. Hybrid Forsythias

44. Hybrid Magnolias

45. Flowering Cherries

46. Hybrid Elms

47. Ornamental Crab Apples

All by Sax since 1920. Note: - Howard does not mention work by Dawson in Sargent era; or by Judd in Sargent, Ames and Merrill eras; or by Sanders who was gardener on Sargent estate but who worked with Dawson.

(G) PLANT INTRODUCTION

48. More than 4000 Introductions

Very brief treatment of magnificent record. Apparently 2543 species and varieties were brought in before 1923. Of these 1404 first brought into cultivation anywhere. It is not clear if "varieties" as here used about 1923, or "introductions" as used by Howard include cultivars such as the several hundred Lilacs brought from Lemoine and some hundreds of Rhododendrons from Waterer which had previously been brought to America by H. W. Sargent, Rand and Hunnevell, or whether only plants brought from the wild are included. Sargent, Wilson, Jack, Reek, Anderson all explored and brought plants from the wild.

Of the 1500 or so "introductions" since 1923, how many came before Sargent's death or Wilson's death or Jack's retirement? About how many did Judd bring back from his various vacations? About how many did Wyman bring from English gardens? Plants Wilson sent to Veitch and Veitch shared with Arboretum are probably included among Arboretum introductions.

A recent estimate was that about a hundred "introductions" a year came from other botanic gardens. Howard's Directors Reports give larger figures but are not clear.

49. Royal Azalea

Has been credited to J. G. Veitch 1893, but Arboretum may have been first to bring from Veitch, or Jack may have reintroduced 1905.

50. Hardy Cedar of Lebanon

Sargent arranged for collection of seed in Cicilian Taurus.

51. Dawn Redwood

Merrill arranged for collection of seed from the wild. Said to be only real "introduction" of Arboretum in past twenty years.

52. Memorial Rose

Introduced 1891.

53. Chinese Dogwood

Introduced Wilson 1907.

54. Beauty Bush

Introduced Wilson to Veitch 1907.

55. Regal Lily

Discovered Wilson 1903 and introduced to Veitch with whom it flowered in 1905. On later Wilson trip for Arboretum, John Farquhar, Boston seedsman, contracted with Wilson to ship him some thousands of bulbs for commercial introduction in United States which was done about 1908.

(H) PLANT PROPAGATION

56. Graft Compatibilities

Sax - 1935 - 1956

57. Seed Dormancy ?

58. Rooting Hormones ?

(Already covered under #24?)

59. Polyethylene Plastic - Popularized by Lipp

60. Double Dormancy ?

61. Effects of Substrata ?

What original work on the above five at the Arboretum? It is generally believed that foreign experimenters and the Boyce Thompson Institute and various government experiment stations made the original and the important investigations on all or most of these, and published on them before any similar work at Arboretum. Further experiments are routine in many arboreta and nurseries and bulletins, trade papers and various books give endless details. Lipp made polyethylene popular in Boston area. He did not claim discovery. Was he not charged by Howard with plagiarism when he described practical adaptations? Coggeshall has written and spoken on these subjects but has not claimed discoveries.

(I) PUBLICATIONS

62. Silva of North America

Sargent 1891-1902 (He stated not published by Arboretum.)

63. Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs

Rehder (1927 ?) and second edition 1940. Not published by Arboretum.

64. Arnoldia

Largely by Wyman.

65. Sargentia

Botanical Monographs. Probably started by Ames.

66. Journal of the Arnold Arboretum

Started by Sargent largely for horticulture. Under him about 75% of its botanical features had a bearing on horticulture and 25% or less concerned tropical plants. Now has become almost entirely botanical without horticultural significance, and 75% or more tropical.

67. Botanical Exploration of Trans-Mississippi West

McKelvey 1956? Little horticultural significance.

68. Lilac

McKelvey 1928 and already listed under 33. Here horticulture is supreme.

69. The Arnold Arboretum Garden Book - Wyman

Except for a brief and valuable historical preface is entirely reprint of #64.

70. Yucca of Southwest United States

McKelvey (1938) Already listed under 39.

71. Bibliography of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs

Rehder (about 1948)

72. Bradley Bibliography

Rehder 1900-1918

73. Index Rafinesquianus

Morrill. 1949

Of the above 12 publications the following are horticulturally important: - #62, 63, 64, 66 (the earlier years under Sargent only), 68, 69. The following are useful in horticultural research: - 71, 72. The following may have some horticultural significance: - 67, 70. 65 and 73 are technical botany only?

These are 12 publications only. It is interesting to note other writings and editings of the Arboretum staff in the past, some, according to Sargent, published by the Arboretum, some not. Here are some from Sargent's list:

Catalog of Library - Tucker, 1918
Pines of Mexico - Shaw, 1909
Plants of Wilsonianum - Wilson, 1913-1917
Cherries of Japan - Wilson, 1916
Conifers and Taxads of Japan - Wilson, 1916
Bulletin of Popular Information, 12 volumes, 1911-1922
Illustrated Guide - 1911 and 1921

In addition those not published by the Arboretum but written or edited by Sargent as follows:

Report on Forests of North America - 1884
The Woods of the United States - 1885
(the 14 volume Silva - 1891-1902 belongs in this list)
Trees and Shrubs - 1905-1913
Garden and Forest edited by Sargent at Arboretum,
10 vols. 1887-1897.

There was also prepared at the Arboretum by Rehder a large part of the hardy trees and shrubs in Bailey's Cyclopedia of American Horticulture (1900) and the second edition "The Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture" (1927?)

Omitted also is any reference to Wyman's excellent books of more recent dates. Two of them received the Coleman award.

J. SERVICE

74. Living Collections

Started by Sargent. Bailey in 1945 admitted deterioration, but now claimed to be well kept. Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. claims deterioration since 1927, loss of many species not replaced and lack of adequate new introductions. Only a court hearing with sworn testimony and complete financial records and complete records of plants lost and plants acquired can give authoritative answer. Whether the Arnold Arboretum surpasses all similar institutions in collections and service is a matter of opinion.

75. Exchange of Plants. 76. Identifications. and 77. Exchange of and Loan of Herbarium Specimens.

All important and all standard procedure throughout the world and hardly warranting emphasis here.

78. Bibliographic Assistance

When? To whom? By whom? How much? How important?, etc. How does this differ from #1 and #5?

79. Tours

Probably refers to visits from organized groups from Massachusetts Horticultural Society and from Garden Clubs. How do these differ from #4?

80. Lectures. 81. Classes. 82. Questions Answered.

Already covered under #1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7.

83. Survival Handbooks for the Armed Forces

Probably refers to Merrill's "Food Plants of Southeast Asia" prepared for U. S. Armed Forces, as Howard's similar work was done while in the Army before he was a member of the Arboretum Staff. Whether these are based on original research or were compilations of previous research is not known. A book, "How to Survive on Land and Sea" was published in 1943 by the Naval Aviation Training Program and distributed by the U. S. Naval Institution.

84. Special Military Studies of Vegetation

This probably refers to Johnston's work in Panama in recent years. May be same as #12, 19.

CONCLUSION

At first glance the quoted "contributions" give the impression that horticulture, which is mentioned first, is foremost at the Arboretum. It will be interesting to check after each of the items whether it serves horticulture or botanical science or both and whether it is chronologically placed in the era of Sargent and his appointees, or in the era of later regimes and their appointees. This will be done in a separate paper.

The scientific projects with scientific names unfamiliar to most people include only a dozen or so of the 84 items. The percentages of staff, library, herbarium and present projects as between theoretical botany, popular horticulture and horticultural research and between Cambridge and Jamaica Plain is not referred to either on page 2 of the pamphlet, or in the text on page 3. Cambridge is not mentioned in the pamphlet and the attached gift form and reply envelop are addressed to Jamaica Plain. Yet Marbury urges the critics of the new regime to visit the new Herbarium (in Cambridge) and see the wonderful facilities for the botanical work (in Cambridge) done by the Arboretum Staff (in Cambridge)!

Many people will take exception to the inference on page 3 that the affiliation with Harvard has been responsible for the high standards of the Arboretum and its international reputation. The international reputation came during the Sargent regime during which the Arboretum was, in a true sense, an independent organization with practically no connection with the University or any of its botanists.

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John C. Wister

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
May 25, 1957

THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Two new versions of the Harvard side of the controversy have come out of Cambridge. The first, entitled "The Harvard Corporation and the Arnold Arboretum" is a 5-1/2 page 4 x 9-1/4 inch pamphlet. It contains an address before the Guilford Garden Club on March 25, 1957 given by Mr. William L. Marbury of Baltimore, Fellow of Harvard College. It has been printed by the University "in the interest of clarifying some of the questions that have been raised". The second, bearing the heading, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., and under that, "Memorandum About the Arnold Arboretum" is an 8-page double spaced mimeographed or multigraphed statement, unsigned, bearing the date April, 1957.

Mr. Marbury told his audience that in a very few minutes he would try to explain the nature of the dispute between the University and some of the friends of the Arboretum. To do this he necessarily had to oversimplify the case and resort to many generalities. This is the case also of the Harvard document.

Neither document refers to the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., at least not by name. Mr. Marbury refers to "the dissenters" and the Harvard article mentions the Visiting Committee and reports some of its objections and thereafter refers to "the objectors" and "the critics". Both articles state incorrectly the chief criticisms against the Harvard policy. They assume that the critics believe that the Arboretum is merely a locality in Jamaica Plain rather than an institute for study or research and that it is only a place to grow trees and shrubs. The impression is given that this is the position of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. as that is evidently assumed to be the group of people who are dissenters, objectors or critics. A large part of each article is taken up defending the need for scientific research. The type of research is not mentioned. The Association wants much more scientific research than has been the case in the past, but it has constantly asked that it be focused upon the problems of horticulture rather than on the botanical problems of tropical plants. Mr. Marbury omits stating that the primary purpose of the Arboretum was to help horticulture. The other article stresses the great interest of Harvard in horticulture, carefully omitting the fact that President Lowell long ago stated that horticulture was of little scientific value to the University, omitting also the fact that of the large staff of the Arboretum, there is only one nationally known and well qualified horticulturist. Both articles stress the great amount of money which is being spent on horticulture, but they do not break it down to figures which will satisfy anyone, as there is no means for any outsider to tell what they include under this heading and what they include under other headings.

Neither article mentions the chief criticism of the Association that by moving most of the staff to Cambridge there has come a sharp division between botany and horticulture, which should be working together for a common purpose. Both articles stress the fact that there has been no neglect of the horticultural collection, but as these are not written by horticultural experts, that testimony is of no value, particularly in view of the fact that Harvard has refused to take the matter to court where testimony on both sides could be heard.

Both articles stress that the Bailey Plan had the full endorsement of all the botanists in Cambridge and the entire Arboretum staff. The only written evidence available is that the endorsement was by 7 members of the botanical staff, three of them also members of the Arboretum staff. Both articles imply that there was no objection from members of the staff or from the botanists, which also is not true, as 3 former directors, Professor Oakes Ames, Dr. Merrill and Dr. Sax, are on record against the plan, although each is mentioned in the articles as in favor of it because they originally endorsed it. To many it does not seem honest to quote this original endorsement without explaining that after further study and

closer examination they turned against the plan and worked against it. The University publication comes out with a totally false statement made before in the Harvard Alumni Bulletin which the Alumni Bulletin was forced to correct in a later issue, but here it comes up again that Dr. Sax, who was then director of the Arboretum, approved the plan in 1945. Dr. Sax was not appointed until the next year, as the Secretary of the Corporation was obliged to acknowledge in a correction which, of course, never caught up with the original false statement. That Harvard should now publish this false statement again shows either a deliberate attempt to deceive or else a very careless review of the facts.

The Harvard document once more goes into the rescinding of the Bailey Plan in 1953 without mentioning one of the most objectionable features which was put back, which was the payment of part of the upkeep of the building in Cambridge. President Pusey had ignored that matter in his 1954 letter to the Directors of the Association, and this omission was forcibly brought to his attention at that time. The Harvard document makes much of the fact that some of the original features of the present plan were eliminated in 1953 and Mr. Marbury more naively admits that these features were "found to be unwise or of doubtful legality". This curious admission shows at once that the Corporation in 1946 had acted hastily and put these in the plan without looking up their legality. The expression "doubtful legality" is a doubtful expression in itself as it was clearly shown that they were illegal and Harvard was forced to give them up practically at the point of a gun.

The increased efficiency of the six botanists in the new building in Cambridge is stressed. That has never been questioned by the Association. But what are these botanists doing? Their work has been largely a taxonomic study of tropical and other plants of no horticultural interest - most of the work done by these taxonomists is of no value to the Arboretum. The only full time staff member who spends the major part of his time at the Administration Building in Jamaica Plain is Dr. Wyman. The herbarium left at Jamaica Plain is very rarely used by anyone.

Referring to the legal aspects, the claim is made once more that the Attorney General made a proper investigation. The Association insists he did not and that its lawyers were not given opportunity to testify before him.

In conclusion, the Harvard article states that there can be no doubt that its policy of 1953 has been faithfully carried out. The Association believes that there is every doubt of this as it is prepared to show in court. The very appointment of the present director was a breach of that policy and his 3 directors' reports show nothing that has been done to carry out either the intent of the 1953 declaration or the program which he, himself, presented to the Visiting Committee in 1956.

These two oversimplified documents dealing in general terms and giving no specific information will certainly not impress those who have felt that the present policy of the Harvard Corporation has been, is and will continue to be injurious to the best interests of the Arnold Arboretum.

PRELIMINARY NOTES ON
"EIGHTY-FIVE YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS OF ARNOLD ARBORETUM
TO HORTICULTURE AND TO SCIENCE"

This printed page, sent out over the signature of Director Howard in April, 1957, lists 10 general subjects and a total of 84 items. These preliminary notes are to give a general scheme for reporting which will later be placed under columns for cross reference. The main topics are noted by letters A - J and the items under them numbered from 1 to 84.

For purposes of easy chronological identification the following notes will attempt to place the items in two eras under the regimes of (A) Sargent 1873-1927 and his surviving staff members - Wilson Jack Judd Rehder; and (B) Ames 1927-1936; Merrill 1936-1946; Biological Committee and Sax 1946-1953; and Howard 1953-1957, and their appointees.

(A) EDUCATION

No Arnold professor has taught the "Knowledge of Trees" in the University as required by the 1872 Agreement, at least not under that title. Sargent is reported to have given special instruction (1) about 1900 in landscape gardening to Miss Beatrix Jones (who later became Mrs. Max Farrand; and (2) about 1920 in horticulture and probably botany to Mrs. S. D. McKelvey. For other instruction see below.

1. Guidance to Graduate Students

Started under Ames in early 1930's. Following number of students obtained Ph.D. degrees under following staff members: - Ames (subject?) 1; Faull (Plant Pathology) about 10; Raup (Ecology) several; Merrill (Taxonomy) several; Johnston (Taxonomy) 3 (one of these may have been Howard, the present Director); Sax (Cytology and Genetics) 7.

2. College Courses in Horticulture

None up to college year of 1956-1957.

Did Wyman give courses to students of Landscape Architecture this present year?

3. College Courses in Botany

Ames - Economic Botany

Faull - Forest Pathology

Raup - Plant Ecology

Johnston - Taxonomy

Sax - Cytology, Genetics

Howard - Taxonomy, beginning present college year.

Exact dates begun, number of years given, number of students and whether undergraduate as the word "college" implies or graduate not known unless noted.

4. Field Trips

Started by Jack perhaps in early 1900's and continued till his retirement; Anderson in Ames regime; Wyman in Merrill regime and continued to the present time.

Exact dates not known. Whether continued to Arboretum area not known. Presumed to teach horticulture only but may have included botany.

5. Visiting Scholars

Believed to refer to post doctorate students: - Merrill, several - botany only; Sax, several - botany and perhaps ^{also} some bearing on horticulture.

6. Public Classes

Lipp before 1953. Howard, Wood, Sax, Wyman, Coggeshall, beginning 1954. All elementary. Botany and horticulture. Christmas decorations and even visits to Boston restaurants to study foods. Are these last two horticulture??

7. Lectures to Clubs

Wilson in 1920's - mostly horticulture. Anderson in Ames era - probably horticulture. Wyman, Lipp, Coggeshall, Heyman Howard - all horticulture. Sax - botany and probably horticulture. Howard - botany.

(B) EXPLORATION

8. China

Wilson 2 expeditions - (dates ?) (between 1904 and 1917?) Jack (dates ?) Purdon (dates ?). Note: - Sargent mentioned also Schneider, Hess, Meyer (who worked for USDA) and Henry (who worked for British).

9. Japan

Sargent 1891 or 1892. Wilson about 1917 (dates ?) Jack (1905 ?)

10. Korea

Jack 1905, Wilson 1917.

Note: - the above resulted in introduction of great number of valuable new plants.

11. New Guinea

When? By whom? No horticultural value to New England.

12. Tropical America

Howard 1953-1957? Johnston (dates ?) No horticultural value to New England. No introduction to AA.

13. Alaska Highway

Raup (date ?) No horticultural value, no introductions.

14. Forest Surveys

Sargent for 10th U. S. Census about 1880, published 1884 and 1885.

Note: - Howard does not mention Anderson's explorations in Europe.

C. FLORISTIC STUDIES

Mostly by Merrill, Kobuski, Perry, Johnston, Raup, Howard. Largely herbarium research and not related to horticulture plants.

15. Eastern Asia

16. Fiji

17. Other Islands of the Pacific

18. Philippines

19. Panama

20. Mackenzie River Basin

D. FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

21. The Cambium and Secondary Xylem

22. Vascular structure of the Flower

23. The "Ranalian" Complex

The above three by Bailey (a "quid pro quo" staff member stationed in Cambridge from sometime in the 1930's until 1956) No bearing on horticulture.

24. Growth Substances

25. Chemical Weed Control

On above two is there any record of any original field research and original publication? Generally believed these begun by Boyce Thompson Institute and State Experiment Stations. This to be checked. Lipp and Coggeshall lectured or wrote about propagation.

26. Cytology of Lilac

27. Cytology of Forsythia

28. Cytology of Ash

29. Cytology of Other Woody Plants

30. Cytological Mechanisms of Inheritance

31. Conduction Through Bark and Dwarfing of Trees

The above six all by Sax. What proportion of each is theoretical botany only and what proportion related to or of value to horticulture?

E. MONOGRAPHS

32. Azaleas

Wilson and Rehder 1921.

33. Lilacs

McKelvey about 1928.

34. Relatives of Camellia

Wood in Arnoldia 1957. This is said to be the only work on horticultural taxonomy by an Arboretum taxonomist in the past twenty years.

35. The Pines

Shaw (was he on Arboretum staff?) 1914

36. Lonicera

(Author ?) (Date ?) Are these two horticultural or purely botanical?

37. The Rose Apples, Syzygium

(Author ?) (Date ?) botanical only.

38. The Screw Pines

(Author ?) (Date ?) Tropical. No horticultural value in north.

39. Yucca

McKelvey (Date ?)

40. Crataegus

Sargent. And Palmer? (Dates ?) Sargent does not mention this in his history.

41. Sorbus

(Author ?) (Date ?) Horticultural or botanical?

Note: - Howard does not mention Wilson's "Cherries of Japan". Is this a monograph?

F. PLANT BREEDING

- 42. Incompatibilities of Ornamental Shrubs
- 43. Hybrid Forsythias
- 44. Hybrid Magnolias
- 45. Flowering Cherries
- 46. Hybrid Elms
- 47. Ornamental Crab Apples

All by Sax since 1920. Note: - Howard does not mention work by Dawson in Sargent era; or by Judd in Sargent, Ames and Merrill eras; or by Sanders who was gardener on Sargent estate but who worked with Dawson.

G. PLANT INTRODUCTION

- 48. More than 4000 Introductions

Very brief treatment of magnificent record. Apparently 2543 species and varieties were brought in before 1923. Of these 1404 first brought into cultivation anywhere. It is not clear if "varieties" as here used about 1923, or "introductions" as used by Howard include cultivars such as the several hundred Lilacs brought from Lemoine and some hundreds of Rhododendrons from Waterer which had previously been brought to America by H. W. Sargent, Rand and Hunnewell, or whether only plants brought from the wild are included. Sargent, Wilson, Jack, Rock, Anderson all explored and brought plants from the wild.

Of the 1500 or so "introductions" since 1923 how many came before Sargent's death or Wilson's death or Jack's retirement? How many about did Judd bring back from his various vacations? Are the several hundred or more that Wyman picked up in English gardens considered introductions? What about plants Wilson sent to Veitch and Veitch shared with Arboretum? Are they probably Arboretum introductions? And is the Regal Lily (herbaceous) an Arboretum introduction, or was it a private side issue for Farquhar?

A recent estimate was that about a hundred "introductions" a year came from other botanic gardens. Howard's Directors Reports give larger figures but are not clear.

- 49. Royal Azalea

Has been credited to J. ^G Veitch 1893, but Arboretum may have been first to bring from Veitch, or Jack may have reintroduced 1905.

- 50. Hardy Cedar of Lebanon

Sargent arranged for collection of seed in Sicilian Taurus.

51. Dawn Redwood

Merrill arranged for collection of seed from the wild. Said to be only real "introduction" of Arboretum in past twenty years.

52. Memorial Rose

Introduced 1891.

53. Chinese Dogwood

Introduced Wilson 1907.

54. Beauty Bush

Introduced Wilson to Veitch 1907.

55. Regal Lily

Discovered Wilson 1903 and introduced to Veitch with whom it flowered in 1905. On later Wilson trip to Arboretum John Farquhar, Boston seedsman contracted with Wilson to ship him some thousands of bulbs for commercial introduction in United States which was done about 1908.

H. PLANT PROPAGATION

56. Graft Compatibilities

Sax (date ?)

57. Seed Dormancy

58. Rooting Hormones

(Already covered under #24 ?)

59. Polyethylene Plastic

60. Double Dormancy

61. Effects of Substrata

What original work on the above five at the Arboretum? It is believed that Boyce Thompson Institute and various government experiment stations made the original investigations on all or most of these and published on them before any similar work at Arboretum. Further experiments are routine in many arboreta and nurseries and bulletins trade papers and various books give endless details. Lipp made polyethylene popular in Boston area. He did not claim discovery. Was he not charged by Howard with plagiarism when he described practical adaptations? Coggeshall has written and spoken on these subjects but has not claimed discoveries.

I. PUBLICATIONS

62. Silva of North America

Sargent 1891-1902 (He stated not published by Arboretum.)

63. Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs

Rehder (1927 ?) and second edition 1940 and not published by Arboretum.

64. Arnoldia

Largely by Wyman.

65. Sargentia

Purpose? Editor? Dates?

66. Journal of the Arnold Arboretum

Started by Sargent largely for horticulture. Of its botanical features about 75% had bearing on horticulture and 25% or less on tropical plants. Now has become almost entirely botanical without horticultural significance and 75% or more tropical.

67. Botanical Exploration of Trans-Mississippi West

McKelvey 1956? Any horticultural significance?

68. Lilac

McKelvey 1927? and already listed under 33. Here horticulture is supreme.

69. The Arnold Arboretum Garden Book - Wyman

Except for a brief and valuable historical preface is entirely reprint of #64.

70. Yucca of Southwest United States

McKelvey (date ?) Already listed under 39.

71. Bibliography of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs

Rehder (about 1948 ?)

72. Bradley Bibliography

Rehder 1900-1918

73. Index Rafinesquianus

Merrill. Date?

Of the above 12 publications the following are horticulturally certainly important: - #62, 63, 64, 66 (the earlier years under Sargent only), 68, 69. The following are useful in horticultural research: - 71, 72. The following may have some horticultural significance: - 67, 70. Are 65 and 73 technical botany only?

These are 12 publications only. It is interesting to note other writings and editings of the Arboretum staff in the past, some, according to Sargent, published by the Arboretum, some not. Here are some from Sargent's list:

Catalog of Library - Tucker, 1918
Pines of Mexico - Shaw, 1909
Plantae Wilsonianum - Wilson, 1913-1917
Cherries of Japan - Wilson, 1916
Conifers and Taxads of Japan - Wilson, 1916
Bulletin of Popular Information, 12 volumes, 1911-1922
Illustrated Guide - 1911 and 1921

In addition those not published by the Arboretum but written or edited by Sargent as follows:

Report on Forests of North America - 1884
The Woods of the United States - 1885
(the 14 volume Silva - 1891-1902 belongs in this list)
Trees and Shrubs - 1905-1913
Garden and Forest edited by Sargent at Arboretum, 10 vols. 1887-1897.

There was also prepared at the Arboretum by Sargent a large part of the hardy trees and shrubs in Bailey's Cyclopedia of American Horticulture (1900) and the second edition "The Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture" (1927)

Omitted also is any reference to Wyman's excellent books of more recent dates. Two of them received the Coleman award.

J. SERVICE

74. Living Collections

Started by Sargent. Claimed to be well kept. Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. claims deterioration since 1927, loss of many species not replaced and lack of adequate new introductions. Only a court hearing with sworn testimony and complete financial records and complete records of plants lost and plants acquired can give authoritative answer. Whether the Arnold Arboretum surpasses all similar institutions in collections and service is a matter of opinion.

75. Exchange of Plants. 76. Identifications, and 77. Exchange of and Loan of Herbarium Specimens.

All important and all standard procedure throughout the world and hardly warranting emphasis here.

78. Bibliographic Assistance

When? To whom? By whom? How much? How important?, etc. How does this differ from #1 and #5?

79. Tours

Where? By whom? With whom? What for? How does this differ from #4?

80. Lectures. 81. Glasses. 82. Questions Answered.

Already covered under #1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7.

83. Survival Handbooks for the Armed Forces

Merrill's "Food Plants of Southeast Asia" was prepared for U. S. Armed Forces. Howard prepared a similar book for the north. Dates not known. Were these based on original research? Or were they compilations of previous research by others? It is known that a book "How to Survive on Land and Sea" was published in 1943 by the Naval Aviation Training Program and distributed by the U. S. Naval Institution.

84. Special Military Studies of Vegetation

This probably refers to Johnston's work in Panama in recent years.

CONCLUSION

At first glance the quoted "contributions" give the impression that horticulture, which is mentioned first, is foremost at the Arboretum. It will be interesting to check after each of the items whether it serves horticulture or botanical science or both and whether it is chronologically placed in the era of Sargent and his appointees, or in the era of later regimes and their appointees.

The scientific projects with scientific names unfamiliar to most people include only a dozen or so of the 84 items. The percentages of staff, library, herbarium and present projects as between theoretical botany, popular horticulture and horticultural research and between Cambridge and Jamaica Plain is not referred to either on page 2 of the pamphlet, or in the accompanying text on page 3. Cambridge is not mentioned in the pamphlet and the attached gift form and reply envelop are addressed to Jamaica Plain.

John C. Wister

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
May 14, 1957

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.
May 3, 1957

To Messrs. Johnston, McDaniels, Sax, Slate and Teuscher:

I should like to have your help in analysing the new Harvard pamphlet "The Arnold Arboretum, 85th Anniversary Year, 1872 - 1957."

The cover well illustrates the beauty of the Arboretum. The second page is entitled "In 85 Years These Contributions to Horticulture and to Science." Under ten separate headings it lists ninety-eight different contributions. I shall have this page copied and shall ask information from you on each contribution which I have identified by letter and by number.

I should like to have each contribution identified chronologically, that is placed in the proper regime of each of the five directors, and further identified as to their value to botany alone, to botany and horticulture, and to horticulture alone. In addition, I should like to know the name of the staff member responsible for each. The purpose of such analysis will be to show how many of these "contributions" belong to the days of Sargent, Jack, Rehder, Wilson, Judd, etc., how many to Sax, Wyman, Filmore, Lipp, Coggeshall, how many to the various theoretical botanists of the past twenty years and to the present staff under Director Howard.

This page and the following page of text certainly give the impression that the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. is belittling about the purpose to help horticulture and credit the international reputation to the affiliation with the University. All of us know that this reputation was established by Sargent when he had little contact with Cambridge. It will be important to learn whether and in what ways the "contributions" have progressed or lessened.

The Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. must not put itself in the position of belittling any present work but it can and should point out the facts concerning the statements given out by Harvard and point out the trends as shown by the various contributions in their chronological order.

John C. Wister

John C. Wister

Have you copy? If not write to Harvard for me
This is obviously reply. I don't
want to cut to 2 or 3
pages please help me

A NEW HARVARD VERSION OF THE CONTROVERSY
OVER THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

On March 25, 1957 Mr. William L. Marbury, Fellow of Harvard College and member of a prominent Baltimore law firm, spoke before the Guilford Garden Club of Baltimore on the subject "The Harvard Corporation and the Arnold Arboretum". This talk has been printed by Harvard University "in the interest of clarifying some of the questions that have been raised concerning the Arnold Arboretum".*

Mr. Marbury begins by saying "in a very few minutes I shall try to explain . . . the nature of the unfortunate dispute that has arisen between Harvard University and some of the friends of the Arnold Arboretum". In order to accomplish this in a very few minutes Mr. Marbury has oversimplified the case and left out many important matters. In his 2nd Paragraph, for instance, he tells of the history of the Arboretum but not a single word as to the purpose, which was to benefit horticulture, leaving out particularly the statement in the agreement that the money was not to be used for any other purpose than those stated.

In his 3rd Paragraph he says that from the very beginning the trust was intended to provide for the advancement of learning as well as for the growing of trees and shrubs. This is a very curious statement as no one of what Mr. Marbury later calls "the dissenters" has ever denied this fact. To put it more plainly, those who have dissented from the Harvard policy have used as one of their chief criticisms the very fact that in the last quarter century Harvard has not advanced the learning of horticulture. In his 4th Paragraph Mr. Marbury sets up another straw man to knock down, namely, that scientific research is essential for the development of an arboretum, with which all agree. This scientific research was carried on in botany and in horticulture with the work in botany focused upon the needs of horticulture during its first half century. In the last thirty years more and more emphasis has been placed upon tropical botany, which has no bearing on the purpose of the Arboretum to benefit horticulture in New England. Until now most of the work of the Arboretum concerns these plants and there is no vital or forward-looking horticultural research being undertaken. It might even be said that the

* The pamphlet is 5½ printed pages, 4 by 9½ inches, and is divided into 14 paragraphs.

institution at Jamaica Plain now is a one-man institution as its only horticulturist of standing is Dr. Donald Wyman.

An emphasis on this, therefore, is out of place if he is, as he says, attempting to explain the reasons for the controversy.

Mr. Marbury's 5th Paragraph is a eulogy of Professor Sargent, with which all agree, and his 6th Paragraph, an explanation of the Gray Herbarium and other botanical departments of the University. In the 7th Paragraph Mr. Marbury comes to the first part of the cause of the controversy, namely, the Bailey Plan, which, as he says, endeavored to bring together the different botanical institutions of Harvard. His statement that this included all the horticultural activities also is a little strange as there was no other department or organization or institution except the Arnold Arboretum which was dealing in horticulture, the botanic garden having been abandoned some twenty years previous, at a time when President Lowell stated that as horticulture was of little scientific value to the University, it had better be given up.

In Paragraph 8 Mr. Marbury gets on more dangerous ground. He states that the Bailey Plan was presented with the full approval of the Director and staff of the Arboretum, which is quite true. He neglects, however, to state that after it had been presented that three directors of the Arboretum protested against it, namely, Professor Oakes Ames, Dr. E. D. Merrill, and Dr. Karl Sax. All of these worked against it, the first two as long as they lived. He also fails to mention that ^{where} Merrill's obituary was written, ^{that} his part in forming the basis for the Bailey Plan was mentioned but not a single word that he had changed his mind ^{that} against it and, during the last seven years of his life had worked against it. Mr. Marbury mentions the "prolonged study" given by the Overseers and others to the controversy, but neglects also to mention that during that time they consulted various botanical authorities but not one single horticultural authority was brought before them to present the horticultural side of the case. Mr. Marbury mentions that counsel advised there was no legal objection to the transfer of the books, but that other features of the plan were found to be unwise or of doubtful legality. That is an interesting admission in as far as the original Bailey Plan puts the Director under the charge of a biological committee in Cambridge, instead of having him the supreme authority as was originally agreed, and when this fact was brought to the attention of Harvard they

were obliged to change that one provision. The fact that the change was made does not diminish the importance of the fact that what the people in Cambridge wished was to get the entire control of the Arboretum under its biological committee and not under its Director.

In his 9th Paragraph Mr. Marbury says that the collection at Jamaica Plain was not in any way injured or neglected. That, of course, is a matter of opinion. It should be noted here that what the dissenters of the plan asked was to bring this matter to court where sworn testimony could be given to show whether or not this was true, and that Harvard was afraid, or at least not willing, to have this matter aired in court. Mr. Marbury goes on to say that the grounds are in as good condition as they ever were, which, again, is a matter of opinion, and can only be brought out by sworn testimony from experts on both sides. Mr. Marbury himself is not an expert and does not pretend to be and he therefore is merely in this paragraph saying what has been told to him by the Director at the Arboretum. The fact that more money is being spent on the collections than before is not any important evidence. It is merely an evidence of inflation, that everything now costs so much more than it did.

Mr. Marbury's 10th Paragraph refers to the books and specimens which relate strictly to horticulture which are now kept at Jamaica Plain. He is careful not to say what the number of these is. The last estimate was about 7,000 books and about 100,000 specimens and as such they comprise about one-fifth or one-sixth of the total, the great majority having been moved to Cambridge. It is quite true that there they are better housed and no one has disputed that. Mr. Marbury, however, neglects to state that they could have been better housed at Jamaica Plain had the suggestion of the Visiting Committee to raise enough money to make an addition to the building been followed. In Paragraph 11 Mr. Marbury says that the dissenters say that all the books and specimens should have been left in Jamaica Plain but that they had not given any reason which to him seems to make sense. The dissenters believe that their reasons make a great deal of sense. The whole thing has been divided so that anyone wishing to study plants needs to divide his time between Jamaica Plain and Cambridge, just as before the people had complained that on certain botanical things the time had to be divided between the Arboretum and the Gray Herbarium. This division, therefore, still remains. The main objection, however, to the

specimens that had been left behind is that they represent cultivated plants only and that in the opinion of many botanists these are almost worthless in making scientific determinations if they do not have also at hand at the same time the specimens taken from the wild. A still more valid objection, however, is the fact that by making this division horticulture is set apart from botany and it is the earnest belief of those who have opposed the Harvard policy that the two should work together and that the botanical work at the Arboretum should be focused upon the needs of horticulture, particularly the horticulture of the temperate zones. As it is now, some 75 or 80% of the publications of the Arboretum refer to tropical plants which have no importance whatsoever in New England and the horticulture of New England is not being advanced. Mr. Marbury further says that the Arnold Arboretum "is not just a collection of trees and shrubs, It is a scientific institution, which has always carried out much of its work away from Jamaica Plain." No one has disputed the first part of this. The dissenters have strongly urged that it should be ^{an} integrated botanical-horticultural institution--that it should carry out scientific work by botanists focusing their work upon the needs of horticulture and particularly the horticulture of the temperate zone. The quotation that much of the work was carried on away from Jamaica Plain is of course also true. Professor Sargent had explorers in China and in other parts of the world, but during the Sargent regime none of the work was done in Cambridge nor was there during the period when it achieved its greatest fame any connection with the botanists of Harvard. It was a totally separate institution and made its reputation as such. The question which Mr. Marbury poses is, therefore, which part of the work can best be done at Jamaica Plain and what part can best be done elsewhere. It is quite easy to see that if tropical botany is to be carried on, it can be carried on somewhere else just as well, but it is the contention of the dissenters that tropical botany should take a very small part, if, indeed, any part, of the work, because there is ample need for research in botany and horticulture that affects New England, for which the money was given.

In Mr. Marbury's Paragraph 12 he brings up the question of the dissenters who have charged that what has been done is a breach of trust, and in Paragraph 13 he states that the attorney general was asked for permission to sue Harvard and refused it. He, however, makes a statement which cannot be borne out by the facts, namely, that the attorney general

heard both sides of the story. There was no general hearing at which the dissenters could be heard and ask questions of those on the Harvard side. There was no general discussion and the attorney general, who sent his assistant to look into this matter, received merely a sketchy report upon which he based his decision. The highest court also did not hold, as Mr. Marbury states, that the dissenters had shown no grounds. The court merely held that it would not interfere with the attorney general in this particular. Paragraph 14 - Mr. Marbury denies that the Corporation has evaded a court test, which is a very strange way to word it. He does state that it has not on its own initiative started a lawsuit to find out if its action was lawful. He states that trustees sometimes do this. We have been told that it is the invariable rule of trustees to ask such a court hearing when there is a question such as has arisen here. It should be remembered that Harvard took this exact position in the McKay case, and it was only after long agitation that President Lowell agreed to take the matter to the court where, to his great amazement, the whole action taken by Harvard was upset. Harvard at the present time denies that there is any similarity between the two cases but the dissenters believe that there is. Mr. Marbury particularly calls attention to the fact that the Harvard position has been called arrogant. The dissenters still believe that it is and that his own defense is that in particular in that he avoided any of the definite statements such as have been given out by those who have dissented from the plan and particularly the recommendations given in detail at the Winterthur Conference of November, 1956. Mr. Marbury's 15th and last paragraph states that this is what the controversy is about. He states this after he has omitted most of the main facts. To him the controversy only concerns the books, some in Cambridge and some in Jamaica Plain, and it is important to him that they are safely housed, which is important to everyone. He makes the statement that all are readily accessible to members of the staff, which in one instance at least is not true. He mentions that with two exceptions the members of the staff prefer to have the books where they are. He omits to mention that three directors, Oakes Ames, Merrill and Sax, all dissented from the plan.

In this last paragraph he ends by saying it is unfortunate that there should be bad feeling against a great educational institution by appealing to people who are in most cases not in a position to hear both sides of the story. In his case he has given

only one side of the story and has given very sketchy facts, omitting the most pertinent ones.

No one has questioned Mr. Marbury's good faith in giving this talk. He is merely repeating what has been said at Cambridge by persons primarily interested in botany and not interested in horticulture. He feels, as do other members of the Corporation, that horticulture is only looking at a single flower and making sentimental remarks about its beauty, and he neglects to see the tremendous field of research which is needed in present day horticulture and which could be carried on by the Arnold Arboretum perhaps better than anywhere else in the world. Some of the fields of this research have been mentioned in statements by the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. and others will be published by them from time to time. In the meantime, the pertinent facts which they have given have never been denied but are merely glossed over as is in this case by Mr. Marbury by the general feeling that all who object to anything done at Harvard are misinformed and misunderstand.

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Mr. Marbury stated that "in a very few minutes" he would try to explain the nature of the dispute between the University and some of the friends of the Arboretum. To accomplish this he oversimplified the case. He left out such important matters as the purpose to benefit horticulture, as well as many other details.

In explaining that from the beginning the trust was intended to provide for the advancement of learning as well as for the growing of trees and shrubs, Mr. Marbury implied that those opposing the present Harvard policy were opposed to scientific research. This is not the case. Those who have opposed the Harvard policy have criticized the very fact that in the last quarter century Harvard has not advanced the learning of horticulture. More and more emphasis has been placed on tropical botany, which has no bearing on the purpose of the Arboretum to benefit horticulture in New England. No vital or forward-looking horticultural research has been undertaken as a joint project of the botanical and the horticultural members of the staff. Indeed, the staff is now so split, with a dozen or so botanists in Cambridge and the one nationally recognized horticulturist in Jamaica Plain, that such joint cooperative effort is virtually impossible.

Mr. Marbury devoted several paragraphs to the Bailey Plan, but did not mention that its purpose was to benefit Harvard botany rather than to benefit the Arboretum. He stated that the plan had the approval of the Arboretum director, Dr. Merrill. This is true, as that approval was given in 1945. Mr. Marbury neglected to state that this director subsequently turned against the plan, as did his predecessor, Professor Oakes Ames, and his successor, Dr. Karl Sax. All these worked against it. Mr. Marbury mentioned the "prolonged study" given by the Overseers and others to the controversy but neglected also to mention that while they consulted the various botanists who had proposed the plan, they did not ask the opinion of a single horticultural authority.

Mr. Marbury mentions that counsel advised that there was no legal objection to the transfer of the books, but that other features of the plan were "found to be unwise or of doubtful legality". This is a damning admission of the fact that the Corporation gave no real study to the plan before approving it, and did not and perhaps still does not have a full realization of its far-reaching consequences. It also spotlights the fact that a group of Cambridge professors tried to have the control of the Arboretum taken away from its director as agreed upon in 1872 and transferred to a biological committee in Cambridge.

Mr. Marbury states as a fact that the collection at Jamaica Plain was not in any way injured or neglected, and that it is in as good condition as it ever was. That, of course, is not a fact but an opinion. Mr. Marbury is neither a botanist nor a horticulturist. Harvard has not been willing to listen to expert testimony from horticultural authorities who dispute Mr. Marbury's claim. Mr. Marbury says that more money is being spent on the collections than before. This does not prove anything. It is merely an evidence of inflation.

Mr. Marbury refers to the books and specimens which relate strictly to horticulture and which are now kept at Jamaica Plain. He does not give statistics as to the total number or mention that they include only about a fifth or a sixth of the former total. It is true they are better housed than before and no one has disputed that. Mr. Marbury, however, neglects to state that they could have been better housed at Jamaica Plain had

the suggestions of the Visiting Committee to raise enough money to make an addition to the building been followed. Mr. Marbury says that the dissenters who say that all the books and specimens should have been left in Jamaica Plain have not given any reason which seems to make sense. The dissenters' chief reason is that by the move to Cambridge the interests of the staff have been so divided that cooperative work between the botanists and the horticulturists has been made virtually impossible. One dissenter, former director Merrill, acknowledged to be one of the world's greatest botanists, has testified that what has been left at Jamaica Plain is almost worthless in making scientific determinations without the use of what has been taken to Cambridge.

Particularly tragic is the fact that by making this division horticulture is set apart from botany. It has been and is the earnest belief of those who have opposed the Harvard policy that the two should work together and that the botanical work at the Arboretum should be focussed upon the needs of horticulture, particularly the horticulture of the temperate zones. As it is now, some 75% - 80% of the publications refer to tropical plants, which have no importance in New England, and the horticulture of New England is not being advanced.

Concerning the question of a court hearing, Mr. Marbury states that the Attorney General made a thorough investigation and heard both sides of the story. This is disputed. The dissenters claim they were given no proper opportunity to present their side.

Mr. Marbury's final paragraph states that he has shown what the controversy is about. He states that after he has omitted most of the main facts. He ends by saying it is unfortunate that there should be bad feeling against a great educational institution by appealing to people who are in most cases not in a position to hear both sides of the story. In his case he has given only one side of the story and has given very sketchy facts, omitting the most pertinent ones.

No one has questioned Mr. Marbury's good faith in giving this talk. He is merely repeating what has been said at Cambridge by persons primarily interested in botany and not interested in horticulture. He and the other members of the Corporation fail to see the tremendous field of scientific research which is needed in the present day horticulture, and which could be carried out by the Arnold Arboretum perhaps better than anywhere else in the world. Some of the fields of this research have been mentioned in statements by the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. and others will be published by them from time to time. In the meantime, the pertinent facts which have been published by the Association have never been specifically denied and the specific questions it has asked have never been answered. They have merely been glossed over, as in this case by Mr. Marbury, by the general implication that all who object to anything done at Harvard are misinformed and misunderstand.

May 13, 1957

Mr. John Wister
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.

Dear John,

I seem to be lagging in attending to your letters. However, I seem to have taken on more writing than I should and for a while I am going to be struggling to get on top. I am doing much of the fruit material for a new edition of the Wise Encyclopedia which Paul Frese is editing. Next, I must revise the fruit material in 10,000 Garden Questions for Rockwell. The lily manuscripts are on my neck. Also, my gardening takes a lot of time and literary activities are done after dark when I am not too tired.

I have a copy of Styer's Confidential Report on the Arboretum for the directors of the A.A.N. which is very much in need of answering as it is poorly done. Have you seen it? Harriet Creighton takes issue with my Pusey letter on very weak grounds. Sounds as if she was a friend of Harvard.

I have delayed replying to your letters until I could see the Marbury leaflet. Do you have one that I may see?

The anniversary leaflet is a clear indication that the Arboretum is living on its past performance and bragging about things that happened long ago. Many of the things are trivial and are not original. If we take out Sax's work, practically nothing would be left except the few items dealing with public education.

The first paragraph of Howard's statement is a beaut! If he really believes it, he does not know what it is all about. The Arboretum's firm base was Sargent and his ideas. Sargent alone made it a great research institution. The affiliation with Harvard is what is wrecking the Arboretum. It certainly never contributed a thing to the Arboretum in the whole 85 years. Boston maintains the roads and inadequate policing. The interest of the people of Boston is mostly in the spectacular displays.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

John Winter
Recd. 5/3/57

A FABLE

Once upon a time in a great city, a hall suitable for concerts was left to a nearby college by the will of a public spirited citizen. About the same time another citizen left a sum of money to three temporary trustees as an Endowment Fund, the income to be used for the promotion of music through public concerts.

These trustees offered to have the college appointed permanent trustee of this Endowment Fund if it would turn over this hall for concerts by a symphony orchestra, appoint a Conductor for the orchestra, and name him to a new professorship of music. The Conductor was to have full authority over the orchestra and its concerts, and would be expected also to teach the knowledge of music. In due time an agreement covering this proposal was signed.

The Conductor appointed by the College brought together a notable group of musicians and led them in symphony concerts which became world famous. As the income from the Endowment Fund was not large enough to carry out all his ambitious plans, he personally contributed much additional money. He persuaded his friends to add to the Endowment Fund, so that in the course of nearly half a century it increased from about a hundred thousand to over a million dollars. This made it possible, in addition to giving concerts, to assemble a fine musical library and a museum of valuable musical instruments. The Conductor retained an independent status, and had little contact with the College.

After the Conductor's death no new Conductor was appointed, and the concerts were led by various members of the Orchestra. Then the College appointed one of its greatly beloved professors as Supervisor. He was not a musician and gave little time to the Orchestra. He was, however, a good administrator, and brought in guest conductors and soloists who, for a time, kept up the quality of the concerts. He brought the College and the Orchestra into a closer relationship. As he now had at his disposal a large income, and as the College Music Department had only very limited funds, it was quite natural that he was asked for financial help when particular research projects were planned, and little by little, some small proportion of the income was diverted from its original purpose of sponsoring concerts.

After the Supervisor died the tendency to divert money from the Orchestra to the College became more pronounced. A Director was appointed who had no interest in concerts. His life had been devoted to research in the history of Burmese music. When the Orchestra's best musicians died or retired, they were not replaced. Instead additional professorships were added to the College Music Department, and given special assignments in research. Collections of ancient musical instruments took up most of the stage and even part of the auditorium of the concert hall.

The overcrowding of the building became so serious, however, that the Dean of the College and the Head of the Music Department suggested that a new building should be constructed on the College Campus to house both the books and instruments owned by the College and those owned by the Orchestra.

The latter would take up nearly half the building and therefore the College specified that the Orchestra should pay about half the upkeep of the new building. The professors of the Music Department and the members of the Orchestra endorsed the new plan. They charged that the Concert Hall was a dangerous fire hazard, and too overcrowded to allow good concerts to be given.

Some of the musicians, however, opposed the move. They pointed out that the stage of the Concert Hall, which housed the most valuable portion of the musical instruments, was fireproof, and that it was sealed off from the rest of the building by an asbestos curtain. They said the building would be practically empty and useless. Because they said this, they became marked men in the College, which had long boasted of the academic freedom of opinion and expression of its professors. They did not receive the pay raises given to the others, and one was even forbidden to enter the new Campus building. This treatment intimidated other members of the Orchestra from expressing their opinions.

The Music Department at the College had grown greatly. The number of professors engaged in research had increased to over a dozen. The College became more and more proud of the scientific aspect of its Music Department. The president even stated publicly that as concerts were of very little scientific value to the College, it might be well to give them up and devote the resources of the now Four Million Dollar Endowment Fund to scientific research in the history of music and musical instruments.

Other College officials, however, felt that this would be too drastic a step, and therefore inaugurated, in place of the former great symphony concerts in the Concert Hall in the city, piano and violin lessons for children or an occasional popular concert of Rock and Roll.

And thus, as the years passed into generations, and the generations into nearly a century, the purpose of the Orchestra Endowment Fund, which had been legally agreed to by the College so many years before, became so changed that it could not be recognized. The great Concert Hall, which for so many years had been world famous for its symphony concerts, was now practically empty and all but abandoned. There were protests about this, of course, by some who had given to the Endowment Fund and by others who were seriously interested in the advancement of music through concerts rather than through the study of books and instruments, but these protests were easily brushed aside.

Of course, none of this really happened. This is merely a fable. But it might have happened if any one of America's great orchestras, instead of being independent, had been placed under the trusteeship of a college.

JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

April 23, 1957

Dr. George Slate
Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

I don't agree with you about the President. I don't think we have a chance in the world of getting him to fall off his limb. It seems to me that he and his people are firmly in the saddle and we have made no impression whatsoever. My only comfort is the fact that maybe they are scared because they have just printed Mr. Marbury's lecture to a garden club and if you have not received this you should send for it as it is the usual propaganda slurring over all the facts.

Yours sincerely,

John
Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

March 12, 1957

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

Dear George:

Thank you for your reply to my call for help on the article on Arboretums and Horticultural Research.

From the suggestions you and some of the others have made I worked with Tom Rankin in Boston to make a new draft combining the suggestions sent in and I will send this to you in due course when it is typed.

The exact nature of this new draft will of course depend on how it is to be used and when I left Boston Rankin was not certain whether they would want to send it out from the Association or whether I should send it out personally or whether we should try to get it into some magazine. I will let you know about this later.

I had very interesting sessions with Rankin, Blake, Hemenway and Mrs. Arnold and later had an opportunity to talk to both Dr. Sax and Dr. Johnston and therefore have a much clearer idea of what the present situation is.

Yours sincerely,

John

The dispute over the Arnold Arboretum shows that what the theoretical botanists at Harvard and the Harvard administration mean by horticulture, and what the Association for the Arnold Arboretum means by horticulture are not the same thing, or rather, what Harvard thinks of as horticulture is but one part of what the Association thinks of as horticulture.

The botanical viewpoint is not peculiar to botanists now at Harvard. A few quotations will point up the botanical and the Harvard attitude.

(1) When the Michigan Agricultural College decided to establish a chair of horticulture and landscape gardening/ Liberty Hyde Bailey was asked to accept the post.

"When Dr. (Asa) Gray heard the news, he was surprised and disappointed. 'But, Mr. Bailey,' he said, 'I thought you were fitting yourself to be a botanist.'"

"Yes, Dr. Gray, but a horticulturist ought to be a botanist."

"The older man did not agree. He considered a botanist a scientist, a horticulturist only a gardener. The viewpoint of the one was intellectual, to establish the truth about plants and their relationships; the objective of the other was practical, to grow plants for ornament or use. To Gray, horticulture was farm business, and he had the patronizing attitude of the white-collar theorist for the man in overalls and heavy boots. Research had to be conducted in the laboratory or herbarium, not in the garden or orchard.

"Bailey differed, maintaining that unlike the nurseryman, who was in business primarily to make money, a salaried professor could profitably devote himself to botanical research as well as horticultural practices. He could link the scientific with the practical.

"Dr. Gray remained unconvinced, and fellow botanists shared his view that Bailey was throwing away a promising career in science. 'You will never be heard from again,' predicted John Merle Coulter."

Liberty Hyde Bailey, horticultural and agricultural botanist and scientist, wrote 65 books, was honored by botanical as well as horticultural and agricultural societies in many countries, received four honorary degrees, quantities of medals and other forms of recognition.

(2) "The great paradox that our commonest plants are the least known has given rise to a greater one, that this perilous situation is very generally unsuspected. Officially it is still within the province of taxonomy, the science of classification, to deal in a precise and scholarly way with the naming of all plants, wild or cultivated. The earliest taxonomists did indeed concentrate their attention on everyday plants. So gradually did their successors become aware of the special difficulties posed by the plants of fields, gardens and dooryards that they drifted slowly into their present policy of avoidance Between taxonomists and other scientists there is now enough of a gulf so that the latter assume the classification of cultivated plants to be at least tolerably understood. Nothing is farther from the truth. Most modern taxonomists

do next to nothing with cultivated plants; many deliberately avoid studying or even collecting them. As a result the scientific name affixed to most cultivated plants becomes just an elaborate way of saying

'I do not know.' ".....

"This is a serious business. To the rest of the scientific world, to agriculturists, to anthropologists, to plant breeders, to geographers, to economists, to historians, the accurate classification of the plants more closely associated with man is of more importance than that of all the other plants of the world put together. To the average taxonomist, these are the very plants least effectively dealt with by his methods; he prefers not even to think about them." The whole chapter in which these words occur is devoted to a discussion of taxonomy as it relates to cultivated plants.

(3) "Outside the garden it has always puzzled me to observe how the professional botanist has been apt to despise the aliens which strive after a wild footing within the close community of the native flora. Is it not, as well as unscientific perhaps, at least ungenerous and a little stuffy and insular?"

(4) George H. M. Lawrence, when studying at Harvard, took plants from a nearby rock garden to Prof. M. L. Fernald because he was puzzled over their identity. Prof. Fernald looked at them and said, "Cultivated rubbish. Send them to Bailey". Dr. Lawrence went to Bailey at Cornell. He remained with him to become an eminent botanist working with cultivated plants. He succeeded Bailey as Director of the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell University.

(5) President Lowell at the time of difficulties at the Harvard Botanic Garden wrote that in view of "the comparatively small scientific value of horticulture to the University, the Garden had better be used for scientific purposes". He directed that the culture of living plants at the Garden be given up and that the income of the endowment originally given for the Garden should be used for the benefit of the Department of Botany.

References

- (1) Liberty Hyde Bailey - An Informal Biography by Philip Dorf
- (2) Plants, Man and Life - by Edgar Anderson, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden
- (3) Gardenage - by Geoffrey Grigson (British)
- (4) Baileya, March 1956 - George H. M. Lawrence
- (5) Harvard Crimson, October 29, 1929 - A. Laurence Lowell

WHAT IS AN ARBORETUM?

Words change their meaning, or rather over long periods of years people attach different meanings to them. Literally the word arboretum means a collection of trees. Webster added to this, and defined it as a place where trees were cultivated for scientific purposes.

Horticulturists have added further meanings. Bailey's definition was "a living collection of trees and shrubs a plantation of many kinds of woody plants permanently maintained for purposes of study, investigation and education, a distinction from a grove, forest, nursery or a park. An arboretum may be one of the integral parts of a botanic garden."

Wyman, in "The Arboretums and Botanical Gardens of North America," elaborates as follows: "an ample area set aside for the growing and effective display of all the different kinds of worthy ornamental trees, shrubs and vines...which can be grown in a given area, their maintenance, proper labeling and study." He states that it differs from a botanic garden because the emphasis is on woody plants, but apparently does not entirely exclude herbaceous plants.

The University of Washington defines an arboretum as "a museum with living exhibits, a laboratory of living specimens...the labeled plant material is botanically arranged and available for study by gardeners, nurserymen, landscape designers, by students of botany, horticulture or forestry. These trees and shrubs may...be...grouped in combination plantings for effects at certain seasons....An arboretum tests plant material and propagates that which has proven successful, then aids in distributing (plants and seeds)...to botanical institutions and to nurseries. It also has the material available to gardeners."

Professor Sargent, who was both a botanist and a horticulturist, long ago wrote that an arboretum should consist of three main parts:--living collection, herbarium and library. A botanist has recently criticized this as out of date, even if it was adequate in Sargent's day, and stated that there should be added "the active participation of anatomists, cytologists, morphologists, geneticists, physiologists and the closest possible ties with biology in general". He believed specialists in these fields should be members of an arboretum staff, or else that the arboretum should be a part of a university that had such specialists in its departments of botany and biology.

The cleavage here between the botanist and horticulturist can be noted as the above writer made no mention of horticulture or of the definitions of the three horticulturists first quoted.

Botanists consider their important work to be with wild species in their natural environment, or in the laboratory and herbarium, often with the microscopic aspects of plants. Asa Gray apparently did not believe that important scientific work could be undertaken in the garden or orchard. Horticulturists, on the other hand, have more and more insisted that advanced horticultural scientific research at the highest academic level has been, is being and should be undertaken by highly trained horticulturists working with living plants in the garden, orchard, field and forest, and also in the laboratory. Such research of course requires the service of persons of high or advanced technical training in the field of horticulture. This training should include, and not be in place of, training in botany.

Horticultural research can be on the highest level. It can deal with pure science with little practical application, or with science with definite application. It can even be concerned with practical matters alone.

The land grant colleges have done, and are doing, important work for agriculture and for horticulture in the field of pomology and vegetable growing, but little in ornamental plants (except concerning commercial nursery practices). Knowledge about ornamental plants and understanding of their problems is far behind that of the so-called economic plants, and is greatly needed. Horticultural research need not, and should not, conflict with botanical research. The two can go hand in hand to mutual advantage in any arboretum.

The fields in which the horticultural and botanical research could work together for the benefit of cultivated ornamental plants include the following:--

(1) Exploration. This should be of a special and as yet little practiced type. It should be concerned not only with known species or new species, but with wild varieties, and wild forms, usually overlooked by botanists ~~because of no importance to botany~~. These may be, and often are, of greater value to horticulture than the type species, because of some particular characteristics of appearance or adaptation. Of particular value may be botanical varieties or geographical varieties or forms growing at the northern limits of a species or at its highest elevation. Some of these may prove hardier than the usual commercial strains of the species. Such variations when not important for themselves may prove of value or importance in future plant breeding.

Exploration should begin in near-by areas, and then as circumstances permit, extend to other parts of the continent and to foreign lands, and should include cultivated areas, gardens and nurseries, as well as wild areas.

(2) Taxonomy. This should include special work on botanical or geographical varieties or forms, wild and garden hybrids, mutations, etc., the botanical relationships of which have been and are difficult to determine.

(3) Ecology and (4) Physiology. Research in this should include not only the plants as found in nature but the study of more difficult problems which arise in gardens.

(5) Nutrition. This should include studies of:--(A) Water requirements at different seasons of the year and under varying conditions of temperature and wind, etc.; (B) Soils, including mineral matter, organic matter, bacterial content, etc.; and (C) Manures, fertilizers, trace elements, etc.

(6) Effects of Light and Shade. Research should include sunlight, partial or deep natural shade, artificial shade and artificial light, etc.

(7) Effects of Temperature. Research should include studies of ideal temperature, extreme cold, extreme heat, extreme wind, humidity, etc.

(8) Genetics. The study in this field should include underlying scientific facts and theories under the conditions of nature and under the conditions of modern horticultural practices.

(9) Practical Plant Breeding. This should concern the application of the science of genetics, the practical application of the knowledge of chromosomes, use of x-ray or colchicine, methods of selection and testing resulting plants, methods of description and methods of introducing valuable new plants into commerce, plant patents, etc.

(10) Propagation. Theoretical studies and their practical application to seeds, cuttings, grafts, etc., with various hormones and under various conditions such as mist spray, plastic tents, outdoor frames, etc., etc.

(11) Pathology and (12) Entomology. These should be studied in relation to both wild and to cultivated plants and under widely different conditions, as well as in relation to ecology, physiology, nutrition, light and temperature, already noted above, and how these may also be affected by plant breeding and selection.

(13) Morphology and (14) Cytology and (15) Anatomy. These may or may not be directly useful to horticulture. A knowledge of these sciences, however, is important in adding understanding to many of the subjects above.

The above fifteen fields for research are not the only ones in which further knowledge is needed, but seem sufficient for the present discussion. Much work in them has already been done by botanists and by horticulturists in widely scattered fields, but as far as is known there has been no continued research by top horticulturists and botanists working together on the same problems concerning cultivated ornamental plants in any given area.

FURTHER NOTES ON THE OCTOBER 1956 PROGRAM
OF THE ARBOLD ARBORETUM

The "evaluation" sent to the Visiting Committee under date of January 10th questioned and criticized many parts of the director's program. Space did not permit discussion of methods needed to make any parts of the program effective, or what other important activities would be needed to make the Arboretum carry out its obligations to horticulture.

No one has questioned the value of the botanical work of the present or of the past quarter century. The question has been and remains - is it proper to allow it to absorb the attention of such a great majority of the scientific staff to the exclusion of a really dynamic and advanced horticultural research program focused on the needs of New England?

Here, then, are further questions about the program and suggestions as to how certain parts of it might be carried out.

I. Education

A. The director's program says: By exhibiting a comprehensive collection of hardy woody plants. To do this properly the grounds should be replanned by a competent landscape architect (such as the nearby Olmsted firm which made the original design). To replan might include changes of or additions to roads, taking out duplicate or injured trees, or increasing the space given to some genera, and decreasing the space for other genera. If the collection is to be really comprehensive, the total genera and species represented will have to be checked with herbarium specimens of cultivated plants, and with the card catalogs, to show what plants have been lost, and to determine whether or not they can be or should be replaced.

The program says: Thus demonstrating the appropriate cultural practices of each. A comprehensive collection alone does not necessarily, and in the case of the present arboretum does not, demonstrate appropriate cultural practices. To demonstrate these it would be necessary to have certain examples of low light and tree planting, right and wrong watering, right and wrong feeding, etc., and each collection would have to have a bulletin board giving planting dates and treatment given and proposed to give. Coupled with this there should be field classes or guided tours during which various important practices should be discussed and demonstrated.

B. The program says: By teaching botany and horticulture. To be really effective to undergraduates and graduates and to the general public, school children and teachers young and old, it would require a staff of specially trained full time teachers. The casual courses now given to the public are not enough, and teaching one or two or half a dozen graduates a year is certainly not enough for such an institution.

C. The program says: By sharing the knowledge of trees, plants and plant materials with fellow scientists and horticulturists. The meaning of this is not clear. Does it mean sharing the knowledge of plant material (if so, what is the distinction between sharing the knowledge of plants and of plant materials?) or does it mean also the sharing of the actual plants? (or plant materials, whatever they are). What is the distinction between fellow scientists and horticulturists; does it signify there are no scientific horticulturists on the staff, or does it imply that no horticulturists are scientists, worthy to be considered fellows by the theoretical botanists?

How the knowledge of trees, etc. will be shared is not made clear. It can be shared by exhibiting comprehensive collections as already mentioned in I A or by teaching as in I B, or by publications as in V A and V B below. If plants are to be shared, that is covered under II A and II B below, and in general under II and IV below. Various sections of the program seem to repeat the same plan of activity under different words as if referring to additional activities.

II. Plant Introduction

The program says A. By adding to the collections, which as in B and C below could mean living plants or herbarium specimens, and B. By helping other arboreta increase their collections, which means the same thing as I C above, if that means sharing plants as well as knowledge, and C. By constantly searching for new plants, which is essentially the same as II A above. If any of this refers to living plants, it needs additions to the present horticultural staff to make it really important.

III. Explorations

A. If this is concerned with living plants, it is essentially the same as II above, if II above refers to living plants (which is not clear). If it refers only to herbarium specimens, the words, by financing the field work of staff members, would exclude horticulturists, and B. by sponsoring (when funds permit) - (the emphasis here is curious, as the entire program is based on funds permitting, otherwise all of it would be carried out in full at once, to cover all needs). The words special research and exploration of other botanists seem a very special exclusion of horticulturists. Why? Does Harvard think the work of other horticulturists would not contribute to the Arnold Arboretum program?

IV. Research

A. By using to their fullest . . . the living collections. By whom? The one horticulturist and the one propagator stationed at Jamaica Plain or the ten taxonomists stationed in Cambridge? If only the first two, is this using the collections to the fullest? By using the library and herbarium (which one - Cambridge or Jamaica Plain?) Which? By whom? Jamaica Plain is isolated from 5/6ths of the herbarium and library in Cambridge and cannot conveniently use it to the fullest extent. The ten Cambridge taxonomists are isolated from the 1/6th of the library and herbarium at Jamaica Plain and are therefore not likely to use it to the fullest, which means that the great majority of the staff cannot or will not do any work on cultivated plants. It looks as if nobody uses anything to the fullest.

B. By furthering the study of woody plants of New England as a contribution to horticulture. The horticulturist and the propagator cannot leave their tasks for such study requiring constant travel. The ten taxonomists are not interested in New England plants suitable for horticulture and are not interested in horticulture, so they, even if they had time from their present tasks, cannot undertake this. Who, then, is to do it? There have been no appointees for this work and there has been no promise of such appointees. One or more men, specially trained for such work, could definitely spend a lifetime at it without exhausting its possibilities.

C. By seeking support of projects . . . where the resources of the . . . Arboretum and the special knowledge of its staff can be most effective. The resources (living plants, herbarium specimen plants, library) of the Sargent era were most effective in the temperate zone, particularly the United States (except the warmest states) and the similar climate of China, Korea and Japan. The Sargent staff then had special knowledge of warm or tropical areas. This makes the projects of little or no value to New England culture.

V. Publications

A. By preparing floras, etc. The "collections" would allow floras of hardy plants useful for horticulture, but the "special knowledge of the staff" leans heavily to tender plants of no value to New England. There is nothing to indicate plans for publishing new up-to-date editions of Sargent's works or Rehder's Manual or the Bradley bibliography. Are there any plans for publications about garden plants like McKelvey's Lilacs? And who would write them?

B. By issuing reports of original investigations in the field of horticulture. By the horticulturist and propagator at Jamaica Plain, already overloaded with work? Or the geneticist, given no adequate help or space? Or by the ten Cambridge taxonomists who have made no horticultural investigations and are isolated from the living collections, from the herbarium specimens of cultivated plants and from the horticultural library, and who have not knowledge or interest in horticulture anyway? This, like IV B above, could absorb the lifetime work of one or more specially trained horticulturists. No one with such training has been added to the staff, all new appointees being theoretical botanists stationed at Cambridge.

Conclusion

Most of the items of the "Program" where not ambiguous or repetitive, refer to activities that cannot be undertaken under the present set up, in so far as they refer to horticulture. It is evident that the emphasis will continue to be on herbarium specimens of plants of no possible importance to New England horticulture, which work with dried specimens the Harvard authorities seem to consider the only or the most important scientific work.

Harvard spokesmen continue to assert that the Arboretum must not be concerned merely with horticulture. This attitude seems to be based upon an inability or an unwillingness to recognize the importance of, or the need for, scientific research in horticulture on an academic level at least as high as present botanical research.

The Director's "Program" contains nothing at all about such important matters as (1) plant breeding and the testing of the resulting plants for resistance to disease as well as for beauty and general usefulness. It contains nothing about (2) the need of a pathologist, (3) of an entomologist, (4) or of an ecologist to work not only with problems within the Arboretum but also in the New England area. There is nothing about (5) training gardeners, or (6) arboretum or park horticulturists or (7) estate, or arboretum or park superintendents, or even finally (8) arboretum directors.

Any or all of such activities would be more in keeping with the purpose of the Arboretum than the present emphasis on plants of no significance to New England horticulture.

John C. Wister

Swarthmore, Pa.
January 21, 1957

JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

February 11, 1957

Dr. George Slate
Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of the 7th with the comments on my draft entitled Scientific Horticultural Research.

When I went to check your letter with this draft I could not find a copy of it. I don't think I sent you my last or only copy but if you will be good enough to return it I will get more copies made and send a copy back to you.

Yours sincerely,

John

sent

February 7, 1957

Mr. John Wister
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.

Dear John:

First my comments on your "Scientific Horticultural Research" outline. With your outline I am in agreement.

Now as to your detailed notes.

- I. I believe the horticulturists should be trained in other fields - taxonomy, physiology, cytology, genetics, soils, etc. The skills they acquire in these fields should be focused on horticultural problems.
- III. The better research in pomology and vegetable crops is being done by men trained in plant physiology, genetics, cytology and soils.
- IV. While the Arboretum is in New England, it certainly helped greatly the horticulture of the whole north temperate zone and I believe Sargent meant that it should. Rehder is often referred to in English literature.
- V. I believe the collections should be as complete as possible and not limited to those primarily of possible value for cultivation. All of the woody plant material that will grow there should be maintained. We can never tell when some of the things of no value for gardening may be very useful to the taxonomist, cytologist, geneticist, plant breeder, pathologist, entomologist and pomologist. The Arboretum should have all of these things available to all who might want to use them. Complete collections might well attract students and research workers.
- VI. Many of the fields listed here are being worked fairly well at other institutions, although perhaps not slanted towards ornamental woody plants as we would like. However to do respectable work in these fields would require far greater resources than the Arboretum has.

First should be the taxonomic research with cultivated woody plants of the North Temperate zone. The Arboretum did its greatest work here and it has the herbarium, library and collections to do great work here again if it can be properly directed and regain its momentum. No other place can begin to do the work that the Arboretum can do here. This work is much needed. For these reasons this work should have high priority.

February 7, 1957

The taxonomic work should be supported by appropriate cytological and genetical work.

There might well be some breeding work in fields not being actively worked by others. For example, the Arboretum should keep away from rose breeding in the fields now being worked so intensively by others. However, it might become evident to taxonomists and cytologists that certain groups of rose species that are now being ignored might have considerable to offer the breeder. Here the Arboretum might well do some exploratory breeding. There are undoubtedly many opportunities with plants now overlooked.

A. and B. I agree.

With the other alphabetical items the arboretum simply does not have the resources to do adequate work. Its main effort should be in the field where it made its great contributions under Sargent.

The Work of the Arnold Arboretum.

I cannot say much about this, but Sax can undoubtedly help you. We can judge what is going on, or rather not going on, by the Director's reports, the division of the herbarium and library. The outrageous lies by Howard and his treatment of all who disagree with him, would not be necessary if he was trying to manage the Arboretum in its best interest instead of diverting as much of its resources as possible into other work.

A good observer says that talk of air pollution and vandalism may be the prelude to moving some things to Weston and turning the rest over to the Boston Park Department.

You may recall that a couple of years or more ago I quoted L. H. Bailey as saying that the Arboretum would soon be only a "glorified part of the Boston Park Department".

Has your letter gone to President Pusey? I shall be interested in his reply to you.

The executive committee meets February 8 and will consider my proposed letter at that time. Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

JOHN C. WILSON
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

January 31, 1957

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

Dear Tom:

I feel that we have now reached the most important point in the whole controversy--namely, that the Harvard side does not know or appreciate (or else ignores) the fact that there is a science of horticulture and that we believe that it is of as high academic standing as the science of botany and at least equally important.

We can, of course, go further and mention our conviction that it is more important for the Arboretum, first, because it is even more needed, and second, because it directly and exactly comes within the purpose of the Arboretum.

I have prepared for you and for the other members of the Winterthur Conference a first draft of a possible statement on this subject.

The draft is crude, too wordy, too long, and in some instances not explicit enough. But I think it will do as a starting point of a discussion by letter. I wish we could have a second conference at Winterthur, or New York or Boston, to discuss it later, but this probably will not be practical.

In any case, I hope you and the others will not only give the draft the once-over but serious consideration and study to see if a useful statement can be built out of it.

Some brief, dignified and authoritative statement is needed to show Harvard what we are talking about, which they do not understand or at least pretend not to. They are thinking in terms of a horticulture consisting merely, and presumably solely, of a collection of trees and shrubs visitors can enjoy, of guided walks around the grounds, of the introduction of a few plants, new or otherwise, of good but elementary lectures, and of the excellent periodical *Arnoldia*, which is either elementary or aimed at popular level, whichever you prefer to call it.

None of these activities cover the realm of horticulture that an institution like the Arboretum should and could cover.

Yours sincerely,

JCW:MF

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.
January 15, 1957

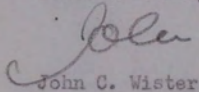
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WINTERTHUR CONFERENCE:

I sent you last week the "Evaluation" of the Howard Program which I prepared for the Visiting Committee and which I feel would have been much stronger if it had been signed by all the group instead of just by me, but Rankin seemed to feel that it should get off without further delay and, although I had corrections from a number of the group, I did not have an o.k. from all members.

Now I have prepared "Comments" on the letters sent by President Fusey and Chairman Washburn to Mr. du Pont, and some of you have already seen the original drafts for this.

I am enclosing copies and want to ask you if you would be willing to have your name signed to this, or the group name. In asking this, I want further criticisms of the statement. I will go over it a final time and get the letter part in the first two pages and not have it hanging over into three pages as it does now. Aside from such shortening I don't feel any other changes are necessary but I would like to have your opinion on all of it and particularly on my descriptions of the qualifications of the members of our own group.

Yours sincerely,



John C. Wister

George

Here it is finally & I hope my starting +
changes follow some suggestions

John

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OVERSEERS COMMITTEE TO VISIT THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM:

You have all received the statement of the Winterthur Conference. You probably know that President Pusey wrote to Mr. du Pont that it showed ignorance of the situation and misinformation. By way of proof he sent to Mr. du Pont a copy of the Program submitted by Director Howard at your meeting of October 22, 1956, but which apparently was never sent to any staff member at Jamaica Plain.

The President called this Program a general summary indicating "an awareness of the need for horticultural research and concern for the role the Arboretum has played and plans to play in the future." Your chairman, Mr. Washburn, called it "very clear and precise."

Are these descriptions of the Program justified? As a member of the Winterthur Conference, I do not believe they are. Far from being clear and precise, the Program is vague and so worded that it could mean almost anything or nothing. As far as horticulture is concerned the Program means nothing. It does not show any "awareness of the need for horticultural research" or give any reason to believe that there will be such research. There does not seem to be any fruitful combined effort of the Cambridge staff and the Jamaica Plain staff.

As the Chairman of the Committee has expressed his eagerness to have the Program evaluated from every angle, I have prepared, with the help of other members of the Conference, for the Board of Directors of the ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC., an analysis of the Program point by point, with questions and criticisms. I enclose a copy herewith.

No one questions the value of the current work of the Arboretum -- to botany. But the primary purpose of the Arboretum was to help New England horticulture. I do not wish to be sarcastic, but the whole program appears to be a "window dressing" to give the impression of a great interest in horticulture which does not exist. It brings to mind the attempt to give a similar impression to the members of the Visiting Committee by a totally incorrect story about Chosenia at a 1955 meeting, a story which was also published in the American Nurseryman. One would hesitate to say that the present administration engaged in a deliberate hoax, but, if not, it showed an ignorance of the facts and an unwillingness to look them up. As far as I know it has not been retracted.

John C. Wister '09
Member of the Winterthur Conference
Director, ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

Swarthmore, Pa.
January 10, 1957

EVALUATION OF
THE PROGRAM OF THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Presented by Director Howard to the Overseers Committee to
Visit the Arnold Arboretum at its meeting October 22, 1956

The Chairman of the Committee has expressed his desire to have the Program evaluated from every angle. An analysis shows that while it purports to plan for horticultural work, its statements, with a few exceptions, are so worded that they can be interpreted to refer only to dried plants in the Cambridge herbarium.

Study of the present Director's three annual reports shows the overwhelming emphasis given to plants of no horticultural significance in New England. The staff includes only one horticulturist of known reputation and one propagator. The great majority of the staff members, including all appointees of the present Director, are what President Fusey terms "theoretical" botanists. This makes the pretense of planning for great future horticultural work sound very hollow.

All of the activities listed in the Program were inaugurated in the early years of Professor Sargent's directorship, and are standard practices in most arboreta and botanical gardens. There is nothing to show which activities have received emphasis since Sargent's day, or which will be emphasized in the future. Without a critical comparison of present day budgets with those of the past, it is impossible to tell exactly how horticulture has fared.

Here, statement by statement* are notes concerning the program.

1. Education:

- A. By exhibiting a comprehensive collection of hardy woody plants, thus demonstrating the appropriate cultural practices for each

To make this effective landscape replanning is needed. The staff landscape architect has resigned and not been replaced. The Director's reports do not indicate that anything has been done to improve the present collections beyond such a statement as "weed trees were taken out from the Azaleas."

- B. By teaching botany and horticulture both to students within the University and to the interested public

Neither botany nor horticulture has ever been taught to undergraduates at the Arboretum. One graduate botanical student worked last year in the new Cambridge building under an Arboretum staff member. About half a dozen worked there under a Gray Herbarium staff member. Two students of an Arboretum staff member worked in the Biological Laboratory and at the Bussey Institution. Are future students of the Harvard Department of Landscape Architecture to be taught elementary horticulture? If so, who will teach them? The present horticulturist's hands are full. The instruction given to the "interested public" for at least 50 years has been valuable but cannot take the place of the important scientific horticultural work for which the Arboretum was long renowned. There is nothing to indicate plans for adding additional horticultural teachers or for teaching more advanced subjects.

*The designations by number and by letter have been added by the present writer to permit easier reference.

- C. By sharing the knowledge of trees, plants, and plant materials with fellow scientists and horticulturists

Nothing to indicate whether emphasis is on living hardy plants or herbarium specimens.

2. Plant Introduction:

- A. By adding to the Arnold Arboretum's collections basic indigenous and exotic woody plants, both wild and cultivated

See comment under 1C above. And what are "basic" indigenous and exotic woody plants?

- B. By helping other Arboreta, both here and abroad, to increase their collections

Merely a rewording of 1C. See comment above.

- C. By continually searching for new plants of beauty, value, and scientific interest

Merely a rewording of 2A - repeated later under 4B. See comment above.

3. Exploration:

- A. By financing the field work of staff members to aid their research and thus enhance the collections of the Arboretum

Essentially a rewording of 1C, 2A and 2C. See comments above. As the staff members are predominantly interested in non-horticultural plants, this offers little promise for horticulture.

- B. By sponsoring (when funds permit) the special research and exploration of other botanists whose work contributes to the Arnold Arboretum's program

This recently, like the activities above, has concerned plants of no value to New England horticulture. What about sponsoring horticulturists?

4. Research:

- A. By using to their fullest the outstanding living collections, the herbarium, and the library of the Arnold Arboretum

The Cambridge staff members are isolated from the living collections and from the herbarium and library of cultivated plants. Their work concerns plants of little or no horticultural significance. Are any new projects concerning living plants under way or contemplated?

- B. By furthering the study of woody plants in New England as a contribution to comparative horticulture

How? This, and 5B below, are the only statements even offering promise to horticulture. They are, however, mere promises. The Director's reports do not mention any such study undertaken, or about to be undertaken; or new appointees for this purpose. The Jamaica Plain staff is small and its hands are full. And what, by the way, is "comparative" horticulture?

- C. By seeking support for projects in geographical areas where the resources of the Arnold Arboretum and the special knowledge of its staff can be most effective

In the tropics? Recently most staff members have been concerned with plants of no value to New England horticulture. No persons have been added to the staff who are primarily interested in plants for New England.

5. Publications:

- A. By preparing floras, monographs and critical studies based on the collections of the Arnold Arboretum

The writings of Sargent, Wilson, Rehder (and Mrs. McKelvey's Lilacs) were of immense value to horticulture. There is no evidence that similar work is contemplated by a staff predominantly interested in plants of no horticultural significance.

- B. By issuing reports of original investigations in the field of horticulture

When? How? By the Cambridge botanists? See comment on 4B above.

CONCLUSION

Nothing in the above so-called Program gives any indication that horticulture will receive any fair proportion of the attention of the staff or the money needed to carry out the vague promises in 4B and 5B. Nothing that is being done gives any real indication of awareness of the immense importance of horticulture.

The move to Cambridge proves how little importance is attached to the living collections and to the small portion of the library and herbarium left at Jamaica Plain. Most of the technical staff is in Cambridge working with dried plants of little or no horticultural significance. This and the reports of the Director give no hope that any important horticultural work can be or will be carried out.

John C. Wister (Harvard '09)
Member of Board of Directors of the
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM, INC.

Swarthmore, Pa.
January 10, 1957

JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

January 11, 1957

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

Dear George:

I have yours of January 8th and think I have incorporated most of your criticisms into the final statement, which is now going out, at least in so far as I can put them in and still cut the size as I did most drastically.

I like your suggestion that when we expose the insincerity of the President's letter and its ridiculous statements it should go out from the Committee as a whole. I don't think Washburn's letter was insincere. It was dignified and seemed to me perfectly sincere and it is merely that we disagree with him. In other words, I think better of him than of the President who by his original 1954 letter to the Directors of the Association fully showed us the kind of person he is.

Yours sincerely,

John

JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

January 2, 1957

Dr. George Slate
Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

Thank you for your two letters. Do you think that the additional *Lawrence* questions about the program should be incorporated in the analysis which Rankin may or may not want to distribute, or do you think it should be an analysis made by some other member of the Winterthur group?

Howard always wants to bring out the Merrill letter of 1946 and it seems to me that every time he does he should be slapped down hard and reminded of Merrill's change of heart. You will note in Mrs. Merrill's letter which has now been printed in the 5th paragraph Mrs. Merrill's statement that he turned against the plan in 1946. I think she must be mistaken on the date for it has always been my impression that it was after Ames published his criticism that he changed sides. I suppose the exact date is not important except that she makes out that he resigned his position on this account when all the other reports are that he was due to retire before 1946 but had been allowed to continue much longer than people usually did and that he got out entirely on account of his age.

Dr. Howard is always insulted no matter what you say to him. He felt it an insult when I wrote to him that we could not discuss the matter man to man because he was a paid employee to defend it.

We do not know which of our people remain on the Visiting Committee except Henry du Pont and Mrs. Crowninshield. I do know that they dropped Hemenway like a hotcake when they were unable to win him to their side.

In reference to your letter to the President, it is like all of mine, it is much too long and should be drastically shortened even though when it is short he probably won't read it anyway and he will *first* have his secretary acknowledge it and say it will be brought to his attention or else he will ignore it entirely. I cannot learn to write short letters myself and wish I could, so it is a pleasure to me to meet somebody else who makes them too long so I can criticize them. I feel very strongly that you can't say to him that the Corporation is arrogant. Of course it is but I think you open yourself to have him say the opposition is insulting and using that as an excuse. We have seen the Harvard smear tactics against us and we have to be careful not to give them an opportunity of saying we are calling them names.

I have, therefore marked up the letter on some of the points and I wish you would consider them and of course see what Rankin thinks about them. So far, the 7 members of the Winterthur conference who have answered the questionnaire have known the Arboretum since 1900, 1905, 1915, 1916, 1925, 1927 and about 1930. I have no answer from Johnston, Lee, Teuscher and Zimmerman and shall hope to hear from them in order that we can slap that in the President's face.

Yours sincerely, *John*

*about
279 years*

8th January 1957

Mr. John C. Wister
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.

Dear John:

Thanks a lot for going over my proposed letter to the President. Your suggestions are much appreciated and will mostly be used. I wish that we could all get together and talk over Pusey's and Washburn's letters as well as Howard's so-called "program". A reply signed by the whole group and sent to the members of the Corporation and the Visiting Committee is something to consider.

I think that you might well incorporate Lawrence's suggestions in your analysis, but leave his name out as he has to make use of the Harvard botanical library and herbarium. He has given me many invaluable suggestions and I hope that he can maintain his contacts at Harvard so that I can find out from him what is going on.

Here are some of my comments on your analysis of the program:

1A. Maintaining a comprehensive collection is not demonstrating appropriate cultural practices. The collections are probably not comprehensive as I think of them. They should be as complete as possible as people like myself must occasionally have some place where they can get everything that will grow in this climate. It takes active collecting to keep the collections up. Johnson says that species that die out are not being replaced. Probably a few of the spectacular items are replaced, but little else.

1B. I interpreted the statement in the original identity "the Arnold professor is to teach the knowledge of plants" very liberally. L.H. Bailey has said that to disperse knowledge we must first have knowledge. Sargent and his associates and successors set out to acquire that knowledge in a field where there were great gaps to be filled in. The present Arboretum staff are not acquiring knowledge

8th January 1957

Mr. Wister:-

-2-

in the field that Sargent exploited and they are apparently not interested in that. They seem not to have attracted any students other than garden clubbers.

1C. To share knowledge at a research institution you must first get it. They are not doing it in a field useful to American horticulture.

2A. No evidence that they are doing much here.

2B. No evidence that much, if anything, is being done here. It takes collectors in the field and travel in Europe and elsewhere where cultivated plants are being grown and developed.

3A. Work with tropical plants may enhance the herbarium but not the living collections. If these men are authorities on tropical plants then cannot be helpful to north temperate zone horticulture.

4A. We will grant that they are using the herbarium and library, but not for work of any horticultural usefulness. They are not using the collections at all, as they are not interested, and only go to Jamaica Plain as window dressing.

I agree fully with your whold analysis. The program is set up as window dressing and there is no serious intention of doing anything along those lines. Each year that passes the Arboretum is getting farther and farther away from cultivated plants. The only advantage that I can see from this steady decline of the Arboretum is that it may give us a stronger case, if and when we get to court.

This is all that I can think of now.

Best regards,

THE PROGRAM OF THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Presented by Director Howard to the Overseers Committee to visit
the Arnold Arboretum at its meeting October 22, 1956

*Revised by
P. Sargent 27.56
Comments: "Cultural design"*

This Program consists of thirteen short (two to three line) statements under the five headings of Education, Plant Introduction, Exploration, Research, and Publications.

The Chairman of the Visiting Committee has described it as "very clear and precise". President Pusey has called it a "general summary indicating an awareness of the need for horticultural research and concern for the role the Arboretum has played and plans to play in the future".

A careful analysis of the program, statement by statement, shows that while it purports to plan for horticultural work, all but three of the statements, 1A; 4B; 5B; instead of being clear and precise, are so worded that they can be interpreted to refer to dried plants of no horticultural importance. A careful study of the present Director's three annual reports shows the overwhelming emphasis given to the latter, the overwhelming preponderance of taxonomic botanists interested in dried specimens of non-horticultural plants. The Staff includes only one horticulturist, the superintendent, and one propagator. In the three years the staff landscape gardener and one propagator have resigned and have not been replaced, all new appointees being laboratory botanists. This makes the pretense of planning for future horticultural work sound very hollow.

ALL, or nearly all, of the thirteen activities listed were inaugurated in the early days of Professor Sargent's directorship and are standard practice in all similar institutions. There is nothing to show which have received emphasis since Sargent's day, and without a critical examination of present day budgets compared to those of the past, it is impossible to tell exactly how badly horticulture has been slighted in the emphasis on the study of dried plants.

Here, step by step, are notes concerning the program.

1. Education:

- A. By exhibiting a comprehensive collection of hardy woody plants, thus demonstrating the appropriate cultural practices for each.

(1) There has been no replanning of the whole Arboretum. (2) The one staff member capable of such planning has resigned and has not been replaced. (3) The present Director's three reports do not indicate that anything has been done to improve the present collection beyond such a statement as "weed trees were taken out from the Azaleas".

- B. By teaching botany and horticulture both to students within the University and to the interested public.

Neither botany nor horticulture has ever been taught to undergraduates. Graduate botanical students this past year have numbered about half a dozen, two of whom received PhD Degrees under Dr. Sax. This number hardly seems to justify the investment in the building, the employment of ten botanical taxonomists and the excuse that one of the reasons for moving the library and herbarium was for the convenience of these students. If horticulture is to be taught to students of the Department of

Landscape Architecture this will affect a very small number. The instruction given to the "interested public" continues on a popular level, little different from that available from various horticultural societies and garden clubs. There is nothing to indicate plans for improving this by adding additional horticultural teachers or by teaching more advanced subjects.

- C. By sharing the knowledge of trees, plants, and plant materials with fellow scientists and horticulturists.

Standard practice everywhere. There is nothing to indicate any accelerated program.

2. Plant Introduction:

- A. By adding to the Arnold Arboretum's collections basic indigenous and exotic woody plants, both wild and cultivated.

Standard practice everywhere. This phase of the work greatly reduced since the deaths of Sargent and Wilson. Dried specimens have been emphasized instead of living plants.

- B. By helping other Arboreta, both here and abroad, to increase their collections.

Again, standard practice. There is nothing to indicate any new efforts. Practically merely a rewording of 1C.

- C. By continually searching for new plants of beauty, value, and scientific interest.

Merely a rewording of 2A - repeated later under 4B.

3. Exploration:

- A. By financing the field work of staff members to aid their research and thus enhance the collections of the Arboretum.

Essentially a rewording of 1C, 2A and 2C. As the staff members are predominantly interested in non-horticultural plants, this offers little promise for horticulture.

- B. By sponsoring (when funds permit) the special research and exploration of other botanists whose work contributed to the Arnold Arboretum's program.

This recently has been entirely for tropical work or other plants of no value to New England horticulture.

4. Research:

- A. By using to their fullest the outstanding living collections, the herbarium, and the library of the Arnold Arboretum.

Most of the staff being in Cambridge are isolated from the living collections and from the herbarium and library of cultivated plants. Their work concerns plants of little or no horticultural significance.

- B. By furthering the study of woody plants in New England as a contribution to comparative horticulture.

This, and 5B below, are the only statements offering promise to horticulture. They are, however, mere promises. The Director's reports do not mention any such study undertaken, or about to be undertaken, or the appointment of any staff member capable of this type of work. The present horticulturist could not take time from his other duties even to start on this.

- C. By seeking support for projects in geographical areas where the resources of the Arnold Arboretum and the special knowledge of its staff can be most effective.

For more than two decades the special knowledge of the Staff has been concerned with tropical plants which offer no promise of help to New England horticulture. No persons have been added to the Staff who are primarily interested in plants of or for New England.

5. Publications:

- A. By preparing floras, monographs and critical studies based on the collections of the Arnold Arboretum.

Paragraph 5B which follows would make it clear that this refers to technical botany of non-horticultural plants even if the primary interests of most of the staff members were not known. The last monograph of horticultural value was Mrs. McKelvey's Lilacs (1928). The last critical study of horticultural value was the second edition of Rehder's Manual (1940). New editions of each of these are greatly needed. There is no evidence that they are contemplated or that anyone is qualified to do them.

- B. By issuing reports of original investigations in the field of horticulture.

When? How? There have been no such "investigations". The staff contains no one to make them or report upon them. Arnoldia and the horticulturist's excellent books are on the "popular" level. See 4B above.

CONCLUSION

Nothing in the above so-called Program gives any indication that horticulture will receive any fair proportion of the attention of the staff or the money needed to carry out the vague promises in 4B and 5B. Nothing that has been done since 1927 and that now is being done gives any real indication of awareness of the immense importance of horticulture.

The move to Cambridge proves how little importance is attached to the living collection and the small portion of the library and herbarium at Jamaica Plain. Most of the staff is in Cambridge working with dried plants of little or no horticultural significance. This and the reports of the Director give no hope that any important horticultural work can be or will be carried out.

JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

December 26, 1956

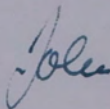
Dr. George L. Slate
Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter. I will hope for another from you after you have received my later letters.

I think the Arnold Arboretum "Program" will convince anybody who doesn't know anything about it that all is well. Our job is to show them that it means nothing as far as horticulture goes because the important things in horticulture that it promises to do cannot be done because there is no one on the staff to do it and only botanists are appointed. I don't know how best to rub that in but I wish you would think that over in connection with the material I sent you for comment.

Yours sincerely,



JOHN C. WISTER
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

December 18, 1956

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

Dear George:

Since my return from the Wilmington meeting I have been struggling and trying to make a decent analysis and criticism of various writings by Dr. Howard and the letters sent to Mr. du Pont and, finally, the so-called program which you got when you visited the Arboretum at 22 Divinity Place. Dr. Sax has made some minor criticisms but I would like very much your help if you would give it to me by reading the enclosed and telling me what parts are suitable to put in a final copy, with which something or nothing will be done, and what parts should come out.

Yours sincerely,

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

J. C. Wister

*I enclose a first draft.
More later*

2

Dear Glaser

To the Members of the Winterthur Conference:

President Fusey's letter to Mr. du Pont, copies of which you have all seen, tends to imply that the Winterthur group was ignorant, misinformed, and did not look into the facts.

I thought it would be interesting to find out how long and how intimately the present group has known the Arboretum in comparison to the President, the Director and the present staff. I am writing to you now to ask you to answer the following questions:

1. In what year did you first visit the Arboretum?
2. Did you every study there, if so, for how long?
3. Have you ever worked there, if so, for how long?
4. Approximately how often have you visited there over the years, that is, every year, every few years, or more often?
5. How important have the Arboretum publications, other than those of Sargent, Wilson and Rehder, been to your work?

As an example, I might say that I have known the Arboretum since 1905, studied one or two days a week at the Bussey and on the Arboretum grounds from 1906 to 1910, and ever since have gone back from three to six times a year, or more often, except the last two years when I have been laid up. Included in this were approximately month-long studies in the library in each of half a dozen years or so, first working with Mr. Wilson in 1924 in preparation for my Tree Peony article in the Peony Manual, and in the '30's and '40's working on the first edition of Swarthmore Plant Notes.

If each of you will give me your brief answers to the above questions, I will compare them and let you know the aggregate numbers of years we have known the Arboretum in comparison with the new-comers.

John C. Wister

John C. Wister

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
December 14, 1956

December 19, 1956

Dr. John C. Wister
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.

Dear John,

I am glad to know that you are disturbed about President Pusey's letter to Mr. du Pont. I have been equally disturbed and intend to reply to it if Mr. du Pont will give me his permission. President Pusey, I believe, knows nothing whatever about the situation except what he has been told by Mangelsdorf and Howard. I question whether he has ever looked into the legal aspects of the matter.

I do not think it makes any difference whether we ever visited the arboretum or have visited it in recent years. The Bundy leaflet and the first 3 reports of Director Howard are very illuminating. However, I visited with Dr. Howard the day after the Association meeting and if I believed what he told me and what was on the typewritten sheet which he gave me, I would think that things were going very well at the Arboretum. Howard certainly is a very slick, smooth individual. I did not tell him that I did not believe most of anything he said. Sax and John Hemerway were with me as I was told that I should have someone with me if I did not want to be misquoted.

Now to get to your letter. I first visited the Arboretum in 1925 when I was a student at the Bussey. During that time I collected Arboretum material for the station so I became fairly familiar with the Arboretum and I also worked in the library. Since then my visits to the Arboretum have been rather infrequent and have averaged about once a year during the past five years. The Arboretum publications other than those of Sargent, Wilson and Rehder have been of little use to me. I find *Arnoldia* interesting but not particularly useful, except for now and then when a copy has something that I can use.

I am pleased that you are looking into this matter and assume that you intend to write to President Pusey.

Sincerely yours,

GLS:par

George L. Slate,
Professor of Pomology

Note to Officers and Directors
of
The Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc.

Dear George

Recently I sent to the officers of the Association a note concerning the November 15th report of a special committee of the Board of Trustees of Rutgers University. This contained proposals for reorganization and was printed in a 12 page pamphlet mailed to all alumni.

The proposals on pages 1 - 6 of the pamphlet were signed by nine of the twelve members of the committee. Statements by the three opposing members were printed on pages 7 - 11. Page 12 contained the opinion of counsel that the proposals were within the scope of the powers of the trustees.

In spite of this printed legal opinion the three dissenting members refused to sign the proposals because they believed that the matter should be submitted to the courts to see if the trustees did have the legal right to make all the changes recommended.

This seemed to parallel the request of our Association to obtain a court hearing on the Arnold Arboretum controversy. I therefore wondered if we could learn anything of value from this situation in New Jersey.

Now I have received a second pamphlet on the same subject, referring to the action taken by the Board of Trustees on November 25th. It begins as follows:

"To All Rutgers Alumni:

"On November 15, at the suggestion of the Special Committee on Reorganization, the University sent you a copy of the proposed Plan of Reorganization.

"On November 25, the Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution:

'RESOLVED, that the Plan of Reorganization proposed by the Special Committee at the meeting of this Board on November 11, 1955 be approved; and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that a court decree be sought at the earliest possible date declaring that this Board is empowered to take such action; and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final adoption of this Plan for Reorganization be subject to enactment of legislation necessary to carry it out, the approval thereof by the Governor and its acceptance by this Board."

Following this resolution the pamphlet printed letters from each of the three members who formerly opposed the plan, Messrs. Robert A. Cook, Frederick W. Smith, and Tracy S. Voorhees, stating that they have withdrawn their opposition and have joined with the majority to make the recommendations unanimous.

What have we now to learn from New Jersey and how can we publicize the New Jersey action?

This all reminds me of a famous British cartoon of the 1890's, showing a respectable middle class man and wife looking at a very unrespectable picture of a scantily dressed Cleopatra reclining in luxury on her barge on the Nile. The woman was saying to her husband "How unlike the home life of our own dear Queen."

John C. Wister

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
January 11, 1956.

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM CONTROVERSY

AN ADDRESS BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MASSACHUSETTS,
SWAMPSCOTT, MASS., OCTOBER 22, 1954.

by

John C. Wister, Director of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural
Foundation, Swarthmore College, and President of the American
Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums

In starting any talk before a garden audience I have always
been able to say truthfully that I was happy to be present.

Today I cannot say that. My feelings are mixed. I do,
of course, welcome this opportunity to explain to you as clearly
as possible the cause and the meaning of the Arnold Arboretum
Controversy.

I am sad because this is the first time in my life that I
have had to stand on my feet in public and criticize any Harvard
action. I am a Harvard graduate entirely loyal to my college.
I am the 6th generation of Harvard graduates in my family and
have two nephews and one great nephew who are graduates and also
one great nephew a member of the present senior class. I am not
a stranger from Pennsylvania, but more than half a New Englander.
On my mother's side my ancestors were Harvard graduates back to
the class of 1747. In addition, my father's mother's family came
from New Bedford, and from Nantucket, and include many Harvard
graduates. I do not speak as an outsider, but as one who, by
inheritance, is devoted to Harvard, who in the Boston area is
surrounded by literally dozens of cousins who are Harvard grad-
uates. I want to make it quite clear that when I criticize a
Harvard action I do it not only because I feel it necessary to
speak out for the protection of the Arnold Arboretum, which I
have known for 49 years this month, but even more to protect the

reputation of Harvard as a trustee.

I feel very strongly that the manner in which the decision to move the Arboretum library and herbarium was reached can hardly be defended, and that the type of defense which Harvard has adopted in replying to honest and intelligent criticism is absolutely unpardonable.

More and more graduates are resenting this present attitude. I have letters from many who, while they are not able to express an opinion on the merits, want to join our Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., because they are so incensed at the action of Harvard in not only refusing to ask the opinion of the court as to the legality of such a completely new policy, but in going further and actually asking the Attorney General of Massachusetts to refuse the protestants their day in court.

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I feel ashamed every time I think that those in authority at my college should have taken such action. I am ashamed at their discourteous act of rushing the removal to Cambridge of most of the Arboretum's books and herbarium while the petition to the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts was pending. I am not a lawyer but from the standpoint of an ordinary citizen this action seems very poor taste.

I must tell you enough of the history and background of the Arboretum to make you understand: (1) how the present situation has come to pass; (2) exactly what it is; and (3) what it seems to us to portend.

In 1869 James Arnold of New Bedford left by his will approximately \$100,000 "for the promotion of Agricultural and Horticultural improvements." Two of the three trustees he appointed were particularly interested in trees. While this showed his intent, he

gave them discretion to use the money for "other Philosophical or Philanthropic purposes."

They chose horticulture. They modeled their trust indenture on that of the Bussey Institution, a separate institution of which Harvard was trustee and whose director, appointed by Harvard, had an independent status compared to that of professors in other departments.

The indenture provided that the money should be used to establish an arboretum in which all the trees and shrubs which would thrive in the climate of the area should be grown. The Arboretum was to be under the direction of a professor called the Arnold Professor. He was to be appointed by Harvard and to have the same authority and privileges as those then in effect at the Bussey Institution.

The President and Fellows of Harvard College (the Corporation) as trustees were bound by these terms. They were not given the discretion, now so often claimed by quoting the words "for other Philosophical and Philanthropic purpose."

Harvard appointed Charles Sprague Sargent as the first Arnold Professor and Director of the Arnold Arboretum. In his half-century-long term he built up the Arboretum from nothing to the pre-eminent world collection of trees and shrubs.

He established the policies that made the institution world-famous. It was his strong belief that the outdoor collection, the library and the herbarium should all be together in one place. He personally gave that library which at the time of his death had 37,000 books. He started the herbarium with his own specimens collected during his three-year work on the tree survey for the tenth

United States census. In addition to his own gifts (of which no account was kept), he secured great gifts from his friends, so when he died the endowment fund had grown to approximately a million dollars.

The policies established by Sargent were never disputed. At his death an Appeal was published by the University and signed by a special committee, which included such outstanding horticulturists as Dean Liberty Hyde Bailey of Cornell, Dr. J. Horace McFarland of Harrisburg, and representatives of the Massachusetts and the New York Horticultural Societies and of the Garden Club of America and other influential groups.

This appeal, for a Sargent Memorial Fund, throughout its some thirty pages, praised the Sargent policies and asked for money so that the vision he had seen could be fully developed. It stated emphatically that the responsibility for the Arboretum lay with the President and Fellows of Harvard College, and that this guaranteed continuity of policy. As a result, a million dollars was added to the endowment fund by persons who believed in the Sargent policy, and who believed the pledge that Harvard would continue it.

In the interests of efficient management and of eliminating duplications Harvard authorities since President Lowell's day had been anxious to consolidate various botanical agencies. Both Oakes Ames, who followed Sargent, and Merrill, considered this problem and ways of solving it. Professor Irving W. Bailey, of the Morphology Section of the Botanical Department, made concrete recommendations in 1945.

Bailey followed the directions given him by Dean of the

Faculty, Paul H. Buck, to consider the welfare of Harvard's botany as a whole. He was not asked to consider the welfare of the Arboretum. Apparently he was not informed of the legal status of the Arboretum, or of some of the other institutions.

This report, since known as the Bailey Plan, was approved by the Harvard Corporation in January, 1946, without consultation as to its legal implications, in fact without the Corporation apparently being aware that a trust was involved. The possible horticultural effects upon the Arboretum were not considered and the plan was approved without consultation with any horticultural leaders.

The Overseers' official "Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum," after studying the proposed changes at the Arboretum, came to the conclusion that they would be detrimental, if not disastrous, to the Arboretum. After bringing this officially to the attention of the Overseers, they were joined by a former member of the Corporation, Mr. Grenville Clark, '03. Mr. Clark had concurred in the 1946 approval, but on reconsideration he opposed the plan as he had come to the conclusion that he had not been adequately informed.

The criticisms were not welcomed by the Harvard authorities, but, under pressure and after examining the legal reports, they did reconsider the whole matter and ask legal advice from their own counsel.

This brings us to the important Corporation Vote of January 19, 1953, their present Rock of Gibraltar: the Bailey Plan, they announced, would not apply to the Arnold Arboretum.

Unfortunately, in the 10th, and final, clause of this vote, three of the four most objectionable parts of the Bailey Plan

were re-enacted. These provisions deprived the Arboretum of a major part of its library and its herbarium, together with funds for their maintenance in Cambridge. In view of that, is it honest to pretend the proposals in the Bailey Plan no longer apply to the Arboretum?

It was because of the re-enactment of these proposals that in 1953 the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc., was organized. Of this I happen to be a Director, but I am now speaking as an individual, not as an official representative of the Association.

The Association was founded by Harvard graduates of known devotion to the College, and has among its officers, directors and members, large numbers of Harvard graduates. Its membership grew from a small number in 1953 to about 300 in July and 600 in October 1954, from 28 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. The membership has been drawn not only from Harvard graduates, but also from independent professional botanists and horticulturists, nurserymen and landscape architects from all parts of the country, as well as amateur gardeners of high standing.

A group of ten friends of the Arboretum employed legal counsel to attempt to bring the matter to the courts.

The petitioners to the court felt they had every right to a day in court to determine the legal issues. They were prepared to put upon the witness stand, in court, prominent botanical and horticultural experts who had signified their willingness to testify under oath to their belief that the proposed transfer of most of the Arboretum's library and herbarium would be detrimental to the Arboretum. Because of the active opposition of the Harvard

authorities, the Attorney General of Massachusetts refused to order a court hearing. The Association believes that the Attorney General acted unfairly in this and that Harvard acted improperly.

The Association believes the present Harvard authorities persist in their plan in order to strengthen the botanical department in Cambridge, without proper realization that their position as trustee of the Arboretum should require them to think first of the effect upon the Arboretum. The Association believes, further, that the present plan is detrimental to the Arboretum, and will destroy its integrated character, its prestige and its position as a center to which botanists and horticulturists will come from all parts of the world.

The Association is not impressed by the present Harvard attempts to convince people of its great devotion to horticulture.

The Association contends that the record proves the opposite. It points to the fact that the Bussey Institution and the Botanical Garden have been abandoned and that the Arboretum staff has recently consisted almost entirely of botanists, with only one high-standing horticulturist.

The Bailey Plan stated that a main reason for continuing the outdoor collections at the Arboretum was the fact that they had in the past, and still were, bringing to the Arboretum large sums of money from persons interested in horticulture. Dr. Bailey was so frank as to state officially, and in print, that to do away with these collections would be (in his exact words) to "kill the goose that lays the golden egg". He, and the other Harvard leaders, can see no other reason for the outdoor collections. Their entire interest is on laboratory

research in Cambridge.

The Association has no reason to believe that this condition is likely to change. It believes the only way the Arboretum can be protected to continue in the work of its founders is through the power of public opinion upon the Harvard officials in a voice so strong that they will feel compelled to give horticulture the opportunity for prominence which it had under Sargent.

Early in July there were mailed from the Arnold Arboretum and from Cambridge some four or five thousand copies of a sixteen page pamphlet written by Dean Bundy.

It is an extraordinary document. It was titled, "Harvard's View of the Controversy over the Arnold Arboretum". We feel it helps our side because its explanations are so lame as to be preposterous. It contains statements that anyone who had ever really known the Arboretum, and the Harvard Department of Botany, would know to be incorrect.

Here are just a few of them. Dean Bundy asserts the move to Cambridge costs the Arboretum nothing. Does it not cost the Arboretum most of its library and herbarium, conservatively estimated to be worth over \$2,000,000? Does it not cost it prestige and importance? Does it also not cost an undetermined amount of the income?

In mentioning overcrowding and fire hazards at the Administration Building at Jamaica Plain, he omits to mention: (1) that part of it is already fireproof; (2) that some members of the Visiting Committee had offered to raise funds for a fireproof addition; and (3) that the overcrowding was largely caused by tropical material which never properly belonged there.

In explaining how the move "improves" the Arboretum facilities, Dean Bundy fails to mention that it became world-famous without help from Cambridge.

In mentioning the determination to maintain and enhance the beauty of the outdoor collections, he fails to mention that for years only about a quarter of the income was spent for these, and that the present totally inadequate ground force consists of eight men.

He states, as justification of the move of the library, that it releases space for the development of a "first-class horticultural library". The library taken away was a first-class library. There is another one at the nearby Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Will this new first-class library be a duplicate or a triplicate?

He states, as justification of the move, that many distinguished institutions have outdoor plantings in one location and library and herbarium in another. He gives no examples. I checked the directory prepared at the Arnold Arboretum. It showed one arboretum with library a mile away, one Experiment Station with herbarium at the state university, and thirty-one institutions with library and/or herbarium right on the grounds.

He tells us that the Bailey Plan does not apply to the Arboretum. Does it seem to you like a fair statement, when three of the four parts criticized have been retained or re-enacted?

Asked why three former Directors of the Arboretum were all against the move, he says it seems "probable" that the strong feelings which have been aroused are due to "misunderstanding". Who "misunderstands", -- these three Directors, whose service totalled a quarter-century, or the present college officials

who are newcomers?

Dean Bundy quotes the opinion of the new Director. Our evaluation of his testimony must be tempered by the fact that he is employed to carry out the Corporation policy. If he does not, he will be put out.

He says "one group" of horticulturists have felt that Harvard was hostile to horticulture. NOT one group. Practically all horticulturists have felt that.

And in his last paragraph, Dean Bundy quotes the very statement from the 1927 appeal that we have quoted so often -- the fact that as responsibility rests upon Harvard, this guarantees permanence and continuity of policy. How is that, after sixteen pages of trying to justify abrupt and revolutionary change of policy?

The January 19, 1953, "rescinding" vote, which in its tenth paragraph re-enacts (or "unrescinds") the moving of library and herbarium, by way of defending its action prefaces it with these words: "The Corporation determines that it is in the best interests of the Arboretum."

Apparently no one has publicly challenged the method by which the Corporation made such a "determination".

Was the Corporation's decision a well-considered one?

I contend that the decision was not either botanically or horticulturally sound and was not taken with the advice of unprejudiced persons or of persons who were familiar with horticultural problems. Not one of the members of the Corporation is a professional botanist or a professional horticulturist. Does any one of them even profess to like gardens, to be distinguished as an amateur gardener, and for that reason to be competent to deal with the horticultural questions? They do not.

Without first-hand botanical or horticultural knowledge, any "determination" must necessarily have been based on advice. This advice came from Dean Buck, who passed on the recommendations of the Bailey Report, which had been prepared at Dean Buck's own order to concern itself with the "health and vigor of botany itself." Dean Buck had not asked Professor Bailey to concern himself with either the welfare of the Arboretum, or the welfare of horticulture.

A number of Harvard botanists endorsed the Bailey Plan when it was first proposed and its implications were not understood. There is no record that any horticulturist was consulted.

In passing the vote of January 19, 1953, the Corporation showed that it did not put any importance upon horticulture, in spite of the facts: (1) that horticulture was mentioned by Arnold when botany was not, and (2) that it now claims to be vitally interested in the horticultural welfare of the Arboretum.

Advice was not even accepted from the official Overseers' Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum.

The action in "determining" the best interests of the Arboretum was taken without any opportunity for opinions from people whose opinion should have been asked, including Frederick Law Olmsted; retired Charles Eliot, Professor of Landscape Architecture; Bremer Pond, a later head of the Department of Landscape Architecture; or any members of the Olmsted firm, which designed the Arboretum and most of whose members are Harvard graduates. No advice was asked from Boston landscape architects such as Arthur or Sydney Shurcliff, Fletcher Steele, Bradford Williams, or from any nurserymen of the Boston area, such as Harlan P. Kelsey, Richard Wyman, Winthrop Thurlow, etc., or from any great

outside horticultural leaders; from the nearby Massachusetts Horticultural Society (the largest in America); from any members of the Horticultural Staff of Amherst, Cornell, Rutgers, Penn State; from horticulturists of the New York, the Brooklyn or the Missouri Botanical Gardens, or the Morris, the Morton, or the National Arboretums; or from government horticultural station. Nearly all the horticulturists connected with these institutions are now known to be opposed to the Harvard Plan.

I contend that all of the above shows conclusively that (1) the Harvard Corporation's decision as to what was best for the Arboretum was not well-considered; (2) that it took advice on whether to approve the plan only from those botanists who had prepared the original Bailey Plan; (3) that it gave scant heed to the official protests of its official Visiting Committee; and (4) that it failed to seek advice from competent and recognized leaders of horticulture.

Is any of this your affair? If so what can you do about it?

My answer is definitely yes -- it is your affair.

What can you do? If you wish to help save the Arnold Arboretum from oblivion, if you wish to help restore confidence in a great University, then join our Association for the Arnold Arboretum and help us win this struggle.

ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

JOHN C. WISTER, *Director*

March 23, 1955

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

Dear George:

I have yours of March 15. I believe that my letter to Dr. Hager was sent to you after the letter. If it has not turned up yet, let me know, and I will have another copy made. I have heard nothing recently from Sax, but have had letters concerning the proportion of the publications which changed from 76% taxonomic concerning hardy plants to now 75% dealing with tropical plants only. He also has made a distinction of the Arboretum publications which have nothing whatsoever to do with the outdoor collections. You have probably seen that.

I have feared all along we were beaten, first by default in not quickly answering every Harvard misstatement, and secondly by the fact that Harvard owned the Attorney General. Mr. Clark seems to think that he can continue to fight and eventually get it to the courts. Mrs. Arnold has just written me about that. There was sent to me a printer's proof of the statement that is to go out in March. This is the same statement which Mr. Clark promised to get out last July, put off because of people being away for the summer. He promised to get it out in September, but put it off because it would interfere with the Christmas mail. It is too long, too involved, and I don't think many people will read it. I think short letters each time something happened would have done better.

I agree with you we cannot quit now. There is too much that we have already done.

Yours sincerely,

John

ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

JOHN C. WINTER, *Director*

March 10, 1955

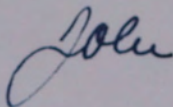
Dr. George L. Slate
37 Highland Ave.
Geneva, N. Y.

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of March 5th, and for your comments on Dean Bundy. I am not certain whether I sent you my comments long ago but I think I still have extra copies of this and shall try to get them to you.

I enclose for your sorrow a copy of letter just sent to Dr. Hager. I feel just as he does in my disgust with the present situation.

Yours sincerely,



ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

JOHN C. WISTER, *Director*

January 31, 1955

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

Dear George:

As you know the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. has in a year built up its membership from nothing to over seven-hundred persons in thirty or more States.

Its present list is very impressive and we are very proud of it. But of course a great many people we would like to have with us have not joined us.

I have in my mind classified these as (1) those who think Harvard is right and the Association wrong, (2) those who are not sure which side is right, (3) those who do not like to get into a controversy, (4) those who feel that Harvard can do no wrong and that it is a sacrilege for Harvard men to speak out against Harvard, (5) those who think that regardless of the merits of the dispute, Harvard is so powerful it will ride roughshod over any opposition, (6) those who have not been asked to join, and who may not even have heard.

In addition to these six groups, and in spite of the University's boasted "Academic Freedom," I must most regretfully add the following: (7) business men who hesitate to raise a voice against Harvard because of the chance it might interfere with their doing business with the University, (8) members of the Harvard faculty or administration who are with us at heart, but who decline to openly line up with us because they fear reprisals and loss of positions or of privileges.

I mention these in this detail because in your letter of January 26 to Dr. H. F. Yeager of the University of New Hampshire, you have put your finger on a ninth group (or a new extension of my eighth group). I quote you your paragraph 2 of this letter in which you explain the absence of the names of a number of persons whose judgment Dr. Yeager respects, as follows:

"The taxonomists are mostly not there because they fear the pressure that Harvard can and will apply to them if their names appear on the membership list, or if they speak out. The taxonomists, as you know, borrow herbarium specimens from each other as well as using each other's facilities and libraries. The Harvard facilities are so extensive and so much needed by any good research taxonomist that they cannot risk incurring Harvard's displeasure. Botanists in other fields also have ties with the Harvard botanists and do not wish to offend them."

I am writing you now because of two instances which have come to my attention recently. The first concerns an Arboretum employee who did speak out for us and whose life as a consequence was made so uncomfortable that he resigned

Dr. George L. Slate

-2-

and took a position at a new arboretum. The first order his new employer gave him was to take no active part in our fight against Harvard, because the new arboretum often asked for Arnold Arboretum plants and the director feared that if a member of his staff was active against Harvard such requests might be refused.

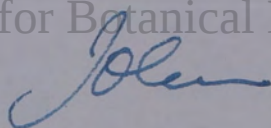
The second instance was in a letter from a friend in a western university. Here is a remark about the attitude of one of the University botanists towards the Arnold Arboretum controversy:

"He is quite scholarly and comes into my office and orates about the situation, and he ends by saying that it is expedient for him to be on the side of Harvard because he needs to borrow specimens (~~from~~^{from} the herbarium) from time to time."

In view of what you wrote to Dr. Yeager, I thought these two examples would interest you. It will be easy for Harvard to say it would never discriminate against anyone, but the fact remains that not only in Cambridge but in distant places persons who would otherwise be on our side fear to speak out.

Yours sincerely,

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Jerome Green letter just received
I think he each must answer him

ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

JOHN C. WISTER, *Director*

January 28, 1955

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

Dear George:

Thank you for yours of the 26th and carbon copy of your letter to Dr. Yeager. That is a perfectly grand letter and the type which we should be sending out and which nobody but you does send out. I wrote to Dr. Yeager myself but mine was a very feeble effort compared to yours.

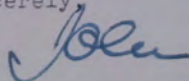
You have brought out a new point which was not stressed before. That is that other botanists in other universities don't want to oppose Harvard because when they want to borrow herbarium sheets the people in Harvard might suddenly say they can't find them. Do you think that people whom I admire as much as John Fogg and Bob Clark are influenced subconsciously by that consideration? We can't very well come out in the open and accuse them personally but it is certainly poor policy for one university to take sides against another and it is certainly easier for them to take Harvard's side.

In reply to a number of letters I sent I got the statement that the persons were so confused that they felt it better not to take sides, which of course meant they were taking the Harvard side.

Can you persuade Peabody or Rankin or even Mr. Clark himself to use copies of your letter or parts of it?

As to the reply on the Bundy pamphlet, Mr. Clark did not send out the official reply in July because the summer vacation was coming when it would have little attention. He told me it would come out immediately after Labor Day. I kept urging it in the autumn without any reply and then came up against the theory that it would be bad to send it out before Christmas when everybody was busy with Christmas mail and therefore it would be sent out December 28th. Your remark that "lawyers work slowly" seems to be born out on this single matter alone!

Yours sincerely,



ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT HORTICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.
JOHN C. WISTER, *Director*

January 18, 1955

Dr. George Slate
Agricultural Experiment Station
Geneva, New York

Dear George:

You have, I know, been informed of Dr. Yeager's letter. This coming right on top of a similar one from Bob Clark at Rutgers is a great blow and ^{was} brought on, *Arthur,* ~~on~~ entirely by ourselves because we have lacked the courage or brains to answer the lying propaganda of Bundy and Howard. They have convinced many people and will continue to convince our members as long as we stay supine.

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Their lies are so transparent it would not seem to me difficult to ram them down their throats each time until they got quite choked, but I know no way of persuading the Association to do this or even of getting them to make any kind of an answer.

If you see any way of doing this I wish you would tell me. I don't mind being licked so much, as it may be what we are in for anyway, but ~~to be~~ licked by lying down and letting them walk over us does not please me a bit.

Yours sincerely,

J. C. Wister

January 17, 1955

Dr. A. F. Yeager
Department of Horticulture
University of New Hampshire
Durham, New Hampshire

Dear Dr. Yeager:

As a director of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum, Inc. I have received from Mr. Rankin, its secretary, a copy of your letter of January 10th to him. I have read it most carefully and feel very sorry that you believe we are doing the Arboretum a disservice.

As you of course know I have known the Arboretum a long time, in fact since I was a freshman at Harvard in October 1905. While I never actually studied in it in any formal sense of the word I did study there during three college years under Mr. B. M. Watson of the Busey and I continued to go there with Mr. Watson as long as he lived. I first met Professor Sargent in 1914 and saw him quite often until the time of his death, and I knew Wilson of course at the same time, but the person I knew best there was William Judd who was my good friend almost from the day he arrived there. I therefore had unusual opportunity to know the Arboretum well and know the activities of those days.

Like many others, I noticed a gradual change taking place in the years after Sargent's death and at first it seemed that this was perfectly natural. It took me some time to realize that the whole point of view was being radically altered. This became more evident as time went on and I feel very strongly that if an effort such as is now being made had been made then, say early in the 30's, a great deal might have been accomplished.

I feel very sorry that you whose judgement I respect so highly should think that our Association was doing the Arboretum a disservice. That is the judgement of a number of others whose judgement I respect also, one of them my good friend Dr. John M. Fogg of the University of Pennsylvania. I find it hard to know what to say to you or to Dr. Fogg because both of you, like myself, have no ax to grind in the matter and are only honestly following your own best judgement.

X I have a very different feeling in respect to the authorities at Harvard. Every one of the botanists who have come out for the present plan have had axes to grind whether they were conscious of them or not. I think if you would read carefully the 90 page Bailey Report that would become abundantly clear. That report was instigated by Dean Buck with orders to consider the welfare of botany at Harvard (Cambridge) and its purpose was not in any way to improve or help the Arnold Arboretum. As you know, Professor Bailey was foolish enough, or frank enough, or honest enough, to state that his interest in the Arboretum was only because it supplied money to other departments. In spite of this the new director, Dr. Howard, is publicly stating in print that the Bailey plan was made for the purpose of releasing space for horticulture in the building. I do not see how anyone can respect this type of attitude.

Whether or not the Arboretum is still a great institution is of course a matter of opinion. Many persons whose judgment I respect think its day is over. I hope its day is not over because there is so much horticultural as well as botanical work which needs doing and could best be done by it. As one who has loved the Arboretum as long as I have I would like to see it built up and because I am interested in horticulture and not botany and because not only the original but practically all the later donors to the endowment fund were interested in horticulture and not botany, I think horticulture should be stressed.

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If you will look into it you will see how little attention horticulture gets at present. Dr. Howard's report in the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum quotes a staff of 21 with one horticulturist (and an assistant who may or may not be a horticulturist). The same report quotes the publications of the year by the staff in which 10 authors contributed 24 articles on botany, totalling 429 pages, in contrast to the following in horticulture -- 2 articles of 2 pages each by two authors on propagation and one on dwarfing trees; Donald Wyman's articles in Arnoldia, Plants & Gardens, etc., a total of 119 pages.

X That does not seem to me to be emphasizing horticulture, and no matter how fine the botanical work is or may be, which of course I am not in a position to judge, it seems to me quite clear that the attention is concentrated on botany for which practically none of the money was given.

At the A.A.B.G.A. meeting which your assistant, Mr. Risely, attended, Dr. Howard stated that he had \$80,000 to spend at the Arboretum, but we couldn't pry out of him any information as to exactly what was done with the remaining income except that we of course knew that it is used for botanical work at Cambridge.

I do not believe that anyone in our Association has any ambition to direct the management of the Arboretum. What we have asked for, as you know, is the opportunity to present in court under oath the statements of fact in reference to the purpose of the Arboretum and the way that purpose has been gradually changed from horticulture to the most technical aspects of botany which have only remote connection with horticulture.

You mention that you note among our members persons whose judgement you respect. Some very important names of course are absent, among them the late Professor Oakes Ames who followed Professor Sargent as head of the Arboretum and whose bitter denunciation of the Harvard plan later led to the formation of this Association. It is significant to me that this protest should have started with him and that Dr. Merrill, who followed him as director and who at first blindly endorsed the Bailey plan, later came very definitely to our side, although on account of his position we have not felt it proper to ask him to join us. The third director after Sargent was Dr. Sax. He, also, endorsed the Bailey plan in 1946, not realizing its implications and when he became director became critical against it and had to give up his position because of this attitude.

As I have said, I don't think there is anyone in the management of this Association that has any itch to direct the management of the Arboretum. Rather I think they are persons who feel that the abrupt change of policy deserves a wider and more careful consideration than it has ever been given, and they feel that in court they could prove that the change was already being detrimental to the Arboretum and might, as you say, in the future break it entirely. They have perhaps been strengthened in this position by seeing what has happened to the ^Busey Institute and to the Botanical Garden at Cambridge.[^]

The wisdom of moving the books and herbarium is, of course, entirely a matter of opinion on which there is every opportunity for honest difference, but the very peculiar way in which the Harvard authorities have met the honest criticism convinces me that many of them are not too sure of their position and are afraid to have the matter discussed. What I should like to see brought out in such a hearing would be that the Arboretum deserves a management interested in and friendly to the purposes for which the money was given. It was under the management of those who were so interested that it became world famous.

Yours sincerely,

John Wister

Dear George
Some really particularly apprehensive. This letter is trying to keep the membership alive until the dam lawyers get into action

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Last June I wrote to fifty-nine of the members whom I knew, to tell them why I was interested in the Arboretum, why I believed it was being injured by the new Harvard policy, and why I was willing to assume the responsibility of becoming a director of the Association which was opposing this Harvard policy.*

I was encouraged (and amazed!) to receive thirty-seven replies, many bristling with indignation at the Harvard attitude. These letters offer valuable supporting evidence of Harvard's indifference to horticulture, for which most, if not all, the Arboretum money had been given.

Those who wrote me apparently had not had the opportunity to read and carefully study the original Bailey report or the bitter denunciation of it which Professor Oakes Ames had published in 1949. Because I felt there had never been any adequate critical and analytical review of either of these two pamphlets from a horticultural point of view, I took it upon myself to prepare these with the hope that they might be of value to our officers and our legal counsel.

I prepared at the same time a criticism of Dean Bundy's most recent defense of the Harvard policy. When our lawyers have added some of my notes on these three pamphlets to the evidence they have previously assembled, I believe they intend to send complete information to all members. *I hope I hope I can*

get any action
As you probably know, most of the Arboretum library and herbarium have now been moved to Cambridge, in spite of the fact that our appeal is pending in the Supreme Judicial Court of the state. It seems strange that the Harvard Corporation should have taken this action when the appeal to the court was sponsored not by outsiders but by one of their own former members as well as by members of their own official "Visiting Committee."

You have perhaps noticed that Harvard officials have during recent months been trying to offset the force of our criticisms by speaking enthusiastically about improving the horticultural value of the Arboretum. In view of their many years of utter neglect of horticulture, I wonder if any of you do not now feel, as I do, that they now "protest too much."

New members are coming into the Association from many parts of the country. On a visit last month to the West Coast, I was greatly pleased to find not only horticulturists, but botanists and foresters, on our side. Won't you try to get your friends to join us. We need much greater weight of public opinion on our side.

Yours sincerely,

John C. Wister
John C. Wister
Harvard '09

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
September 17, 1954

My regards to Sam & his wife. How does she like to see her father's work tossed out as we incline to give more money to morphology?
*Extra copies of this letter may be had on request.

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
June 23, 1954

Dear George

This is all old stuff to Sam

As a new director of the Association for the Arnold Arboretum I have just had the opportunity to see a recent list of members.

Most of the members of course I do not know. It would be impertinent for a new director to write to them. But as I do find on the list the names of many men and women I do know and have known for many years, I feel that I want to write to them and tell them why I believe in the Association and its objectives.

You are one of the more than fifty members that I do know personally, and while this letter has to be mimeographed because it is going to so many, I do hope you will consider it a personal note.

I have known the Arnold Arboretum since the autumn of 1905 when I entered Harvard as a freshman. It was my first great inspiration in horticulture and I can never be sufficiently grateful for what it did for me. When I was asked to take an official part in the new Association, I therefore felt I could not refuse. I have been and am most unhappy over the present controversy and I am even more unhappy to feel that I must take sides against my Alma Mater.

I knew the Arboretum in its greatest days; the 1905 to 1930 quarter century. Since then I have seen it fall in performance and in public esteem until now some of my friends say "let it be wrecked, it doesn't amount to much anymore."

I think this has happened because Professor Sargent's successors were interested more in the technical aspects of botany than in horticulture -- in the living plants that he loved and understood. Now Harvard has begun to move the library to Cambridge and proposes to move the herbarium too. Even some of the income from the endowment given to the Arboretum is to be spent in Cambridge.

The President, the Dean and the Arboretum Director all protest loudly that this will improve the Arboretum. I certainly don't think that makes any sense.

All three of these distinguished gentlemen give reasons so plausible and convincing that they converted to the Harvard side two of the representatives sent by us to Cambridge to plead our case! I certainly hope if they try to convince you that you won't be so taken in.

I don't mean to impugn the motives of these officials. The President has simply swallowed the argument of the botanical professors in Cambridge that it will be best for the Harvard botany department to carry out the new plan (which it probably is) or else he feels that he must go along with the January, 1953 decision of the Corporation. The Dean and the Director are employees of the Corporation who must of course accept and promote the decisions and instructions of the Corporation, so their protests can be considered merely as paid propaganda.

I mention all this in passing, but don't however, wish to stress it. What I wish to stress is that I believe the intention of the donors was clear that the Arboretum was to be a separate institution of which Harvard was trustee. I also believe that horticulture was more in the mind of the donors than botany. James Arnold mentioned horticulture by name in his will but did not mention botany by name, although it is assumed that it is properly included under the expression "and other philosophical or philanthropic purposes." Practically all the later donors were keen horticulturists but not botanists.

Sam sent it to everyone

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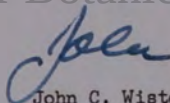
Sargent made the Arboretum world famous for both horticulture and botany. Since his day botany has been the fair-haired child on which most of the income was spent while horticulture was relatively neglected. The upkeep and improvement of the outdoor collection, according to the Bailey Report, was allotted only about one-quarter of the Arboretum income.

The founders of the new Association for the Arnold Arboretum, included members of the Overseers Committee to Visit the Arnold Arboretum. They felt that certain of the plans proposed by botany professor Bailey would be detrimental to the Arboretum. They fought to have these changed and succeeded in persuading the Corporation to make certain changes. They thereby performed a service about which President Pusey, in a circular letter to the directors dated June 10, states "I think the Arboretum was in this respect well served by those, like yourselves, who urged the course that has now been taken."

Other serious parts of the Harvard plan remain, some of which we believe to be illegal; yet the matter cannot be brought to a court hearing except through the Attorney General who (through Harvard pressure, we believe,) has refused to take action. The only recourse left to the Association has been to petition the Supreme Judicial Court of the State, which has been done.

As already stated, I hope you will consider this a personal note. I hope you will let me know your reaction to it.

Yours sincerely,



John C. Wister, Harvard '09

My informants tell me Prof Bailey
is an honest sincere person doing
the best he can in botany & not
realizing that he is hurting the
Arboretum & without even having heard
of horticulture. I gather Manglesdorf is
not so naive & is merely furthering his
nest. What do you know about that?

JOHN C. WISTER
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
SWARTHMORE, PA.

4 February 1956

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

Dear George:

Many thanks for your letter. I have read it with great interest.

My point of view in the struggle may be a little different from yours, but I feel that Mr. Clark has not taken advantage of the many opportunities that he has had to push the struggle. I also feel very strongly that he is wasting his time and acting like a child when he writes to President Pusey. He knows perfectly well he is going to get the brushoff and in this particular case I think he deserved it, as President Pusey on the stand of his letter really never gave him the opening which ^{Clark} he says the President gave him. It will do no good for anybody to call on the President, even if he would see them, which I doubt very much. He is not going to listen; he is committed to this stand and has to fight it out. That we think he is wrong has nothing to do with it.

I continue the belief that the Corporation and the Overseers were entirely sincere in their stand. I don't think that the Harvard officials were. I think they are putting this over and getting away with it. Your opinion of Howard is much like mine although I don't think we ought to say that out loud. I think we should instead trip him up on his lies, and I have tried to do that in the report that I am writing. What will happen to the report I don't know.

Betty Blossom took me to Holden Arboretum years ago. I have not been there since Lipp was there, and I know little about him - have only met him once. Mr. Corning is a leading citizen, but certainly knows nothing on the subject of horticulture or botany. I don't know how good he will be as the head of that institution.

Yours sincerely,

