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About the Institute

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

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

September 30, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. W. ANDREW ARCHER
The National Arboretum
Bureau of Plant Industry

Dear Dr. Archer:

Your memorandum of September 29 and the 22 specimens of Nevada willows which you brought are greatly appreciated. You were unduly generous with the material. I can only hope that you did not rob the Arboretum of anything it needed. I am having these specimens mounted immediately in order that they may be used for distribution citations.

I thank you also for the duplicate New Hampshire willow received as *S. humilis* Marshall but determined by me to be *S. Bebbiana* Sargent.

There is one other thing you can do, or have done, in connection with the Salicaceae of Nevada. As I mentioned in conversation, I do not wish to be responsible for the write-up of *Populus*. Usually *Populus* precedes *Salix* in the manual and, therefore, that text should be ready before any portion of mine is submitted.

I suppose we would need a cover title something like the following:

SALICACEAE OF NEVADA

POPULUS By _____

SALIX by Carleton R. Ball

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball,
Executive Secretary

October 9, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. W. A. ARCHER, Arboretum
Division of Plant Introduction & Exploration
Bureau of Plant Industry

Dear Dr. Archer:

In accordance with my promise, I am submitting herewith a copy of the first 15 pages (minus pages 4 and 5) of my treatment of Nevada willows. The missing pages contain the remainder of the keys to species and varieties.

The treatment of this portion is considerably fuller than will be necessary for the remaining species and varieties except in the case of the long-leaf or sandbar willows. In the portion submitted I have cited specimens rather fully. There has been so much confusion regarding these species that it seemed desirable to let workers know exactly what specimens had been referred to each.

I will be glad if you will bring this portion of the manuscript, or at least the description and keys for the family and genres, to the attention of Mr. Muller with whom I conferred a day or two ago concerning Populus.

You will note that I have not indented the text as was done in the mimeographed material which I have seen. The typed page is so small that indenting the textual material caused a considerable percentage of reduction in the content of a page. Instead I intended to adopt throughout the method of separation which appears on page 10 and thereafter, namely, a line of hyphens which causes a break between species and/or varieties. If this method of spacing is not permissible, I will have the remaining manuscript written with the other format.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball,
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

December 31, 1941

Dear Dr. Archer:

Recently I determined a collection of willows obtained in Elko County, Nevada, by Arthur H. Holmgren, of the Dept. of Botany of the Utah Agric. College, Logan.

In writing him, I asked if he had received the various parts of the Flora of Nevada. He states that he has received 31 numbers.

He further states that "I have over a dozen good species which haven't been included in the studies issued to date, several new range distributions, and two or possibly three new species".

"I am sending all the critical groups to specialists so that I can cite specimens and feel safe in doing so."

Trusting that these statements may be of some interest to you and the others up there, I am

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Executive Secretary

A

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dr. W. Andrew Archer,
National Arboretum Herbarium,
Plant Industry Station,
Beltsville, Maryland.

3914 Jocelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 15, D.C.

5 August, 1954.

Dear Dr. Archer:

I was glad to be informed that you have no other copy of my original manuscript on the Willows of Nevada, which was returned to me with your letter of June 12, 1953 (which happened to be my 80th birthday anniversary).

I have just returned that copy 3 of the manuscript to you but forgot to inclose this letter before sealing the packet. I trust that it arrives safely, and I shall feel much more secure to know that one copy is out there.

Many thanks for your two good letters of August 3, which give me much needed information. I will reply to them today, with one or two more questions which have arisen.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Collaborator.

(over)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS, AND
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON

Herbarium
U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM
Plant Industry Station
Beltsville, Maryland

June 12, 1953

Dr. Carleton R. Ball
3814 Jocelyn Street, N.W.
Washington 15, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Herewith is the copy of your manuscript on the Salicaceae of Nevada.

The herbarium specimens will be sent today if I can get them packed.

Sincerely,

W. Andrew Archer
W. Andrew Archer
Curator

WAA:cfs

Pp
1-2 Salicaceae
1-9 Keys
6-64 Text

Greenland

Dr. W. Andrew Archer,
National Arboretum Herbarium,
Plant Industry Station,
Beltsville, Maryland.

3814 Jocelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 15, D.C.

5 July, 1953.

Dear Dr. Archer:

In spite of the heat (or because of it), I have finished the determinations of the Erlanson Greenland willows, and the remaining sheets of the Nevada collections.

All of the Greenland specimens, except the three sheets of *S. herbaceal*, had to be renamed and I have inserted the annotation labels. I don't know how or why they got the names on the labels. *S. anglorum* and *S. cordifolia* are the two most common species in Greenland. Hybrids occur there occasionally, as in other areas, but of these only one, No. 2979, shows any evidence of it.

The species, *S. cordifolia* Ph., does not occur north of the St. Lawrence-Newfoundland area, but these two of its varieties and still others range far north.

There was one mixture, No. 2996, and I have designated the species as a and b respectively. One will have no label.

I was very glad to note *S. brachycarpa* Nutt., var. *Sansoni* Ball (No. 2435) in this Greenland collection. It apparently is rare there and also in Iceland.

I wish that you would consider the accuracy of the collection date (June 18) for Nos. 2996 and 3011. For all of the others, the numbers are in chronological order. As the preceding number was coll. on June 23, and the succeeding on June 30, I feel quite certain that these two June 18s are errors for June 28. You may be able to take this up with Erlanson. OK.

I now have completed the study of the 14 sheets of mounted willows from the Natl. Arboretum Herb., have made the Nevada distribution records, and will pack them with the Greenland willows and leave them at the Dept. Post Office on Monday next, for return to you. I greatly appreciate your courtesy in making this material available so readily to me.

I am puzzled about one matter in regard to the collections of Bassot Nguire and A.H. Holmgren (jointly) in 1943. The determinations seem to be mine but I can find no correspondence about them with either Nguire or Holmgren, nor is there a list of them filed under Nevada.

I have one problem yet to settle. In the Nevada mss. I note ~~many~~ specimens of several species cited as "(BPL)". This obviously is "Bureau of Plant Industry" but some represent collections that I have not received from you in this recent shipment. Presently I will check thro the whole mss. and see just what collections are so cited, and which ones I have not received lately.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS, AND

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

WASHINGTON

Herbarium
U. S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM
Plant Industry Station
Beltsville, Maryland

Jan. 5, 1954

Dr. Carleton R. Ball
3814 Jocelyn Street N.W.
Washington 15, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Since last communicating with you I have made a trip to Reno, Nevada to borrow material from the two herbaria there. I brought along the *Salix* which I thought perhaps you had not seen. There are about 30 sheets I believe.

Would you like to have these sent to you?

Also I might say that we are now ready to resume the issuing of the "Contributions Toward a Flora of Nevada." Consequently we can tackle your manuscript whenever you are willing.

Sincerely,

W. Andrew Archer
W. Andrew Archer
Curator

WAA:cfs

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
3814 Jocelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 15, D.C.
Dr. W. Andrew Archer,
National Arboretum Herbarium,
Plant Industry Station,
Beltsville, Maryland.

12 January, 1954.

Dear Dr. Archer:

I was glad to know, thro your letter of Jan. 5, that you had obtained some 30 willows from the Univ. of Nevada, at Reno. Send them along and I will give them immediate study.

It's fine that you now are able to continue the contributions to a Flora of Nevada. and I will make that willow manuscript the first order of 1954. As things stand, I have forgotten just how far along it was. Just now I straightening up all papers had putting them in order, ready for a hard year of work.

With all good wishes for this New Year and all those that will follow after, I am

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball

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(over)

Dr. W. Andrew Archer,
National Arboretum Herbarium,
Plant Industry Station,
Beltsville, Maryland.

3814 Jocelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 15, D.C.

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

Herbarium
U.S. National Arboretum
Plant Industry Station
Beltsville, Md.

April 14, 1955

Dr. C. R. Ball
3814 Jocelyn St., N.W.
Washington 15, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

It is good to hear that you have recovered from a recent illness.

Please do not feel badly about the delay in finishing the remainder of the *Salix* manuscript. We have several contributions (including a long one on *Astragalus*) at hand for processing. Even so it should be possible to issue your manuscript sometime this year. We are gaining experience every day in editorial work, proofreading, mimeographing, etc, so eventually we will be able to prevent some of the hindering mistakes.

The Records Section people have been cleaning up the attic here at the Station, so I began to wonder if your little nook in the attic of the South Building had been disturbed. One day I paid a visit and found nothing removed. Miss Ruppert of the Records Service promised to put up a "Hands Off" sign.

Most sincerely

W. Andrew Archer
W. Andrew Archer
Curator.

over

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

20 May, 1955.

Dr. W. Andrew Archer,
Herbarium, National Arboretum,
Plant Industry Station,
Beltsville, Maryland.

Dear Dr. Archer:

Many thanks for your letter of April 22 14. I finally have cleaned up the mountain of specimens received for determination during the winter, and now am ready to get back to writing on full time. The willows of Nevada are my first job and I wish to finish them up as fast as possible.

My room in the attic of South Building has not been disturbed. New filing units steadily pour into the space up there but there has been no suggestion that my space would be taken. Some people, laborers and others, eat their lunch there because I have a desk and chairs, and some of them take maps there but do no damage.

In your letter of Feb. 15, 1954 (apparently unanswered), you state the citation for specimens in the National Arboretum should be NA, and this I have been following. It is my understanding that the National Arboretum Herbarium is the whole big herbarium there where you and Dr. Blake work, and that the Mycological Herbarium is merely the collection of diseased specimens. Is this correct?

I have quite an extensive willow herbarium at my house address, partly because the cases are overflowing at the Dept. and partly because it enables me to complete practically all determinations at home, which saves time. I keep accessions mounted promptly and the mounted plants are all in labelled covers, although not all are in cases, as I do not have enough to hold them.

I think that I discussed with you some time ago my intention to give my Salix Herbarium to the National Arboretum Herbarium after my death. I am now 82 (on June 12 next), and there probably will not be many more years, altho the ages of 12 generations of Ball ancestors have, 85 to 93 with the exception of my father, left for dead in the Civil War, but later patched up and lived to be 76 years old.

Will you please consider the matter of transfer^{of} ownership of the Salix Herbarium to the Arboretum, and either draw up, or tell me how to draw up, the necessary papers transferring it immediately after my death?

I was glad to note that the Arboretum is to get an increase in funds. It surely is about time it had more money. I have noted some recent protests of what is happening at Arnold Arboretum.

Cordially yours,

P.S. I should have noted that my gift of the Salix Herbarium is in grateful recognition of the assistance and facilities furnished me by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (from which NA developed), there more than 50 years.

Carleton R. Ball
Collaborator

(over)

Dr. Carleton R. Ball
3814 Jocelyn Street, N.W.
Washington 15, D.C.

June 15, 1955

Dear Dr. Ball:

A reply to your letter of May 20 has been held until a definite answer could be sent. Doubtless you are familiar with government procedures and the consequent delays.

Your proposal to give your Salix herbarium to the National Arboretum has been discussed with various officials. The opinion is that you need merely to make a legal statement to the effect:-

"I hereby give and bequeath to the Herbarium of the United States National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. the following:

My entire herbarium of Salix specimens now housed partly in ____ cases in the attic of the South Building, U.S.D.A. and partly in my home at _____. The herbarium consists of approximately ____ specimens."

The above phraseology presumably could be a codicil to your will. I do believe the wording should be rather specific as to approximate number of specimens, and as to disposition of related herbarium cases, manuscripts, notes, books, and the like.

Your offer is deeply appreciated by the various men with whom I have talked. It is most generous of you. We propose to have a bronze plaque made to hang in the future quarters of the Herbarium at the Arboretum to commemorate the event. Furthermore, I shall see that a special label or marker be made for affixing to each sheet to the effect: "Original herbarium of C. R. Ball, bequeathed to the Herbarium of the U.S. National Arboretum, date _____.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

W. Andrew Archer

cc: Dr. H. T. Skinner