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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.

Washn.

March 21, 1937

Mr. Charles B. Fiker,
Omak, Okanogan Co., Washn.

Dear Mr. Fiker:

Your package of willows has just arrived and I hasten to report the determinations of them:

1709. *S. Bebbiana perrostrata* (Rydb.) Schn. Near log cabin at west end of Omak Lake. April 19, 1936.
1722. *S. Bebbiana perrostrata* (Rydb.) Schn. Left of road by meadow near Omak Lake. April 19
1723. *S. Scouleriana* Barratt. Meadows north of Omak Lake, April 19, June 11. (This has the oblanceolate leaves characteristic of your earlier collection).
1724. *S. lutea platyphylla* Ball. Meadow at north end of Omak Lake. April 19 and June 11, 1936.
1725. *S. lutea platyphylla* Ball. As the last.
These two might be from same plants as your Nos. 541, 542.
1726. *S. lutea platyphylla* Ball. Near road, meadow next to camp grounds, at Omak Lake. April 19.
- - - *S. Bebbiana* Sargent. Meadow west of Omak Lake. June 11.
This had no number but was marked "2 notches".
2032. *S. Tweedyi* (Bebb) Ball. Tiffany Lake Pass, base of Middle Tiffany Mountain, Okanogan Co., June 13, 1936.
(This is quite typical except that the young leaves are quite tomentose. The older leaves, however, are normally glabrous. Am exceedingly glad to have this material.
2289. *S. pennata* Ball. In bog among springs, head of Lane Krank Creek, elev. 6500 ft. July 25. The large obovate leaves are typical of this species. Was this from the same group of plants as the earlier collections?

I have sent copies of your letter about experience and desires to the Forest Service, the Nat. Park Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Bureau of Biological Survey, Dean Johnson of Washn. State College. For reply to your queries about seed crops and plants to grow, I have referred copies to the Division of Horticultural Crops, and the Division of Plant Exploration, both in the Bureau of Plant Industry. I sent also to the Division of Pine Plister-Rust Control, in the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

Just for luck I am sticking in a couple of dollars to pay for the postage you have been supplying with these various shipments.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball

May 7, 1938

Mr. Charles B. Fiker,
Omak, Okanogan Co.,
Washington,

Dear Mr. Fiker:

For nearly two months I have been reading proof on two volumes I wrote while in California. Almost everything has been neglected during this period of time.

Yesterday, in clearing up before starting on a field trip, I found a package of 1937 Okanogan County willows from you. I had determined most of them and noted the names on the containing papers.

I cannot find any letter from you about them nor can I find any letter from me to you giving the identifications. I am truly sorry if I have kept you waiting a long while for these identifications. I cannot now remember when the package came.

The ~~you~~ specimens determined as *S. pseudo-cordata* (Ands.) Rydberg differ from that species in being rather smaller and more delicate in most parts, likewise more completely glabrous. I have not had time to compare them with abundant herbarium material, as I am just leaving for two weeks.

I merely wish to mention now that Bebb described but never published a species, *S. Leibergii*, which was based on a single collection from Paulina Lakes, in central Oregon. I have seen the type and have a copy of the description and will make comparisons when I return.

Bebb was in doubt whether it belonged to the Cordatae (with *lutea*, *pseudo-cordata*, etc.) or with the Roseae (with *pedicellaris*, *fuscescens*). If I remember rightly, I thought it belonged to the Cordatae. The specimen was immature, being about the stage of development of your collections of May 30.

I doubt if it was a species but it may prove to be a variety and your plant may represent it. I would very much like to see mature foliage from these plants if it can be had, taken in July or later, and showing the new seasonal shoots and also water sprouts, if any. That would be very helpful in comparing with *pseudo-cordata*.

I hope that things are going well with you, and that you still get in to the forests and mountains occasionally.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Bell

Omaha, Wash.,
Feb. 12, 1939.

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

Dear Dr. Ball:

I expected to get to the
marsh in the Mtns where I
collected the specimens that you
determined as *S. pseudo-cordata*
(Ands.) Rydb., in July or Aug. but
was unable to do so. I still have
my map of the area, where I collected
these specimens, made at the time
so I could collect again from the
same plants, and will try to get the
nature leaves for you this summer.

We have had the least winter
this winter that we have had in
29 yrs. There is very little snow in
the Mtns. No rain to speak of for
a year. If we do not get rain this
spring, plants will not do very well.
In your last letter you spoke

being busy reading proof on two volumes you had written.

Have no idea what they were about but if they have anything to do with the present times, or botany I would like very much to read them. What are the titles and who is your publisher please?

I am still working at the factory 44 hrs a week and put in 3 or 4 hrs trying to get the ranch in shape to grow something now that the trees are out. The many years of heavy spraying has poisoned the soil so that it is hard to get it in shape to grow most plants. Between them I do not have much time to get away for collecting but always look forward to a possible opportunity. Thank you for the determinations you
Yours sincerely,

Fullerbrook, Calif.
Rte 1 Box 157B
Apr. 23, 1946.

Dr Carlton R. Ball
3814 Jacelyn St N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr Ball:

I applied for a permit
from the forest service after receiving
your letter but up to the present
I have not had any acknowledge-
ment. The season is getting
pretty well along so I am
getting anxious. Perhaps
it is the red tape that
takes so much time.
Maybe I am impatient.

I have collected
some willows where I
that I was covered by
my San Diego Co. permit.
I have been unable to do anything
the birds but M. wild and

I drove to the Santa Rosa summit
the other day, just under 5000ft
and I got along all right. Have
to be careful about exertion at
that elev. but am glad I
can get there. The Tanderose
pines near there looked
very good to me, like back
home in Wash.

I am making 2nd coll and
some 3rd collections of
willows now mostly in
the San Luis Rey river
bottom.

Being close to the junction
of Orange, San Bernardino,
Riverside Co's I need a state
permit to be satisfactory.

I have 2 requests for
plants from Berkeley
since you wrote them.
I enjoyed the pamphlets
and expect to study them
very carefully as I learned quite
a lot from them.

Sincerely, Chas B. Tinker
more than ever

Rte 1 Box 157B.
(Sandugo Co.) Fall Brook, Cal.

Jan. 21, 1946.
from C. B. Ficker

Dr Carlton R Ball.
(Washington, D.C.)

Rambow would be most
co line

Dear Dr. Ball:

We were very much
pleased to receive your card
which was forwarded from
Omak, Wash.

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In Jan. 1942 I came
down with the "Flu" and
Rheumatic fever. This left
me with a weak heart.
Spent some time in Vet. hospital
and they told me they could
do nothing for me, I would
just have to keep quiet and
rest. Private doctors advised
going to So. Cal. so we sold out
up there and came down here.
War time moving is no fun.
But to get in sinking

in finding a little 2 acre place
that had been used as a week-end
party resort. It has fruit trees
enough on it so we can have
fruit the year around. It was
badly run down but is now
bearing well except those that
were too badly injured and had
to be removed. So far I have
managed a garden so we
have had our own vegetables.
(We are at a little place called
Rainbow about 7 miles N.E.
of Fall Brook. It is the first time
I have lived in a community
that had no church, and my
how disappointing it is.
I have read and heard it said
many times that the church
uplifts a community but
never realized the full meaning
of it. A church teaching the
Fatherhood of God and the
brotherhood of man certainly

lifts up the individuals in the community and helps them grow. Race prejudice is terrible. Many of the folks have lived here for a long time and have not had any hard things to bump up against and they just do not want to be disturbed. We have joined the Meth. church at Fell Brook but have not had transportation during the war.

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
The flora of this region was all new to me except a few weeds. Have not tried to do anything with the *Salix* because I was unable to get around to collect at the proper time. Apparently there are very few species in this vicinity.

Baccharis seems to take their place along the stream beds that are dry most of the year.

I purchased a copy of Jepson's manual of Cal. and have become acquainted with most

of the plants in our little valley. It has been interesting and helpful to me as it is rather hard to get used to being sheaved after being used to 12 hours a day working on the ranch.

Several folks have brought specimens to me for identification from districts I have been unable to reach so I have a knowledge of some plants outside of our valley and they are interesting in their ability to stand months of dry weather.

I am hoping I can get up on Palomar this summer. Want to see if I can stand the elevation. Had a hard time at the pass coming down here. After all the Mtns I have climbed in the Cascades, and above timber ^{line} being my recreation ground, whenever possible, its tough.

Another thing I wish was different is the lack of

a good library. I enjoy reading non-fiction and try to get the new books bearing on present world affairs. It does seem to me that we are facing a very critical time in history and that great changes will take place not only because of the atomic bomb but because of the insistence of the selfishness of man.

The control of this country by corporations with the power of money control seems to me, from here, to be the most powerful control yet devised.

I would like to ask your opinion on M.V.A. I have that that T.V.A. was a great advance for democracy. Now some one is sending men like the Gov. of Cal. out here to tell folks it is a hindrance to democratic.

You no doubt are too busy to have time to spend on writing me, but if you could give me some information that was reliable or tell me where to get it, I would appreciate it very much.

My wife taught at the Fall Brook High School the first year and I did the house work. Her health failed and she had to resign. We appreciate your message very much and we planned to do what we could thru the Friends society as they seem to get the relief where it is most needed. We think the American Occp. forces are making a mistake in not allowing tried and proved relief organizations ^{to} work in Germany.

One of our neighbors said: "The Americans are such soft heads - here they are taking food to those people in Europe when their own people here are starving." Sometimes I think it might have been better for the country as a whole if we had not missed all the

Rte 1 Box 157 B.

Fall Brook, Cal.

Sept. 6, 1946.

Dr. Carleton R. Ball

3814 Jacelyn St., N.W.

Washington 15 D.C.

(Sent card of regret
on Nov. 30)

Dear Dr. Ball:

I have been
feeling punk for some
time, so I tried the
desert air and felt
much better. The fogs
from the ocean seem
to get me down. Just
^{got} home this morning.
I am sorry the
plants worked loose in
the carton I sent you

They were 3 inches above the boxes when I packed it, but the box was wide and the distance was so great it must have spread out and loosened up. Could not find a box exactly right. I'll tie them next year.

I could not get back to several places where I made the 1st Coll. Sent some of them in hoping you could identify them for me and then let me know if you were interested in having the later coll. of them. I would try to make it next year. I was unable to make any collections in the Forest Service territory as I did not get a permit until way late and when I did, I rec'd one for you as well as myself. The permit expires Dec. 31st. So I shall start trying to get it replaced the 1st of the year.

Sorry about that #3349 I must have put the label into the wrong place. Should have

caught that when packing
but didn't. I know just
where that shrub stands.
It is notched and is a later
bloomer than *S. lasiolepis* and
if you would like a coll.
of it next spring I'll make
a note of it and get it.

I hope to be in the desert
next March (West side Colorado)
and may get something there.

If you care to do so please
send the duplicates to
Dr Lincoln Constance Berkeley 4
U. of Cal., Herbarium. Please
send me a list of specimens
sent, for my records.

I am having many calls
for plants, seeds and roots from
this section from various sections
of the country. Do the best I can.
Makes life interesting.

Sincerely, Chas. B. Fiker.