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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.

November 11, 1943

Dr. Maximine Martinez,
Sociedad Botanica de Mexico,
Merelia 61, Ciudad Mexico, D.F.

Dear Doctor Martinez:

Through Drs. Blake and McVaugh, of the National Arberetum Herbarium, I have been given your name and address. I venture to write you, therefore, about my work with the willows (Sauce).

1. While I was with the University of California several years ago, very ~~extensive~~ extensive collections of willows were made and distributed. I still have duplicates of about 40 numbers. Many of these represent species and varieties of Salix which extend into Mexico. I wish to give them to the National Herbarium of Mexico, if there is such an institution. Please tell me to whom I should write about the matter, if there is such a herbarium.

2. After 45 years of collecting and publishing on Salix, I am beginning to monograph the genus Salix as it occurs in the three Americas. This will continue during two or three years, and may be longer. I wish to give the ranges (distribution) of species with great accuracy because in many of our manuals of botany geographical distribution is very imperfectly given. To learn more about distribution in Mexico, I would like to obtain for study the different collections existing there. If you can give me the names and addresses of persons in charge of herbariums there, I will write to them.

3. Several of the willows occurring in Mexico are quite well known but some species occurring in the higher mountains are very imperfectly known. Some of these have been described from mountains not far from the City of Mexico. If you know of any one who would be willing to do some special collecting for me, I will be very glad. I would pay for the specimens.

4. I have reprints of some of my papers remaining and will be glad to send them to you and to others whom you think would like to have them.

5. If you wish to reply in Spanish, that will be all right, as I read it fairly well altho I cannot write or speak it well

Appreciating your courtesy, I am

Most cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball,
Collaborator.

SOCIEDAD BOTANICA DE MEXICO

MORELIA 61

TEL. ERIC. 14-30-90

MEXICO, D. F.

20 de noviembre de 1943.

Sr. Carleton R. Ball.
U.S. Department of Agriculture.
Extension Service.

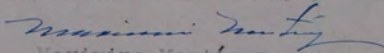
Dear Dr. Ball:

I answer your letter of Nov. 11. There is the Herbario Nacional en the Instituto de Biología, Casa del Lago, Chapultepec, México, D.F. The Director is Dr. Isaac Ochoteren.

I will be glad to send you some specimens of Salix when I go out for collecting.

In the Instituto de Biología they will be very much pleased to receive the papers which you can spare.

I remain, Very sincerely yours.


Maximino Martínez.

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Dr. Maximino Martínez,
Sociedad Botanica de Mexico,
Morelia 61, Mexico, D.F.

July 24, 1946

Dear Dr. Martinez:

Your very kind letter of 20 de Vev., 1943, was promptly received but a severe illness delayed any action at that time and your letter was overlooked, for which I am very sorry.

Today I am mailing 86 specimens of Salix to the Herbario Nacional, with a letter and list of the specimens.

Does the Sociedad Botanica also maintain a herbarium, and would it wish to have specimens of Salix also? I am sending some papers on Salix to the Herbario Nacional and will be glad to send to you also if you or some of your associates wish to have them.

During the years of the war, I have been able to do almost no collecting but hope to be able to get into the field again soon.

Thanking you for your kindness, and again regretting this long delay, I am

Most cordially yours

Carleton R. Ball
Callahan

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3814 Jocelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 15, D.C., U.S.A.

July 24, 1946.

El Director, Herbario Nacional,
Instituto de Biología,
Casa del Lago, Chapultepec,
Mexico, D.F.

Dear Dr. Ochoterena (or successor):

In 1943, I was informed by Dr. Maximino Martínez, of the Sociedad Botánica de México, that the Herbario Nacional was the national repository for herbarium material.

I had intended then to send numerous specimens of *Salix* (willow, sedge) but after assembling some of them I was taken ill and they never were sent.

Recently I discovered them still here, but unfortunately the insects had injured some of them.

Today, I had laid out some 86 specimens of *Salix*, packed them in a carton, and mailed them to the Herbario Nacional. Mostly they are specimens of species occurring in the southwestern and western parts of the United States, from rather dry areas (Sonoran and Upper Sonoran) but some are from the mountains.

I hope that they will be of interest and help to you. If and when I have others, I will send them.

In a separate package I will send some papers on *Salix* which may be useful to you.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball

P. S. I inclose a list of the specimens, arranged by Sections represented.

Sheldon B. A.