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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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

October 1, 1936.

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Exec. Secy., Coordinating Committee,
U.S.D.A., T.V.A., and Land-Grant Colleges.

Dear Doctor Ball:

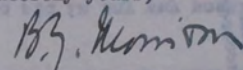
I very much appreciate your letter of September 28 with its attached carbon.

I am very sorry to have to report, however, that the economic herbarium, which is now part of this Division, does not contain any willows introduced by the Division. Unfortunately, there has not been in the past any policy in regard to the preserving of herbarium material of our introductions. If we are so fortunate as to have them, we have to thank the enthusiasm of individuals for their collection and, perhaps, to chance as much as anything for their preservation.

We are attempting as rapidly as our staff permits to approach the development of the economic herbarium in a more orderly fashion so that, in time, it may be a collection of economic and cultivated plants that will be worthy of some consideration.

Whenever we have willows, we should be very happy to beg your assistance and to have your opinions.

Very sincerely yours,



B. Y. Morrison,
Principal Horticulturist in Charge.

BYM:MMB

Program Planning Division

October 2, 1935

Memorandum for Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
Chief, Division Plant Exploration and Introduction, E. P. I.

My dear Mr. Morrison:

Many thanks for your letter of yesterday, explaining present and past status of the economic herbarium with reference to the willows, especially.

I will be more than glad to aid in any way possible in the determination of material. I would like to make a few suggestions in regard to collecting specimens of willows. The willows are a somewhat difficult group, as you know.

In the first place they are dioecious and oftentimes only one sex is introduced. If it happens to be the staminate, the problem is complicated because most descriptions of species are based on the pistillate material.

In the second place, many of the species are precocious in flowering and the flowers and fruits may have developed and gone before leaves appear. Other flower and leaf simultaneously and collections of flowers and/or fruits will show only partly developed leaves.

These facts make it very important to collect both in spring and again in midsummer and or fall in order to get mature foliage. Many species can be determined by mature leaves alone and if only one collection could be made that would be the most important.

I understood from Mr. Erlanson recently that some collecting might be done on your stations this fall. I would strongly urge that the willows be collected now if possible, as the mature foliage would thus be obtained. In May now be too late for most of the country, however.

I am wondering if your men would be willing to collect an extra set of willows for my herbarium. It has been built up through the years primarily as a help to Federal, State, and private collectors in determining material. Thousands of browse specimens from the Forest Service have passed thro my hands. I have collected suites of 4 to 6 specimens from single plants throughout the U.S. in order to be able to recognize all species in every stage of development, including water sprouts. I have determined widely for the Nat. Park Service, Biological Survey, and more recently, for the Soil Conservation Service.

Cordially, Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Chief Agriculturist

(See over)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

October 3, 1936.

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Chief Agriculturist,
Program Planning Division,
Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Dear Doctor Ball:

Thank you for your memorandum of October 2 with its suggestions as to the procedure in the collecting of willows.

I feel certain that when collections are made, it will be very easy to collect additional material for your own herbarium. As to how many we may succeed in collecting and how valuable they may be, I do not know.

We have not made a study of willows in recent years on account of the many interstate quarantines which interfere with their distribution.

Very sincerely yours,

B. Y. Morrison

B. Y. Morrison,

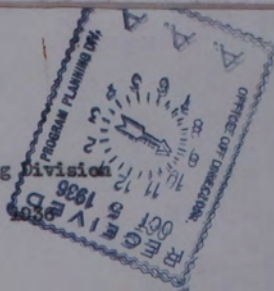
BYM:MMB

Principal Horticulturist in Charge.



Program Planning Division

October 22, 1936



Mr. B. Y. Morrison
Plant exploration and Introduction,
Bureau of Plant Industry, Department.

My dear Mr. Morrison:

Many thanks for your kind letter of October 3rd. In connection with the problem of introduced willows growing on field stations, this question occurs to me.

Do you have a record by numbers (introduction), or by genera, of the stations, Federal and other, at which the different introductions are growing, or were sent?

I get about over the country quite a bit and will be very glad to help in any way possible by collecting typical material whenever occasion offers.

If there are such records I will be very glad to consult them and list those that lie within territory I cover from trip to trip.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Chief Agriculturist

(See over)

July 30, 1940

Mr. Ben Y. Morrison,
Plant Exploration,
BPI., Department.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

If I recall correctly, you are an especial friend of Dr. Setchell. Accordingly, I am sending a copy of my little paper on his collections of Alaska willows. If you can use more copies of the papers or extra copies of the photograph, I will be glad to send them.

I inclose also nine copies for the men in the taxonomic section and will be glad if you will send them along. Any not wanted, I will be glad to have returned.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Executive Secretary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

August 1, 1940.

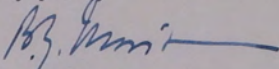
Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Extension Service,
U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Dear Doctor Ball:

I very greatly appreciate your note of July 30 with the enclosed ten reprints of your paper in regard to Doctor Setchell and the Alaska willows. Doctor Setchell has spoken to me himself of the pleasure and the amusing experiences which he had on this particular trip.

I shall be very glad to give the men in the taxonomic section the reprints which I doubt they will wish to return.

Very sincerely yours,



B. Y. Morrison,
Principal Horticulturist in Charge.

BYM:MMB

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

August 23, 1941

To: Carleton R. Ball, Extension Service
From: B. Y. Morrison, Principal Horticulturist in Charge
Subject: Purchase of Contributions from the U.S. National Herbarium

In going back through our file in relation to possible purchase of your set of Contributions from the National Herbarium, I find that it is impossible for our Division to make this type of purchase. I acknowledge that I should have known this at the time we discussed the matter. The only way in which the purchase can be made is for me to buy the books myself, personally, which I shall be happy to do, especially because of my errors.

As you may have heard, I am being sent to Peru next week to be absent three months, more or less. On account of the inevitable expenses which always precede an expedition of this sort, I do not find myself in position to make the purchase now. If you are willing to accept my apologies and my immediate delays, I shall be glad to go through with the purchase soon after my return because I believe the set will be of value in our expanding activities.

B. Y. M.

August 29, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. B.Y. MORRISON
Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction
Bureau of Plant Industry

Dear Dr. Morrison:

Your memorandum of August 23 is received and I note your statement regarding impossibility of purchase of the Contributions from the U. S. National Herbarium through official channels. While regretting that the Division cannot obtain them in this way, there is no obligation whatever upon your part and personal purchase need not be considered.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball,
Executive Secretary

Dr. E.Y. Morrison,
National Arboretum,
28th and M Sts., N.E., Washington 25.

2814 Jocelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 16, D.C.

11 October, 1951.

Dear Dr. Morrison:

Some time ago, Mr. Leslie N. H Goodding, of Arizona, asked me what willows had been introduced into the National Arboretum. As you know, he is a most careful collector and has worked over most of the mountain States. It was for him that I named *Salix Gooddingii*.

If the Arboretum wishes to obtain cuttings of willow species from him, I know that he would be happy to send them as occasion offers. There are many other collectors in the various States, and all over Canada and Alaska, who would be glad to do the same thing for you, if desired.

As you know, we started a salicetum at Arlington Farm but, one summer while I was on the road, it was destroyed in rearranging the farm. Then we started one in Rock Creek Park but that was destroyed in favor of a recreational area. Since then, I have made no attempt to get a salicetum started here. Scientifically, it would be very valuable.

Please let me know what the National Arboretum thinks about it. I will be glad to help in any way, especially by interesting these collectors throughout North America.

Cordially yours,

P.S. Mr. Goodding is the father of Charlotte Goodding Reeder, who, with her husband, was at the Natl. Herbarium for several months about two years ago. You probably know them.

Carleton R. Ball

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS, AND

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

WASHINGTON

U. S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

October 25, 1951

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

Dear Dr. Ball:

Your letter of October 11, that arrived in my absence, and acknowledged by Mr. Harlow, is most welcome.

It is a matter of regret that I cannot give a complete answer at this time. In principle, I should like to say at once that we would be happy to begin immediately. The facts are that we have to make one undertaking fall into some sort of sequence according to the limitations of our budget and man hours. The balance between what we can maintain and what we can initiate becomes more difficult and delicate each year.

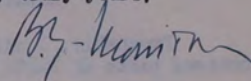
At this writing it seems to me that the most important thing you can do for us is to give us a list of names and addresses of those collectors whom you feel are most important, so that we may begin the collections just as quickly as it is feasible.

Meantime, I will attempt to arrange our information concerning quarantines on materials from Canada.

Doubtless we shall need to bother you from time to time as to habitat conditions that will give us needful data on cultural conditions.

May I say at this time how much I appreciate your thought for this as well as your conversations with Dr. Archer concerning the herbarium materials.

Very truly yours,



Benjamin Y. Morrison
Director

(See over)

Dr. Benjamin Y. Morrison,
Director, National Arboretum,
28th and M Sts., N.E.,
Washington 25, D.C.

3814 J'Veelyn St., N.W.,
Washington 15, D.C.

25 April, 1955.

Dear Dr. Morrison:

On Oct. 11, 1951, I wrote you, at the suggestion of Leslie N. Goodding, about getting Salix cuttings from various collectors in the U.S. and Canada and planting them in the Arboretum.

On Oct. 25, you replied, stating that you would consider the plan, as far as circumstances would permit, and that you would be glad to receive names and addresses of such collectors.

That correspondence, with some other papers, became misplaced and has just come to light. Your letter seems never to have been answered. Below I list ten collectors with whom I have been in close contact and who probably would be able and very willing to help in such an enterprise whenever asked.

Prof. Miles S. Baker, Santa Rosa Junior College, Santa Rosa, California.

Mr. Leslie N. Goodding, Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

Prof. August J. Breitung, Apt. 206, 1140 N. Gower St., Hollywood 38 Calif.
(collects also in western Canada).

Dr. Thomas C. Porter, Dept. Botany, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyo.

Prof. Ernest C. Smith, 608 Littleton St., Houston 22, Texas.
(formerly collected extensively in Colorado mountains)

Dr. Edward G. Voss, Dept. of Botany, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Prof. Ralph R. Wilson, Assoc. Prof. of Forestry, Idaho State College, Pocat-
elle, Idaho. (studies critically and collects extensively).

Dr. Gerhard Gerdner, 4541 Pentiac St., Montreal, Que., Canada.
(an enthusiastic collector in that whole area).

Father Ernest Lepage, Ecole d'Agriculture, Rimouski, Que., Canada.
(collects from the St. Lawrence R. to the Arctic)

Prof. J. C. Ritchie, Dept. of Botany, University of Manitoba, WIM Winnipeg,
Manitoba, Canada. (collects north to Hudson Bay)

Presently, I will give you another list of good observers and collectors from various parts of North America.

Trusting that all goes well, and apologizing for my error and delay, I am

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball