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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.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
~~WASHINGTON STATE MUSEUM~~
SEATTLE

Botany

April 16, 1934

Dr. Carleton A. Ball,
% University of California,
Berkeley, California.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Can you spare
me a copy of your recent willow
paper which appeared in the
Journ. Wash. Acad.?

I have been saving a few
willows for you. Would you care
to look them over?

Sincerely,

Cres. Neville Jones.

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(See over)

April 18, 1834.

Prof. Geo. Neville Jones,
Dept. Botany, Univ. of Washn.,
Seattle, Washington,

Dear Professor Jones:

Sent
Replying to your note of April 16 is here and I hasten to send you two copies of my recent paper. Give one to some one else in the Dept. who can use it. I inclose with it a few other papers which may be of interest and help.

I shall be glad at any time to determine willows for any one. When sending them please let me know if they are to be kept by me or returned. I have about 10,000 sheets of alix but am just as glad to determine those which are to be returned to the sender, as I learn much of distribution from them, or rather from the labels.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball

Mar. 17. 1935.

Dear Dr. Ball:

I have at last sent
those willows which I mentioned
a couple of weeks ago.

There are 4 mtd. spec. from Alice
Arm, Northern Brit. Col., property of
Prov. Mus. B.C.

Please return ~~all~~ all the mtd. material,
but retain all you care to of the
unmounted.

Please pardon delay in sending these
specimens. If I don't get things done
one week end, they have to wait until
the next or the next as I have no time
during the week for herbarium work.

I greatly appreciate your assistance
on former occasions

Sincerely
Geo. Neville Jones

March 25, 1935

Dr. Geo. Neville Jones
University of Washington
Department of Botany
Seattle, Washington

Dear Dr. Jones:

Your letter of March 17 and the package of willows received. I am very glad to have seen this additional material and thank you heartily for the privilege of keeping the unmounted specimens. I note that there was more than one specimen of several of the numbers, and the duplicates I have turned over to the Herbarium of the University of California. I will find out from them whether the Department of Botany of the University of Washington is on their exchange list, and if not, will see that some material likely to be especially valuable to your work is sent to you.

I am especially interested in the specimens collected in northern British Columbia, one of which puzzles me considerably, as it represents a form of whose identity I cannot be sure until further study has been made.

I am returning the mounted material to you by mail and trust that it reaches you safely. After April 1, address me at U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. With personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

CRB:MK

Carleton R. Ball

Mailed with letter of May 6

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
~~WASHINGTON STATE MUSEUM~~
SEATTLE

Botany

June 18, 1935

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Room 5038, South Building,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

If I have not already thanked you for the identification of the willows which I sent you some time ago, I now hasten to do so. I greatly appreciate your assistance on these (to me) difficult plants. I am very grateful to you for your offer to check all the *Salix* material in the herbarium of the University of Washington. When I return from a summer's expedition to the Wallowa Mountains of northeastern Oregon, I shall ship these specimens to you. Incidentally, I expect we shall find a few willows in the Wallowa Mountains during the next few weeks. If there are any "tough ones" or any especially interesting ones among them I shall send those also.

Sincerely,

Geo. Neville Jones

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
SEATTLE

Oct. 19, 1936.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Thanks for your recent letter containing corrections & suggestions for my Olympic Peninsula report.

This summer I had a couple of months in Alaska — Nome, Bristol Bay, Aleutian Islands. I am sending separately a number of willows to you for identification. The specimens are duplicates for your herbarium.

I shall greatly appreciate your determinations of these as I intend to get out a paper on the flora of the Seward Peninsula.

There will be a few more willows when I get them sorted out later.

Sincerely

Pres. Neville Jones

Program Planning Division

November 2, 1936

Dr. Geo. Neville Jones:
Dept. Botany, Univ. of Washn.,
Seattle, Washington.

My dear Dr. Jones:

Your good letter of October 19 duly received and the packet of willows arrived a few days later. I am sorry that I was not able to give them immediate attention.

Your lot gave me more trouble and therefore more thrills than most collections from Alaska. This was due in part to the fact that it was made up mostly of forms from the exposed southwestern areas, including many creeping species, with the erect ones usually depauperate. In part it probably was due to the fact that you collected more critically and therefore got some aberrant forms.

You will note that two of your numbers, 9041 and 9043, each contained two species or varieties. I think you will have no difficulty in distinguishing them by the notes I have made on the list of determinations inclosed herewith.

In case the material you have retained does not have both the forms I have listed in these two numbers, please let me know and I will be glad to return whatever you lack entirely or do not have enough of for your purposes.

If I can help you on the willows in your proposed treatment of the flora of Seward Peninsula, please let me know. I have a treatment of the willows of Alaska, pretty well done and can give you the list of those known to occur on the Peninsula without trouble, and the places of collection if needed. What would be your eastern limit for the Peninsula?

If you wish me to make keys to the species I will be glad to do that.

I am leaving Washington for a few weeks, but expect to be here during much of December.

With appreciation of your courtesies, I am

Most Cordially,

Carleton R. Ball

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
URBANA, ILLINOIS

November 5, 1946

Dr. Carleton R. Ball
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

I have just read your excellent article in the October Journal of the Arnold Arboretum, and should like to express my gratification over its contents, as well as to try to beg a reprint from you, or if you could spare two copies, I should like to pass one of them on to one of my graduate students who is working on a taxonomic problem and to whom your clear outline of taxonomic method would be very helpful.

Naturally, I am not the least bit sad about the way you treated little Fernald*, and your disposal of Salix missouriensis confirms my own observations on that imaginary species.

Sincerely yours,

G. N. Jones

GNJ:mjm

* The motto of the institution
that continues to pay his
salary is "Veritas" (!!)

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

Dr. George Neville Jones,
Department of Botany,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois.

December 22, 1946

Dear Dr. Jones :

Your letter of November 5 came promptly but had to be held up because one package of reprints failed to arrive. It finally has floated in out of space and I am glad to send separately the two copies you asked for.

I recently have read proof on a second paper, to appear in Rhodora during the winter. It was accepted by Dr. Fernald, altho it takes him rather severely to task for making two new one-species Sections in *Salix*. One he compared only with the type species of the section from which he removed, altho several species are placed in it. The other he said was so different from all other willows that it needed no comparison. I point out that it so close to another species on which he has published and which occurs in New England that it is very difficult to tell immature foliage specimens one from the other, and that it belongs in a recognized section with several species.

With seasonal greetings and good wishes, I am

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Hall

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
URBANA, ILLINOIS

May 16, 1950

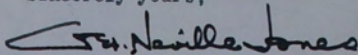
Dr. C. R. Ball
3814 Jocelyn Street, N.W.
Washington 15, D.C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Thank you very much for your recent letter with information about the publication of the binomial Salix subsericea Doell. I am in complete agreement with you on the futility of giving binomials to "hybrids" of willows and other plants. As L. H. Bailey has said, "our first duty is to recognize the species," and that aspect of the work has been by no means exhausted.

Again thanking you for your assistance, and with very best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



G. Neville Jones
Associate Professor of Botany
Curator of Herbarium

GNJ:ee

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

Dr. George Neville Jones,
Dept. of Botany, Univ. of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois.

29 March, 1952.

Dear Dr. Jones:

Your carton of undetermined willows arrived several days ago and I have just finished the study and determination of them. ^{The One Guatemalan plant collected by Trelease was not a willow, so I took it to the Natl. Herbarium two days ago and will hope to find it named when I go down on April 1. Then I will insert it} and start the carton back to you. (No.)

I was somewhat surprised to find so many old collections distributed unnamed. Of course, I had seen Heller's specimens in various herbariums, but those of Trelease apparently were not distributed widely. Eyerdam apparently sent me only a part of each of his numerous collections. Your lot contained many which I never had seen but which he had recorded on the labels as having been determined by me. I keep a typed list of each lot named by me. I have not listed all of these in this collection which I had not seen before, but have listed most of them. I believe the carton contained 263 sheets.

I had two new experiences in naming this shipment. The first was that I had to cover almost all the species of Salix occurring in North America, from Greenland and Alaska to California and Mexico. The second was that many of the sheets had been treated liberally with poison crystals, especially on the anthers. Some were so densely covered and the crystals so firmly pressed in that it was difficult to discern the different floral organs sometimes necessary to accurate determination.

I have placed determination labels on the specimens previous unnamed or wrongly named, and have written "teste CRB, 1952" on those already correctly named. In the European-Asian collections, I did not vouch for quite all the specimens. Some few were from named hybrids in German Bot. Gardens, and I left them as named. The Germans, in some cases, put the names of the two parents in alphabetic order, or at least in other order than the greatest evidence of parenthood. The One specimen from China, I could not name but I took off a couple of leaves, and if I run across it some day, I will write you and let you know what it is. I have never specialized in the willows of the Orient but have a fair knowledge of European species.

The Germans who have collected so widely in the Orient have insisted that most of their collections are hybrids. This results in the practical impossibility of using that part of the herbarium material.

I may have told you that I am now working over Hulten's treatment of the Alaska-Yukon willows. It is simply awful. In the first place, he published no descriptions, except of new species. But he cites many specimens, a large part of them as hybrids. I have been checking cited specimens, so far as available here, and find that he has put as many as three species in those cited under one name. The worst mix-ups are in the arctic species.

The carton arrived in good condition and I hope that you will receive it in as good shape.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball