



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Dr. Carlton A. Ball,
Extension Service,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

As previously arranged, I am sending you today a bundle of Arctic willows. Please retain all the unmounted material as we have duplicates of all of these. There are 9 mounted unicates of which we have no duplicates. Will you please return these at your convenience together with a list of determinations of duplicates.[?] I hope you will find this material interesting because most of it comes from localities not previously visited by botanists.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh O'Neill

Hugh O'Neill,
Curator of the Langlois Herbarium

The Catholic University of America

Washington, D. C.

April 17, 1937

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

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

Dear Dr. Ball:

Many thanks for your prompt determinations of the willows. The package of four (4) specimens of *Saskatchewana* was received sometime ago in good order.

Whenever you would like to have the 400 sheets of *Salix* in our collection sent to your office, please send me word and I will send them to you promptly.

I thank you for your invitation to botanise in the southern Appalachians. If I have the opportunity, I will certainly be glad to collect in that region. I have collected in the extreme southern extension of this flora in northwest Florida along the Apalachicola River several times and have lived and collected in Florida ten years. The southern Appalachians, however, are not such good territory for my work as I am primarily interested in Cyperaceae especially *Cyperus*. My next collecting trip will most certainly be in Central America where I was last summer.

Mr. Tidestrom contracted pleurisy which turned to pneumonia last week. He is in the hospital but apparently out of danger. I want him to go on a vacation to recuperate. He has suggested going to the Carolinas so that he may possibly collect in the southern Appalachians.

Very truly yours,

Hugh O'Neill
Hugh O'Neill,
Curator of the Langlois Herbarium

April 21, 1937

Prof. Hugh O'Neill,
Dept. of Biology, Catholic University
of America, Washington, D.C.

Dear Professor O'Neill:

Your good letter of April 17, 1937, is in hand here and I am glad to know that the willows and lists of determinations were safely received.

I note your desires in the way of personal collecting. If there any particular thing I can do for you in the way of Cyperus, please let me know at any time. I travel about a good deal and might be able to interest local collectors in looking for particular localized species and varieties.

Sorry to know of Mr. Tides trom's illness but glad that he is recovering. Hope we van get together down here during the year. I'll do some mountain climbing with him, if possible.

When I am in Washington long enough to go over your collection of ~~xi~~ willows I will be very glad to let you know and have them sent to my office for working over.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Extension Service, U.S. Dept. of Agric.,
Washington, D.C.

Extension Service

March 1, 1938

Rev. Hugh O'Neill,
Dept. of Botany,
Catholic University of America,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. O'Neill:

I have worked over the five packages of mounted willows from the University Herbarium, which were brought to me by Father DuFilly about a week ago.

Numerous changes in identification have been necessary. These I have indicated by affixing correction labels, or writing the changed identification on the sheet above the plant label. Where the determination was correct, I have initialed the label, except where the plant had been determined by me before distribution. In a few cases in this class, the collector evidently had mixed material.

I have not indicated my determination of the European and Asiatic material, in most cases, because I am not an authority on those willows. However, I have scanned them all and believe that they are correctly named as to species, but am not sure of the varieties. In fact, I would have initialed most of them if it were not for the varietal identifications. With a few specific names, as *S. Bornmuelleri*, I was quite unfamiliar and can venture no opinion. They may represent named hybrids. In one case, I suggested that a European specimen be compared with "*S. lapponum*". It should have read "*S. helvetica*" but the sheet was already tied up before I realized my error.

I have paid no attention to the mass of European hybrids. Many of them represent true di-hybrids. For those designated as multiple hybrids, there is no possible proof of parentage and such names are misleading. Some represent merely extreme aspects of true species.

Father DuFilly asked me to give early attention to his package of Eastern Arctic willows, included in one of the packages. However, I found that the package was not indicated and it turned out that his were at the bottom of the last package opened. Probably no time has been lost, however, as I have held out all the Eastern Arctic specimens from the other packages and will work them up together, as they are difficult.

The five packages, minus the Eastern Arctic material, are wrapped and tied and labelled for you. If you or one of your staff is down this way with a car, then can enter, between 9 and 5 o'clock, at Wing 3 on C St. S.W., directly under my room, 3843 South Bldg. I will work on the Arctic material today, if possible, but must go to New York tonight for remainder of the week, and will not finish it.

Cordially Yours,

Carlton R. Ball
Executive Secretary