

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

ECONOMIC AND SYSTEMATIC BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Sept 16, 1918

Mr. Walter Deane,

Dear Sir:

Your letter and the package have been received. Thank you for the ripe panicles of *Oryzopsis racemosa*. I have put them with Prof. Hitchcock's collection. The *Agrostis* you send is *A. perennans*. Prof Hitchcock says you collected this species while he was with you. It is very common here and very pretty I think. Walter in his Flora after describing it, gives vent to his admiration and says just to think this beautiful species has been left for him to name! He named it *Carrucopia perennans* - evidence of how valuable ^{are} Linnaeus' diagnoses (to which we are sometimes bidden to return).

The *Glyceria nervata* with small spikelets which Prof. Hitchcock collected at

Shelburne is the form described as *Panicularia*
nervata var *parviglumis* Scribn. & Merr. Yours of
July 22, 1913, slope of Mt. Evans is the same form.
Prof Hitchcock says he does not think it is
worthy of varietal rank.

Prof. Hitchcock made a short trip out
to Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas and Colorado this
summer. I have not been away. It
has been a busy summer. The consciousness
of the war is with us every minute here - that
is with the women. Men seem to have as
much time to sit around and smoke or
play tennis as they ever had. One sees
little girls, mere children, busily knitting while
able-bodied grown men are playing tennis.
House space is so inadequate here that Casa
Contenta has had a succession of temporarily
homeless girls and families all this year. I
refuse to rent it - we all have a limit to what
we will sacrifice, and I stop short of giving up
my house - except for honeymoons. I betook
myself elsewhere and lent it for a couple of

weeks twice this year for honeymoons. I had a joyous time decorating for the first wedding, the bride being one of "my girls." The second was for a soldier friend, the marriage taking place in Baltimore. I left a hot dinner ready for them and skipped out. My vegetable patch on the vacant lot next adjoining has given me plenty of exercise this summer, but it has given me plenty of beans, tomatoes, lettuce, squash and a good deal to can for winter. There is a good crop of turnips now coming on for winter. Some of the roses were killed last winter, but the others made up for them. For a few weeks Casa Contenta, front and back was almost hidden in roses. The shrubs and trees are getting so tall now that the little house is sinking into the landscape in the way I had planned. There were ten nests on the place this year. You asked after "Casa Contenta and all," that must

include roses and birds of course. A Baltimore oriole, which did not nest there (no tree being tall enough I suppose) brought her young ones there to bathe and feed. The old theologians used to teach that "God's creatures" were ordained for man's delight. When I think of what blessed relief from thoughts of the human slaughter going on, the birds have been to me this summer I wonder if the old theologs were so far wrong!

I hope your summer has improved your health, and that you will have a good winter.

Yours sincerely
Agnes Chase



Chase, Agnes. 1918. "Chase, Agnes (née Merrill) Sept. 16, 1918." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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