

MILTON FUND APPLICATION

REQUEST MADE BY:

Merritt Lyndon Fernald

DEPARTMENT

Botany

SUBJECT - SHORT DESCRIPTIVE TITLE:

Further Investigation of the Relic Floras of Newfoundland

CLASSIFICATION OF INVESTIGATION - REGARDLESS OF DEPARTMENT WITH WHICH APPLICANT IS CONNECTED, AS CHEMISTRY, ZOOLOGY, ETC.:

Phytogeography

FORMER REQUESTS FOR AID FROM THE MILTON FUND - STATE YEAR IN WHICH REQUEST WAS MADE, AMOUNT, SUBJECT, AND WHETHER OR NOT GRANTED:

1925: \$1000 for field work in Newfoundland; granted.
1926: \$800 " " " " " " ; not granted.
1927: \$1200 " " " " " " not granted.
1928: \$800 for technical assistance in preparing results; not granted.

AMOUNT OF PRESENT REQUEST - IF GRANT IS TO APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR, DIVIDE THE AMOUNT PROPORTIONALLY AND LIST BY YEARS:

\$1000 for 1 year

TIME REQUIRED FOR INVESTIGATION:

2 summer months of field-work; and much of the next academic year in working out and coordinating results.

PURPOSE - DESCRIBE PROPOSED INVESTIGATION BRIEFLY AND LIST ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES UNDER SUITABLE HEADINGS SUCH AS "PURCHASE OF APPARATUS," "SALARY OF ASSISTANTS" (STATE WHETHER COMPETENT ASSISTANTS ARE AVAILABLE), "TRAVELING EXPENSES," "LIVING EXPENSES." IF NECESSARY, APPEND MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION, BUT IN THIS CASE ALL OF THE SALIENT POINTS SHOULD APPEAR IN THE DIGEST GIVEN IN THIS SPACE:

The work planned continues studies, already begun, of the ancient living floras persisting on unglaciated regions centering about the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The work already accomplished has greatly altered conceptions of recent geological and geographic history of the northern hemisphere. Professor A. S. Coleman, one of the greatest students of Pleistocene geology, taking his cue from these botanical results, says in his "Pleistocene of Newfoundland": "All available geological literature on the subject has been consulted....; but it is most interesting to note that the most important work is by an eminent botanist, Professor Fernald of Harvard..... His latest paper... ~~must be taken~~ is full of interest to the geologist and must be taken into account by students of the Pleistocene." Similarly, Antevy ("The Last Glaciation"), Douglas Johnson ("New England - Acadian Shoreline") and other recent geologists and geographers are accepting and extending the conclusions drawn from my studies of the Newfoundland flora.

Such results as are already published of my studies in Newfoundland and on the adjacent continent are of as great botanical as geographic interest, in that they are throwing a clear light on the rate of evolution of "Linnean" species. The general interest in these results is shown by the facts, that in 1928 the Presidential address before the Royal Society of Canada (by Reginald Buller of Winnipeg) was based largely upon them, and that the address of the retiring President (L. H. Bailey of Cornell) of the Botanical Society of America, at New York, also stressed them.

It is my ambition to renew field-work in this area, - the most productive of far-reaching results of any in eastern America. Travel is most difficult and it will be necessary to charter a good boat and skipper and to have competent guides for work in the untrapped mountains. I should also need a trained assistant (already available) to relieve me of much routine work.

DATE

January 8, 1929

SIGNATURE

M. L. Fernald

Estimated expenses, based on experience of 1925

New Equipment (most of old equipment still in good condition) . . .	\$75.
R.R. and Steamboat travel for self and assistant	300.
Express and trucking	50.
Board and lodging for 2, for 2 months, and food of skipper & guides	275.
Motor-boat & skipper, hire of guides, &c.	250.
Photography and incidentals	50
	<hr/> \$1000



Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1929. "Fernald, Merritt Lyndon Jan. 9, 1929 [Milton Fund application]." *Merritt Lyndon Fernald correspondence*

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