

5403 Reno Road,  
Washington, D. C.

Nov. 8, 1925

Mr. Walter Deane,  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Deane,

Thank you for the check for \$5 for Prof. Hackel.

I do not want anyone to send the monthly gift in advance. I send the money to reach Prof. Hackel by the first of the month or before. I used to type receipts for him to sign and return, but since I returned from Brazil I neglected to do that, and I wondered if it were really necessary, anyway. All have had his signature at least twice. The plan was for me to send the money and then be reimbursed by the different friends. I have had several letters from him this year. In Brazil I collected so many of his species, and so many things I knew would be of interest to him that I wrote hurried letters to him several times. He has not had his herbarium since 1917, yet he seems to remember so many species in detail. The habit of many species was a surprise to me--great grasses two or three meters tall we have known from mere fragments. One of Hackel's Paspalums I found climbing a tree, more than three meters tall and widely branching. I saw the type, which was apparently a simple plant I'd guess to be about three feet tall--it was only a little fragment of one branch. Some of my specimens take three or four sheets for a single plant. After presses full of such things it was a relief to get up at high altitudes and get plants of reasonable size again. I was surprised to find so many grasses to be vines. Some of them reminded me of the yarn I used to untangle for my grandmother--but these

were worse than yard for I had to work so gingerly to avoid knocking off the spikelets. I found a lovely little vine *Lithachne*, very unlike the two species known for that genus. The staminate culms were erect or nearly so in little tufts with spreading almost deltoid blades; and to each staminate tuft <sup>was</sup> one or two very long slender pistillate culms creeping close to earth under other vegetation, with a single spikelet to an inflorescence--about two or three of these axillary inflorescences to a culm a meter or more long. I knew that was a new species when I saw it and wrote up its description on the spot. Most of my thrills, however, came from finding rare or supposedly rare species. Some rare ones were common. My collections have just come from the mounter and yesterday I began sorting them.

With thanks for Prof. Hackel's gift and with best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

*Agnus Chase*



Chase, Agnes. 1925. "Chase, Agnes (née Merrill) Nov. 8, 1925." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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