

Professor Marie-Victorin
Institut Botanique
Université de Montréal

May 18. 1932

My dear Professor Victorin :

I received your letter of May 10. and I shall be very glad, indeed, to come to Montreal for two weeks to assist you in lining out a plan for your botanical garden. Right now I am too busy here to get away, but after the middle of next month I can arrange it. Please set the time after June 12. according to your own convenience.

As to terms it will be perfectly satisfactory to me if you will pay me for my time simply my regular salary which amounts to \$ 100.- for the week and refund to me the railroadfare and my expenses for room and board during my stay in Montreal. It seems to me that this should make a fair arrangement.

During the last few weeks I have amused myself in spare hours with drawing up a policy or program for a modern botanical garden. It is not quite finished yet, but I shall have it ready by the time I come to Montreal. This program is quite detailed and rather ambitious, since I have put in everything, I could think of, what my ideal of a botanical garden might attempt to do. It should serve as a very good basis for a program for your garden, and it seems to me that a clearly defined program will be the first thing you need.

I was rather disappointed that you did not say anything in your letter about coming down here again, and that you seem to have given up that intention. I had really looked forward to going through the Boyce Thompson Arboretum with you. Besides, I had intended to suggest to you at that opportunity to try to get some of the surplus-plants of the arboretum for your garden. I do not remember, if I told you that we had plants of some 4200 varieties of trees and shrubs in the nursery of the arboretum. About 1500 of these are from 2-3 years old and still in pots. I had always made it a point

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to raise 20-25 plants of each variety, even though we might not need more than 5-10 at the end. But, I wanted to make sure that we would have enough and could always choose good specimen-plants for our groups. The surplus-plants were offered each year in exchange to other botanical gardens and those plants which nobody wanted were destroyed, since they had served our purpose. During the last year and a half no plants have been destroyed and very few have been distributed. Therefore, you could get easily young pot-grown plants of at least 1000 varieties for your garden. These plants are not for sale, but you would have to pay the express and would have to refund the wages of the men who sort, label and pack the plants. It seems to me, that it might mean a great deal to your garden to start right off with a nursery of over 1000 varieties of woody plants. Of course, it is too late in the season now to ship plants, but you might be able to get them in the fall. Please advise me in your answer to this letter, if you think that you would be interested in these plants, and I will see to it then that at least they are not destroyed. Of course, you understand that these plants do not belong to me but to the Boyce Thompson Institute. I only have assembled them and am interested in their fate. I am on excellent terms with the Institute, though, and it is appreciated there that I still take an interest in these plants. In case I should come to you permanently I could, of course, get permission to take with me any plants I want, but also, if we can not make a connection, I should like to see you get at least some of them. We can talk this over in detail when I come to Montreal.

Very sincerely yours

H. Teuscher

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