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Manuscripts produced and/or annotated by Agnes Chase pertinent to grass collections at the Smithsonian Institution

Michael T. Stieber

WHILE RESEARCHING the life of Mrs. Agnes Chase, I discovered a number of unpublished manuscripts which may be valuable to agrostologists, especially those who may use the grass collection of the U.S. National Herbarium. These manuscripts are lists of grass species, for most of which Mrs. Chase or Dr. Albert S. Hitchcock sought specimens in European herbaria in 1907, 1922, or 1935. During these trips, Hitchcock and Chase did locate types or other important collections of most of these species, and acquired specimens of many for the grass herbarium, either as duplicates or fragments from the European herbaria, or by purchase from the collectors or from other sources. Information obtained in Europe and recorded in these lists of species verified and augmented that which already existed in the Smithsonian's type card file for grasses, begun by George Vasey when he was in charge of the U.S. National Herbarium from 1872 to 1893 and continued by his successors. This information also became incorporated into the *Manual of the grasses of the United States* (Hitchcock, 1935; rev. ed. by Chase, 1950 [1951]) and the *Index to grass species* (Chase and Niles, 1962).

What follows is an annotated catalogue of these unpublished lists of grass species, most of them originally compiled under Chase's supervision by the bibliographer in the Division of Grasses (USDA), Cornelia D. Niles. Chase annotated these manuscripts extensively. Two additional manuscripts are

included, one by Dr. Hitchcock and the other by J. D. Dwyer. The latter was reviewed by Chase. All of these items are in the Hitchcock and Chase Library adjacent to the grass collection of the U.S. National Herbarium, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. This catalogue is arranged alphabetically according to title, and numbered according to that sequence. I have also compiled a biographical index to the botanists whose names appear in titles or tables of contents. Each number following a name cites the item so numbered in the catalogue.

I attempted to identify the botanists to whom Chase referred in each case by consulting her *Index to grass species* and the biographical files at Hunt Institute. In some cases, no first name was available; in others, no birth or death dates were found. Where a surname could not be identified fully with certainty, a probable first name is given and followed by a question mark, all of which is enclosed in brackets. Any addenda or corrections to the list will be gladly received.

Of the 49 Chase items in the catalogue, she numbered 13 herself. These numbers have been transcribed along with their titles, but are otherwise ignored in the sequence followed here. Titles have been altered only to make them intelligible to the reader. All items are in typescript except where noted otherwise.

I am restricting my comments about the

collection to simple annotations for each item excepting number 38, "*Paspalum* of South America." It should be noted that before Chase died in 1963, she had completed a sectional classification of and a set of keys to the South American species of *Paspalum*. She had already published a rather significant monograph of the North American species in 1929 (*Contr. U.S. Natl. Herb.* 28(1)), and had hoped to finish a revision of the entire genus, which would have included a completed version of manuscript 38. She devoted all her diminishing time and energy, however, to her last opus, the *Index to grass species*. Consequently, she was never able to finish the revision. Any botanist working on *Paspalum* should be aware of this unpublished yet potentially valuable manuscript.

CATALOGUE

Chase, A. [unpublished mss.]

1. 14. Aiton . . . Zuccarini. Pages 1-8, [8a]-11, [11a]-18, [18a]-22, [22a]-24, [24a]-30, [30a]-31, [31a]-32].

This includes about 122 author names; annotations on types and on those other specimens found in European herbaria.

2. 13. Andersson, DeCandolle, Domin, Hackel, Hillebrand, Hochstetter, Larrañaga, Linnaeus, Mueller <C.>, Papp, Presl, Ruprecht, Schlechtendal <Chamisso & Schlechtendal>, Schrader, Trinius. Pages [1-26].

Specimens sought in European herbaria by AC, with annotations on types and on those found.

3. Argentina Grasses collected by S. Venturi [compiled by A. Chase in] July 1933. Pages 1-3. Typescript and holograph.

Entries in AC script refer to specimens sent to U.S. National Herbarium by Burkart, Inst. Bot. Darwinion 1938 and by Fawcett 1939; also from Lillo Inst. 1941.

4. Asiatic *Panicum*, dupl. Pages 1-10 (index, 9-10).

A cleaned version of Chase's "*Panicum*—Asia," q.v.; key to many species included. A carbon copy seen.

5. Balansa, South America. Pages 1-17.

Grasses collected by Benjamin Balansa in Paraguay, 1874-1875, now in the U.S. National Herbarium; indexed according to Balansa number.

6. 9. Bentham, R. Brown, Hooker, Hook. f., Hook. & Arn., Munro <including Kurz>, Stapf, Stapf & Hubb., Stent & Hubb., Hubbard. <Mostly England.> Pages [1-17].

Grass specimens sought by AC in European herbaria; each entry is annotated to indicate whether the specimen was found and whether it is a type.

7. 10. Beauvois, Brongniart, Camus, <pere et fille>, Desvaux, Franchet, Franch. & Savatier, Lamarck, Poiret, Richard, Weddell. [Specimens found in] Paris mostly. Pages [1-34].

Grass specimens sought by AC in European herbaria; each entry is annotated as either found or not so.

8. Burchell — Fragments of grasses from Kew, Brussels, and Paris taken by A. S. Hitchcock in 1935, also specimens previously in U.S. herbarium. Pages 1-25.

The list is ordered according to collector number; each specimen was collected in Brazil.

9. Burma Grasses collected by Typhus Commission. Belcher & Steinecker. 210 numbers. 71 species. 1945. Pages [1, 1a], 2-5; [1b], 2-3. Contents: first part of 6 pages includes a sequential listing of species by collection number; second part of 3 pages is a list of the grasses arranged alphabetically according to genus & species.

10. Classic collections in grass herbarium by number. Pages [1-54].

This booklet is copiously annotated by AC; it is numbered erratically, hence a table of contents to the booklet is provided by M. T. Stieber; the latter is not counted in the pagination above.

11. 6. *Doell*. Pages 1-30.
Grass specimens with Doell's script seen in European herbaria by AC *ca.* 1935. Herbaria are indicated in annotations.
12. *Ekman*. Pages 1-3.
Grass specimens collected in Brazil and Argentina, seen by AC in Europe in 1922 (?). These are numbered 1-35 and arranged alphabetically according to genus and species; these numbers *may* refer to packets taken for the U.S. National Herbarium.
13. *Fournier by collectors* <Specimens listed from Fourn. Mex. Pl. Prepared about 1928 by Swallen. (Holograph by AC:) This disagrees in a few places with AC's list prepared 1935.> Pages [1]-6, 6½-19, 19½-33.
This may be of no value since it is merely a typed list of collectors with their numbers and some annotations by AC which indicate Paris hb. Drake coll. on some and Brussels on others; this seems redundant when compared to the information contained in the following.
14. 12. *Fournier Mex. Gram.* <(Chase wrote:) Collections now [1935] in Grass Herbarium, Liebm. Virlet, Gouin, Bourg., Botteri mostly specimens, (then typed:) mostly fragments, marked [with a red pencil line].> Pages 1-29.
The value of this work is, in part, a list of packet numbers on sheets now in the U.S. National Herbarium which can be correlated with the collector names and numbers. Other annotations by AC.
15. *Fournier Types Needed*. Pages 1-7; 1-2 (appendix).
Probably written *ca.* 1935; it cites Fournier's sources in the appendix; annotations on types.
16. *Galeotti [specimens] cited by Fournier or Ruprecht Wanted*. Pages 1-4.
Used by AC in her herbaria searches, probably in 1935. Annotations indicate most specimens were seen in Brussels. Chase wrote, "Use this in connection with Fournier list."
17. *Gardner—Fragments of grasses from Kew, Brussels, Paris; Pittier & Durand; Boissier; Cosson Herb.; Oxford. Also specimens previously in Herb. [at U.S.]*. Pages 1-14.
The fragments are now in the U.S. National Herbarium. The list is ordered according to collector number.
18. *Gaudichaud — [Fragments of grasses taken from] Brussels, Paris, and Pittier & Durand Herbaria*. Pages 1-4.
Fragments are now in U.S. National Herbarium and were taken probably by ASH in 1935. The list is ordered according to collector number.
19. *Genera. Old World — Type species of, alphabetical by authors*. Pages 1-[15].
The last page lists 11 publications "not in Washington."
20. *Glaziou collections in Grass Herbarium [U.S.], List of Types at end. [The final 3 pages list] Glaziou collections, [which are the] bases of new species and varieties of grasses. <For Mez species see catalogue of species of grasses published by Mez, typewritten copy sent to Kew in 1923.>* Pages 1-31; 2, 1, 3.
This includes annotations for packets of fragments obtained in 1935 by AC and ASH. The last 3 pages are numbered out of order.
21. *Glaziou [collections] in U.S. Grass Herb. listed Dec. 1923. <About 700 species.>* (Note:) <Names marked "Brux" are added from list det. for Brussels Hb. See Glaziou list in Determinations file, named for Hb Brussels Aug. 1922. These do not all correspond to these nos.> Pages 1-40.
On back of page 40 is a list of Glaziou specimens sent to Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro, Mar. 1926.
22. *Gossweiler — Africa[n grasses in the U.S. National Herbarium.]* Pages 1-11. Gossweiler not in U.S. National Herbarium. Pages [12-13]. *Angola grasses rec'd from J. Gossweiler; Identified by Agnes Chase, U.S. National Museum, reported Aug. 1942.* Pages [14-19].
23. *Gramineae in Fielding Herbarium at Oxford. A synopsis of the North American Gramineae contained in the Fielding Herbarium*. Pages [1-2].
Holograph — seems to be Chase's script. This contains a list of collections without

any reference to particular species or their respective collector numbers.

24. 7. [Grass specimens collected by:] HBK — H. & B.; Flugge p. 16; Willd. on H & B p. 16 middle of page collections; Willd. nom; Steud. on H & B coll. Flügge <other than Willd. separate list p. 22> Willd. other than HB — see p. 20 Kunth <other than HBK p. 23>. (Holograph in Chase's script:) AC. June 1935 found some HBK types in Bonpland Hb in General Herb. Paris[;] ASH[itchcock] fall 1935 examined the segregated HBK Herb. Paris. Pages 1-25.
25. [Grass specimens collected by] Parodi. Pages 1-48, [49]; 35^b, 2½, 2½. Most of these are in the U.S. National Herbarium. The eccentric pagination suggests that the last 3 pages were extracted from some unknown list(s).
26. Grasses from Aleutian Islands collected by [George] Van Schaack. Pages 1-4. Three copies seen, each of which has different information written by AC on the typescript. Each is a numerically ordered list of grasses identified by AC, from 390-1 to 1043-1. The numbers include three from Soule's collection.
27. 8. [Grass specimens named by] Henrard [collected by] Balansa, Balansa & Poit. [for the most part and found in Henrard's collection in Leiden.] Pages 1-7. The annotations indicate packets of fragments brought back to the U.S. National Herbarium by AC as well as the number of each packet; hence, each such packet in the herbarium can be correlated with the proper collector and number.
28. Grasses of Galapagos [Islands]. Where full data are given specimens in Cal. Acad. Sci. not in Grass Herb. Pages [i-ii], 1-12. Pencil holograph; paper in poor condition; undated.
29. Hackel, Report on Grasses of Chile. 1920. <List of grasses to Hackel by Reiche from Herb. Mus. Nat. Chile; numbers unless otherwise indicated are those of Philippi . . . Hackel's list was lent to Agnes Chase in April 1922, and returned in Oct. 1922. The Philippi grasses are in the Vienna Herbarium, stamped "Herb. Hackel."> Pages (i), 1-30. Chase wrote on page [i]: "The Complete list was to Reiche, Santiago, Chile, in 1914. Hackel later received a letter from Reiche saying he was leaving Chile for Mexico; he never again heard from him."
30. Hackel — Types. Pages 1-15. The specimens are numbered 1-133; herbarium location indicated in most cases; presumably those not marked are in Vienna.
31. Hassler grasses in Grass Herbarium received, before 1920, without name or with incorrect name. (Chase wrote:) This does not include all, I only listed those I came across. Numbers cited by Hackel <though received unnamed> are not listed. Some are still unidentified. AC. Nov. 1921. Pages 1-5. A list of Hassler specimens which are not in the U.S. National Herbarium, but which are in the New York Botanical Garden Herbarium, is appended. Pages [1-2]. Carbon copy.
32. Herbert H. Smith, Santa Marta Colombia grasses sent to J. Cosmo Melvill Esq. Meole Brace Hall, Shrewsbury, England. Pages 1-9. A list of specimens according to H. H. Smith's collecting numbers. No habitat data given. Carbon copy.
33. 1. Link, Sprengel <Berlin mostly>. Pages 1-3 (Link); 1-8 (Sprengel). After each species name, annotations by AC indicate whether it was found in Berlin and whether the specimen found was a type.
34. Catalogue of Species of Grasses Published by Mez. Collections cited by Dr. Mez and his students, Hermann, Janowski, and Prodoehl, in publications appearing before January 1, 1923. Pages 1-29, [30]. Page [30] is a list of spp. of *Eragrostis* named by Jedw. (= Medw.). Inserted inside front cover are 2 carbons of: "Mez's species from Australia — specimens cited." Throughout the ms. are annotations indicating whether the specimens were types, whether they were found in the U.S. National Herbarium, or only in Vienna, Berlin, Munich or

- Herb. Delessert. There are 5 other copies besides this heavily annotated one, two of which have a few notes.
35. 3. *Nees — Nees & Meyen, Meyen* <Old World genera at end>. Pages 1-24, [25-26]. Grass specimens seen by AC in Europe in 1935, with notes as to herbaria and type status.
 36. *Notes on Gandoger Grasses*. 1921. Pages [i-ia, 1-7, 7a-17]. Foreword letter, i-ia; Gandoger types published in *Bull. Soc. Bot. France* 66: 286-307, 1919; these specimens are in the U.S. National Herbarium.
 37. *Panicum — Asia*. Pages 1-6; 1-2 (index). This has copious annotations and a rudimentary key to species in the list; it does not include all Asiatic species. See also: "Asiatic *Panicum*, dupl."
 38. *Paspalum of South America*. I. *Alterniflora — Crassa* [Sections]. Pages [1-134]; II. *Decumbentes — Gardneriana*. Pages [1-167]; III. *Inequivalve — Paniculata*. Pages [1-107]; IV. *Pectinata — Virgata*. Pages [1-132]. This is a set of four loose-leaf volumes with keys to sections and species which Mrs. Chase had completed by the late 1950s. The present pagination follows an alphabetical sequence according to temporary sectional names as arranged by Thomas R. Soderstrom, Curator of Grasses, Smithsonian Institution.
 39. *Paspalum* 1928. *Herbarium Copy*. Pages [1-3], 4-18; 1-6 (index). This list is arranged according to sections, with species numbered from 1-360, and has annotations in pencil by AC.
 40. *Paspalum* 1939. Pages 1-21; 1-12 (index). This list is arranged according to sections, with annotations indicating distribution and type information; species numbered from 1-366. Also present is a carbon copy of pages 1-21 with additional penciled annotations by AC; this is appended to the original copy.
 41. *Pilger*. Pages 1-15. Specimens from South America in the herbarium at Berlin. These are numbered 1-204. Each number seems to refer to a packet with a fragment of a specimen taken from Berlin and placed in the U.S. National Herbarium by either AC or ASH; collector numbers are listed after the species names.
 42. *Pilger's South American Species* <of Gramineae in Berlin, excepting Pilger numbers in Perkins' Fl. Bolivia.> Underscored are in types from Berlin; US — dupl. type in U.S. [National Herbarium]. Pages 1-6, 6-20, [21-23]. These species are numbered 1-144; each number seems to refer to a packet with a fragment of a specimen taken from Berlin and placed in the U.S. National Herbarium by either AC or ASH; collector numbers are listed after the species names.
 43. *Pohl* [Johann B. E.]. Pages 1-3. This is a list of grasses collected by Pohl, arranged according to his numbers, specimens of which AC found in 1922 in the Boissier (Geneva), Brussels and Kew herbaria.
 44. *Riedel — Fragments of grasses from Brussels, Kew, Paris taken by A. S. Hitchcock in 1935, also specimens previously in U.S.* [National Herbarium]. Pages 1-13. The list is ordered according to collector number and was compiled by AC.
 45. 2. *Roemer & Schultes, Schultes*. Pages [1-4]. A list of grass specimens seen by Agnes Chase in European herbaria, with annotations.
 46. *Roosevelt African Expedition. Mearns Collection* [of grasses now in the U.S. National Herbarium, Smithsonian Institution]. Pages 1-7. These specimens were collected by Edgar Alexander Mearns [1856-1916] in 1909. Contains numerical list of the specimens identified by AC.
 47. *Spruce — Fragments of grasses from British Museum, Boissier Herb., Kew, Brussels, Pittier & Durand* [collection] taken by A. S. Hitchcock in 1935; also specimens previously in U.S. [National] Herb[arium]. Pages 1-15. The list is ordered according to collection number.

48. 11. *Steudel <Old World genera at end>*. Pages 1-34, [35].

Grass species named by Steudel of which specimens were seen by AC in 1935. The list indicates whether specimens are types and in which herbaria they are located.

49. 11. *Steudel Types examined in Caen, Paris, and a few elsewhere by Agnes Chase 1935*. Pages 1-6.

Holograph copy.

Dwyer, J. D. [published ms.]

50. *A list of more than 364 numbers of grasses collected by Auguste De St. Hilaire from 1816-1822 in Rio de Janeiro <R.d.J.>. Goias <G.> Minas Geraes <M.G.>, Sao Paulo <S.P.>, Banda Oriental <B.O.>, Rio Grande do Sul <R.G.d.S.> etc. This list <Its Author or Authors?> is located in the Herbarium of the Division of Phanerogams of the Museum D'Histoire Naturelle in Paris <Cf. my paper, The Botanical Catalogues of Auguste De St. Hilaire In Ann. Mo. Bot. Garden 42: 153-170, 1955>.* Pages [1-22]. Dwyer's lengthy title appears on the cover. Chase probably reviewed the ms. and kept this copy for her own reference in the Grass Herbarium.

Hitchcock, A. S. [unpublished ms.]

51. *British Guiana, 1919-1920, [list of] collections other than grasses*. Pages [1-53].

This is a field notebook covering most numbers 16529-17659, from 25 Oct. 1919 to 18 Jan. 1920. Pencil holograph. Species names are not given, but label data are present.

[*Addendum*: after this paper had been submitted for publication the following significant manuscript compiled by Cornelia D. Niles and heavily annotated by Agnes Chase was found by Dr. Thomas R. Soderstrom, Curator of Grasses, Smithsonian Institution, and forwarded to me.]

Chase, A. [unpublished ms.]

52. A list of 1178 numbered specimens, all of which are "Hackel's species being listed

with exact citation . . . so that the types might readily be identified." The introductory note by A. Chase, signed May 21, 1945, also states: "This list in this binder was taken to Vienna in 1922 by Agnes Chase, sent to study the grasses in the Hackel Herbarium, which had been acquired by the Natural History Museum in Vienna." Each leaf is typed on one side and heavily annotated on both sides. Only the typed pages are numbered. Loose-leaf pages, tied between two green cardboard covers. Attached to page [124] is a letter, ALS, from S. Schonland, 15 Dec. 1922, Grahams-town, Cape Province, Union of South Africa, to Agnes Chase, Washington, D.C., concerning some grasses worked out by Hackel, collected in Bulawayo, S. Africa. Pages 1-10, [11-133].

References to this entry have not been included in the index which follows, except under Eduard Hackel.

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