

THE **BULLETIN** OF THE
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

• OBJECTIVE •

To increase the knowledge of members and public in identification and conservation of the native plants of the Pacific Northwest.

Vol. XIV No. 10

OCTOBER 1981

CHAPTER NEWS

EMERALD CHAPTER

Meetings:

Monday, October 5. Mayflower Miscogenation or "Oh, Those Hybrid Hawthorns!" It is becoming apparent that where hawthorn species come together, hybridization will occur. This has happened in certain locations in the Willamette Valley where our native Black Hawthorn, Crataegus douglasii, grows in close association with the introduced red-fruited English Hawthorn or Mayflower, C. monogyna. Rhoda Love, Emerald Chapter member, will show slides of the two hawthorn species and their interspecific hybrids and explain where to find the hybrids and how to recognize them. Meet at 7:15 p.m., Eugene City Library.

Monday, November 2. Alan Curtis, Emerald Chapter member and BLM botanist, will show slides of the native plants of the Islands of Maui and Hawaii. We'll be introduced to some flowering plants and trees that the average person doesn't ever get to see. A highlight of Alan's trip, taken in July 1981 with his wife, Mary Ann, was a 14 mile hike to the second wettest spot on earth -- 400" of rain annually! Meet at 7:15 p.m., Eugene City Library.

HIGH DESERT CHAPTER

STEENS MT. TRIP

On the weekend of July 11th and 12th, nineteen members and friends of the High Desert Chapter travelled to Steens Mountain. The weather cooperated, giving us blue sky and sunshine for the entire weekend.

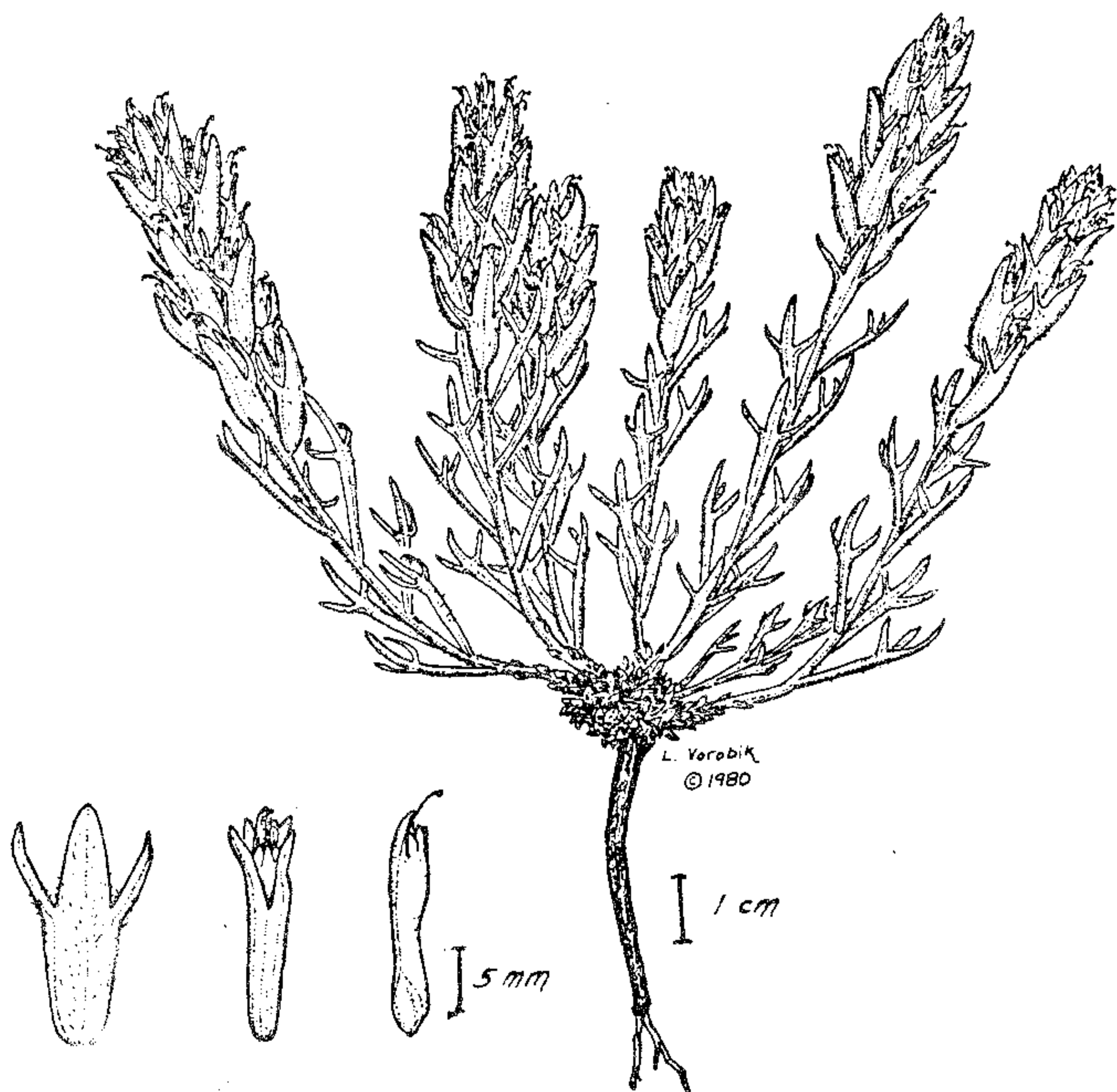
Base camp was at Fish Lake. Saturday morning the early arrivals explored and photographed flora and scenery up to the Alvord Desert viewpoint on the East rim at the 9500 foot level. On Sunday, Joan Price and Carolyn Wright, field botanists for the BLM Office in Burns, joined the group. Their knowledge of the vegetation and ability to quickly identify specimens added a special dimension to the trip. We owe a great deal of success of the field trip to their expertise. We would like to thank them again for joining us.

The bloom was past prime around Fish Lake but there were many lovely displays higher up the mountain. Among the sixty five plus (Christy Steck's count) species tabulated, Helenium hoopseii, Orange Sneezeweed, was the dominant species. Linanthus astrum nuttallii was everywhere and Phacelia sericea, Silky Phacelia, was especially lovely. Showy Penstemon, Penstemon speciosus, had an abundant bloom and the Snow Buttercup, Ranunculus eschscholtzii, put on a spectacular show in a borrow pit above Jackman Park. At the head of Little Blitzen Canyon Showy Polemonium, Polemonium pulcherrimum, both blue and white, were in full bloom and the rocky slope was covered with the many varied hues -- from green to rosy pink -- of the little Steens Mountain paintbrush, Castilleja steenensis.

Dwarf Buckwheat, Eriogonum ovalifolium, Ivesia gordonii, Spraguea umbellata, and Astragalus whitneyi, were abundant at the head of Kiger Canyon and at the East Rim Viewpoint. Marsh Marigold, Caltha leptosepala Cusick's Draba, Draba sphaeroides, were among the species we saw as we dropped down into the head of Indian Creek Canyon on the South leg of the loop road.

These are just a sampling of the many common and some rare plants that were in flower. It was agreed that instead of two days we needed several weeks on Steens Mountain.

Barbara J. Robinson



Castilleja steenensis

PORTLAND CHAPTER

Field Trips:

Saturday, 3 October, 1981. Cape Lookout. George Lewis, leader. Carpool at OMST at 8:00 a.m., or meet at the trailhead at 10:00 a.m. This is a late season hike through alternating tunnel-like forest and broad ocean views from precipitous cliffs. This is our last coast trip of the season. Don't miss it!

Saturday, 10 October, 1981. Little Crater Lake/Timothy Lake. Charlene Holzwarth, leader. Carpool at State Motor Vehicles Department parking lot. (NE 60th and Glisan) at 8:00 a.m. or Government Camp at 9:00 a.m. This late season hike is along a flat portion of the Pacific Crest Trail between Little Crater and Timothy Lakes. Charlene will discuss the geologic forces which have formed Little Crater Lake. Prepare for a frosty morning. Bring mittens and wool clothes. The weather can be unpredictable at this time of the year.

Tuesday, October 13, 1981, 7:00 p.m. Central Library, 801 S.W. 10th, Portland. Flowers of the Southwest. This program to be presented by Esther Kennedy, long time N.P.S.O. member, botanist and photographer.

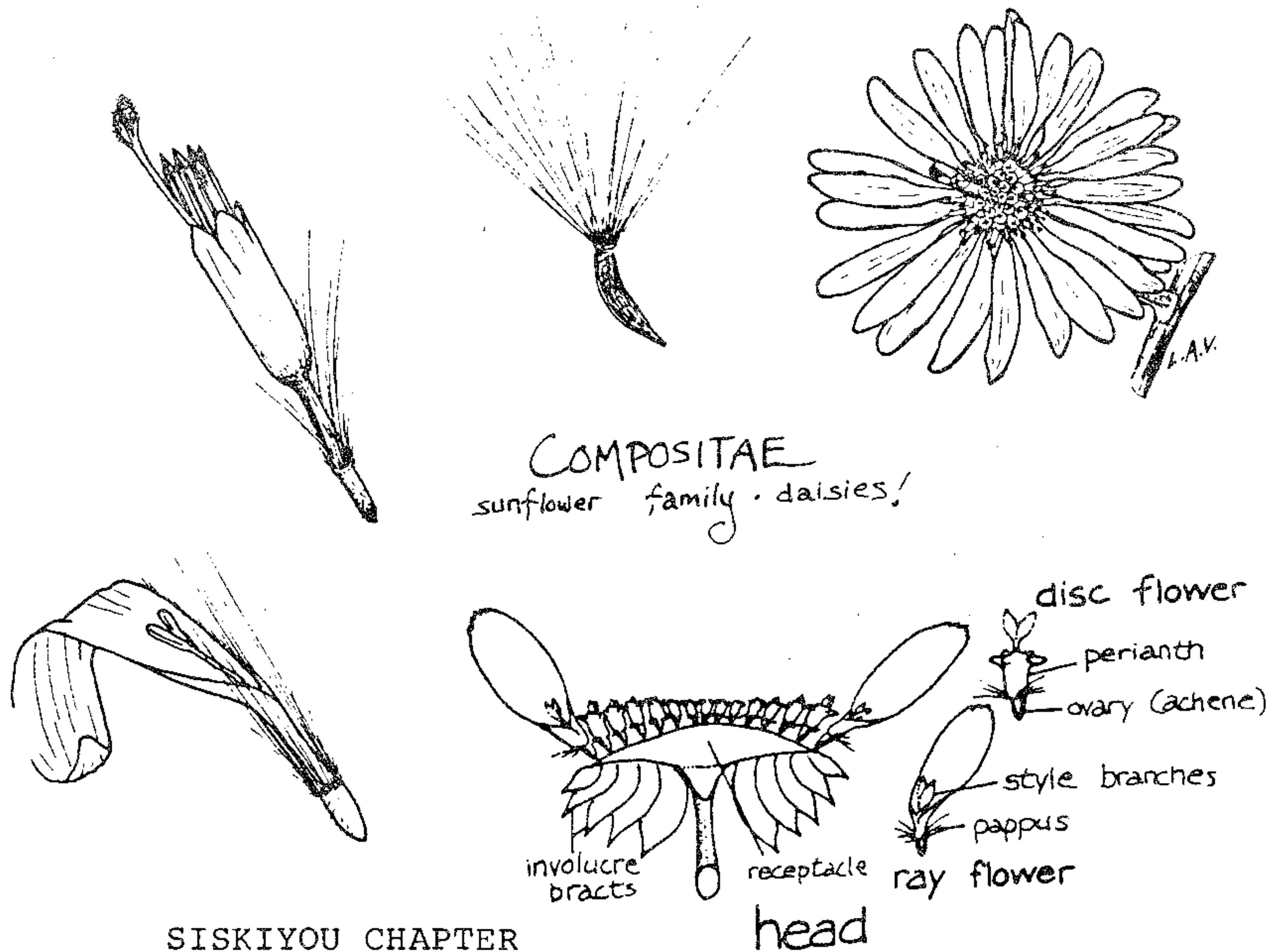
Saturday, 17 October, 1981. Leach Park, George Lewis, leader. Meet at Leach Park at 10:00 a.m. The park can be reached by taking Foster Road to SE 122nd, turning south and proceeding to a bridge over Johnson Creek. The gate is on the north side of the creek. The park is part of the estate left by Mr. and Mrs. Leach. Mrs. Leach is probably best known for her discovery of Kalmiopsis leachiana, in the Siskiyou Mountains. The Leachs collected many species of plants, including over 100 different types of trees, and started this garden/park in the 1930's. For over a year now, George has nearly singlehandedly maintained this park. Last Spring, he was nominated by the Portland Parks Bureau as Park Volunteer of the Year.

Saturday, 24 October, 1981. Meadowcroft Memorial Nature Trail. Leader undesignated. Carpool at Tri-Met Park and Ride (9750 SW Barbur Blvd.) at 11:30 a.m. Drive south on I-5 to Salem's Market Street exit, drive through Salem, cross the bridge over the Willamette River and turn right onto Wallace Road. Continue 2.1 miles on Wallace Road until a left turn on Brush College Road. Proceed 4.8 miles to an intersection where you must make a sharp left turn into what looks to be a driveway. Follow signs to 4-H Center. Lost? Call 581-6696, and tell them you're trying to find the 4-H Center. The Meadowcroft Trail has just been completed and will be dedicated at 1:00 p.m. The first official hike will begin shortly after the ceremony. It was built by the Salem Audubon Society and the Willamette Chapter of the Native Plant Society. It is a 1 1/4 hour self-guiding nature trail which passes through a variety of plant communities, including an Oregon White Oak forest. This will be a proud moment for our Willamette Chapter. Come and add your congratulations!

Saturday, 31 October, 1981. Haag Lake. Glenn Walthall, leader. Carpool at south end of K-Mart parking lot at intersection of Murray Road and Tualatin Valley Highway (across the street from St. Mary's Academy) at 8:30 a.m. Join Glenn for this pre-winter walk along a level 1 mile trail to Haag Lake.

Saturday, 7 November, 1981. No trip scheduled.

Saturday, 14 November, 1981. Last Field Trip of the Year! Tryon Creek State Park. Charlene Holzwarth, leader. Take Terwilliger exit on I-5 and turn east on Terwilliger. Turn right at "Y" and follow signs to State Park. Meet at 10:00 a.m. Bring boots, rain gear, lunch and "Winter Twigs of Tryon Park" by Jean Siddall



SISKIYOU CHAPTER

Meetings:

October 1., Thursday. 275 Science Building, SOSOC, 7:30 p.m. Topic to be announced.

November 5, Thursday, Science Building, SOSOC, 7:30 p.m. Relationships between Soil and Vegetation in the Southern Oregon Mountains, by Sue Blumenthal, Soil Scientist.

December 3, Thursday. Science Building, SOSOC, 7:30 p.m. Natural Dyeing with Local Plants, by Carolyn Steiber, weaver.

Field Trip:

Sunday, October 4th. Andy Kier will lead a trip to the Applegate River area to see unique tree and shrub species such as Oracle Oak, Baker's Cypress, and Brewer's Spruce. We should catch the beginnings of fall color too. Bring a lunch. Carpools meet at Ashland Bi-Mart at 9:00 a.m., and Medford K-Mart at 9:30 a.m.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES - 1981

Some of the Siskiyou Chapter's activities this season have been at the request of governmental agencies. For example, in June chapter members organized a survey expedition -- a la Lewis and Clark -- to locate and blaze a loop trail through the Miller Lake Botanical Area on the Applegate Ranger District. The proposed route winds through old growth fir stands, with many saprophytes and other shade-loving plants, then opens up to stands of Baker's cypress and oracle oak. Seen on nearby rock faces were Lewisia leana, a mysterious Allium, Sedums, and other crevice-types. Some members were concerned as to the advisability of a trail through this delicate and unusual habitat.

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Elsewhere, a team led by Frank Sesock surveyed a proposed US Forest Service timber sale area near Observation Peak. Probability of landslides, erosion, windthrow of remaining timber, and reforestation failure were discussed. Calochortus nudus is found along a nearby section of the Pacific Crest Trail. The general area, including Dutchman's Peak, is widely known for its unusual flora. It was recommended that the Forest Service contract out intensive botanical surveys on all such timber sales.

Monitoring of tree conditions in Ashland City Parks has been an ongoing cooperative effort of Siskiyou Chapter members and the Jackson County Extension Service Master Gardener Program. Hazardous tree conditions have been noted and mapped, and an action plan has been submitted to the Ashland Parks Department.

Andy Kier

HELP NEEDED IN ASHLAND

In May of last year, the Rainbow Bridge acquired a small parcel of land from the City of Ashland, as a stewardship. This land had been donated to the city by the Lord family as a passive park. Since it was lovingly referred to by the group as "The Lord's Garden," the city did not quite know what to do with it. Consequently, Rainbow Bridge as a group put forward a suggestion:

To renovate the existing orchard area; to plant an arboretum of Oregon trees and other native "species"; to renovate the woodland walk along the small creek; and, to tidy the play area for public use. Also, there are Trilliums in the wooded walk, and once this is cleared properly, a catwalk could be put in to prevent impaction of the soil, and then possibly an area could be corded off for the planting of endangered species.

Manpower is what is needed mostly for the accomplishment of this purpose, and enthusiastic support. Those with time and energy to help create this park should contact:

Sylvia Schechter
117 Nob Hill
Ashland, Oregon 97520
482-0552

representing Rainbow Bridge and S.O.L.L.A.
(Southern Oregon Living Lightly Association).

WILLAMETTE VALLEY CHAPTER

Meeting: November 16. See next Bulletin.

Special Event:

Saturday, October 24, 1:00 p.m. Dedication and opening of Meadowcroft Memorial Nature Trail, 4-H Center, Eola Hills, West Salem. A cooperative community service project with Salem Audubon Society. Meet at trailhead at 4-H parking lot for a morning of birding at the same place at 8:00 a.m., with a bag lunch. Leaders: Carl Snyder (364-2431) and Judith Armstrong (581-3133).

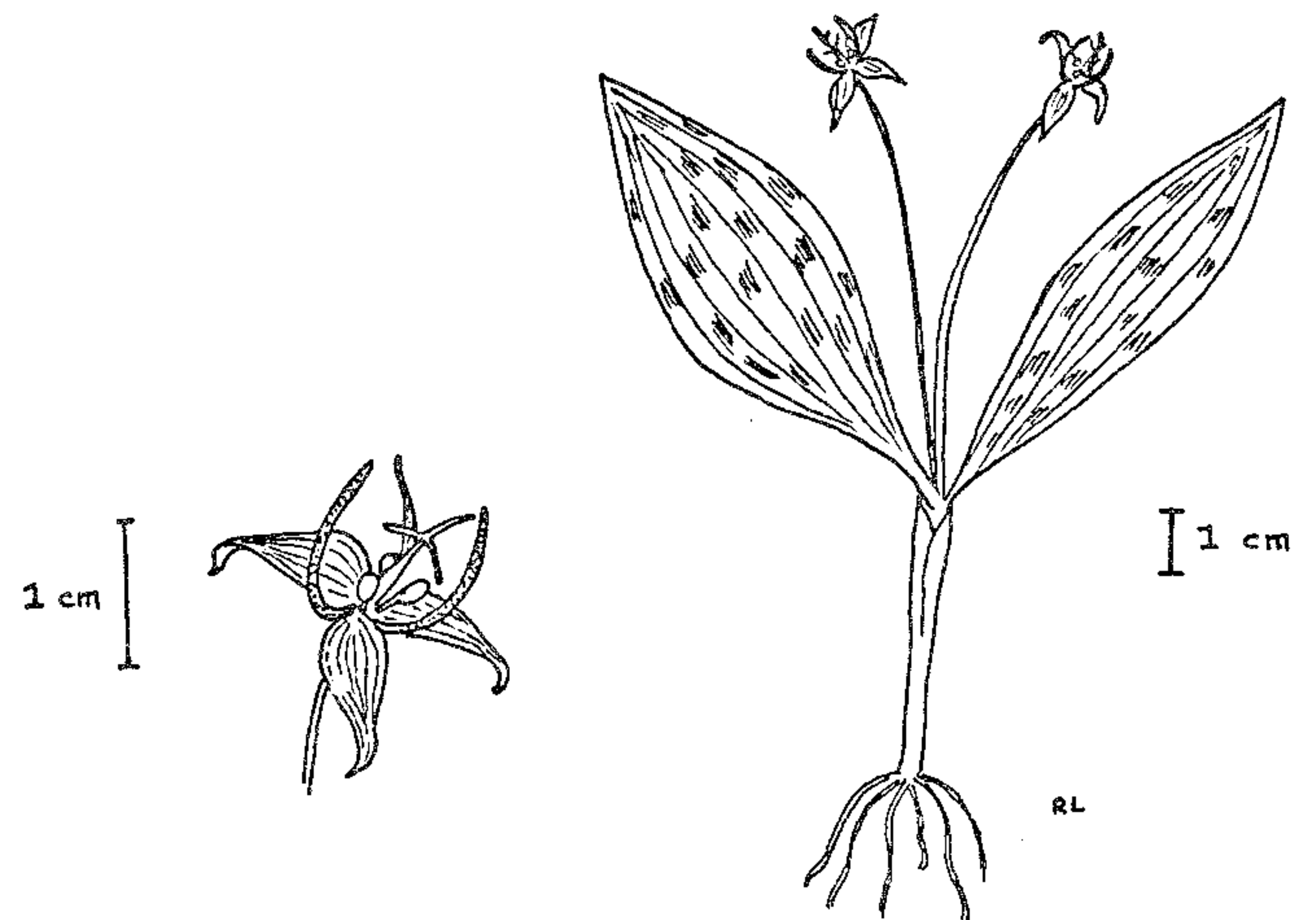
The Mt. Hood mushroom field trip originally scheduled for October 24 will be rescheduled on a date to be announced.

Trillium, Vancouveria, Scoliopos, and other Oregon Genera Have Seeds Dispersed by Ants.

In seed dispersal season, the ecologist may turn his attention to those plants whose seeds are adapted to transport by animals. Many examples come to mind, however, you probably have not: picked Asarum seeds out of your dog's coat; pulled Trillium seeds from your hiking socks, or found Vancouveria seeds germinating beneath a power line where birds habitually perch. This is because members of these three genera and some other Oregon plants, although their seeds are adapted to animal dissemination, belong to the group of plants called myrmecochores; that is, those plants whose seeds are disseminated by ants.

It has been known since the beginning of the century that certain plants have a syndrome of characteristics which make their seeds both available to and attractive to ants. Stebbins, in his Flowering Plants (Belknap Press, 1974), reviews the syndrome which includes: prostrate or recurved stems which bring the seed pods close to the ground; irregular opening of the fruits which makes the seeds available over a span of time; and seeds equipped with an aril or elaiosome of oily material to act as food for the ants.

Rolf Y. Berg, of the Botanical Garden of the University of Oslo, has written a half dozen interesting papers since 1954 describing the effectiveness of these adaptations in a number of plant species, several of which are Oregon natives. (Dr. Berg's papers on myrmecochory are all listed in the bibliography of his very interesting 1972 paper on Vancouveria in the American Journal of Botany 59:109-122, which also describes his experimental techniques. These, in my opinion, could easily be duplicated by high school or college students.)



Stink pod or fetid adder's tongue
(Scoliopos hallii Wats.)

Some of the native Oregon genera which are known to have ant-disseminated seeds are: Trillium, Nemophila, Vancouveria, Scoliopos, Asarum, and Dicentra. All have seeds with a large and obvious oily attachment, variously called an elaiosome, a cucullus, or an aril. These can easily be seen with the naked eye or with a hand lens. The seeds of Nemophila are well illustrated in Hitchcock et al. (1959) Vol. 4, p. 156. The ants apparently carry the seeds to their nests where they eat the fat body but leave the seed itself undamaged.

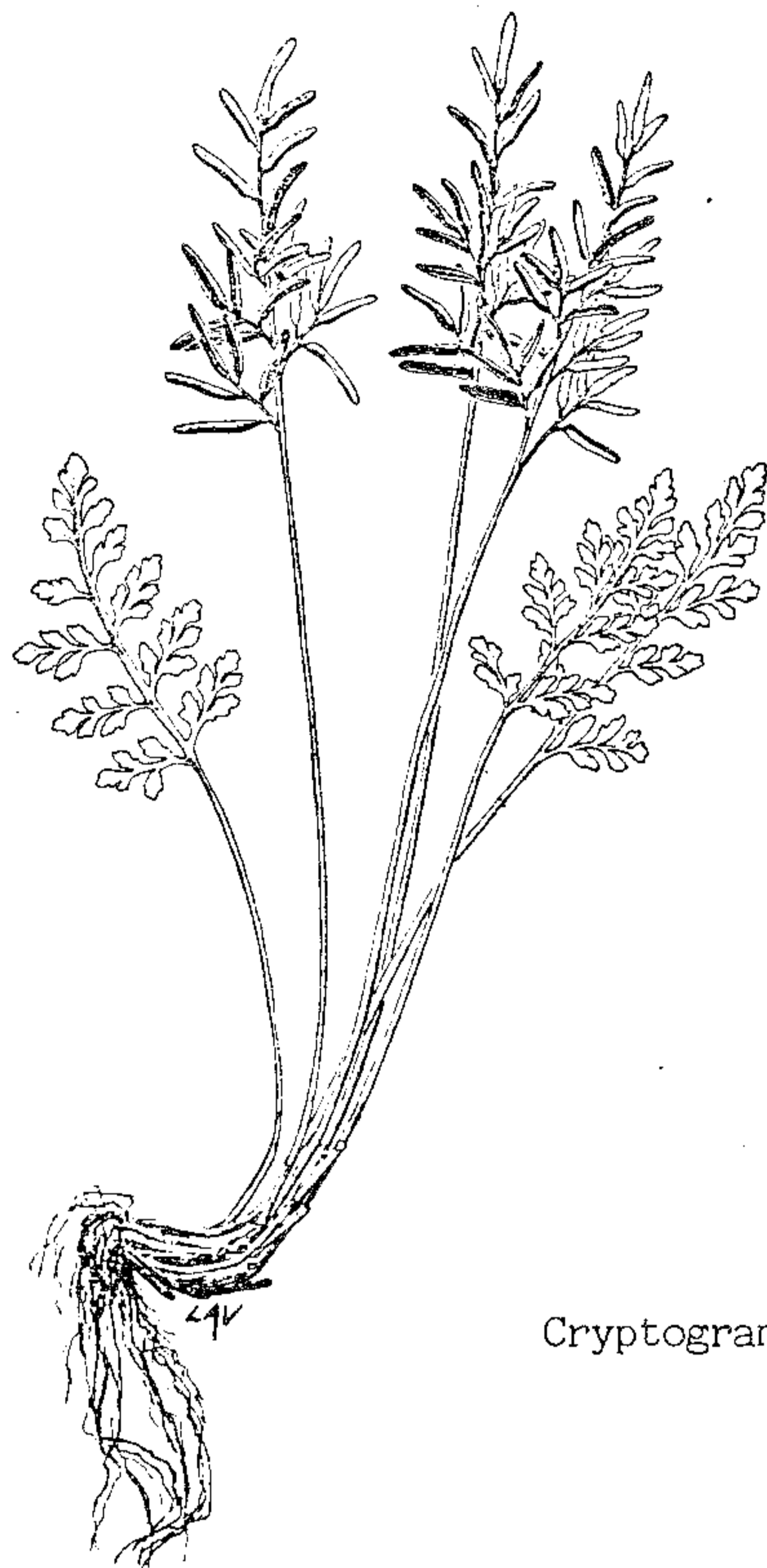
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ECOLOGICAL NOTES, continued

Two of the Oregon Vancouveria, V. chrysantha (a Siskiyou serpentine endemic), and V. planipetala, are on the Oregon R & E list. Scoliopus hallii, a very rare lily, is on the Oregon R & E Review List; the rest are less rare, but are generally found in relatively undisturbed places as would be expected of species with a close relationship with other organisms -- in this case, active ant colonies.

Other plants with this adaptation will, no doubt, be discovered through close scrutiny of seeds and ant behavior. One interesting question occurs to me: Why do the ants carry off the entire seed rather than removing and transporting only the fatty body?

Rhoda Love



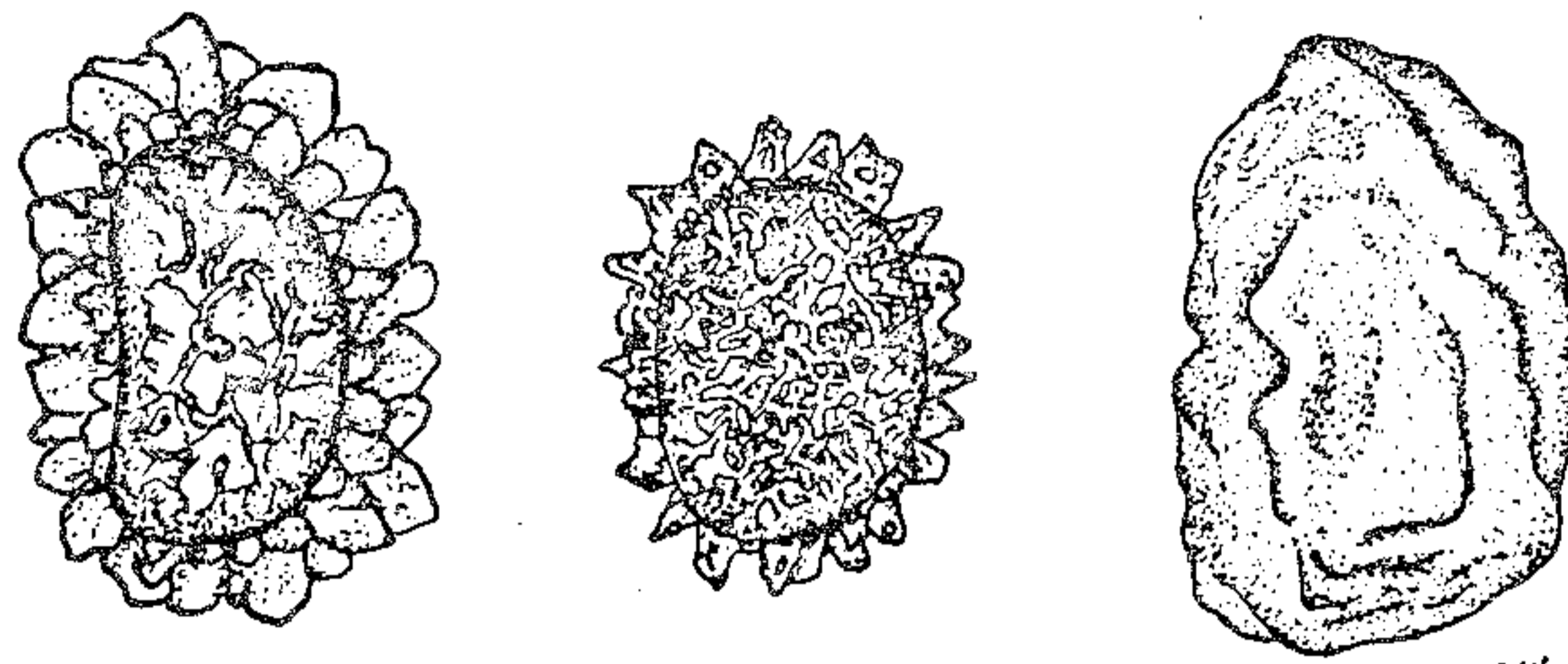
Cryptogramma crispa

GROWING FERNS FROM SPORES

Last month I described the procedures for collecting fern spores. Now that you have some spores in a vial, or at least collecting envelopes, it is time for sowing the spores. The thing to remember here is that the spores are tiny. Almost all fern spores are 50 microns or less in total length, or ca. two thousandths of an inch. It is almost impossible to handle them individually, so the problem is to keep from having too many in your sowing. The simplest method is to dip the tip of a flat toothpick into your spore sample and carry only what will fit on the last half-millimeter of the toothpick. Tap this onto a sheet of smooth, white paper about the size of a 3 x 5 index card. Then tap the underside of the paper to spread the spores out a bit. This needs to be done in a place with still air, or the breeze will carry the spores away. Now, you are ready to invert the paper and drop the spores onto--what?

SPORES OF POLYSTICHUM (not to scale)

Left: P. californicum, Right: P. lemmonii
Middle: P. lonchitis



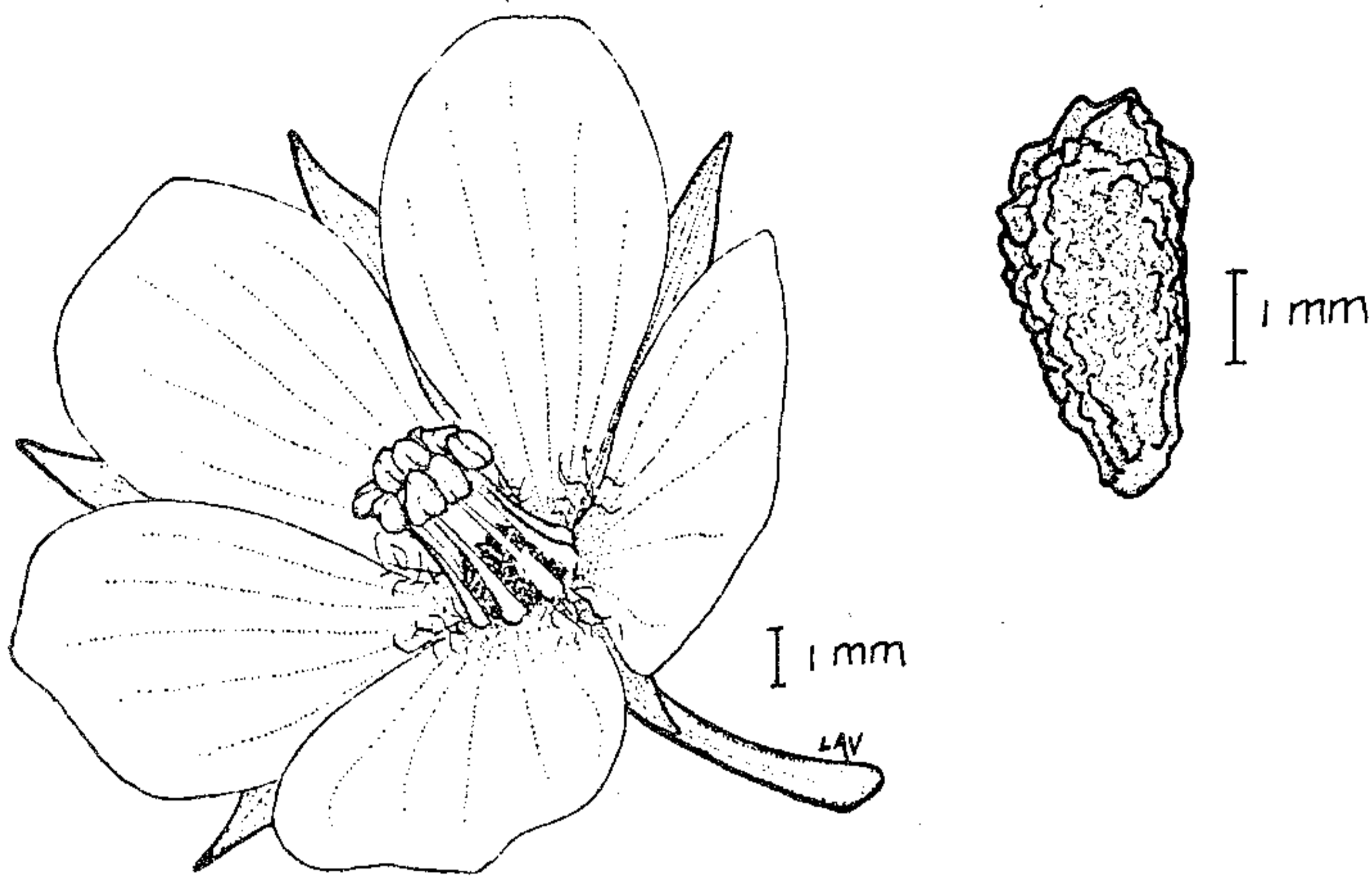
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There are probably as many fern growing substrates as there are fern growers. Often a sterile medium is used, such as soil heated in an oven for half an hour, to inhibit the growth of competing fungi. I will recommend the use of expanded Jiffy peat pellets. Use boiling water to expand the pellets as a minimal sterilizing procedure. Then, after the pellet has expanded and cooled, the paper with spores is inverted over the pellet and spores dropped on with a deft flick of the fingers. Put the pellet in a shallow dish and turn a clear glass bottle over the pellet. Place this mini humidity chamber in a window which receives no direct sunlight (sunlight will cause it to over-heat in no time at all). Next, the hard part: wait. It will take anywhere from three weeks to six weeks for the little sporelings to develop. These sporelings are merely thin pads of green tissue, only a few cells thick, with the sex organs on them. After the sporelings have reached a size of two or three millimeters, the pellet should be drenched with boiled and cooled (sterile) water to effect fertilization. Note that the pellet should be kept moist throughout this time; if the jar is close to the dish no extra watering is likely to be necessary until the time of the drenching for fertilization. When the water has again dribbled through the pellet, drain off the excess and replace the jar. Once again, it is time to wait. Add water only if the pellet shows signs of drying.

If all is going well, it will take another few weeks for the adult stage of the fern to get large enough to see. This time, instead of a little pad of green tissue, true leaves will grow up into the air. The most tricky part of fern growing comes next: transplanting the little plantlets. When this is done depends on the density of the plantlets on the pellet. If they are very crowded, it must be done sooner. If there are only a dozen or so, let them grow until there are four or five leaves more than an inch high. Cut the peat pellet apart and move the plantlets to individual 2" pots. Keep the soil quite moist, as these little plantlets are very sensitive to drying. If you do not have a greenhouse, keep them under peanut butter jar humidity chambers for a week or two, gradually hardening the plants off in a shady place outdoors. Full-sized adult plants will take another year or three to develop, but the effort in having your own batch of home-grown ferns makes the wait worth it.

GOOD LUCK!

David Wagner, Eugene



Limnanthes floccosa
subsp. grandiflora

OREGON CRITICAL AREAS PROGRAM

The Nature Conservancy is interested in preserving endangered species in Oregon. The Oregon Critical Areas Program is an attempt to target, locate and preserve critically threatened species and ecosystems. One of our more difficult tasks has been identifying those rare plants which require immediate TNC action to prevent their disappearance. The plant species to be considered are those which are rare and which have current threats to their remaining habitat. We are limiting our scope to species with ranges primarily restricted to Oregon, and which occur on private lands. In 1981, ten species were targeted for research and possible action. Only one of the species, Limnanthes gracilis var. gracilis, apparently did not belong on the list.

In 1982, this program is to be continued. Following are two lists. The first lists species which are currently receiving TNC attention. The second lists species to be added in 1982. Any input on the species to be listed in 1982 would be extremely helpful, especially in regard to site locations. If areas have been unsuccessfully searched for some of these species, or if any locations which are high quality natural areas are known, please notify us. Information can be sent to:

Jimmy Kagan
Oregon Critical Areas Program
The Nature Conservancy
1234 NW 25th Avenue
Portland, Oregon
(503) 228-9561

These are proposed additions to the OCAP species for survey work in 1982. Possibly extinct plants to be included are:

Plagiobothrys hirtus var hirtus
Pleuropogon oregonus

and possibly:

Astragalus applegatei
Calochortus indecorus
Lomatium nelsonianum
Lupinus cusickii spp. arbortivus
Plagiobothrys hirtus var. corallicarpus
Plagiobothrys lamprocarpus

There are a number of very rare plants which have not been included because they occur on federal lands. However, if we have missed any species which occur on state, city or private lands which you believe are critically threatened, please let us know. Unfortunately, the resources of The Nature Conservancy are limited, so we have to restrict our scope to species which need immediate attention.

Thank you very much for your time and help.

J. Kagan

List 1. OCAP Special Plant Species

1. Current species which have had some TNC research and for which sites have been field checked:

- Thelypodium howellii subspecies spectabilis
- Thelypodium eucosmum
- Astragalus tyghensis
- Limnanthes floccosa var. grandiflora
- Perideridia erythrorhiza
- Arabis koehleri var. koehleri
- Astragalus peckii
- Limnanthes gracilis var. gracilis.

2. The following species are part of current, new or ongoing TNC projects:

- Willow Creek
- Lomatium bradshawii
 - Aster curtus
 - Erigeron decumbens var. decumbens

- Eight Dollar Mountain
- Balsamorhiza sericea sp. nov. ined.
 - Calochortus howellii
 - Cypripedium californicum
 - Darlingtonia californica
 - Gentiana bisetata
 - Lewisia oppositifolia
 - Lillium volmeri
 - Microseris howellii
 - Schoenolirion bracteosum
 - Senecio hesperis

- Leslie Gulch
- Mentzelia packardiae
 - Trifolium owyheense
 - Senecia ertterae
 - Ivesia rhypara
 - Astragalus sterilis

List 2. OCAP Special Plant Species:
Proposed 1982 additions:

- Artemesia ludoviciana sp. nov. ined.
- Astragalus collinus var. laurentii

These are OCAP species from 1980 for which sites were not identified as a result of a lack of time, and will be included in the 1982 additions:

- Astragalus tweedyi
- Castilleja levisecta
- Cirsium ciliolatum (at Siskiyou Pass with Microseris laciniata spp. detlingii and Calochortus greenei, if possible)
- Collomia macrocalyx
- Hackelia cronquistii
- Haplopappus radiatus
- Lathyrus holochlorus
- Sidalcea nelsoniana
- Sidalcea setosa

In this issue a special feature is being initiated, the serialization of Louis F. Henderson's autobiography. The source is an unpublished manuscript, the original of which is housed in Special Collections, University of Oregon Library. It is the text of two addresses given in the Portland area sometime in the 1930's (date uncertain). Running over 60 typed pages, it will take a year or more to complete the series. Henderson was born in 1853 and survived the Civil War in the South. (Another lengthy manuscript describes his childhood experiences very dramatically, but is more suitable for historians than botanists.) Of the four most active botanists in Oregon in the late 1800's, Howell, Gorman, Cusick and Henderson, the latter was the most articulate and literate. This manuscript concentrates on botanical matters and should be of interest to all members of the Native Plant Society of Oregon as well as people interested in the history of the Pacific Northwest. The story of the discovery of many of our favorite plants will appear in this series, written in the delightful style of the man who found them. These stories should help humanize the latin names of plants such as Sidalcea hendersonii, Erythronium hendersonii, Oryzopsis hendersonii, or Phacelia idahoensis (the latter named by Henderson himself rather than named in his honor). That Henderson was an adventurous character is emphasized by the many brushes with death he relates, and strong by the fact that he swam across the Columbia (before dams!) at the age of 70, to celebrate his 70th birthday.

(preface by Dave Wagner, U. of O. Herbarium)

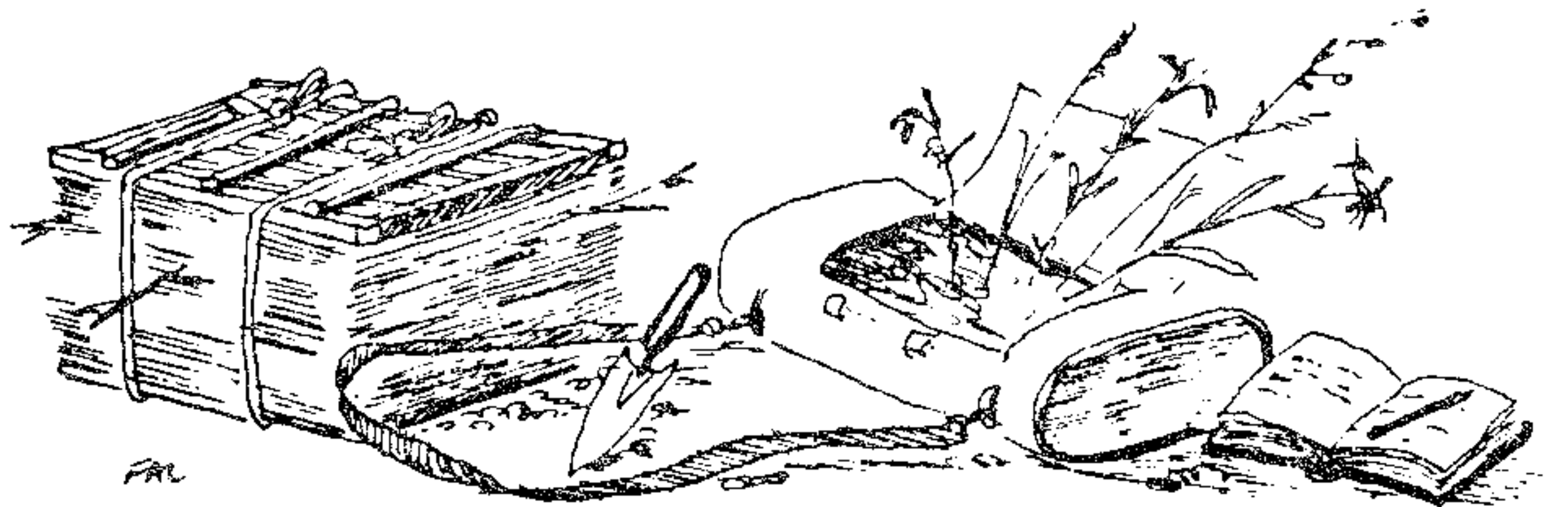
EARLY EXPERIENCES OF A BOTANIST IN THE NORTHWEST

by L. F. Henderson

During my sophomore year at Cornell University, New York, I was seated on the stone steps of the north building of the three that then formed the University, waiting to see whether I could get any advanced work in Spanish and Italian literature, when along strolled a tall, broad-shouldered man. He stopped and spoke to me, for though a senior in the science department, he belonged to the same college fraternity that I did, which probably accounts for his speaking to a mere sophomore. "What are you doing, -- trying to warm that stone you are sitting on?" "Waiting to see whether I can get any advanced Spanish or Italian", I replied. Said he, "I am just opening a beginning class in Systematic Botany. You like the woods and flowers, and are a great trumper, so why not come over with me this year and learn something about botany?" I readily acceded to his request, and then began for me that study which has filled so much of my life. What creatures of chance we offer are! Had not David Starr Jordan, late President of Stanford University, come along just at that time, and been my instructor that year of 1871 and 1872, I might never have known the pleasures that often fill a botanist's heart to overflowing!

During my last two years in college I continued the analysis of plants by myself, since very full junior and senior schedules did not permit of further classroom work. During my senior year in 1874 I was chosen a member of the second Cornell Crew and the first of the two that rowed on Lake Saratoga. I had also been chosen as instructor in a private school in Oakland, California, known as McClure's Military Academy. The race at Saratoga was put off three days on account of bad weather, and after the race had been rowed, I had to start at once for California and my work as a teacher, since the term began eight days after the race! Again the hand of chance! Had not my first position been in California, I might never have come to this coast! As it was, I had another race to get there at the opening of school, for no fast trains moved across the continent at that time. Twenty miles per hour was about the limit, day in and day out, and I reached Oakland the evening before the opening.

I remained in California that year, and the next year, 1875, moved to Oregon with my mother who had joined me, led as both of us were by the fact that my brother had been a resident of this state for several years. The following few years I shall pass over very hastily as they had little to do with my botanical work. To help fill out my very flattened purse, I worked that summer in the harvest field, taught school at Monroe on the Long Tom that winter, went as instructor next year to Albany Collegiate Institute (now college), and at the end of that year moved to Portland, where I resided from 1877 to 1889. In early 1887 I had the pleasure of meeting that charming couple from Hood River, E. L. Smith and his wife, and at their invitation I spent the early summer at their pleasant country home. So charmed were my mother and I at the then unspoiled beauty of Hood River Valley, -- a beauty hardly less now that it is mainly in orchards and cultivated fields, -- that we bought 80 acres of untouched woodland and prairie, and there erected the house which is standing and livable today. We never expected to have any of it in fruit, for scarcely an orchard, and but few cultivated fields, existed in Hood River Valley at that day. No town existed then, nor did it for many years to come. There was no railroad along the Columbia at that early date, nor road, and the only way to reach it was by boat to Cascades, then transfer to a short bit of railroad, and then steamer again to the Dalles. No wonder that I, brought up and having spent half of my years in the wilds, should have delighted in the varied woods and prairies of Hood River with its wonderful flowers, pure air, magnificent scenes, with fine fishing and hunting thrown in to render the place perfect! Our only neighbors within miles were the E. L. Smiths, Lyman Smiths, Barretts, and Stranahans, while in what afterwards became the town lived Dr. Adams and Henry Coe, with their families. I soon found the Barretts, both the Doctor and his cultivated wife, deeply interested in the flora of Hood River, and we soon purchased the only available works that were then published and that would help us any in tracing out the flowers, viz, The Botany of California by Watson, Gray and Brewer,



and the Synoptical Flora of North America by Asa Gray. Then Dr. Barrett and I began to scour the valley, where fences were none, and roads were hardly needed, bringing back to their house our armfuls of floral treasures, and where we spent happy days in trying to trace them out, often with success, but often to find them new to these floras.

In 1878 I was visited in Hood River by two of my dear Portland friends now gone, J. R. Stoddard, a lawyer and old Cornell acquaintance, and Dr. William Jones. Together we proceeded on horseback to Trout Lake and the region about Mt. Adams. Not a person then lived within several miles of the lake, or for that matter, anywhere in the Upper White Salmon Valley. Consequently, no stock had yet been pastured in that country, causing the heavy stand of native grass, everywhere present throughout the pine woods, to resemble at a little distance a well kept estate in England or the continent. Deer, bear and game birds were everywhere, and these, together with the hordes of trout or salmon in the streams, made the whole country a perfect paradise. We did not visit Mt. Adams that year, but the next at about the same time, Stoddard, with Avery, then in the tobacco business, and the writer, started again for the mountain. We reached it about the Fourth of July, and consequently found the snow deep and far down its sides. As it was the first time any one of us had visited a snow mountain on foot, we proceeded to show our profound

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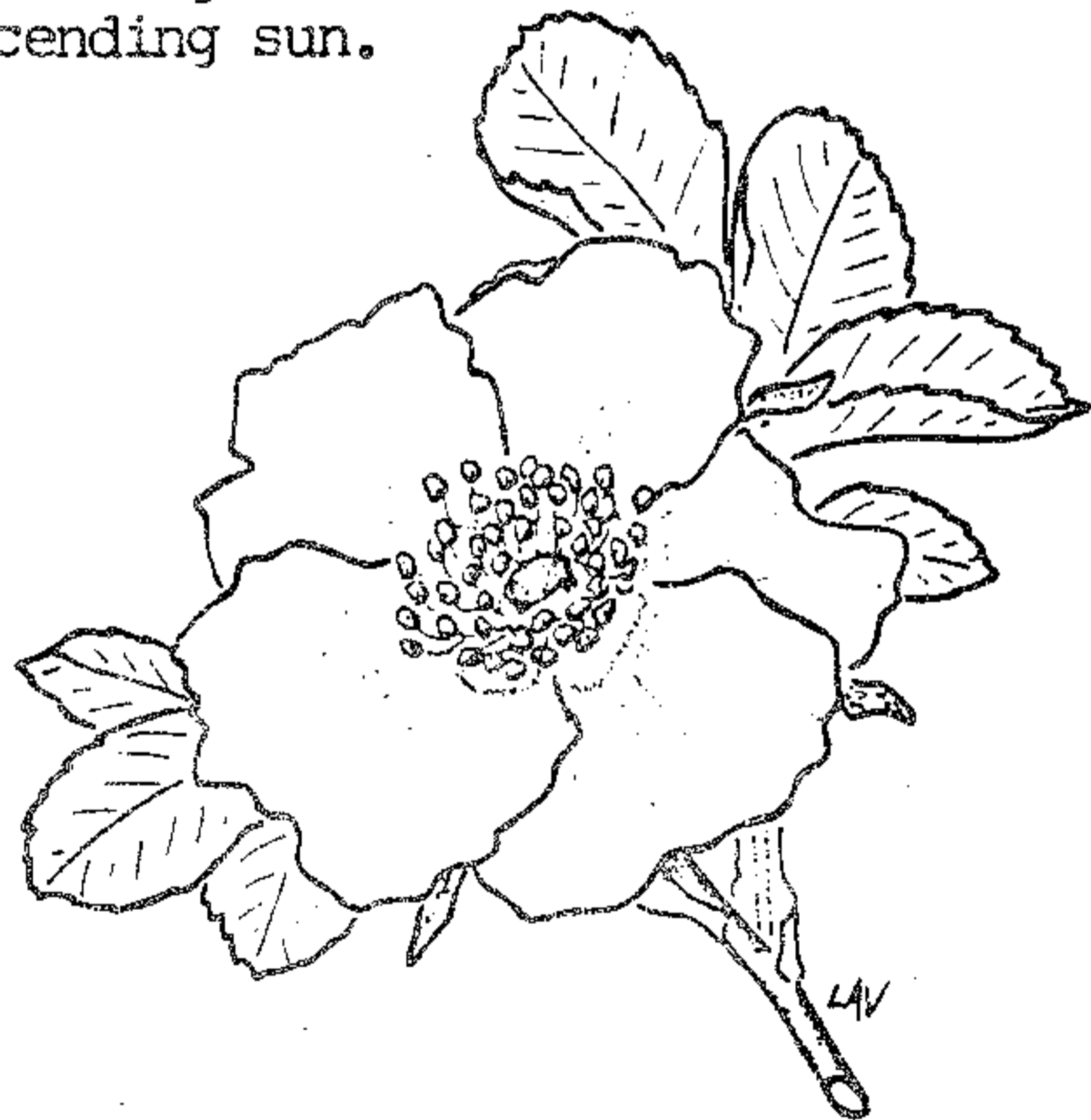
EARLY EXPERIENCES OF A BOTANIST IN THE NORTHWEST,

continued

ignorance, which in several instances almost led to disaster and death. No one of us had adequate nails or pegs in our shoes, no one of us had a steel-pointed alpinestock. As we knew at that early season, we must attack the mountain from far round to the east in order to reach the top, we proceeded to fill our pockets with small flat stones to mark our way across the snow fields. Unnecessary to say, that those flat stones were so heated by the sun's rays that they had all sunk out of sight before our return 15 hours later! Having got far round to the east and partially up the mountain, we stopped to eat a 10 o'clock lunch in a nice, sunny, warm spot, which looked as though it had been cleared of snow for our special benefit! We had hardly commenced our lunch, our eyes centered on the yellow hills of Eastern Oregon, when suddenly we were surprised by a sound like a jumping deer, and wondered what it was. We were not kept long in suspense, for almost immediately a stone, weighing I should say a ton or more, jumped over our heads (and not into our midst, as it might just as well have done), and went thundering down the mountain. The nice valley we had stopped in was the natural highway for the stones which became loosened from the cliffs above! As we ascended the peak, we seemed driven more and more to the north-east slope of the mountain, till as we approached the top, we had to cut our way for a hundred yards or more with a hatchet, so steep was the gradient and so icy. We afterwards found out we were near the top of the Klikatat Glacier! A few feet further and we were stopped by a fault, or drop in the ice (crevasse) 40 feet high we judged, and extending as far as we could see to right and left. Nothing to do now but face about and go back. So we tied ourselves together with a rope, which we had actually had sense enough to bring along, cursed our thoughtlessness in not providing ourselves with alpine-stocks, and then stepped off, as it were, into space, counting time out loud, and trying to hit with our heels the steps we had cut coming up. We finally got off the glacier in safety, then kept to the right and up, and finally reached the top of Mt. Adams while the sun was an hour high. We thought ourselves then repaid for the sight that met our eyes. The tops of all the great peaks were in view for over 100 miles, but they appeared cutting their way through a close bank of clouds, far below us and shining like molten silver in the rays of the fast descending sun.

We hurried down the mountain, and then westerly towards camp, which we did not find again till about 10 p.m. By that time our faces were burning from the reflection from the white surfaces, for none of us had known enough about snow mountains to grease and blacken our faces. I have gone to some length to speak of our adventures on Mt. Adams, not that most of our good mountaineers have not had many more hazardous and bitter, but simply to show how foolish it is for tenderfeet in mountain climbing to take such risks, or to attempt ascents without proper equipment, and, most important of all, a good guide. Non-observance of these simple precautions have led recently to many casualties on our snow peaks of Oregon and Washington. Many beautiful plants I saw on these two trips, most of which were new to me, but as we went as lightly equipped as possible, even without adequate bedding, I was able to gather but very few. My work of collecting went on, however, all through the spring and early summer, and I had by this time begun the preparation of an herbarium.

Late in that summer I was invited to join an expedition up to the snowline of Mt. Hood, to see whether it were practicable to construct a road from upper Hood River Valley to the timber line. Unnecessary to say, both road and hotel were afterwards built. We met about a dozen strong, at the farm of Tieman and Baldwin near the present Mt. Hood village. We chose Baldwin as leader and started early the next morning, each man carrying his pack on his back. Six miles or so up the East Fork we left the river, and started as straight as possible for the mountain. As I took no botanical pack on this trip, I shall pass over that frightful day, as we wormed our way through brush, with not a mouthful of food or even a drop of water -- a day which began for us at 3 A.M., and ended on Tilly Jane Creek about 7 P.M! I should end this trip at once, were it not for a thing which befell us that night. When we finally did reach a camping-place, one of our members insisted, against our protests, on setting fire to a thick clump of alpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), to show his people in Hood River that we had arrived. As the wind was beginning to rage, that fire was soon out of bounds, and leaping from clump to clump of the beautiful trees. We went to bed with many misgivings. Some time during the night, someone yelled "Look out in camp!" We automatically sprang up, each man seizing his bedding, and scattered in all directions. Almost immediately a great tree, burned nearly through, fell where we had been lying, as if to repay us for our sacrilege in setting him afire!

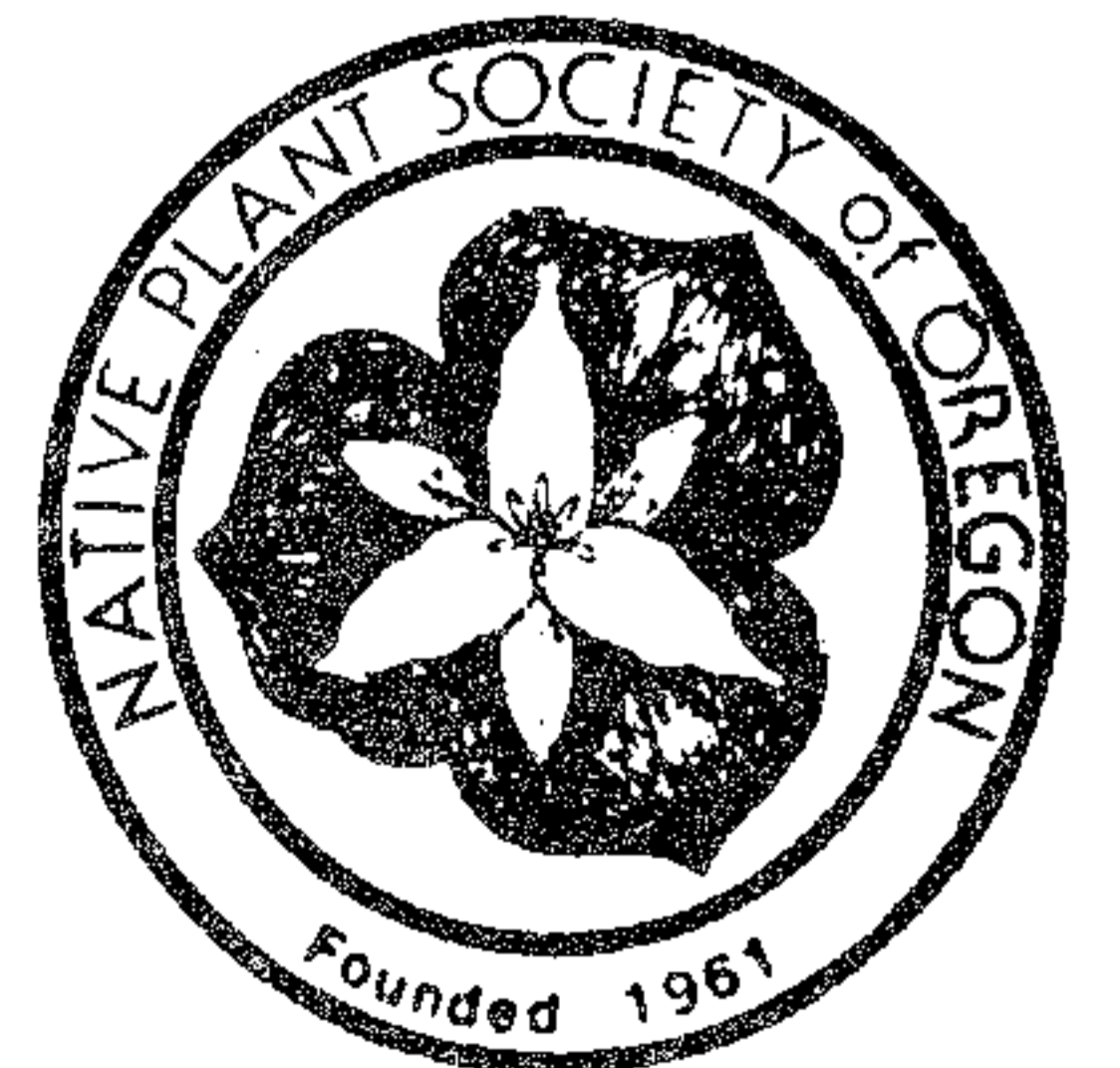


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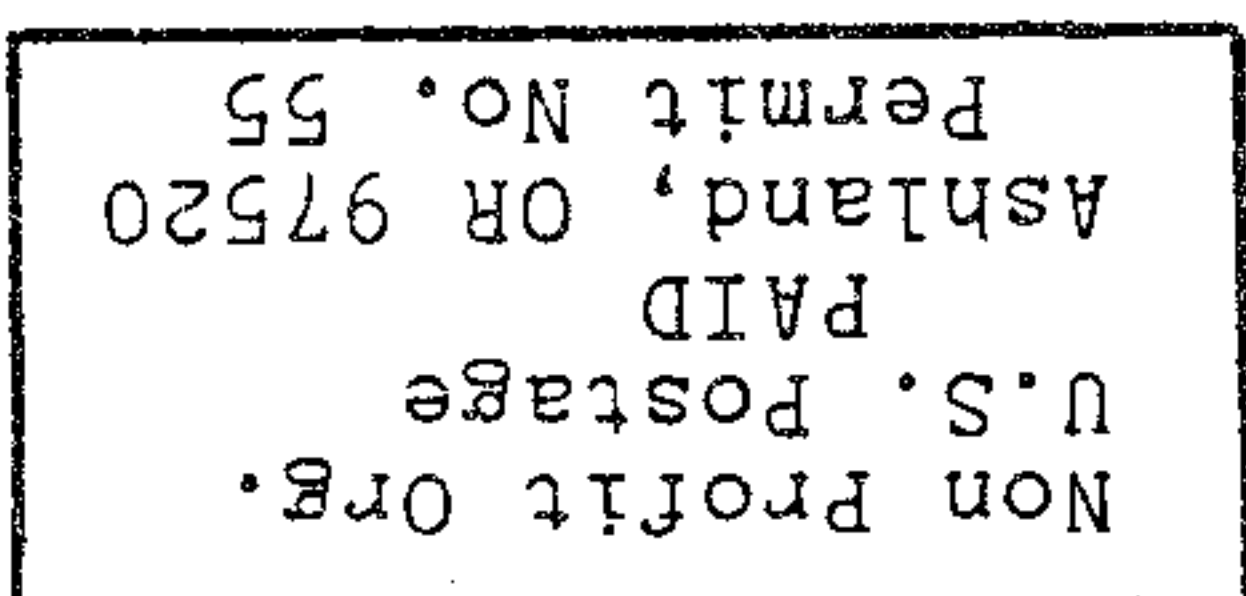
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