

M

December 1, 1941

Mr. C. H. Lankester  
Las Concavas  
Cartago, Costa Rica

Dear Mr. Lankester:

I have your letters concerning your place and the plans that you elaborate about it. It is most intriguing and I would be interested in working on it a little to see what I can do about it. Perhaps very little but I should be glad to give it a try.

It might be a good idea for you to write out a rather detailed letter about it and then have it typed (or I will have it done here) and send it to me. I will then write to the people whom you mention and get letters from them as to the feasibility of the plan. These letters along with yours could then be sent to Ethel DuPont, who I know best in the family, to see what reaction there might be.

Prof. Ames is in the hospital (boil on his leg) but as soon as he comes in again I will talk to him, or if he goes off to Florida before he comes in I will write him. He knows well how to develop a thing of this sort and his advice would be invaluable.

It might be a bit of good propaganda if I could have a fairly long article (1800-2000 words) and enough good photographs to cover a page or two for publication in the Bulletin a month or two before the matter was brought up. This might cover what Costa Rica was like when you came there, how it has been "developed" with the consequent loss of area available to orchids as well as other plants. What you have done to preserve orchids with photographs showing habitats which you have for wild orchids and how you keep the "tame" ones. How the plants prosper there, the desirability of this particular region because of its elevation, temperatures, etc. This you know as well as anyone and can develop it to best advantage.

I think that there is going to be somewhat of a revival of the growing of species orchids of the botanical types in this country due to orchid growers taking their vacations in Central America rather than Europe. This might also be a good point. A place where visitors can see many wild orchids growing in natural habitats.



I am enclosing copies of your letter and of the projected orchid sanctuary. These may be useful to you in writing me a letter that can be presented to Mrs. DuPont.

Sincerely,



Williams, Louis O. 1941. "[Williams, Louis O.] Dec. 1, 1941 [to C.H. Lankester]."  
*Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/262811>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/282686>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University Botany Libraries

**Sponsored by**

Harvard University. Anonymous Donor.

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.