

ASSETS at April 16, 1957

Cash in bank	\$117.65
Undeposited check (contribution)	50.00
Mimeographed Bulletins Nos. 1 through 6 at approximate cost	215.00
Back numbers of <i>Principes</i> at approximate cost	503.00
Engravings, unused, at cost	32.00
Engravings, used, written down	1.00
Furniture and fixtures	24.00
Total	\$942.65

The large mimeographing expense was occasioned by the processing of letters, memoranda, rosters and two Bulletins (5 and 6). Disbursement for printing includes the cost of the first 3 issues of *Principes*. Expenses of travel (\$301.45) and telephone (\$51.76) totalling \$353.21 were incurred by the then President, Mr. Smith; but in the realization that the Society could not afford these expenditures, he reimbursed it by a special donation of \$400 on December 22, 1956.

On January 7, 1957, the Society submitted to the Director of Internal Revenue, Jacksonville, Florida, an application for tax exemption. On February 15th, 1957 we were advised that our application had been forwarded to the Washington Office for their consideration and reply. No ruling had been made on our application at April 16, 1957. Presumably our organization qualifies for tax exempt status under existing laws, but we can make no definite statement before we receive the ruling. In the meantime, members may claim a tax deduction for their contributions, but to date (April 29, 1957) there had been no positive assurance that such a claim may not be disallowed.

Any member of the Society may inspect the books if he so desires. They are now in the possession of my successor as Treasurer, Mr. Nat J. De Leon, at Miami.

Respectfully submitted,
(signed) Margueriete Martin

Sabal Minor In Pennsylvania

MARY G. HENRY

Most of us gardeners have an inquiring mind and like to try "new" plants. This trait seems to be rather strongly developed in my make-up and has led me on well over a hundred expeditions and into every state in the United States. These trips of several days to several months duration are mainly taken in order to collect the finest broad-leaved evergreen trees and shrubs, also the fin-

est small deciduous trees and shrubs, for my gardens which are now known as the Henry Foundation for Botanical Research.

Some twenty-five years ago I dug a plant of *Sabal minor* from a woodland in Wilkes County, Georgia, along the Little River, near the Savannah River. This area has now vanished forever owing to the devastating effect of the Clark

Hill Dam. Alas, these so called modern improvements are anything but improvements in the eyes of conservationists.

I had not been aware that this small palm grew as far north, so I thought I would see if it could survive a Gladwyne, Pennsylvania winter. Sabals are difficult subjects to dig even under the most favorable circumstances. I had only a trowel with which to dig and there seemed to be no small, trowel-sized plants. However, I selected a smallish plant and did the best I could. It was planted in my "Southern Garden" on a sunny slope that faced the south. I gave the plant some protection but it died the first winter.

Years later, on April 6, 1948, when motoring in Le Flore County, Mississippi, I came to a meadow filled with the little *Sabal*. Hope springs eternally in a gardener's heart and a longing came to try this small palm again. Here, too, I could find no easily dug specimens, so selected the smallest I could find. The soil was a dark, very heavy, damp clay but this time we had a sharp spade. It took Ernest Perks, my gardener, a long time to dig it for the trunk went down nearly two feet.

This was planted in the same locality as my first *Sabal*, but the soil was prepared carefully and lightened with sand. Like my other one, I covered it with dry oak leaves when autumn came. That following spring, the little palm was still alive! It has now survived nine winters at Gladwyne.

In the autumn of 1951, I was on a rather extended expedition in the South Central and the Southeastern states in order to collect *Ilex* species. On December 1, to my great surprise, I found a small colony of *Sabal minor* in Cherokee County, Alabama. This is in the northern part of the state in Piedmont territory and the altitude is over 600 feet. Dr. Roland Harper, Alabama State Botanist for many years, told me that he had no knowledge of *Sabal minor* ever having been found in this part of the state. This one has come safely through six winters.

It was that beautiful southern shrub,

Pinckneya pubens, that first gave me the courage to try *Sabal minor* in Pennsylvania. I grew the *Pinckneya* from seed and for ten long years it died to the ground each winter. After that a two inch growth survived. Success finally came and it has never winter killed since then.

Our winters are fairly severe. The temperature usually falls three or four times to about 0°F., or below. During most of the winters *Sabal minor* has had some protection, depending on the kind of growing season it has had. If the spring has been a normal one with plenty of rain, it indicates the *Sabal* can have the early start that means a long growing season. Under these conditions and with the usual August and September dry spell, the leaves ripen until they are dry and firm enough to take a fairly rough winter bravely and with little, or sometimes no protection.

Sabal minor is a slow grower, even under happier conditions. But this past season, 1956, they have produced what is so far their largest leaves. As I write these notes we are having the coldest spell of weather that we have had in twenty-two years, with zero temperatures for seven straight days.

Will the little palms survive? Somehow I rather think they will.

The names of two contributors in this issue will be new to many readers of *Principes*. Mrs. Henry is a talented and enthusiastic gardener. She has introduced many unusual plants into her gardens, and her travels have taken her into unmapped parts of British Columbia where Mt. Mary Henry honors her.

Dr. A. J. Eames, whose article appears on page 146, is Professor Emeritus of Botany at Cornell University. His textbooks and technical articles on plant anatomy and morphology have brought him recognition throughout the botanical world. His recent publication on the palm leaf is noted on page 150.