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*About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

March 4, 1934.

Dear Miss Letty,

It was a great pleasure to receive your letter of Jan. 23rd, and to hear directly from one whose work I have admired so much.

Miss Karsten had told me of the great beauty of color your drawings of the Stapeliads have in the original; but it has been hard for me to understand that you should find the reproductions in the Flowering Plants disappointing. To me, who cannot see the originals, the reproductions are always a great treat, and I open each issue, when I first receive it, with special expectation that there may be some new Stapelia drawing in it by you.

All the South African flowers, and the Stapelias in particular, are a great source of pleasure to me, and I am already looking forward to trying to do better in chronicling the story of the Staps in a second edition of our book. It is very hard to do them any measure of justice so far from their own haunts. But with the kind encouragement and help we are receiving we ought to do better.

I particularly want in another edition to have

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

some reproductions to represent your drawings, and trust I may have your consent and that of Dr. Pole Evans to this end. If we receive your consent, I will write you more in detail as to the drawings which I have liked best. Of course we could not do them in colors, but we would try to make good photographic cuts. And perhaps we might have one drawing in color, if the process available seems to you at all satisfactory. I mean the same process as we used for our frontispiece. It is by no means perfect.

It would certainly be wonderful to be able to accept your kind suggestion of paying a visit to South Africa. But that is impossible to think of just now. The next best thing is (or are) the welcome letters of correspondents. I live with an invalid, and our movements are very restricted. We spend our winters at this place, and the summers at our own home in Litchfield, Connecticut.

It is always a pleasure to send the present edition of our book, such as it is, to anyone really interested in the Stapelias. Doing so is making a very small return for all the pleasure the plants and their growers have given us. So if you would like another copy for any member of your family or any friend, do not hesitate to tell me.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.



PARK AND LEXINGTON AVENUES  
FORTY-NINTH AND FIFTIETH STREETS

# The Waldorf-Astoria

## New York

May 14, 1934.

Dear Miss Letty,

I received yesterday a very kind letter from Dr. Phillips, giving his consent to the reproduction of some of your plates in the second edition of the *Stapelia* book. You can imagine my pleasure at the news, all the more as he says your original plates can be sent me for the making of the cuts. I had not supposed I should ever see any of these originals, of which I have heard so much.

I am impatient to see some of the plates as soon as possible, but I am going to wait until Nov. 1st, when I will send you the list of the ones we would like to use. By that time I will know just which plates will add most to the completeness of the work, and as it does not go to the printer till Feb. 1936, that will allow plenty of time for the plates to be sent and the cuts made, without hurrying at all.

As I wrote you, I fear we cannot do much in colors, but we must have at least one that way. I should be very interested to know, from the color point of view, which of the plates happen to be special favorites of your own.

In his letter Dr. Phillips said he was leaving Pretoria the first of June, for a trip to Europe and perhaps to America. The possibility of meeting him is very exciting! Could you let me have his European address, so I may thank him direct for granting the permission about your plates.

With every good wish and looking forward to the red letter day early next year when your plates actually arrive,

Very sincerely yours,

Alain White

(Litchfield, Conn.)

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

Sept. 23, 1934.

Dear Miss Letty,

I have two very welcome letters from you to acknowledge, the last of August 14th. I enjoyed your accounts in both, in the first of the sea beating in spray up to the porch of your mother's house at Seapoint, in the second of the lion cubs rolling about your car in your great National Game Refuge. I do not know which sounds the more fascinating, but think I should vote for the sea spray. The lion kittens must be very startling, and do not grudge the American tourist flapper her "Goody, goody's"!

You are very kind to offer to send me some of the photos you took on your trip. I should indeed very much like to see them. I have read about the Kruger Game Reserve, but it is hard to picture for one's self what such a territory can be like.

I shall write you before November first with the list of plates I should like to borrow for our book. Meanwhile, please, don't feel shy about them! I am going to like them very much indeed - for the more I study the copies in the Flowering Plants the more I marvel at the ease with which you catch details which take me so long to see at all and at the skill with which you

23-1X-34

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

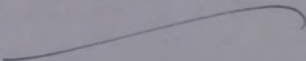
reproduce these details.

I have been disappointed not to hear from Dr. Phillips, but hope I may hear something of him when I go to New York next month. I will be a month in town, and then we go to Summerville, South Carolina, for the winter. It is not important whether you address me there or here if you should be writing, as letters are forwarded quickly.

With kind regards and looking forward very much to the Game Reserve photographs,

Very sincerely yours,

Alain White.







PARK AND LEXINGTON AVENUES  
FORTY-NINTH AND FIFTIETH STREETS

# The Waldorf-Astoria

## New York

Oct. 18, 1934.

Dear Miss Letty,

I have now been carefully over all the plates of Stapeliads in the Flowering Plants of South Africa and I am enclosing the list of those which Prof. Sloane and I would like to use in our next edition, providing such a long list is not asking for too much!

You will note that I have marked the species with one, two or three # respectively. Those marked with a single # will be on small cuts like the majority of cuts in our present book; and it seems to me that these could be made directly from the magazines, so as to save your sending such a very large number of original plates. I should feel very badly if any were damaged or lost in transit.

The ones marked ## I hope we can have on slightly larger cuts, and we would much appreciate having the originals to make the cuts from, and needless to say to study them also. But if I am asking for too many to be sent, please just omit some of these too.

Finally the ones marked ### are the ones to be considered for color plates. Whether we can make more than one in color will depend somewhat on the state of things when the plates arrive. Things move so quickly in this country now-a-days, and usually in the wrong direction, that I hesitate a little to say just what we can hope to do till the time comes.

The plates should be addressed to me at Summerville, South Carolina, and I will then send them on to Prof. Sloane for the cuts to be made in Los Angeles, and he will return them promptly. I should say we would require to keep them about three or four weeks in all.

I need not add once more how much I look forward to the plates, and how much I appreciate Dr. Phillips' kindness in allowing them to be sent for us to use. I was very sorry not to hear from Dr. Phillips while he was over here. I am now in the city again and learn he started back to South Africa in August. I had hoped I might find him still here.

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White*

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Christmas Day, 1934.

Dear Miss Letty,

How cleverly you time these things! Your welcome letter of Nov. 21st and the charming calendar were both in this morning's mail, and your kind thought and the lovely Duvalia drawing have given me great pleasure.

I trust the New Year will bring all that is good to you and yours, both at Pretoria and Seapoint. I know your calendar will bring me good luck, and there are already three red-letter <sup>days</sup> in 1935 (though I don't yet know the dates) to look forward to: the days when I receive the photos of your trip, the new Stapelia issue of the Flowering Plants, and most thrilling of all your original drawings. You see how exciting the African mails are going to be to one Yankee.

I had a very kind note from Dr. Phillips this morning, too, and I am quite overwhelmed to hear that the originals of all your drawings are to be sent, which I asked permission to reproduce. It is almost too good to be true.

*missed  
13*



25-11-34

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Your calendar, with your kind thought for her, was also much appreciated by my sister. She has been very comfortable this fall, most of the time, and the weeks are passing very happily with us.

With best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

*Alain White*

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Dec. 31, 1934.

Dear Miss Letty,

Well, I did not have to wait for your *Duvalia calendar* to bring me the first of the red-letter days, for day before yesterday as ever was there arrived two wonderful parcels from Pretoria.

I am not going to use superlatives in speaking of your drawings; but they have given mysister and me a great pleasure. I have always admired your work as reprinted in the *Flowering Plants*, as you know, and now these amazingly delicate originals are wholly a joy to study.

My sister's first comment was: "I dont believe Dr. Phillips knows you very well"; meaning I think that she considers me far too easy going in the way I keep papers strewn around the floor and window ledges of my room to be entrusted with such treasures. But I shall try to get them back to Pretoria unharmed, though the dangers of three more longjourneys and the possibility of injury in the hands of the makers of the cuts cause even me a little misgiving.

The charm of the smaller drawings, with the graceful roots hanging down below the plants; the strength

answered  
6

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

and accuracy of the whole work; and the wonderful beauty of the coloring all combine to make the plates an extraordinary series. From the first one I looked at I knew at once that we could not do justice to them in reproduction, least of all to the couple we shall try to have in colors; we can only do our best and hope the result is not too bad. That you criticize the originals frightens me terribly, for what will you say to the reproductions?

The plates will go to Pasadena this afternoon. I do not know just how long they will be required there. On their return here I want to keep them for a couple of days more and then they will start back to Pretoria.

As a very slight recognition of the work you have done to give pleasure to all lovers of these curious plants, Prof. Sloane and I want to ask your permission to place your name on the title page of our book as a "Collaborator". You will say that you have not made the plates directly for us, and their reproductions was granted by the Dept. of Plant Industry rather than by yourself; but they will prove one of the major virtues of a ponderous tome, without which many pages would have proved very barren indeed, and we do want the privilege of having your name appear with the names of the others who are giving us such splendid help. Please let us! In Pretoria we are asking also Miss Verdoorn and Dr. Phillips, without whose help in so many directions no pretense of completeness would have been possible for us.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

No more to-day. There are only a few hours before the plates must start on another journey, and I want to go over them all at least once more. If you could see me going from one to the next, then back, then turning over a table covered with loose sheets in the effort to find a missing reference, and so on in a real circus of pleasure, you might think my sister was right after all in saying you all took more risk than you thought.

In every event, I am most grateful to you and to Dr. Phillips alike.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Alain White.

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Jan. 11, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

I can now report one more step in the Pilgrimage of the Stapelia plates safely accomplished. Boyd Sloane writes me, under date of Jan. 6th:

"The shipment of original drawings arrived safely. I have checked them and find all here according to your list. I'll certainly have to take off my hat to Miss Letty's ability. Her pencil drawings are wonderful and the color work the best I have ever seen. I appreciate how difficult it is to mix colors as nature has put them into the Stapelieae. I will try to take good care of them and to have the best reproductions possible made of them. Shall see Scott Haselton over this week-end to go over the matter. I am wondering whether my identification of Duvalia maculata is wrong, or whether there are variations in color. The annulus of ours is almost a cherry red and the inner corona lobes are bright yellow. What is the answer?"

*answered*  
*Ch*

I will let you hear anything further that he reports about the reproductions, but fear there may be some little delay. Sincerely yours,

Alain L. P. de

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

March 22, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

Thank you very much for your letter of Feb. 12th and the many interesting snaps which you enclosed. My sister and I both greatly enjoyed your vivid account of the trip to the Game Reserve. What a land, where the lions sit and watch you from the roadsides, and the giraffes stroll away so quietly among the trees!

I am returning the snaps; but have kept back the one of Dr. Schweickerdt sitting on the summit of Table Mountain, and I have written him asking his permission to include it in our book. It is such a striking pose, I hope he will let us use it.

Prof. Sloane writes me that the reproductions are coming along well at last, all finished but a single plate, so I hope they may be following this letter back to Pretoria before many more weeks. I have seen none of the reproductions as yet myself, but Prof. Sloane expresses himself as pleased. We both appreciate your permission to allow us to use your name as a Collaborator; for your work and the permission of your Division to



SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

let us use it, will be very vital factors in the book.

I had a very interesting letter from Miss Verdoorn this morning. Will you please thank her for it. I shall be writing her in acknowledgement soon.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

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Alan White

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

April 5, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

Well, your drawings arrived quite unexpectedly this morning from Pasadena, and with this letter they will be off again on the journey back to Pretoria. I do hope they arrive safely and in good condition. Some time in June I trust I may hear that they are home again after their long absence.

So far they seemed none the worse for wear. I had to mark small numerals on the backs of each, to identify the cuts, but I hope this has done no harm. The A-series are to be in black and white; the five plates in G-series are the ones which will be in color. It may interest you to see the ones selected.

I have seen no proofs as yet; but Boyd Sloane expresses himself as pleased, and they are all such fine clear drawings that they should reproduce very well. The matter of color is another story.

It has been a great pleasure to have the drawings here once more, if only for a couple of hours. I have been very carefully over each one again, and made a lot of notes. I was specially interested in Huernia vogtsii, for we have had this plant in flower for some

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

time and heretofore neither Sloane nor I have been able to identify it. Just one of those blind spots, which my own eyes at least are generously sprinkled with.

All your little Piaranthus drawings also gave me special pleasure this time; for they include several I have never seen. They are most delicately done. If I had the selection to make over again for the colored reproductions, I could never keep down to just five.

No more now, as I must get the package off to the Post Office. I did not tell you in my last how pleased I was to see two glimpses of yourself among the snaps you sent me of the animal country. Now I feel I know you real well!

Very sincerely yours,

Alain White.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

April 12, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

Your very welcome letter of March 12th came this morning, with the extremely interesting drawing by your mother. The composition is excellent, and we will be delighted to use the drawing. Stapelia leendertziana was first described in 1910 from a flower collected near Heidelberg, so your mother's drawing was probably made from some of the original material. Please tell her how pleased I am to see this specimen of her work.

Yes, I am always interested in the South African flowers of whatever families, though my knowledge of them is virtually nil. I enjoy all the issues of Flowering Plants of S.A. I particularly like the wild orchids, disas and the like, all the lilies and the wonderful proteas. The heaths rather bewilder me. I have Marloth's Flora and much enjoy turning the pages and looking at the plates. It would be a great pleasure to hear of your early collecting adventures. You must have known Miss Leendertz at Heidelberg in 1910. I have her photo for our book, and if you can tell me about her I will add a few lines to the picture.

12-10-35

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

I gather from your letter that Caralluma carnosa is now transferred to Osvea. Dr. Schweickerdt told me one time about the origin of this clever name.

By the way I had a very pleasant letter from Dr. S. yesterday. He sent me the permission to use your photo of him at the top of the world. He has accepted to be one of the "Collaborators", and sent a lot of valuable material, which I should certainly not have known about otherwise.

You quite tantalize me by your hints of the new species of the Erpetium, Hudnia, Botanichella, Caralluma plearanthoides, and the rest. The Phodesias are at the moment the centre for new Stapeliads, and we have had drawings and photographs of a lot of very curious ones. It is going to be something of a problem how to treat all these in the book without duplicating work on the same plants by others.

Needless to say if your Department has new species which cannot be used in the new part of Flowering Plants we will be delighted to publish them in our book, with colored plates and all. The colored plates came out so nicely I am tempted to enlarge their number somewhat, and if you send me originals of any new species we will certainly take them up. I will send you one of the proofs, which I like very much. Please dont tell me that it is very bad.

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12-14-35

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

The black and white plates also came out well, some remarkably so, but a lot had been made too small, and a number of these will have to be done a second time. We now have 400 cuts made up in addition to those in the first edition, and as there are a good many still in view the total will be large, but I trust not unwieldy.

May I keep the photograph of your mother's drawing when the cut has been made, or shall I return it?

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White



LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

July 10, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

I have just received your last welcome letter, and am delighted to know you liked the reproduction of your beautiful drawing of the little Duvalia. I wish now we had had a few more of the reproductions done in color. Perhaps when the next Stapelia issue of the Flowering Plants appears, we can borrow some of those plates also and have a couple more done in colors. Next time I write Dr. Phillips I will ask him about this.

You gave me a terrible shock when you said you were looking forward to our book in February next. That is only the date when it is supposed to go to the printer, and it may be years and years before it is finished, as Mr. Haselton, the printer, is proverbially dilatory, and Prof. Sloane, who must oversee much of the detail, is extremely pressed for time just now, as he is still in charge of the reconstruction of the Pasadena schools to make them earthquake-proof.

I certainly hope there may be a photograph

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

of Miss Verdoorn and yourself for our pages, and if you can persuade Miss Obermeyer and Miss Gurn to pose with you it will put me still more in your debt. I need not mention my own personal pleasure in receiving such a little group.

I feel a little guilty ~~of~~ having kept the snap of Dr. Schweickerdt so long. The cut is not yet done, but in time I will return the original. I am looking forward with so much expectation to the possible opportunity of meeting Dr. S. another season, if he comes to this country, while he is in the north.

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I did not realize that I appear so vague a figure. That is because I have never done anything specially worthy of any note. I was born way back in 1880 and am a graduate of Harvard college and of Columbia University. Since graduation I have lived on our farm here in Litchfield with my sister. Our place is a large one for this section of the country, and we keep busy looking after it when we are here, though it seems to get along just as well when we are away. Part of the place we keep as a waterfowl refuge, and I will enclose a snap of one of our wild geese nesting and another of some ducks waiting for lunch. Our house is on the farther shore in the centre. Water is ~~the~~ my chief pleasure in life, and our little

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

lakes and streams and swamps furnish me with as much excitement every day, as if they were much more imposing affairs. I have a sail-boat and a canoe and a small motor boat; and now comes your letter to make me want to trade in one of these for a good reliable swan-boat; but swans are rare birds in 20th century Connecticut. I could manage a heron-boat very easily.

I hope you are having a very pleasant trip to Natal just about now. I shall look forward very much to hearing about it when next you may be writing,

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

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Free State. It says the Boer executives left before 1900, because it was too dangerously near Pretoria. Your letter throws some light on why this was so.

Nothing in your graphic account of your adventure surprised me more than your comparison of your flight through the air to that of Walter O'Keefe, the "man on the flying trapeze". Do all our popular songs find their way across the veld, or is this just a well-deserved exception? It is rather terrible to think that in South Africa the newsboys may go from door to door whistling the melodies from Top Hat, or that in moments of leisure you dance the Saricke or fall asleep to the strains of the Lullaby of Broadway.

Your description of your sister's farm and its many waters is altogether delightful. I have read of the bogs of the Oribi and the Umzimkulwana gorge. Is this the very gorge into which the stream on your sister's place jumps down with such an alluring splash? Perhaps you will let me see some photographs of the gorge one day; and I am looking forward very much to hearing about Tchaka's Rocks. I suppose Lelia puts her babies to bed with bloodcurdling stories of the Old Lion, and how he will raid them if they aren't



The Waldorf-Astoria  
New York

October 8, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

Your letter came just as we were leaving Litchfield a week ago. What a trip you had before reaching your sister's farm. I think your friend, Hilary's, driving must be almost as bad as my own, for to somersault three times all because of a patch of gravel bespeaks considerable momentum and nonchalance. I should like to drive with her very much.

You were fortunate indeed to escape without more permanent damage, but I fancy you will remember the environs of Vrede and its kindly natives for some time to come. It must have been quite a shock not to know whether it was Hilary or yourself who was about to die, and certainly a kind providence intervened to prevent either of you from so doing.

I had not before heard of Vrede, but there it is on my map as big as life, and I see it was once the capital of the

real good all the time.

Of course you must keep the bird-snaps, and I am very pleased to keep the one of Dr. Schweickerdt. Here is a proof of the letter. Proofs of nearly all the cuts have come in now, and to-day I am sending in the first invoice of text to the printer to experiment on, so you might say the second edition is on the skids.

Last of all, I mustn't forget to thank you for the "informal" account of myself. Only why haven't you sent me instead a similar account of some of our *Stapelia* friends in your country to use in the book; and now it will be too late.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White*

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Nov. 23, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

You have certainly outdone yourself in the new plates, and that is saying a mouthful, as the boys would say. The extraordinary fidelity of the colors, and the beauty and delicacy of the treatment, have quite taken my breath away.

Thank you for the great pleasure your skill has once again given me. It is wonderful of your Chief to entrust the originals to us, so very far away. They will go right on to Boyd Sloane on Monday, and of course will all be in our book, seven I hope in colors, though reproduction cannot well expect to do them any sort of justice. You may be sure Sloane and I will do all we can to get them back to Pretoria safely; but I am duly aware of the opportunities there will be in the meantime for mischief to happen to them.

With best regards and Christmas wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White.*



SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Dec. 16, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

Your letters are always most welcome, and the one of Nov. 13th just to hand, with the very charming pictures of Miss Gunn and Miss Obermeijer, was no exception, you may be sure. I hope to write Miss Gunn by this mail, and Miss Obermeijer in a few days, as I want to thank them personally for consenting to appear in our pages.

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I was quite shocked to gather that the book was in danger of being suspected of containing libelous matter! Of course there will be some plant scandals in it, such as our claim that Dinter's little ~~Xxxxxx~~ blonde species, Caralluma ausana, was not a good little species at all.

I was certainly disappointed that you could not provide your own likeness, all the more for the cause. I had hoped all trace of your accident might have been forgot long before this. You made so light of it at the time.

SUMMERSVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Our portrait gallery has grown to very interesting proportions, and it is very pleasant to see how fine a share women have taken in the history of our plants. Even Sir Joshua Reynolds was proud to paint one lady, who had herself discovered a Stapeliad, and we have felt proud in turn to receive permission to reproduce a copy of the painting.

But the Stapelia artists remain the least completely represented. We have the charming Nell Lugard; and the great Walter Hood Fitch, magnificent beard and all, who painted 10,000 plant plates, not all Stapelias however; and the lovely Lady Harriet Chistleton Oyer, who stepped into the breach when the sudden "strike" by Fitch threatened the suspension of Curtis's Botanical Magazine. You can imagine the thrill I felt one day when it dawned on me that the first plate Lady H. drew was of a Stapelia. But the pictures of so many others are missing. How exciting one of Gorindoo would have been, the Indian painter who followed Dr. Wight and his ox-carts from camp to camp. Or Mrs. Barber, whose little boys would come to her in their Kaffraria camp and say: "Mamma, shall we ask papa to have the waggon inspanned to go to another place, for there are no more new wild flowers here?" Or the daughter of Sir Henry Barkly, or Miss Matilda Smith of Kew, or any others of the distinguished company to whose ranks you have brought so much new distinction.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Dec. 26, 1935.

Dear Miss Letty,

Just how you arrange these things I do not know, but in yesterday morning's Christmas mail there right on top of all the letters was the envelope with your lovely Calendar. Thank you ever so much for the thought and the delicate charm of the painting.

Looking back it seems only a very little while ago that your Duvalia maculata brought me the schedule of the days there were to be during 1935. Now all but a half a dozen have flown past, and your Calendar ~~was~~ certainly been a good companion, for it marshalled for me as good a selection of days as one could wish - the red letter days that brought your wonderful drawings and many others only a little less incarnadined that brought pleasant thrills and many kindnesses from many sifferent sources. While some of the days may have had their problems, at least there was not a dull one in the whole carload. And best of all, my invalid had a great many good days too.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

And now comes Stapelia nouhuysii to present the roster of the days to come in 1936. There they all are, some predetermined, like the ominous Nov. 3rd, when my countrymen and I will ballot for our next President; some wholly uncertain, like the day when Mussolini makes his next mistake and the rest of the world takes the consequences. But maybe in the retrospect it will not all look so bad. Certainly Stapelia nouhuysii will guide the days past as gently and wisely as did Duvalia maculata.

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We had a cold Christmas preceded by two days of ice-storm, a rare phenomenon in South Carolina. It was a faint reminder of Litchfield's Christmas weather, and you can see from the enclosure what ~~is~~ a corner of our woods looks like at this season.

What is Christmas like in Pretoria and the veld? I know that "the masses of yellow stamens shaking pollen into the breeze have all vanished quietly, and in the hot still days of midsummer the seeds are setting and the fruits growing to maturity". But Miss Verdoorn's altogether charming little book does not say whether Santa Claus drives a team of zebras, nor does it ~~it~~ tell what he wears. Surely not the furs of our hemisphere. There is a man in New York who gives an annual banquet to all the Santa Clauses who solicit alms on the streets for the Salvation Army

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

and other good causes. When their week of cold duties are over, a hundred or more gather around a great table, in full regalia, their red faces hardly distinguishable, and their moment of cheer and relaxation sounds. Such a scene, and you can imagine that it is an unforgettable one, could never occur in Pretoria on Christmas Day. Every single Santa Claus would die of suffocation in his furs and heavy garments and thick beard.

With renewed thanks for the lovely Calendar and all good wishes for 1936,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

March 4, 1936.

Dear Miss Letty,

It has been such a pleasure to receive your welcome letter of Jan. 20th. You do write delightful letters, yet I always feel quite guilty when I get one, for I know how busy you are and that you have to scant something else to write. So this one does not expect any answer, or at least not until you really have a bit of leisure.

I am so glad you liked the Short History. Some day I will send you the Long History, and that will answer all the questions you did not have time to ask!

You did not say whether you liked Top Hat, as a film, and as I did not see it myself I do not know quite what I let you in for. However, Fred Astair and Ginger Rogers are great favorites of mine, so I hope they were good and that you liked them. They have a new film now, Follow the Fleet, but the music is not as good, or at least not to my taste; but the dancing is said to be wonderful, especially Fred Astair's hornpipe. It is rather terrible that

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

our songs cannot be escaped, even on the veld. I had hoped one would hear nothing more disturbing there at this season than the children stepping on the seed-pods of the Milk Bush to hear them pop.

With us, through early January, there was a wave of national hysteria for The Music Goes Round and Round, and by now I suppose it will have supplanted the man on the flying trapeze in the affections of Alric and Bobby? And speaking of our pernicious influences, do your pretty nieces tint their fingernails and smoke Lucky Strike cigarettes?

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I am looking forward so much to the new plates from the Flowering Plants of South Africa, and their arrival should find the rest of the book about ready to start printing. I have one or two proofs to enclose, and you may like to give Miss Obermeijer and Miss Gunn the extras of their charming pictures. We had quite a time to reconcile the sizes of the original photographs you sent. I do hope yours arrives by May 1st, in time for inclusion also. Perhaps you recall my saying how excited I would be to have one of Mrs. Barber. Well, a few days later I received a very kind letter from Miss Gunn enclosing this very picture, and a most delightful old-style one. Wasn't that mind reading?

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White



SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

March 20, 1936.

Dear Miss Letty,

I was delighted to get your letter of Feb. 19th this morning and to know that you are going to send us your new Caralluma.

It will be a great pleasure to have it, and I feel sure it will be in plenty of time. Our schedule is now more or less dependent on when the new issue of the Flowering Plants is published, as we are all ready to close the doors when it arrives.

I am very pleased to hear that you are now concentrating on the aloes. Mr. Reynolds has aroused my interest in these beautiful plants and I am keen to know more about them. Will there be a special issue of the Flowering Plants devoted to them?

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

Oct. 2, 1936.

Dear Miss Letty,

Please do not again refer to yourself as a poor correspondent; for it is too painful a reminder of my own shortcomings. Your letter was most welcome, but I cannot bring myself to remind you of its date, as I have left it unanswered so long. The days have just gone by here this summer, and I kept saying to myself that I would wait and enclose a proof or two of your last set of paintings, and the proofs never came until this morning.

I hope you will like them. Sloane tries so very hard to get them right, and I think succeeds very well. But of course no reproductions can do justice to original work of this character.

Ten of the plates are going off herewith. There are two more to finish, one of which is your Caralluma gerstneri. It has been one of our few disappointments in the preparation of the book that we have been unable to get the

-2-

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

full description of this species, so that the painting will have to introduce it quite by itself. Messrs. Reeve and Co., who have been wonderful in every way in trying to help us, promised it some time back; but the weeks have passed and it is not yet to hand.

Your summer will be starting when you receive this, just as ours passes away, and I shall think of you watching the kwikkies and the suiker-bekkie. We go back to New York on Monday next, and then on to Summerville, South Carolina, for six months.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White.*

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PARK AND LEXINGTON AVENUES  
FORTY-NINTH AND FIFTIETH STREETS

# The Waldorf-Astoria

## New York

Oct. 10, 1936.

Dear Miss Letty,

I have another proof for you to-night, for at least the final paintings have come back from Pasadena.

There is one detail about the proofs which I have meant to speak about before this, namely the signatures. They seem to me to add very much to the interest, and I have tried hard to get them on each figure, but so far with only partial success. In about 1/3 of the cases, like the enclosed, they have come through without any difficulty; in another 1/3 of the cases, they have just failed entirely; and in the remaining 1/3, they have appeared on separate tracings, like the one I enclose. I hope in this way they will ultimately appear on at least 2/3 of the final prints. Who knows? The ways of the printers are beyond prediction.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Christmas Day, 1936.

Dear Miss Letty,

I think I have told you other years that I dont know how you time these things so closely; and I am as mystified as ever this time, by the punctual arrival of your charming Christmas card, bearing your good wishes and greetings.

It is a lovely thing, this Dryalis modesta, such a charming little plant in itself, and so daintily presented on your card. Thank you so much for your thought in making it for me.

Your card gives your street address in Pretoria, and I have been looking for it on my very poor map. I can only find Bissik Street, in the Sunnyside section, and fancy it must be the same. That is about a mile from the Union buildings, and the tram seems to go rather a round about way, along Esselen Street back over the Aapies River, and so up to Church Street East; but perhaps you take out your car to go backand forth, or when it is not too hot you walk right down the hill coming home.

25-XII-36

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

I wish I could write you that the new Stapelia book was in the mail to-day, as at one stage of the game we hoped it might be, for I am anxious to have you see how well all your beautiful figures are coming out. But delays are human, and really Boyd Sloane and the printer are doing wonders to overcome handicaps.

All is going along nicely with us. My sister keeps fairly comfortable, and we are having a lovely winter season this year, with crisp sunny days, but no real frosts yet and there are still plenty of flowers about the gardens.

With all good wishes for 1937, and again very many thanks for your card, which has given me so much pleasure,

Sincerely yours,

*Hain White*

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

March 21, 1937.

Dear Miss Letty,

Well, I am happy to report that the new Stapelia edition is finished. In fact it has been done about three weeks, but just as I thought all our delays were over, I found I had not realized what a job Boyd Sloane would have in sending out so many copies. And as he was starting, there had to be a smallpox scare in one of his schools. It passed off fortunately without serious consequences, but you can imagine it took his mind off the Stapelias.

Yesterday I had word from him that the books were beginning to go out, and that all would be on their way within two weeks. He is packing them all himself, to avoid confusion.

The book owes so very much to your beautiful plates, that I specially hope you will like their appearance in it. You must tell me if you would care for any extra copies for your family or friends. A copy will go to your mother in Sea Point, and I trust will reach her safely. I find I did not know her initials.



SUMMERSVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Our printer, Scott Haselton, who edits the Cactus Journal, spread himself in a notice of the book, by way of a surprise to Sloane and me. I am enclosing a copy, as you may like to see your lovely Tavaresia doing the honors. I was pleased he selected this, as I know it is a favorite of yours.

I have somewhat mixed feelings about the book. I am delighted with the way the illustrations have come out, and hope they will carry the book. But I am a bit disconcerted to find I passed quite a few errors in the text. Some are noted on the Errata slip; but I have just found another, and I am wondering if there are very many more.

The erratum I speak of is at p. 825, line 16 from bottom of page, in the Huernia Key: for 16(a). Huernia nawaquensis var. innaculata read Huernia herrei var. innaculata (p. 1180) Perhaps Miss Verdoorn will note this on the copy sent to your Library.

With kind regards to you all at the Division,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

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LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

June 3, 1937.

Dear Miss Letty,

I was delighted to receive this morning your welcome letter of May 5th, and to know the new book had met with such a cordial welcome. You are all most kind in Pretoria, and your warm reception adds a double pleasure to all that we have already enjoyed in compiling the book.

I am very happy indeed to send a set to your father in France, and to your friends in Worcester and Pretoria. The Naudé's have not been on my list before, but I did send a set to Mr. Tom Naudé, of Pietersburg, and wonder if he is a **relative**.

All you write, of the African birds who do sing, and the flowers with a pleasanter scent than the Stapelieae was of special interest, both to my sister and me; and we were also glad to know of your Christmas visit with your family.

I have already written to Mr. Dyer, how your paintings of the Euphorbias in the Flowering Plants (with his descriptions) have fascinated Boyd Sloane and me.

3-61-37

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

It would be great fun to do another book, on the succulent species, with some of your drawings to give it authority; but whether we shall succeed at all in this directions it is yet much too early to say. At the moment I see only the difficulties, but perhaps some of them will diminish with time.

Thanking you again for your welcome letter and with good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

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Alain White .

I received a very pleasant letter from your mother about the book. Will you please thank her for me and give her my good wishes.

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

June 27, 1937

Miss Cythna Letty  
Pretoria

My dear Miss Letty,

Thank you very much for your cordial letter of May 26th which came a few days ago. You are most generous in your praise of the books. Please remember, however, that without your assistance and that of so many other good friends in South Africa, it could never have been brought forth. For all this assistance we are most grateful.

The work has been most arduous at times but, all in all, a most interesting experience. Mr. White has carried the major portion of the load. He is such a delightful person with whom to work that one just goes along without thinking of the labor.

May I compliment you on your art work. The color work, I think, is especially difficult with the Stapeliads. I tried on one or two occasions to match colors but without success. If I were envious of another's accomplishments, it would be of their art and musical abilities. Your color plates add more to the book than you are willing to acknowledge.

Our school building rehabilitation program is practically completed. One of my buildings was the very first to be completed and I was very glad to get back to normal. Many of our buildings were almost new but due to the hysteria following the Long Beach quake stringent laws were passed which have since been toned down a bit.

The small-pox scare occurred in one of my buildings. There were few cases and those very mild. The scare resulted in our having the highest percentage of vaccinated pupils in the State. But that is all over. The Stapeliads, however, are as the Bible speaks of the poor, "always with us."

Cordially yours,

*Boyd L. Sloane*

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Dec. 25, 1937.

Dear Miss Letty,

I do not want to let Christmas day go by without sending a line to acknowledge your very welcome letter of October 26th.

I was so pleased to hear your friends had given the Stapelia book such a kind reception. Your father wrote me a very nice letter, and I heard also from the friends whose names you gave me. They could not but be glad to see your lovely plates again. There are plenty more sets left, if at any time I could send to any other persons, so do tell me at any time.

Your good wishes for the Euphorbias are very much appreciated. I certainly need them, for I am now in the bewildered stage. The succulent species have led Sloane and me to the woody ones, and these in turn to the herbaceous. So I am now splashing about, trying to find a little solid ground underfoot. You are very kind to offer help, and some day I may take you up on this. But just now I must try and master what has already been

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

published in the way of plates. The Index Londinensis alone lists something more than 2,000, and a good many that one would specially need to see are in books hard of access in the pine woods of South Carolina. There is a lifetime of work and interest ahead, before anything can emerge, even if an opportunity to use the material should present itself in these distracted times.

Your plates of Opuntias will be a great treat. I have often wondered whether these American touzists, as they multiplied on foreign soil under new suns, remained true to their kind, or evolved new forms. The Opuntias are having sad days at the moment, but I know they have deserved all the rough handling they are getting. They are beautiful things in the eyes of some of us.

My best greetings go with this for 1938. The clouds over the world are so heavy as the new year approaches that one cannot but face 1938 with deepest forebodings; but I trust it may <sup>yet</sup> manage to bring you many carefree and happy hours.

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White.*



SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Dec. 26, 1937.

Dear Miss Letty,

How do you manage these things! I had just written you a few lines on Christmas morning, when the noon mail punctually brought me your wonderful card. It is so beautifully done, with the charming border of hirsutas and giganteas, and Goethe's immortal lines stand out in a new loveliness. I am sure they have never been more fittingly presented, and only wish he might himself have seen the card.

If your eyes trouble you, I fear it is suchwork as this, rather than the Euphorbias, that may be to blame, and you should not have added it to all your daily tasks; but you can be sure of the very great pleasure it has given me and the encouragement it will bring through many days ahead. Thank you so much for the thought, as well as for the card itself.

With all good wishes again for 1938,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.



LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

June 29, 1938.

Dear Miss Letty,

Thank you very much for your welcome letter of May 12th. It was so pleasant to hear the account of your good friends, and I hope you will succeed in locating the address of that kind Mr. Ligertwood. The set of books for the Sellers is already on its way from Pasadena. Be sure, please, to let me know if it fails to arrive in good condition. A few of the sets have proved imperfect. We sent a set to one gentleman, and he wrote rather hesitatingly to say that certain pages in one of the volumes were omitted or upside down, or something. Then I hurriedly hunted up another copy of that particular volume and sent it off posthaste; only to get word in due course that precisely the same flaw existed in it also. He must have thought we were playing a joke on him, for the chance of two faulty copies out of so many other let us hope correct ones going to the same person would seem almost impossible. So if anything of the sort ever occurs in any of the sets you may hear about, please do not let the recipients be too polite to say so.

29-VI-38

LITCHFIELD  
CONNECTICUT

Your lovely Christmas "card" has continued to give me much pleasure, and has been admired by many - but I am sorry to hear it cost you those hurried hours. You should have sent me the drawing as you first made it with the long lines - and not gone to such trouble to do it all again - for the beauty of the lines is in them regardless of whether they are written out long or short. But you did time them wonderfully, in spite of all the extra trouble you took. What a remarkable man Goethe was. He had delicacy and the grandest of grand manners alike, and could apparently turn to any form of thought or expression with as little effort. It is very pleasant to have this most delicate of all his verses in so beautiful and delicate a frame.

Digitized by [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) for the [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) Database. Documentation

My sister and I are home again in Litchfield now, and a rainy spring has seemed to make the whole countryside more beautiful than ever, our big tulip tree covered with blooms, stout hemlocks in the freshest of fresh spring green, tall maples carrying the frail nests of the humming birds, daisies and running brooks and all the components of a New England spring. It lasts a short time only, for the hot days of July come on overnight, but it is worth waiting for. You must be having frosts and clear sparkling stars these days, frost crunching under your feet as you walk up the steps of the Government Buildings. It is very nice to hear of the new Stapelia and Euphorbia plates in the making. Best success to them, and my best wishes to yourself,

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White*

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

January 3, 1939.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

I have just received the card to your marriage & want to send my heartiest good wishes to you and my warm congratulations to Mr. Forssman. I wish I might have been in Pretoria for the occasion, to greet on such a happy day one whose great artistic skill & constant kindness have

9-I-39

- 2 -

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

contributed so much to give me  
pleasure. My sister + I drank  
your health on Friday last, +  
I ordered a little souvenir of  
the day sent to you at your mother's  
address.

I hope the future will have  
many sunny + happy days indeed  
for you both in long years  
to come.

Always sincerely yours.

Alain White.



Dear Mrs. Forssman: -

POST CARD  
CORRESPONDENCE  
ADDRESS

Summerville. S. C.

Apr. 18. 1939.

It was such a pleasure to receive your letter + I read this line at once to say I am asking Boyd Sloane to send you a set of the books for the Library you write of + I will be very glad to send to your friends if you will forward the addresses. There are plenty of copies for all. My sister + I are much interested in all your news - but deeply grieved to learn of your mother's death.

My best regards to you + Mrs. Forssman  
Sincerely yours, - Blair White.

Springtime in Namaqualand.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

April 9, 1940.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

It was a great pleasure to receive your letter of February 28th a few days ago. Mails are much prompter for the moment than they were a few months ago. Your welcome Christmas letter and calendar did arrive in perfect shape, but somewhat belated. I asked Miss Verdoorn to thank you and had meant to write myself before this, but the days have slipped by and I find I accomplish none of the things I have in mind to do.

The war indeed is very terrible, and takes one's mind off of virtually every interest. One can only keep on hoping for some solution of it to arrive, but from what corner it can come still baffles one completely. Meanwhile the catastrophes keep piling up, with the new Scandinavian invasion about to lead to we know not what new miseries.

It is pleasant to hear that conditions have not been seriously affected with you, and to know of your trip to Cape Town. I wish you had had better opportunity for your visit to Kirstenbosch. There were some views recently in one of the botanical magazines of the new



9-14-40

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

buildings there, which must indeed be beautiful and  
in fine keeping with the surroundings.

With renewed thanks for your thought of me at  
Christmas and my best regards to you all,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White -

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I look forward greatly to  
possible new drawings of  
Euphorbias by you in the next  
issue of *Flowering Plants!*

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Oct. 31, 1940.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

Miss Verdoorn has written me of the birth of your son, and I want to send a few lines of congratulation to you and Mr. Forssman, with my best wishes for the little boy. He has chosen a tragic time to make his entry into our world, and we must hope that these sad days will pass before he can take much cognizance of things about him, and that there will be many years ahead for him of peace and happiness. It is a source of frequent surprise to me to think that so many of the young children of to-day will be living when another century begins. We must trust that by the 21st century men will have learned to use their new powers for the general good, instead of for destruction. One always expects wisdom and advance in thinking of the new generations ahead.

You will by this time probably have seen from Dr. Dyer the proofs of the new colored cuts of Euphorbias. Many strike me as quite successful, but in one or two cases Mr. Haselton has allowed the printer a rather lavish use of yellows. I hope in the final printing

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Christmas Day, 1940.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

Your very welcome Christmas letter was so well timed to reach here two days ago, and my sister and I were so interested to hear all the news you had to tell. We send our warmest congratulations again on the birth of young Bruce. He will be quite grown up by the time this reaches you, probably nearly six months old, and now-a-days that is very much advanced. You have had a difficult time yourself, but I hope all that is well forgotten by now, and that much happiness may be in store for a long ~~xxx~~ future of your family all together.

I was specially interested in all you write of your friends, and I am happy to feel in many cases my own also, at the Herbarium. But please tell me who is Edwina? I do not recall your speaking of her before. Has she had the Stapelia book, or if not would she be interested? Miss Connell does make the loveliest drawings; there <sup>are</sup> some charming ones in the last part of the Flowering Plants, though not in my own line. Your mantle has slipped gracefully onto very worthy shoulders, it seems to me..

25-21-40

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

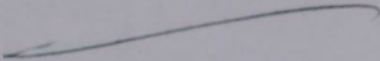
It is hard to write a Happy New Year this time,  
but I hope it may prove so for you and yours. I know  
it will be so at home, and may it prove less anxious as  
to your family overseas.

With all good wishes, to you all,

Sincerely yours,

*Alain White*

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31-X-40

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

this may not be as strongly prominent. I have also enjoyed the new works of Miss Connell. She carries on your fine tradition admirably, and the Department is certainly fortunate to have had two such fine artists in succession.

I trust all is going well with you, so far as is possible these days. My good wishes for the holidays and the New Year,

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

January 12, 1943.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

What a lovely little boy Bruce Oscar is growing up to be, and how proud you must be of such a darling. I was much touched to receive the charming photograph you sent me of him, with the beautiful verses of Mr. Clarke. I shall keep the photograph and compare it with those you send me in succeeding years, so that I can keep track of the way Bruce progresses. There will be great changes every year.

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I do not think I acknowledged your last letter, which was a real newsy one; but I do so now and send my best thanks as always. I get so much of my South African news from your letters, and always look forward to each one. I trust 1943 will bring several, and what is most important of all some nearer approach to peace. My best wishes to you all,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White.

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SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

Jan. 28, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

It was such a pleasure to receive this morning the charming calendar which you have sent me of the springboks. The artist does exquisite work, but I do not recognize the name, A. A. Telford. I shall enjoy this and keep the picture long after the year ends.

I have missed not having a letter from you telling me all the news and trust one will follow later, as I count on hearing from you to know how you all are doing. I hope very well indeed. I had a very nice card recently from Miss Edwina Phillips, to whom I wrote pursuant to one of your letters - she seems such a cheerful young woman, and trust is as well as can be for her condition. My regards to her, please, and to all other friends, and again my very warm thanks and greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Alain White



All safety construction of schools is completed with the exception of the Junior College. We moved into our Madison building this fall. Where the construction has been of brick or tile for outer walls, it must be completely removed. Where certain walls permit, a gunning process is used. This consists of shooting cement from a large hose on the standing wall which has been covered with a network of steel rods. Some of our reconstructed buildings cast as much or nearly so, as the originals. I am thankful that the work is over.

PM 29-I-45 over

You once asked me how Prof. Hoare made his schools  
earthquake proof. Here is Botanical Documentation  
answer.



The Waldorf-Astoria  
New York

May 8<sup>th</sup>

Dear Miss Lacey.

I was so pleased  
to receive the photo -  
an excellent one. I  
can see - with your  
letter. The photo is  
already on its way  
to Pasadena. I know  
it is going to give

pleasure to many readers  
of the book to know a  
little better the lady  
who makes the beautiful  
pictures. Thank you  
for letting me see  
it.

We enjoyed your  
account of the  
Kwikkies. My sister  
wants to know if  
it is true they never

sing - or is that a legend  
like saying the South  
African flowers have no  
fragrance? The letter  
was merely started by  
someone who did not  
know Caralluma lutea!

Very gratefully,

Alain White.

My address till our "fall"  
at Littlefield, Conn., please.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

June 1st.

Dear Mrs. Forssman,

Thank you so much for your letter of April 19th, and your and your husband's message of sympathy, which I value deeply. You must not feel saddened about me, for I am well and content and much occupied, which is much in such times as the present, and the days pass quickly on.

The photographs you enclosed of Bruce are delightful. He has such a splendid head, and is growing so fast. What a good time he will be giving his cousin Leonie in a year or two more, when they can go around together. They seem very happy even now. I can understand how busy he must keep you, with Mr. Forssman and his family to boot. I feel so happy to think of you in this delightful circle.

That is delightful news also about Miss Connell, and how happy she must be. The Division gets such charming artists, I fear it is doomed never to keep any one of them long. Please give her my warmest congratulations.

SUMMERVILLE  
SOUTH CAROLINA

I am so interested in what you write of Miss Edwina Phillips, and I feel for her in her affliction. She is very brave to rise above the trouble so finely. I am writing without delay to Boyd Sloane, asking him to send her the Stapelias, and it will not be very many months now, I hope, before the Euphorbias are ready to follow. Please tell her not to worry if the books are delayed. That is inevitable these days; but if they should be lost completely, like the first set I sent Miss Connell, then she must write and tell me without hesitation. I would say they will be due about six weeks after this letter reaches you, perhaps a bit longer.

Thank you again for your kind letter and messages. It is always such a pleasure to hear from you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Alain White.*

I am addressing the books to Miss Phillips at Box 994, and trust that is correct.