



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Contact: Archives
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized version of an item from our Archives.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

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.

Ruschichoy
April 6th 1942

Dear Helen -

My days with you were a great joy & every moment of the time stands out in my memory. I am so grateful for your loving welcome & your sweet ways. The trip was pleasant & we reached here in less than two hours & a half. I have been talking ever since telling Monica all about what we did & saw. She is delighted at the idea of going to bring you on Saturday & says she doesn't mind a bit being car sick for the pleasure of "seeing your house",

she was much amused
at my account of the
morning we spent in the
market, & wants me to
impress you with the fact
that it is the house she
is going to see!

Ann is more adorable
than ever before & gave
me a warmer welcome.
Her tiny tracts are a
great success & when
I showed the three that
are your particular
gift, she smiled so
broadly that I am sure
she understood every
word.

My mail is coming
up from Moira today &
of course there is always
the hope that it will
include a letter from John.

It will be so nice to see
you & a member of
the "Garnier" + Monica
& I are planning
many outings so do
make your visit as
long as possible.

A rested, tranquil
spirit abides with me
since my stay at the
Casa Papaverie & I thank
you for being such
a charming thought-
ful hostess for, be-
lieve me it was not
only the "house".

Much looking for-
ward to seeing you
on Saturday.

Affectionately
Lucy Smith

Oct 12th 1942

FINCA MOCA,
QUATALÓN,
GUATEMALA.

Dear Helen -

Your letter was most welcome + I hasten to reply giving our news - disquieting enough. On Sept 5th John was reported missing + only on the 25th did we hear that he is a prisoner of war, so we passed some days of acute anxiety + suspense. Of course I fully realize that he must suffer privations + indignities at

canceling, strict was indeed
a most hazardous affair -
the Comm has been attached to
+ has stated many of the
will, so his case has been
well & duty earned.
this note in + out but has
were as distributed, in fact
give me about their case as
primary interest is being in par.
& that this is truly a matter
done to the best of
From the Director of the Army Service

It was so good to know
that things progress well
with you & Missor & that
you will at some time
can realize that what
on the college must be
very up held in all our
conditions but I do hope
it won't have to stop ex-
tremely. The Bill of
needs to be that
primary Amherst, who
is a Scientist in the
young, has over the dis-
tinguished Service Credits
for his work in the District

the hands of the enemy
but I am too thankful
that he escaped with his
life to worry too much about
that. As soon as I get an
address from the Inter-
national Red Cross I shall
start off a steady stream
of letters & parcels in his
direction as I fear his
diet must be slim enough
& his wear down no doubt
passes description. For
the present I am com-
pletely out of touch with
him which is a sore trial.
War is cruel & causes
untold agony.

Jan 3rd 1945

FINCA MOCÁ
GUATMALÓN

Dear Helen.

It was indeed nice to hear from you & I now send a few lines to welcome you to Antigua where I trust you may arrive without fail & in good order. I badly want to see you as soon as possible so let me know when you are prepared to move on to Moca for a while. Baysis is here on two months leave & it is wonderful to have her about the place but the days are flying by much too fast. Our Xmas was heightened by direct word of John, the first since his capture. A friend of Baysis' cabled from Washington that a repatriated prisoner from the same camp reports him fit & well. There has also been news of Norman Lind after four months silence, "safe & well, don't worry", this message was relayed from London so his whereabouts is still a mystery. You can imagine that there were the happy mothers at Moca on Xmas morning!

Send Mr. Standley his love & my most glowing account

of the Inauguration! I am so glad
for you sake that all went well
as you have certainly spared no
effort. She also said many
flattering things about you & Wilson
again & I was glad for one does
not always get one's deserts in
this cruel world.

Please tell Wilson that I have
located the Scully couple & shall
ask them down here soon as it
would be a pleasure to meet them.
Mutual friends advised delaying
my invitation for a bit as Mr & Mrs
Scully have settled down & are
hard at work on the boat.

Looking forward to seeing you all at
the first opportunity & thanking you
for the nice card with good wishes.
Betsy joins me in affectionate
greetings.

Yours as ever

Suey Smith

Oct 30th 1954

3^a Ave 13-81

Guatemala C.A.

My dear Helen.

So often your name is mentioned with affection in our family circle - we remember happy times spent with you + Wilson. I meant to write immediately when I heard of Dr. Saischild's death for I well realize that this was a person at loss to you both. Can you manage to spend Xmas in Antigua this year? Maybe I will catch a glimpse of you, that would be very nice. Booringa Ann - strong has returned here & we meet regularly to discuss old days & old friends. I trust that there is always good news of your young people & that you see them sometimes.

I now have eight grand children
Ann, the eldest of them is now in
boarding school in Canada, the
first of her generation to depart. I
miss her terribly but she is fortunate
to be able to continue her
studies under such favourable
conditions, as Aven found the
school all that could be desired.
Poor old Guatemala has passed
through a bad time lately, our
new government is doing well
but there are still too many people
of the wrong sort about, for perfect
safety. These few lines
carry affectionate greetings to you
& Wilson with our best wishes
for your good health & well being.
With much love as ever
Lucy Smith

Sam about a 3 Ave 13-81 journal
Guatemala, C.A.
Oct 17th 1955
the speed at
which most people travel
Dearest Helen.

When I got home
the other day to find that you
had called, I howled with
excitation. I should have
liked to see you beyond
words. But such things do
happen. Anyhow I am sure
you enjoyed your house in
Antigua altho' the place as
a whole has changed for
the worse. Only the Palacio
at San Juan el Obispo is
utterly charming. A sur-
prising work of restoration
is being done.

Central American security
appears to be a rare commodity
& referring to this country
one rather wonders what
may happen next.

of 18-81 and 82
the letter

Oct 15th 1921

Dear Mother
I am about a year behind in
your family news, quite far
considering the speed at
which young people travel
these days. One son-in-law
in Formosa another in Korea,
Nancy & her husband still in
Puerto Rico & Hugh studying
for a degree. So just one up
from there.
I am the proud possessor
of eight grandchildren, all
of the lustiest sort, veritable
bundles of fun & mischief.
At the moment I am sur-
rounded by five of them
as the combined parents
are off to Belize on a deep-
sea diving expedition,
leaving me in charge.
Since the new Hotel, Belize
has acquired fame as a
resort but it is a bit ex-
posed during the hurricane
season it seems to me.

I am about a year behind in
your family news, quite far
considering the speed at
which young people travel
these days. One son-in-law
in Formosa another in Korea,
Nancy & her husband still in
Puerto Rico & Hugh studying
for a degree. So just one up
from there.
I am the proud possessor
of eight grandchildren, all
of the lustiest sort, veritable
bundles of fun & mischief.
At the moment I am sur-
rounded by five of them
as the combined parents
are off to Belize on a deep-
sea diving expedition,
leaving me in charge.
Since the new Hotel, Belize
has acquired fame as a
resort but it is a bit ex-
posed during the hurricane
season it seems to me.

Those on pleasure bent like
to ignore the weather +
with their usual luck the
skies have cleared to set
fair, so I hope they are having
a marvellous time.
Bohysis is locked up in the
alta Verafay, roads all
washed away + air unfit
for travelling, but she has
promised to bring the boys
to stay with me in December
for three weeks, so that will
be nice. Luke Hempstead
is a remarkably upstand-
ing old lady + her general
health is fine but the bad
leg is a great handicap,
altho' she claims that it
ruins her temper more than
it does her gait.

My young people come + go
by the oriente, this year John
+ America spent some months
in France + Italy, Alan +

Boris recently back from
the summer in England
& Aven & Monica due to
depart in the early Spring.
Ann is back in Canada at
an excellent school where
she gets fine training but
she is no student & her marks
are not good. It is to be hoped
that in the near future her
work will be more satisfactory.
An endearing child with great
charm, but no desire to excel
in her knowledge. On the
other hand Aven's record
just shows definite signs
of intelligence so maybe
among the lot a fair
average will appear.
I do hope you will be over
soon again & that I may
meet you. Cordial greetings
to you both with my love
As ever Lucy Smith

Nov 17th 1951

Dear Helen.

Your letter gave me great pleasure as I am always glad to get news of your family. I had already heard of Wilson's decoration & all of his friends in Guatemala are delighted & so proud of him. It is a richly deserved reward for years devoted to the welfare of this country. Please congratulate him in my name with a tight hug of affection. I do hope to be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of you when you come here next. Cordial greetings to you both.
As ever Lucy South

11 Lalle 3-17 gone 1

March 16th 1959

My dear Helen.

Is it true that you are
back & about to start up again?
I hope this may catch you half way.
Your note of Jan 19th reached me in
hospital where I had been rushed
for an emergency operation, so now
I expect to be much better minus a
gall bladder!

Poor little Sally it is a trial to have
young people in trouble. I trust that
you were able to leave her in happier
circumstances

During hospitalization I was due to
move to the girls passed my possess-
ions over to this new house, & did
a fine job. It is smaller than the
place you knew in 3rd Avenue, but
has its attractions. There are wide

windows looking on a little patio with
climbing roses. Do drop in when-
ever in the neighbourhood as I so
want to see you + Wilson + to
hear about Sally. I thought that
you were going to settle down in
Antigua for a good long while.
Do you mean to make this trip
a last one!

affectionate greetings to you both.
With love, Lucy & Frank

March 28th [1967]

H.C. 3-17 zona 1
Guatemala City

Dear Wilson -

There is little I can say but to remind you of our friendship of long standing & to offer my deepest sympathy. Helen's passing was gentle & painless which is what we ask for those dearest to us. She wouldn't want you to make yourself ill, grieving.

Affectionately yours

Lucy Smith