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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.

U
Apartado 1612
Managua, Nic.
31 May 1960.

My dear Helen and Wilson:

Wilson, I want to apologize for not appearing at the airport to say good bye yesterday - I was there, but got there just in time to see your plane pulling away from the front of the building - I was in a conference at the plant about a new campaign we're planning to plague our dear competitors - and time slipped away before I noticed it was g^ot, whereupon I rushed - but didn't quite make it.

Helen and I enjoyed every minute of the time you could spend with us while you were here. We would love to be able to just jump in the car (as we used to do) and run up there to visit you both in that mountain paradise of yours - and perhaps we shall one day if the Fates are kind!

Apartment 1612
Managua, Nic
31 July 1960.

Dear Helen & Wilson.

Your "blood relation" went to
Maimi on the 18th with the two
boys so I'm 'batching' here at the
same old stand -

Well, I've gone and done it -
Resigned from Coca-Cola effective
the 31st of August, with - just
couldn't see any future in the
business for me - Wilson, you talked
to Helen about the possibility of
my getting into the State Dept.
through your friend the Ambassador
in Tegucigalpa - Is there any
news on this? I am anxious to
get lined up for another job as soon
as possible as my resources for
idle living are limited. I would
be most grateful for any help
you can give me -

Business and the general
economy here are in sad shape -
Exports fell \$50 million from the first
half of '59 over that period of this year.
Unemployment is rife and money scarce -
Just making in the Miami
field that your Caribbean Region of the
American Society for Horticultural Science
will meet in Miami in 1961 - Congrats!
With all good wishes to both of you -
Sincerely - Henry Stephens

Antigua Guatemala, 28 Sept 1960

Dear Henry:

Sorry to be so late in answering your letter of 31 July. We went off to Peru for what you might call a vacation, only people without jobs don't have vacations.

Perhaps by this time you are already lined up. I have not had anything hopeful put of Washington. I am afraid your age is against you as a new member of the Foreign Service. Naturally, they want to take on the younger men, those in the late 20s and early 30s. I wonder if you have talked with our ambassador in Managua, Mr Whelan? He is not a career diplomat but he might have some ideas.

I have been wondering if there might be an opening for you in Salvador. I think you know all about the De Sola interests. Francisco de Sola is a close friend of mine. He practically runs the business. They have much administrative work to handle. They grow and buy and export coffee. They grow and make sugar. They are in the fertilizer business and are going into wheat flour. If you are not yet lined up, let me know if you are interested in talking with Francisco de Sola. Salvador is an up-and-coming country, as you know.

Let me know how things are coming on. I feel discouraged about affairs generally in Latin America, but I don't know what we can do about it. But I must say, if I were a younger man I would not give up and go home.

Ever yours,

Antigua, Guatemala, 2 Nov 1960

Dear Henry:

How are your plans coming on? I imagine you have something lined up by this time. Tell me what it is. I feel very doubtful about the Foreign Service. Mr ~~Bursey~~ said that your age is definitely against you and your administrative experience has been in the merchandising field which would not help you much in govt service. He said he would suggest to Tom Whelan that someone in the Embassy at Managua call you in for a talk but I doubt that it has been done or will be done. It would do no harm for you to drop in there, and talk with some member of the staff who is an old timer in the Foreign Service. Since ~~the~~ Ambassador is not a career man I don't believe he could help very much.

I suggested Salvador, but the situation in that country is at the moment so messed up that I don't suppose there will be any hope of getting in with Chico de Sola or anyone else for the time being.

Perhaps you will end up by going back to the States, where there are probably more openings right now than here in Latin America. Frankly, I am very discouraged about the trend of affairs - especially American affairs - in all this part of the world.

Tell me if you think I can be of service in any way. Have you thought of trying Florida?

Much love to all the family.

Cordially,

6410 S. W. 37th Street
Miami, Florida
Feb. 17th, 1961

Dearest Wilson and Helen;

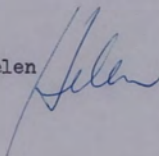
Here I am at last and I hope to heaven you haven't thought we'd forgotten you two. Pero, as you know, with two little boys my day doesn't end until late, late in the night. The last thing I do is boil bottles for the next day and then hit the sack. Lying in bed thinking over the things I did and didn't do I always remember " " " Gadzooks, I forgot to let Wilson and Helen know our phone number!" " " So, here it is - - MO 1- 8714.

This evening I remembered you mentioned the 17th of March, at least, I'm pretty sure you did. However, now you know how to reach us and it certainly will be good to see you. Are you coming, Helen? We hope so! Also, the last we heard, Helen, you were a bit under par; hope we hear you are your own sweet self again and perhaps you'll be along.

This is just a note, but I know you'll understand. When you have time, do drop us a line and let us know how you all are and lovely old Antigua. Untill we hear from you,

Lots of Love from all four of us,

Helen



6410 S. W. 37th Street
Miami 55, Florida
July 21st, 1961

Dearest Wilson;

This is just a note to let you know we are still here in Miami and also to find out where and how you are. Steven is with a soft-drink canning factory in Hialeah, as plant manager. However, he's had a wonderful offer to go with Crown Cork and Seal, and that would have foreign assignments.

Well, anyway, we're going to go ahead and buy a house here in the States. After thinking and planning and thinking planning we decided it was best to ~~buy now~~ buy now and relax later.

We watch Paul on TV every day and I always wonder where you are, what you're doing and just if you are all right. If by chance, you do get this letter, just put note in the mail that you're OK and that will suffice for now.

Love, Love, from all of us,

Your Cousins, Helen

PS; US just put up the second astronaut this AM and ~~everything~~ went fine. We watch the whole thing on TV.

Dear Wilson;

Now we have a
darling daughter -
it's going to be hard
not to spoil her, too.

I. that I was
busy before - now
I can hardly
remember my name,
I hope this finds
you well + AOK
over

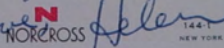
ONE
HEAVEN
SENT

Name Anna Theresa

Arrived on May 9, 1962

Weight 7 lbs. 11 oz.

Parents Henry + Helen

and if you are
ever in these
parts our phone
is 888-5692 -
did I tell you
Henry has been with
the Federal govt.
since december - He
is the Administrator
for the Coral Gables
Cuban Refugee Center.
Love, Love  Helen

PROUD TO PRESENT



2354 West 10 Court
Hialeah, Fla.

Feb. 7, 1967

Dear Cousin Wilson;

Just thought I'd let you know - My sister and her husband, (who are up here vacationing - from Caracas) and my mother, are driving around Fla. at the moment, when they return to Miami we want to take them out to Fairchild garden to meet more of our family. Wish they could have met you.

I'm sure you must love to get back to your lovely home - Miami is so over crowded and people so

rude - I sometimes wish
I could take my children
to an island and become
a hermit!

(Seury is doing fine, I
suppose the Refugee program
will continue for some time.

Let us know where
you go + how you are.

Love,
Selen

12-7-73

4 Ridgeview Ormond
Beach 32074

Dearest Wilson -

I certainly hope this card finds you.

So much has happened with our family. Edwin Voorhes Stephens was born 7-15-70. Cristian turned 14 today and he and Henry (15 yrs) go to Fr. Lopez High School - Anna is 11 and is in the 6th grade at St. Pauls.

Steve and I have had marital problems for the past 13 yrs. and are divorced. I live up here with the children and he is still in Miami

with HEW.

However, on the 15th of this month I take my final exam in a Real Estate course I've been taking at our community college - our Fla. State Board exam is around Feb. '74. We are happy + healthy + making progress.

Judge Lee, who has heard my case) was in Antigua and certainly enjoyed meeting you + seeing your special house - his Spanish leaves a lot to be desired.

Please write when you can and tell me how you are and how your lovely wife is.

I don't believe you know my
 mother lives here in Ormond,
 too. We all like this area of
 Fla. Three yrs. from now, Henry
 will be going to the University
 of Fla — which is a big reason
 his Mom is studying Real Estate.
 I could write you a book they
 do have so many talents & hobbies.
 Mother's address is;

Helen V. Phillips
 484 Oak Park Circle
 Ormond Bch, Fla.

32074

Lots of Love,
 Helen

Best Regards
 to Maria!

12-25-73

Dear Wilson

May

the spirit of the season

bring

Happiness, good health

and the best of

everything!

Love from your blood
relation:

Allen &
family

"All the earth is full of
His Glory".

Isaiah 6:3

Season's
Greetings



Candle Chromes

from the



EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

50 C-73
LITHO U.S.A.

fri. morn. 2-7-75

Dearest Wilson;

Finally, I have a day at home to get caught up on my things. I have been substitute-teaching in art (did I tell you about that?) in several of the local elementary schools and attending my own art classes and working in Anna's school in the health room, and fashion modeling in Orlando. Today Eddie and I are going to get caught up; he and Anna and I are going to the Rodeo down in Port Orange (So. Daytona) on Sun..

Most of all I want to thank you for the gift, I really appreciated it, and I did use it for personal things. I would like to get a regular seven day a week job, but, it ~~is~~ seems almost impossible to plan on now. Ed won't be in kindergarden until this fall and then it will be only half a day and the older children are always going to some meeting or other. I feel these years are too important to worry about right now. Yes, I could use more to live on, couldn't we all, and Steve isn't over spending on my alimony or their child support. But, he does pay all medical bills and we do have government hospitalization and he did pay the taxes on the house, etc., so when you boil it all down, things could be a lot worse. I have known for many, many years that the worse thing for me not to have is someone to share things with, talk with, build a future with. So, I've found the best thing to do is live one day at a time and what will be will be. That's easier said than done.

Henry has a Spanish Club party tonight, exchange students from Chile will be their guests. Earlier, Cris has an AF junior ROTC meeting that I must attend. Maybe that's the most difficult part, being the one parent, I have such a guilty feeling when I leave the others with my mother, or if I want to go out and have fun. I know that's dumb and wrong and as time goes by and I have a chance to develop a life of my own again it will be different.....but, it is time and if I've learned one thing.....it's patience.

I think it's wonderful that your other daughter is living so near you. Where does her daughter go to school? I know that my Anna, who will be 13 in May, would love to hear from her. Do you think she might like a pen pal? Also, Wilson, how is your other daughter who lives with you. I went through some terrible years that I'd like to forget, it can certainly develop your compassion and understanding. Have you ever read any of Edgar Cayce's books? If you get a chance get his book about Karma, or "The Edgar Cayce Story on Reincarnation" (which I believe in.....I'm not a fanatic nor do I go around talking with strangers, but, you might find it interesting. I don't know about you, but I'd like to come back and check up on things.

Did Alice get her things straightened out in Costa Rica? That sounded like a terrible mess; and I had to laugh picturing you there with your house guests.

I wish I had more news for you but things aren't too action packed in my corner.....in many ways I should be glad for that fact. I do love to receive your letters, write as often as you can.

Take good care of yourself, Wilson, and of your family. Know that my love is with you.

Helen