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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.

May 19-61

Dearest Wilson:

It is so difficult to put into words, which seem so inadequate to express what I would like you to know. I realize that life has changed for you as likewise it has for us - since our precious Helen went away but her vital personality will be here always - she had so much to give but

kept it mostly within  
her self. I think people  
like that suffer a  
great deal. We will  
miss her dreadfully.

Wilson I just can  
not thank you for  
all your kindness and  
generosity in sending  
me the ring. and as  
you suggested I will  
do. I also want you  
to know what your  
loving kindness to  
me in the past has  
meant and how much  
I appreciate all of it.

I can not express  
all that is in my  
heart but I think you  
know. As time goes on  
it seems like the  
bottom has dropped out  
of our world but we  
are both trying to be  
brave.

We enjoyed Nancy  
and her little family  
so much - and the  
children are lovely and  
too Paul and Betty  
have been so thoughtful.

I hope you will take  
care of your self and

Why not a trip to  
Calif - We would love  
to have you -

My heart full of  
love

Viola

[Borsaloux?]

Antigua, Guatemala,  
22 May 1961

Dearest Vivian: [Barabou]

I have had to do a lot of unpleasant thinking, these past weeks, due to Helen's wholly unexpected death. I had felt she would outlive me by 10 to 20 years, so I was going to leave everything in her hands. Now I have to rearrange almost everything.

Maude's situation is secure, as I have written her, because Helen provided for that in her will, which was not really necessary but it is not a bad plan to have everything in good legal form. But it has just occurred to me, What about you?

Let us assume for a moment that I die suddenly, before either you or Maude dies. Let us suppose for another moment that Maude should die before you do. Then where would you be? So this is what I am doing: I am arranging things so that Hugh will have charge of my affairs on my death, and I am telling him, and giving him a copy of this letter, that if by any chance both Maude and I should die before you do, he is to use funds from my estate to take care of you as long as you live. I hope this will give you a feeling of security. To me it is a very satisfying arrangement, because I know Hugh will always do the right thing, and because I like to feel that you would be cared for if by some combination of unhappy and unexpected circumstances as mentioned above, you should be left alone.

With very, very much love

Wilson Popence

Pasadena

May 29 63

Thank you dearest  
Wilson for every thing

It is so comfortable  
to feel that you think  
of me and I do.

I appreciate very much

after all it is not  
a happy life, Maude  
is ill that is sure  
but she does not  
help herself. I know  
to that she suffers  
a lot and I do all

I can't help her -  
since Helen's death  
she has changed a lot  
and to me it is just  
too bad because she  
has so much to give,  
charm and beauty.

It seems that you  
are the only one she  
loves, and she is  
really sincere -

Today she  
has gone to have her  
hair done and I am  
alone which is rare.  
I do not have to tell



You not to mention  
this letter -

I hope you  
are feeling better each  
day and I do hope some  
day to see you.

My fingers  
are so stiff I can't  
hold the pen -

My fondest love

Devotedly

Jan  
[Barsabux?]