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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.

July 9, 1965

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

Hugh and I were discussing your book writing when I was visiting in Gainesville last month, and he tells me you are busily engaged in writing not only on the book which I knew about before leaving Gainesville but also another! You keep that up and you're liable to regain your youth!

Hugh also tells me you are playing grandpa in a very big way this summer. I know they are enjoying being with you and you with them. It's too bad Hugh couldn't take some time to come down also; but he is every bit as

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agile, lousy and active as you,  
so it is difficult to get the  
likes of you two fellows still  
long enough for a little  
relaxation.

My husband, Arlon, manages to  
keep up a pretty good pace  
himself these days. His chemical  
weed control experiments take  
him to all four corners of  
Alabama and he has been  
in Auburn a total of 20 days  
since March! Thank heaven  
for my daughter, Kimberleigh,  
as she keeps me active.

Dr. B. I hope you don't  
mind my writing to you,  
but I was thinking about  
you and it seemed the thing<sup>to</sup> do.  
I hope I shall see you  
in Gainesville one of these

days soon.

Much luck and success  
with your book writing. I  
certainly would love to  
help you if I were in a  
position to. Is there any  
sort of research I could do  
for you here at Auburn?  
The library here is very  
good. If I can help let  
me know. I would enjoy it!

Most Sincerely,

Marcia Buchanan  
239 Fontaine Plr.  
Auburn, Alabama

239 Fontaine Drive August 4, 1965  
Dear Mr. Papenoe, Auburn Ala 36830

Your most welcome letter arrived while I was away, so my answer has been somewhat delayed.

Shortly after writing to you, I found myself in Gainesville once again; unfortunately, this time the trip was not one of pleasure. My father developed a "slight" pain in his chest and went to the doctor only to find out - too late - that he had pulmonary carcinoma. I went down and spent two weeks with him while he was in the Medical Center. His fate is uncertain at this time, but the doctors

give him less than six months.

I'm sorry for sounding so solemn a note, but I wanted you to know that my delay in answering was not intentional.

Mr. Wolf and you are doing a wonderful thing in collaborating on a book, for the great storehouse of knowledge you two men have is priceless, and should by all means be written down. I imagine also that Guatemala is a wonderful location for such an undertaking!

Your invitation to come to Casa del Oidor is certainly tempting and you can be sure we will take you up

on it - someday! I absolutely <sup>(3)</sup> fell in love with your home when I read The House in Antigua and saw the painting Hugh has of it. Maria also sounds quite adorable and loving, as well as being so devoted to you all these years!

Hugh certainly fell heir to a rare and wonderful gift from you and his mother; namely, a true enjoyment for life and squeezing out of every second of it the best of everything which can be had. But not just taking it - giving back to it everything you are capable of giving.

(H)

So very many of us just  
muddle through life - and  
it's such a sin! It goes  
without saying that I  
sincerely admire you and  
your son!

My husband, Arlon, still  
is actively engaged in his  
field research, but that  
should cease shortly, with  
the end of the field season.  
Then he will do laboratory  
research here in Auburn and  
analyze his field data for  
this year and start on next  
year's field plans. Guess this  
sounds pretty routine to you  
though.



5  
Guess your family will  
be leaving you shortly to  
return in time for the  
starting of the fall term  
of school.

Since you said Hugh will  
be down sometime in August,  
wish him a happy birthday  
for me, and tell him I'll  
be looking for news on his  
latest revolution in the papers!  
(It seems that for the past 3  
years at least every time he  
goes down there in February  
there is a revolution!)

Well, I must close as Kimber-  
leigh is wanting her lunch!  
Do write us again when you  
have a moment, as we enjoy  
your letters! Sincerely,  
Marcia & Family

Sept. 6, 1965

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Your letter of several weeks ago was, as usual, gladly received and deeply enjoyed. It is good to know that you are getting along so well.

We had heard that Hugh was moving into new quarters later on this year. The larger apartment will be welcomed by both of you we know, as the present apartment (if I remember correctly) is certainly adequate but one can always use more room. We lived in a one-bedroom efficiency apartment at Iowa State University and now have a large three-bedroom, 2-bath home, and we wonder how we ever got along with any less room!

It was a lovely and thoughtful gesture on the part of you and Hugh to take time out from your busy lives, both personally and professionally to think of me, and I look forward very much to making the skirt. Thank you sounds so futile at times, but I can think of no other phrase to express my appreciation--Muchas Gracias! If there is anything which I can ever do for you, no matter how slight you might think it to be, please let me know, as I shall be so happy to do it for you.

As we expect to be with my family in Gainesville sometime during the Christmas holidays, maybe we can arrange a short visit. At present, my father is supposed to have surgery Sept. 20 for removal of his right lung, as the doctor now thinks that the cancer has regressed. Thus, the prospects for a happy holiday season look good at this time!

Arlon says he thinks we will have time for a vacation the first two weeks in November, so we will go to Washington, D. C. to visit my mother and sisters who still live there, and also some childhood friends. Then we will journey on to New York to visit some friends who are with the Boyce Thompson Inst. in Yonkers. I haven't been in Washington since 1954 and New York since 1958, so I am looking forward to our trip!

As Always,

*Marcia*

Marcia & Family

[Buchanan/239 Fontaine Drive  
Auburn, Alabama 36830]

Hope to see you Christmas!