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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 23rd

Mrs. R. W. Hempstead (Lulu)
Coban A. V.
Guatemala, Central America

Dear Wilson

Please forgive a bewildered
old lady for such rudeness! I meant
to write you on receipt of your first letter,
which I hope crossed mine going to
Antigua, & then when I got the books, man-
gas, & magazines, & your second letter -
I am very grateful for all of this but
most especially for your coming to this
your old home again. It was such a
pleasure to have you here & I shall
never forget the evening we all sat
in the corridor before dinner. Perhaps
you do not know I have never heard
of lecture & that evening was the
nearest I can imagine to a conference

by my favourite Professor - who sat
there among his colleagues with such
authority in voice & manner, it was
a pleasure to behold & to hear ^{him} ~~you~~
being consulted.

The bulbs are planted & I am looking
forward to a harvest of blooms such
as I have not had for years. They were
gorgeous! And I am already enjoying
Mauds Thespianice - very nicely printed
it is - I am going to pass them on to
two friends here. So thank you for my-
self & them.

I do not know if you were
aware of my fears for Joanie & her baby
but thank goodness she is well & cheerful
again with reassurances from her doctor.
She came down about a week ago wearing
a beautiful brooch "Condoleration by - from
Dr Popenoe" She said very proudly - She is
so happy to have that lovely present from you -
my thanks for ^{it} - I love that girl! And we all love you!

[Dec. 6, 1939]

Mrs. R. W. HEMPSTEAD
COBAN, A. V.
GUATEMALA, C. A.

Dear Helen & Wilson

It was such a
fun to see me on your arrival in Paris
& I was thrilled as I was delighted
with your lovely letter from Jamaica.
I answered your note to Inat^a City &
hope you received my thanks, as I
have delayed writing thinking that
I would have seen you by now. I
have to go to Inat^a soon & will
make a point of seeing you, of course.

I often think of you
& with the idea that we part of the
world was calamities & the constant
shaking of new emotions, you must
be having a wonderful time, as I
hope. Wilson is a tonic & as one
can feel depressed with him - never?

Cobain
March 25th 1961

My dear Wilson

We are with you
with all our hearts.

I wish we could
do something for you, but I
know by personal experience
that no one can help, even tho'
every friend shares ones sorrow.

Don't isolate yourself.
Should you feel like a complete
change, you just have to arrive
at your old posada in Cobain
into the family's open arms.

Always your affec. friend
Fulu

Coban, May 10th
1964.

Dear Wilson

You really are a tonic
even at long distances. Are
you going through old letters or
diaries, or do you remember
those episodes when you sit
down & take it easy for a little
while?

Of course I remember
them all, and that you recall
them, except the one of your
being put in jail for going into
a ladies' room in Coban! But
I do remember your being
in jail in Puzosia for refusing
to pay an 400000 hotel bill.
Am I right?

And I do remember that Joe's
generosity even extended to me
as besides gilt earrings for the
girls, he had 2 lovely, lumps
for me which I thanked him
for profusely, + then you also!
And you said: Right you are - I
am the real donor! And no
matter what seat they belong to,
(Joe was an active Evangelist, ^{verbal})
opportunity makes them thieves -
I think. Too bad - I'd love to have
a Joe in the house right now, in
spite of it, as I believe that was
his only fault + there's not much
he could get away with now. I Re-
member how all embracing his
talents + capabilities were? Mrs
Over had high praise for him -
"better than her own better" as

Jose saved the night of Lucy's
engagement party by taking
hold of the affair replacing the
half dozen professional waiters
they had engaged, but had suddenly
been commandeered by Don
Macuelito for a party also. Los
dias de la Tirania were heaven
compared to these. What fun
the parties were. I think Bob
went to Guat^a that time for
that party accompanied by Jose
who butted ceremoniously for
him at the streamside benches
besides looking after the beasts.
Adiosito - I hope you
have good news of

[20 Mar 64/68]

Dear Wilson

Thanks for your letter. It is so good to have something to look forward to in June - you are only "pretty sure" but I do hope nothing happens to deprive us of the pleasure of seeing Sally & her kid.

Laney, I have only been able to buy one white oodid in a donkey's age & I am really after them, as they do not increase with the years in this district; on the contrary, so many of them take on some pink, no matter

how far apart I keep them, from
one season to the next. Fortunately
for me, altho' I know their value
falls, I think they are lovelier with
just a touch of pink. But I
am doing my best to get some
for you right now when they are
still offering orchids with blooms
on them.

We were shocked by Shelton's
death - he was very likable really,
& he could have been a happy man
if he had not taken so long to
find out his mistake. He & Chris
went to his funeral in Miami.

Much love to you & yours,
whoever may be near you. You
do not know how much Joanie
enjoys every little visit of yours.
March 20th. Affectionately
Lulu. [Hampstead]

[March 1, 1965]

Dear Wilson

It is getting near
the time of your promised
visit to these parts & I want
to repeat (what I hope you
know & Joanie has already told
you) how much I am looking
forward to seeing you & your
family here. When I read
your note, my feeling was I had
to run & tell you how glad I was

to have that news + just then
Joanie called on the radio, + I
asked her to tell you.

So you must know that
your old friend is awaiting you
Con Brazos abiertos + I only
wish it could be soon, as Flo is
staying with us now + she is
very anxious to see you all also,
but she never stays long!

Hasta luego pues + much
love to you all.

Affectionately
Lulu.

Hope to see you while I'm
here - much love,
Cobain
March 1st 1965.

Flo

March 9th 1960

To see in Tegus

Dear Wilson

One's gran gusto
to be wishing you happy birth-
day now, because it is certain
that wherever you may be, you are
having it. But even if best wishes
could reach you on time (without
knowing your address!) they would
be de sobra & it is glad to
think of you so.

My love to you both &
also from the (W.H.S.) who remembers
how kind the Weiss family was

So her in Tegus
wray happy returns
of the day to both of you.

Lulu

TELEGRAMA

TELECOMUNICACIONES NACIONALES
GUATEMALA, CENTRO AMERICA

Dr., Wilson Popenoe.
Casa Popenoe.

1. vgrly 1133 11 1655.

Cobán 9 Marzo-67

Muchísimos años más llenos de satisfacción y contento deseamosle
cariñosamente.

Luli Hempstead.

TELEGRAMA

Antigua G, 28 abril de 1969

Ñoña Lulu de Hempstead

Cobán, Alta Verapaz

No podemos expresar el placer que nos dió estar con Usted en su cumpleaños acepte nuestros profundos agradecimientos hospedaja

Wilson Popenoe

Cobain leaves
13th

[1970]

Dear Wilson:

I am missing
Marion very much & I want
you to know I loved having
her & wish she could have
stayed longer & had a happier
departure. It is so difficult
dealing with Ariatara, as they
are really mean & inconsiderate;
lately a time I have had
similar experiences. I could
have done something about and
telling Marion her lunch or even
getting to her to come back,
but truth to tell, there was

no one available who could
drive, as that's done - You must
have had a horrible wait at
the Quata, end.

I believe they only
have one air-plane. Some
one which started out air-
experiences which were all
pleasant up to quite lately.
How Bob used to help those
pilots!

Mario gave me such
good news of you - I am so
glad that life is pleasant
again! Alice must be even
more wonderful than I remembered
her, by Mario's picture - So
happy for you & very love
as always to you both now.
(a saludo to your old - Maria?)
Lulu.