



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.

Received from Otto Degener
Archives #72
Haas
Gross has in
Degener papers
Archives 212
Rec. 13/II/87

August 1, 1977

Mr. Kenney
c/o Bishop Trust Company
140 So. King St.
Honolulu, Hii.

Dear Mr. Kenney:

Re: Dr. Th. Ph. Haas:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter from the Hunt
Institute and the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

After talking to Mrs. Gross from PBRC I suggest that
the whole slide collection should be sent to Dr. Rossi
at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Dr. Otto Degener
suggested that all papers, books and journals related to
botany, should be sent in cardboard boxes to the Hunt
Institute, to the attn. of Dr. M. T. Stieber.

If I can be of any further help, please don't hesitate
to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Steven J. Taussig

Enclosures:

EVA H. EINSTEIN
509 VILLAGE DRIVE
ELCERRITO, CALIFORNIA 94530

30 July 1977

Dr. Steven J. Taussig
462 Ema Road, Apt. 2406
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Dr. Taussig:

When I saw the return address on your letter of July 23, I knew immediately that something must have happened to Theodor Haas. Thank you for letting me know of his passing -- I am very sorry to hear it and I do hope that he did not have to suffer. He was so very happy to be able to live in Hawaii - I am sure that was the best move he ever made and was, as you mention, to your credit.

I believe you are right, I am his only living relative although a little removed. He was the son of the sister of my mother's stepmother. I don't know if he ever told you that he attended the University against his father's wishes and not only that, really behind his back and thus acquired his Ph.D. How he ever managed that feat is almost beyond belief. His father was a very narrow-minded and limited man who insisted that he should take over his business which did not interest him in the least. His mother, however, was a lovely, warm, intelligent woman, very musical and well read, who understood him and helped him wherever she could. No wonder he wanted to take her picture with him to his grave.

The last time we saw Theodor was when he visited this area, in the early 1960s and I drove him to Carmel and Monterey where he spent hours photographing plants and algae in the Pacific Ocean. Even then he was in a wheelchair and it must have been quite an ordeal to him. We always admired his attitude concerning his handicap - he never complained about it nor did he ever mention whether he had financial difficulties but maintained that he was getting along fine, surrounded by his TV sets and numerous radios.

I am very glad that his prized collection of slides will go to a place where it will be appreciated and, hopefully, used. Thank you for your offer to send me some pictures and his old passport. Please don't, as I am alone and getting on in years and when I am gone, nobody will know what to do with it. May I also ask you to destroy my letters to him which are of no significance at all. I did not keep any of his and tore them up as soon as they were answered.

Again, thank you for your kind letter. If you ever come to San Francisco (I live just across the Bay) please let me know and we can perhaps meet and become acquainted.

Sincerely yours,

Eva H. Einstein

Prof. Dr. K. v. Frisch
zur Zeit: A-5340 St. Gilgen
Brunnwindl
Austria

6.8.1977

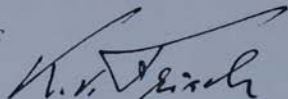
Steven J. Taussig
469 Ena Road, Apt. 2406
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Lieber Herr Taussig!

Vielen Dank für Ihren Brief vom 23. Juli. Es tut mir dehr
leid, zu hören, daß Dr. Theodor Phillip Haas gestorben ist.
Ich habe ihn nicht persönlich gekannt und manches, was Sie
über ihn schreiben, war mir neu. Er interessierte sich für
meine Bücher und daraus entstand eine lockere Korrespondenz,
die sich durch Jahre fortgesponnen hat. Nun ist sie also
zu Ende. Vielleicht war der rasche Tod ein Glück für ihn.
Ich bin Ihnen dankbar, daß Sie mich informiert haben.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Ihr



K. v. Frisch



Founded 1821

THE PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND SCIENCE

JOSEPH W. ENGLAND LIBRARY

42nd Street and Woodland Avenue / In University City
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104 / 215-386-5800 - Ext. 296

August 4, 1977

Steven J. Taussig
469 Ena Road
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Dr. Taussig:

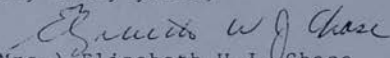
I was grieved to learn of the passing of Dr. Theodor Phillip Haas. Although I realized he was not in the best of health his delightful letters were always so cheerful and informative, with no mention of his physical problems.

He always spoke highly of Hawaii and the people who were so kind and helpful to him. He kept urging me to visit the beautiful Islands and meet some of his friends and associates.

As librarian at the College, I knew Dr. Haas when he first joined our staff in 1946. My association was always most pleasant and my memory of his devotion to his plants and his music will remain a tribute to this fine gentleman.

If a memorial fund has been established there, I would be happy to send a contribution.

Very truly yours,


(Mrs.) Elizabeth W.J. Chase
Director of Library Services

EWJC/rs



Founded 1821

THE PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND SCIENCE

43rd Street, Woodland Avenue & Kingsessing Mall
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19104

In University City
Phone: (215) EV 6-5800

July 28, 1977

Dr. Michael T. Stieber, c.s.v.
Archivist
Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie-Mellon University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Dr. Stieber:

I am writing you with regard to the death of my longtime friend and former associate, Dr. Theodor P. Haas, who was retired and living in Hawaii.

My concern is that the invaluable collection of colored slides of plants taken all over the world by Dr. Haas will not be lost, but that they will be kept and catalogued by some scientific group such as yours. Can you relieve my mind on this?

Dr. Haas was an expert photographer and the finest taxonomic botanist I have ever known. His life's work should be preserved as a tribute to his outstanding ability and perserverance.

Very truly yours,

Linwood F. Tice, D.Sc.
Dean Emeritus

LFT:rs
cc: Dr. G. Victor Rossi

July 22, 1977

Dr. Victor Rossi, Dir. Dept. Biol.Sci.
The Philadelphia College of Pharmacy
43rd Str, Woodland Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dear Dr. Rossi:

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 1977.

Dr. Haas left in his will his entire estate to the Straub Medical Research Center. The Bishop Trust Co. is administering it. I was able to obtain a permit from the trust officer to give the collection to anyone who is interested in it.

I will advise the Bishop Trust Co., that you have requested it, and will send it in boxes at the earliest opportunity to you. There are some formalities to be arranged and I will advise you when they will be shipped.

I am enclosing one of Dr. Haas's recent pictures. As you can see, he was in a very good shape and almost up to the last moment, he enjoyed life: TV programs, scientific journals, classical music etc.

He died of complications which stemmed from a kidney infection.

You will hear from me, within the next few weeks.

Sincerely yours,

Steven J. Taussig, Ph.D.

SJT/ss

Handwritten note:
I will advise you when they will be shipped.
by United Parcel Service

July 22, 1977

Dr. Victor Rossi, Dir. Dept. Biol.Sci.
The Philadelphia College of Pharmacy
43rd Str, Woodland Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dear Dr. Rossi:

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 1977.

Dr. Haas left in his will his entire estate to the Straub Medical Research Center. The Bishop Trust Co. is administering it. I was able to obtain a permit from the trust officer to give the collection to anyone who is interested in it.

I will advise the Bishop Trust Co., that you have requested it, and will send it in boxes at the earliest opportunity to you. There are some formalities to be arranged and I will advise you when they will be shipped.

I am enclosing one of Dr. Haas's recent pictures. As you can see, he was in a very good shape and almost up to the last moment, he enjoyed life: TV programs, scientific journals, classical music etc.

He died of complications which stemmed from a kidney infection.

You will hear from me, within the next few weeks.

Sincerely yours,

Steven J. Taussig, Ph.D.

SJT/ss

Handwritten note: Please let me know, if I can send you boxes COD by United

Dr. ROBERT TEUFFEL
prakt. Zahnarzt

München, den
Blumenstraße 30, Telefon 227792
Postcheck-Konto 17646

Wehrter Herr Taussing!

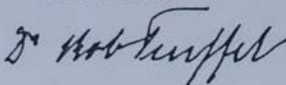
Ich möchte mich für Ihren Brief über die traurige
Nachricht von Dr. Haas bedanken.

Zu meinem Bedauern hatte ich in letzter Zeit zu Dr. Haas
keinen Kontakt mehr. Er war ein guter Freund und ich
schätzte ihn sehr.

Mir ging es bis vor kurzem noch sehr gut, bis ich vor
drei Wochen eine Durchblutungsstörung hatte. Seit dem
fällt mir das Formulieren von Worten sehr schwer. Auch
das Gehen ist seit diesem Vorfall beschwerlich für mich
geworden.

Ich möchte Ihnen nochmals für Ihren freundlichen Brief
danken.

Mit aufrichtigen Teilnahme und
bestem Dank



Nov. 7, 1986

Dear Isa and Otto,

Otto's note of 10/28 has kept me current with your present activities, and I'm glad to read that you are keeping the Big Island-Oahu axis on your agenda.

The information that you pass along about the sale of the Crawford lot may be one that we should check at the Bureau of Conveyances. If true, it will sure-enuf change the assessment of nearby property with the consequent increase in taxes. The Waiialua property is very much the apple of my step-daughter's eye, and I may -- eventually -- envision the time when she will be asked to buy my life interest. But --- one day at a time.

To show you how I'm trying to simplify life to the food, shelter, clothing basics, (and medication too), I'll enclose a Xc of a letter dated 12 Sept. that will amuse Isa and permit you a distraction/too, Otto.

The last time we saw Dilcher I discussed the drug, hydergine, that Ray Tripp had mentioned. Dilcher surprised me by writing a prescription AND asking me to read Dirk Pearson's "Life Extension" book, 1982c published by Warner. When I got a hold of the book via the branch library, I noted the title page as usual and slipped to the INDEX and zero'd in on the uses of hydergine. Lyn has been taking it, along with terramin, for over a month. The book states that the drug is widely used in Europe and has been for some 25 years. The book states favorable results with two citations adding, however, with "normal volunteers" and "normal human volunteers". In my opinion Lyn is neither normal nor a volunteer, for she frequently fails to cooperate re medication. However, there doesn't seem to be any harmful side effects, nor any noticeable results in the short-term memory problem either.

I have made no attempt, yet, to analyze the new tax law as far as it may determine what I should, or should not, do in 1986. It would appear practical and feasible that you sell the lot on Univ. Ave; also, that you move to the main house. I hope you maintain your good health and carry out your tentative plans before necessity may require you to do so. And, Isa, I'm going to suggest that I introduce you to an akamai lady, Mrs. Mildred Ramsey, Director of the Honolulu Gerontology Program that I've known for over 5 years.

See over. Tripp's essay on Emily Dickinson has been published in the 17th issue, I understand, of PORTICA. I'll try and get Ray Scanlan to mention it in the ALMUS, "Bookshelf".

Aloha kekou.

DR. ERNST ESENBECK

MÜNCHEN 60 den 2. August 1977

Salzburger Str. 6
Telefon 584409

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Taussig!

Ihr Brief vom 23. Juli mit der Trauerbotschaft hat mich gestern erreicht, Sie haben durch die schnelle Benachrichtigung aller alten Freunde von Dr. Haas sicher auch ihm einen letzten Liebesdienst erwiesen. Haben Sie herzlichen Dank!

Verzeihen Sie es mir, bitte, wenn ich es vorziehe, in deutscher Sprache zu antworten. Aber es ist vielleicht besser in gutem Deutsch zu schreiben, als in schlechtem Englisch.

Alles, was Sie über Dr. Haas schrieben, könnte nicht besser und zutreffender gesagt werden: Es war für mich wie ein Nachruf, gesprochen von einem Freunde, am Grabe.

Ich selbst (vom Jahre 1911 - 1955 am Botanischen Institut der Universität München tätig-) lernte Herrn Haas bald nach dem Ersten Weltkrieg kennen, da er als Gasthörer die Vorlesungen des angesehenen Botanikers Prof. K. v. Goebel besuchte. Seine ungewöhnliche Wißbegierde und sein Interesse für fast alle Gebiete von Wissenschaft und Kunst, die er bis an sein Lebensende zeigte, war bereits damals kennzeichnend für ihn. Obwohl er nur eine Handelsschule besuchen konnte, hat er innerhalb von wenigen Jahren die sogenannte "Begabtenprüfung" bestanden und konnte die Universität beziehen. Diese Sonderprüfung war damals erst eingeführt worden und ich glaube, daß Herr Haas der erste war, der von dieser guten Einrichtung Gebrauch machen konnte.

Als einer der letzten Schüler des auch in den U.S.A. und vorallem in England hochgeschätzten Botanikers ~~xxxx~~ Goebel hat er (etwa 1931?) die Doktorprüfung bestanden. Bis zu seiner Emigration (über Rußland und Japan!) hat er das Botanische Museum in vorbildlicher Weise betreut und zwar ohne Bezahlung. Als es endlich möglich wurde, ihm eine angemessene Stellung zu verschaffen, erfolgte in Deutschland der unselige Umschwung. Es war ein besonderer Glücksfall, daß er Deutschland noch rechtzeitig verlassen konnte und in Philadelphia einen Wirkungskreis fand.

Trotz seiner bitteren Erfahrungen im Hitler-Deutschland hat er der Heimat seine Treue bewahrt und wäre, -wenn ihn seine körperliche Behinderung nicht gehemmt hätte-, vielleicht sogar zurückgekehrt. Seit dem Ende des 2. Weltkrieges stand ich in regelmäßigem Briefwechsel mit ihm. Seine letzte Nachricht war vom 29. April. Als ich auf einen langen Brief keine Antwort mehr erhielt, wurde ich besorgt und schrieb ihm am 21. Juli eine Karte. Sie hat ihn nicht mehr lebend angetroffen.

Die Kollegen vom Botan. Institut und die sonstigen Münchner Freunde werden Ihnen sicher in gleichem Sinne danken.

Hochachtungsvoll!

Ihr *Dr. Ernst Esenbeck*
(Dr. Ernst Esenbeck)