



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

Mr John Chancellor
New Books 69 New Green
Richmond Surrey Engl
Dear Mr Chancellor

Thank you for sending to me your catalogue
at the suggestion of my former colleagues
and Newsletter of April & June 1974. They have
been a delight to read, and I regret that I
have not been able to order from them. If
you can continue to favor me I should
be pleased, but I should like to suggest that
you mindy but be checked for I have
(somehow?) received three copies of one of your
newsletters.

I am retired, in an inflationary world,
but with extra-allowance taxes which, very
occasionally, I can satisfy. Perhaps you
can keep in mind these books I wish
most to add to my library. Two of them
are the autobiographies of Timothy

Miss Collins at Newton
Oxford

✓

Saunderby 2660 and 2661, Whellan +
Neely had a 2660 for £31 last year
but my order arrived too late. The
third is *Opulium* (Pennis) Herbal as cited
by Hunger in 1935, which I ordered at
£60 - also too late.

The last is of interest to me because
I once examined the Midland Botanical
Garden copy at length, and decided
Hunger was wrong in his conclusions
about the copy. Lymanic used to print
from in 1481 - but in those days I was too
busy to spend the time to work up my
thesis; and now I live in a kind of
desert so far as botanical history &
that age can be easily worked on - from
Berkeley, Calif north XV century south
and printing don't exist south anyone
very much - there is little to work with.

But with a copy ³ of Hungary's ~~the~~ edition I
could reconstruct my ideas.

The Hungarian autobiographies I find
fascinating in so far as I can read
them (for from context) and I
just want them around. Had I more
linguistic ability I should attempt
an English translation, for there is
now, and I believe a good one
would sell. The document which
"she" is in hard to beat for
self-revelation of ego, and it
should be available to English
speaking people. Maybe you can
push this with someone in England.
What does Wilfried Ghent think
about this, by the way?

I am also interested in what seems to be a ghost edition of Monardes' Della historia de i semplici aromati, libro primo, and libro secondo, with pagination such that on p. 1 is Cap. I Dell' anime e copole, proceeding to p. 101 with (libro 2) Cap. II Della herba Scorzonera [and concluding pages].

The material covered here is frequently appended to Da Orta; Dell' historia de i semplici aromati, etc; but when so appended the pagination of the Da Orta continues without break into & through the Monardes, with suitable antecedent index.

I have, however, such a 'pairing' done in 1589 with which is bound Monardes Delle cose che vengono portate dall' Indie orientali Parte (sic)

seconda, distincta in due libri. These
 'due libri' are 'books' three & four
 of Monardes. This 'bandwidth' has
 pagination [1] - 131 + [13]. The last
 [13] pages are an index for all four
 libri of Monardes, but in two
 paginations: the first for Parte ~~una~~
 Prima 1 - [109?] the second for
 Parte seconda 1 - 131.

In the above Parte Prima is missing.
 When Parte Prima + Parte Seconda are
 found together, as in 1582, all four
 libri are paged in a single continuous
 numbering.

Don Francisco Guerra at the
 Wellcome Library attempted a definitive
 bibliography of Monardes, but

as a bit in business they might
know something about this. I do not
know them but I recognize the

If it would interest you to hear in
 mind my quest for the ghost, I'd
 be pleased, of course, but I should
 like to ask you not to communicate
 my remarks to Senor Roussier,
 whose ^{reputation} integrity I have been
 wound by ~~his~~ ^{an} ~~acquaintance~~
 (to each ~~his~~) ~~single~~ ^{single} ~~page~~ ^{page} ~~me~~
 not to trust, & found collaboration
 here when several years ago I consulted
 the Senor General Librarian in Washington
 and asked to see Guerin's bibliography
 of American medicine. I was handed
 the book with the ^{assumption} ~~remark~~ 'Do not
 trust a single thing you read in it - it
 is utterly misleading'.

Dover Publ. Co.
180 South St.
New York City
1949

Brokers, Complete Chamber
music for string
3.10

Brans. Ship & Fools
2.50

Dover Publ. Co.
180 South St. N.Y. City

January 30, 1971

Mr. Hayward Cisher, Pres.

San Pablo, Cal.

180 Varick St

NY NY 10014

Dear Mr. Cisher

I am glad to hear that you were already
well launched upon the reprinting of ^{before my letter} Heart
& Cham, Memorial of the Passes of the U.S. — ^{marked for}
The desirable end of having to back in print will
the earlier be accomplished.

Just today I have come across another
title I should like to prepare to you
for reprinting: The California woodpecker
and I, by Wm Emerson Ritter, Univ. of
Calif. Pr., 1938. This is a remarkable
book ~~is a recent reprint~~ ^{But its}
reappearance at just this time would
be ^{particularly} ~~very~~ ^{appreciable}, for in the final

1964 Harris Street
Eugene, Or 97405
November 22, 1973

Mr Hayward Cirker, President
Dover Publications, Inc.
180 Varick Street, N.Y. 10014

Dear Mr. Cirker,

You may recall that several years ago when I was still in the library of the Morton Arboretum in Illinois we had a slight correspondence about what I called Peter Smith's misbinding of your excellently sewn paperbacks. My interest in misproduction of books, including built-in obsolescence, and in the rape of library budgets by practically every reprint publisher except your own company has continued through the years, and I have several times been upon the point of asking you to give me a few facts which you must know from your own investigations.

Current announcement of a forthcoming reprint now forces me to try to get at least some reliable statement about reprints. The book in question is S. F. Blake's Geographical guide to floras of the world. Part 2. Western Europe. This was published in one of the USDA series sometime in the '50s, and is an 8vo of about 750 p. The subscription price will be ~~cl~~\$37.00. i.e. about \$90. Whether it will be in boards I don't know. Let us suppose that it will, and discount for this to \$35 in paperback, so I may compare it with your own reprint of Hitchcock's Grasses of the U.S. in two paperback volumes, 1050 p. at \$3.

It is at least possible, and perhaps probable, that Hitchcock would eventually outsell Blake, even if the latter were made available at the proportionate price of \$6. At the disproportionate price of \$35 only libraries can consider buying Blake, and few of them can afford it--any individual purchases are extremely unlikely.

Can you give me any idea of the proportion of issues which can justify a price of \$35 for the Blake; i.e., assuming you were able to do the Hitchcock for \$3 in an issue of x copies, in how many copies can the Blake give comparable return to its reprinter: $x/2$, $x/5$, $x/50$, or what?

I don't know who is doing the Blake, but the deal sounds very similar to the reprinting of Norman L. Bor's Grasses of Burma, Ceylon, India & Pakistan, an 8vo of 735 p., in original print in 1960 (at about \$15(?); advertised by Wheldon & Wesley in 1971 as scarce at £15) and reprinted shortly thereafter (I think I remember correctly by Stechert--Cramer--W&M) at \$75.

Another question, please. Can you give me any idea of the extra cost you would have to recover if your paperbacks with their colorful covers were put in plain boards, as in your Agricola? I am still bewildered at the enormous difference in price between the standard trade paperback and the board-covered version--which is subsidising which?

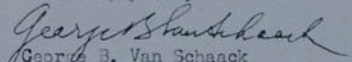
I am reminded of a paragraph from Asa Gray's Elements of Botany (1837) p. 137. 'In studying an unknown plant, make a complete examination of all its parts, and form a clear idea of its floral structure [etc., etc.] before taking a step toward finding out its name and relationship by means of the keys. If it is the name merely that is wanted, the shorter way is to

ask someone who already knows it'. Yousee, I have taken the shorter way of asking someone who already knows the answers to my questions. Let me ask one more. Can you direct me to a treatise on bookpublishing prices, where I should find the answers to such questions as I ask, and where I could study thesubject?

Finally, let me suggest a book for you to reprint. This is Richard B. Freeman's The works of Charles Darwin; an annotated bibliographical handlist. London, Dawson of Pall Mall, 1965. x, 81 p. It is out-of-print and ought not to be. Sir Gavin de Beer refers to it as 'his invaluable Darwin Bibliography'. In my own modest attentionto Darwin I have needed it several times in my brief fifteen months here in Oregon, but University of Oregon doesn't have it, and can only wait to find an unlikely secondhand copy. I suspect it was published in a quite restricted edition. Every student of Darwin should have a personal copy. If you don't reprint it at a price a student can afford Mr. X will reprint it at \$30.

I salute Dover Publications, Inc. as the outstanding reprint press of the world.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack

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December 4, 1978

Mr. George B. Van Schaak
1964 Harris Street
Eugene, OR 97405

Dear George,

How thoughtful of Dr. Welmers to send you the news of our first half century. Your kind words are altogether too extravagant. I feel that I have achieved a certain place in the world of bookselling, but I cannot claim to compare with the great dealers like Rosenbach and Kraus. Of course, if I had a few million dollars to finance me, I might have given Mr. Kraus a run for his money. However, I am content to earn the approval and good will of a few of the knowledgeable bookmen like yourself. It was a fortunate day for me when we met in Washington many years ago. I wish that we could have spent more time together, but I hope that there is time enough left to share a few more lunches and many hours of good book talk.

Yours cordially,

JZ/kvl



PHOTOGRAPH BY AMANDA BLANCO

By Way of a Preface

THERE is only one way to properly celebrate having completed fifty years of rare bookselling and that is to express our gratitude to the great many friends who have given us their support throughout this half century. Without their concern, encouragement, and generosity we would never have had the courage or the means to open our first hole-in-the-wall in the summer of 1928 at 567 South Hope Street in downtown Los Angeles. If we had not enjoyed their continued encouragement and patronage we would certainly have failed during the intervening years.

We owe our thanks not only to patrons and collectors, who supported us during the years of depression and crisis, but also to our fellow members of the book trade whose patience and cooperation have gone far beyond the limits of courtesy.

The arrival of our semi-centennial, if one may use the term usually applied to historic events, is therefore an occasion to celebrate the persistence of a dream and the sharing in it by a long list of friends. To name them all would require several pages of type; to name only a few would be a task beyond any sense of equity. Therefore, we wish to thank all of the artists, printers, writers, book collectors, librarians, booksellers and just plain book lovers who have provided us with so many rich and rewarding years of fulfillment and happiness.

Also, we wish to express the great sense of obligation we have to the employees whose loyalty and selfless dedication to the building and continuation of this business is as essential as a cornerstone is to a house.

It is to the future, whatever there may be for us, that we look with the hope that our role in the world of books will not be diminished but rather will continue as the natural evolution of the dream which attended our beginnings and has brought us so far.

JAKE ZEITLIN

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6th June 1975

ND/EG

Mr. G.B. Van Schaack,
Research Associate,
1964 Harris Street,
Eugene,
Oregon 97405.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter received on the 11th April, and our reply of the 7th May we have now heard from the publishers of the Book of Kells that they will replace your damaged copies free of charge if you will be good enough to return them to us.

Yours faithfully,

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7th May 1975

ND/JM

Mr. G.B. Van Schaack,
Research Associate,
1964 Harris Street,
Eugene,
Oregon 97405.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter concerning the Book of Kells. We are sending a copy of your letter to a director of the publishers, Thames and Hudson, in the hope that your comments will remind him and other publishers of the importance of concentrating on good quality production.

We are so sorry that both of your copies were slightly damaged and thank you for the tolerance and interest you have shown.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN MAY
DIRECTOR.

P.O. Giro 255-2159

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WARREN R. HOWELL

May 20, 1977

Mr. George B. Van Schaack
1964 Harris Street
Eugene, Oregon 97405

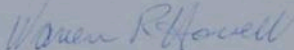
Dear Mr. Van Schaack:

Thank you for your letter of May 6th. I am
sorry the Monardes volume was not the missing link.

Thank you for sending your article on d'Ardène
and Moet. We are glad to have it for our reference.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,



Warren R. Howell

WRH:ds

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October 27, 1975

Mr. George B. Van Schaack
1964 Harris Street
Eugene, Oregon 97405

Dear Mr. Van Schaack:

Thank you for your letter of October 23rd. I am glad to hear that you received a friendly reception when you visited my store, though I was not here.

I am pleased to report that Dr. Ewan is already on our mailing list and I will double-check to make sure that he received a copy of Catalogue Two.

I appreciate receiving the off print of your paper on works by d'Ardène and Moët. Hopefully, I will remember to consult your work if I ever run into copies of these books.

Your remarks about No. 594, Thornton, as described in Catalogue Two point up the problem that we all have in collating books for completeness. It is surprising that both Pritzel and Nissen are so far off in their collations. I guess one would have to examine at least 10 copies of this book to determine the proper number of the plates.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Norman'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Jeremy Norman, President

JN:sr

Dear RAF Narrow Books, Am.

Thank you for your attention
and for sending me my original
order sheet. I am entirely to
blame for bungling my order.
Line 1 should have been

7488 Economics & the public purpose
\$1.00

I intended also to order

7429 Jean-Jacques Rousseau
\$1.98

Please send me a refund of
\$2.98, and we'll start
over from scratch on
your next monthly catalogue.
Sincerely yours

July 11/75

Marbano Books, Inc.

Moonachie Rd, Moonachie, NJ 07074

Dear Sirs: Thank for your communication
of 7/8/75, enclosed. However, I am troubled
at your request for more information, for
my letter of June 19 seems to me to ex-
plain all I know or can know. May I
repeat?

1. Only four books were received, instead
of five - no. 7429 was not in the
package. I believe you owe me \$1.98
on this account.
2. Two of the books received (7440 + 4214E)
were immediately returned to you,
on the basis of 'Marbano's famous
money back guarantee' - as I
say in my letter, they are not
books I should have bought had

received these books in return, for
 you received my letter which went
 attached to the package.

3. In my return package I sent every
thing except ^{outer wrapping paper} the two books (7488
 + 7444) which I found satisfactory.
 I saw no packing slip, although I
 looked for it carefully. If there
 was one it must have been returned
 in the package.

4. I have nothing else I can possibly
 send you - with your receipt &
 this letter you have everything
 except the two books I kept

- a) my original order
- b) my payment of \$6.96
- c) the two books returned on June 19.
- d) any & all papers including my
 letter of June 19.

Accordingly, it seems to me you
owe me refunds, as follows:

7440	\$6.00	returned
4214 E	1.98	✓
7429	1.98	not received
	<hr/>	
	4.96	

(less, perhaps, a service charge, the
amount of which I must leave it
to you to determine)

I hope my remarks will help you
to adjust this transaction to the
satisfaction of both of us. Off & on
I have been dealing with you for
many years, and should like to
continue to do so.

Sincerely yours

1964 H. 33505
June 17, 1975

Marboro Books Inc
205 Moonachie Road
Moonachie NJ 07074

Dear Sirs:

On May 22 I ordered 5 books from your
May Bargains.

7488	Galbraith: Economics..	\$1.00
7444	Strawley: Really Great Quest	\$1.00
7440	Friends	\$1.00
4214E	How to heighten...	\$1.98
7429	Rousseau - de Beer	\$1.98
		<hr/>
		\$ 6.96

and sent you my check for \$ 6.96.

This order was received this afternoon (254) 0086,
not including the last item ⁽⁷⁴²⁹⁾. I assume this was no
longer available and that you will refund \$1.98.

Two of the books (7440 and 4214E) I am
returning to you ^{herewith} in the original ^{as identification} package. May
have a rebate on them, for they are ^{my} not books
I should have purchased had I had the opportunity
to see them first? Thank you.

Sincerely yours

1964 Harris
Eugene, OR 97405
July 11, 1975

Marboro Books, Inc.
205 Moonachie Rd, Moonachie, NJ 07074

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for your communication of 7/3/75, enclosed. However, I am perplexed at your request for more information, for my letter of June 19 seems to me to explain all I know or can know. May I repeat?

1. Only four books were received, instead of five--no. 7429 was not in the package. I believe you owe me \$1.98 on this account.
2. Two of the books received (7440 & 4214E) were immediately returned to you, on the basis of 'Marboro's famous money back guarantee'--as I say in my letter, they are not books I should have bought had I first seen them. You must have received these books in return, for you received my letter, which went attached to the package.
3. In my return package I sent everything except the outer wrapping paper and the two books (7433 + 7444) which I found satisfactory. Included was a slip of paper with an order number: 25410036. I assume this is the 'packing slip' you speak of. It was returned with my package.
4. I have nothing else I can possibly send you. With your receipt of this letter you have everything except the two books I kept, namely:
 - a) my original order
 - b) my payment of \$6.96
 - c) the two books returned to you on June 19
 - d) the packing slip bearing an order no. 25410036, and all other papers, including my letter of June 19

Accordingly, it seems to me you owe me refunds, as follows:

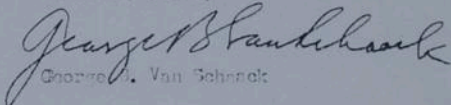
for 7440 (returned to you)	\$1.00
" 4214E " " "	\$1.98
" 7429 (not received)	\$1.98

\$4.96

(less, perhaps, a service charge, the amount of which I must leave it to you to determine)

I hope my remarks will help you to adjust this transaction to the satisfaction of both of us. Off & on I have been dealing with you for many years, and I should like to continue to do so.

Sincerely yours,


George Van Schenck

1964 Harris St
Eugene, OR 97405
June 19, 1975

Marboro Books, Inc
205 Moonachie Road
Moonachie, NJ 07074

Dear Sirs:

On May 22 I ordered five books from your May Bargains:

7433	Galbraith: Economics	\$1.00
7444	Strachey: Really interesting question	1.00
7440	Friends	1.00
4214E	How to heighten ...	1.98
7429	Rousseau: De Beer	1.98
		<hr/>
		\$6.96

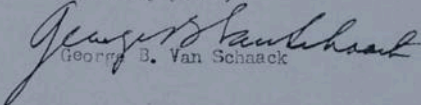
and sent you my check for \$6.96.

This order was received this afternoon (25410086), not including the last item (7429). I assume this was no longer available and that you will refund \$1.98.

Two of the books (7440 and 4214E) I am returning to you herewith in the original packing as identification. May I have a rebate on them, for they are not books I should have purchased had I had the opportunity to see them first?

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack

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4th July 1975.

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Mr. George B. Van Schaack,
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U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated June 30th which we have just received. We have ordered copies of the two new books which you require and these will be forwarded to you as soon as we receive them from the publishers.

With reference to the O.E.D. supplement 2 we are still unable to tell you when it will appear but will let you know if we get any further information.

Assuring you our best attention at all times.

Yours faithfully,

Valerie Hopkins (Ses)

Francis Edwards Ltd.,
New Book Department.

*Recd - but
the parcel in a
brown paper bag*

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DATE

14th. July 1975

RUSSELL: Philosophica; Development.
MOORE: Principia Ethica.

1975

1-00

4-75

5-75

-50

10-25

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Pd \$65.16
6.25 x 2.40
14.40 + 60
- \$15

1964 Harris
Eugene, Or 97405
September 16, 1975

Francis Edwards Hess
83 Marylebone St
London, W1M 4AL

Dear Sir: I enclose my check for \$15.00 to cover your invoice 15874. I have never converted pounds into dollars at a rate below \$2.40, and refuse to do so now!

I deplore the ugly paper-back in which Unwin now provides Russell's Philosophical Development. If you can do so I should appreciate your finding a clean autographian copy in boards (1959 or 1969), and quoting me on it.

For what can you quote a similar copy of his Analysis of mind?

Please tick my address, as corrected on the invoice copy.

Sincerely yours
George B. Van Schaack
George B. VAN SCHAACK

1964 Harris St
Eugene, Or, 97405
June 30, 1975

Francis Edward

Dear Sir:

I should appreciate your obtaining
and sending to me the following books,
as listed in *British Books in Print*, 1974.

Moore, George Edward *Principles of Ethics*.
Cambridge Univ. Press, 1903 £3.7

Russell, Bertrand. *My philosophical
development*. Allen & Unwin, 1959.
£2.5.

I trust my account with you is still in
affair.

I believe you can be send me a copy