



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

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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.

Letters to

- ✓ George Taylor (10)
- ✓ W. T. Stearn
- ✓ E. Rudolph (9)
- ✓ D. D. Jackson (6)
- ✓ F. R. Fosberg (24)
- ✓ M. Mashian (8)
- ✓ G. H. M. Lawrence (7)
- ✓ T. T. Earle (3)
- ✓ A. L. Weldon (11)
- ✓ G. W. Corner (2)
- ✓ R. McVaugh
- ✓ W. D. Wagner
- ✓ J. C. Greene (5)
- ✓ W. Schubert
- ✓ E. Berkeley (1)
- ✓ G. W. White (12)
- ✓ J. Hancock

~~Dr. Edmund Berkeley~~

~~Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971~~

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971

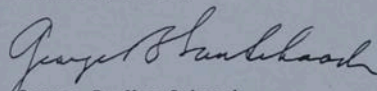
Professor Edmund Berkeley
Department of Biology
Central Virginia Community College
Lynchburg, Va.

Dear Professor Berkeley,

Hugh Iltis of the Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin, and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon. I am sure you would want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary, but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

I trust the New Year, which is already racing along so fast, will be a happy one for you.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

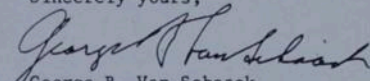
Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. George W. Corner
American Philosophical Society
Independent Square
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

Dear Dr. Corner,

Dr. Hugh Iltis of the Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin, and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Professor (and Mrs.) Ewan's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon. I am sure you would want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. T. T. Earle
Department of Biology
Tulane University
New Orleans, La. 70118

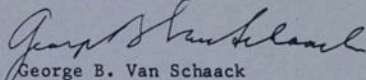
Dear Dr. Earle,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan and honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely that our proposal will be favorably acted upon.

I should like to add you to the group of those we are asking for supporting letters. I am sure you will want to write such a letter, and you are, of course, at liberty to say exactly what you wish. But I should like to suggest that you include one aspect of Joe's distinction that no one else on our list except Dr. Welden would be able to speak on, namely, his success as a department member and as a teacher.

Your letter should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C. 20560

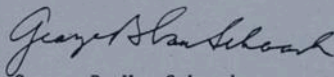
Dear Ray,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon.

I am sure you will want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

With the best wishes of the season,

Cordially yours,



George B. Van Schaack

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971

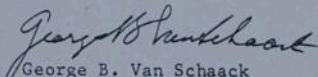
Dr. John C. Greene
Department of History
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Greene,

The letter which you wish to write in support of Hugh Iltis' and my proposal regarding an honorary degree for Joseph Ewan should be addressed to Professor A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary. It should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

Many thanks from both of us for this support.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. Donald D. Jackson
Department of History
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Va. 22901

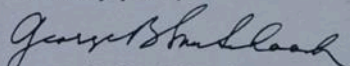
Dear Dr. Jackson,

Dr. Hugh Iltis of the Department of Botany at the University of Wisconsin and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding our mutual friend, Joseph Ewan, an honorary doctor's degree for his very important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Professor (and Mrs.) Ewan's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon. I am sure you would want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

I am immensely pleased with the John Banister--both for the authors and for the Press it is a work to be proud of. I am not unmindful of your part in this production, and present my congratulations and my thanks.

I am sure you are finding your new post in Charlottesville a gratifying change from the administrative burdens of Urbana--and what a beautiful place to live in.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. George H. M. Lawrence
390 Forge Road
P. O. Box 177
East Greenwich, Rhode Island

Dear George,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his very important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encourage to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon.

I am sure you will want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with out proposal.

I take this opportunity to thank you for your recent letter announcing your retirement as Director at the Hunt Library. People of my age must accept such news as inevitable, however much it seems to report a break in continuity. In your case it is an occasion for reviewing the record of such substantial achievement in transforming a personal library of important, though limited, private interest into an international resource of the greatest botanical and cultural importance. And as well it will grant us the fruits of the years ahead when you will accomplish long cherished dreams.

I am glad to know that you and Mrs. Lawrence are now out of the heavy pollution of the Pittsburgh area, and trust that in your new environment Mrs. Lawrence will rapidly regain her health.

With the best wishes of the season,

Cordially yours,

George B. Van Schaack... (Ladit!)

George B. Van Schaack

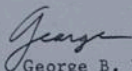
Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois
January 1, 1971

Dear Rogers,

I enclose copy of a letter which I sent you to Ann Arbor. Miss Margaret Hickey has written me that I may address you in Mexico if there is any urgency. We are trying to get all the material together before you will have returned to Ann Arbor--hence the enclosure.

I write in haste for the new year seems to have started off with at least as large initial velocity as any I have previously seen. Best wishes for 1971.

Cordially yours,



George B. Van Schaack

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. Rogers McVaugh
Curator of the Herbarium
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

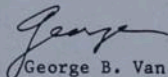
Dear Rogers,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon.

I am sure you will want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

With the best wishes of the season to you and to Ruth,

Cordially yours,



George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HERBARIUM

NORTH UNIVERSITY BUILDING
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, U. S. A.

December 21, 1970

Mr. George B. Van Schaack
Norton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532

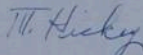
Dear Mr. Van Schaack:

Dr. McVaugh is in Mexico on a field trip and will not return to Ann Arbor until about the middle of January 1971.

If the letter you are requesting in your letter of December 15 in support of Joseph Ewan is urgent I would suggest you write Dr. McVaugh at:

Casa González
Calle Río Sena 69
Mexico, D.F., Mexico

Yours truly,



Margaret Hickey

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. Mildred Mathias
Department of Botany
University of California at Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California 90024

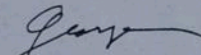
Dear Mildred,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon.

I am sure you will want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

With the best wishes of the season,

Sincerely yours,



George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer



THE MORTON ARBORETUM

Joy Morton, founder

LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532 Phone: WOODLAND 8-0074

December 15, 1970

Dear Rudy,

I hope you will not have sent off your letter in support of Joe's candidacy. I gave you the correct name to address: Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary. But I should have asked you to send the letter to me so that I can enclose it with all the other papers Hugh and I shall be sending.

I think it's going to be a cinch, for we already have the support of Dr. Baldwin in Botany and of Dr. Edwin M. Riley, Director of Research, Colonial Williamsburg.

Am looking forward to seeing you and Ann in ten days or so.

Sincerely,

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971

Dr. Waldo Schmitt
Research Associate
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D. C.

Dear Waldo,

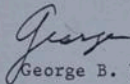
For the second time I start the new year with a letter to you. Although I have had no answer from you I know it is because every moment of your time is precious. And I disturb you now only because I realize how much you will want to do what I suggest.

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to William and Mary that it grant Joseph Ewan an honorary degree. We have had some encouragement from two staff members there and anticipate no failure if we get our papers in in time. I know how much you will want to support us in this proposal. Your letter should be addressed to Professor A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary. It should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

I am delighted with Joe's and Nesta's new book, and have been glad to hear of the fine letter you wrote them. With this work, so long in the heat of production, they have refined their powers, and have achieved lofty status in the history of natural history and of writing.

I hope you are continuing well, and that fate will yet grant us another meeting. With all good wishes,

Cordially,



George B. Van Schaack

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971

Dr. Jerry Stannard
Department of History
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

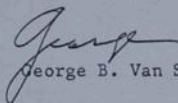
Dear Jerry,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. I know you will want to write a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

I am sorry my letter of late last winter did not get forwarded to you-- I wonder why. But, as it was, neither one of us missed anything by its not reaching you, for during all of 1970 I slept only three nights not in my own house--far from an exciting year travelwise.

The new year is already galloping along as rapidly as the old one, or I would write more. I hope you are all well, and that 1971 has much good in store for you.

Cordially yours,


George B. Van Schaack

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. William T. Stearn
British Museum(Natural History)
London, S. W. 7, England

Dear William,

Hugh Ittis and I have received encouraging indications from Prof. Baldwin at the College of William and Mary that our proposal that the College grant Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree would be favorably considered. Accordingly we are assembling the portfolio of papers which must accompany our proposal. 'Nough said, I'm sure--except to point out that the particular appropriateness of this college at this time is not only its age & location, but the inclusion of Banister among the founding trustees.

Your letter in support of Joe's candidacy should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Bayer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary, but it should be sent to me for inclusion with the other papers.

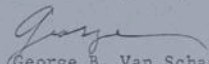
I am immensely pleased with Joe and Nesta's book on Banister. It was a long & hard pull to get it in print, but each refusal improved it, and the talents of its authors were refined in their travail. The only thing I find difficult about it is the dedication--honor so far beyond merit. But I felt much better when Nesta, in her sweet way, wrote me a fine letter of 'documentation' in which she reminded me of how often I had upheld the integrity of print, the appropriateness of format, and exact statement in preference to the less exact, etc.; for these matters have always come up when we three have been together, now for a quarter century.

I hear you have had the boon of a marvelous trip to Australia. I can't think of anyone who could have made more of it--what a wonderful time you must have had. Did you find John & Pamela Beard still at Perth? I know he was being considered for Stewart's place in LASCA. I believe they would find the position there hideous. In fact, I can't see how they could find any position in the U. S. other than hideous. The disgrace of being an American has become increasingly crushing, and I have tasted deep depression over & over since I last saw you.

Hugh want me to say 'Hello', and to tell you that Frank, his son, is finally pretty certain not to be drafted--he has been classed 4F: psychologically unfit for service. I declare, I do not know what one has to be to be 'fit for service'--insane, perhaps.

I hope all is going well with you, and I send you all good wishes for 1971--in which I know my sister would join me. By the way, she attended the Ornithological Congress in the Hague in September, and then flew on to Helsinki to join an American tour of three weeks through Scandinavia.

Cordially yours,


George B. Van Schaack

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Sir George Taylor
Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew, Richmond, England

Dear Sir George,

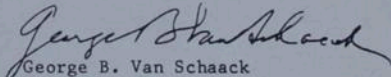
Dr. Hugh Iltis and I have decided that it is time our mutual friend, Joseph Ewan, is awarded an honorary doctor's degree by a fine university in the United States. The appearance of his latest work, John Banister and his natural history of Virginia, written jointly with his wife Nesta, recently prompted me to believe that the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg ought to be pleased to show its appreciation for so excellent an account of the early history of the Jamestown peninsula and of one of its founding trustees.

Preliminary inquiry to Dr. J. T. Baldwin, Jr. of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary has elicited a reply indicating high probability that the College would be pleased to take advantage of this opportunity. Accordingly Hugh and I are proceeding with assembling the necessary portfolio of material to support our proposal.

I cannot think of any of Joe's friends who would be happier than you to see him honored as we hope for. Your letter should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary, but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal. I trust this letter reaches you early enough for your response to be in time; it seems the matter may be decided sometime in January.

With kindest personal regards, and with best wishes for the season,

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Sir George Taylor
Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew, Richmond, England

Dear Sir George,

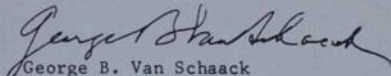
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With kindest personal regards, and with best wishes for the season,

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971

Dr. W. H. Wagner
Department of Botany
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

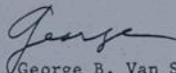
Dear Herb,

I am very glad I got to see you here last week, but regret I could not myself have shown you the library. It was especially good to find you looking so well again.

The letter which you so kindly wish to write for support of Iltis' and my proposal regarding Joe Ewan should be addressed to Professor A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary. The letter should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

I write in some haste--the new year is already marching along--but I send thanks from both of us, and best wishes for 1971.

Cordially yours,



George B. Van Schaack

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
December 15, 1970

Dr. Arthur L. Welden
Department of Biology
Tulane University
New Orleans, La. 70118

Dear Dr. Welden,

Hugh Iltis and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Neta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the founding trustees it seems likely that our proposal will be favorably acted upon.

I should like to add you to the group of those we are asking for supporting letters. I am sure you will want to write such a letter, and you are, of course, at liberty to say exactly what you wish. But I should like to suggest that you include one aspect of Joe's distinction that no one else on our list except Dr. Earle would be able to speak on, namely, his success as a department member and as a teacher.

Your letter should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

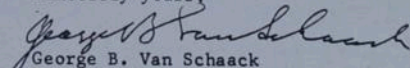
I am addressing this to you at Tulane, where I hope you still are if you so wish. But I am enough out of touch lately not to know as much about where people are as when I was in St. Louis, where the circulation of botanists was many times larger.

is a

This beautiful arboretum and I have enjoyed getting to know it these last three years. But in that short time this small county of 330 square miles has increased in population by at least 100,000. The property lies at the junction of a super-toll-road and a dangerously crowded state route perpendicular to it. There is scarcely a moment from 5 AM to 10 PM when traffic cannot be heard anywhere in the arboretum, and mornings and afternoons, and summer Sundays there is a steady roar.

I hope all is well with you. Best wishes of the season.

Sincerely yours,


George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer.

Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois 60532
January 1, 1971

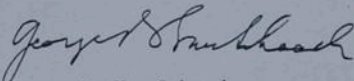
Dr. George W. White
Department of Geology
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Dr. White,

Dr. Hugh Iltis of the Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin, and I are preparing a proposal to the College of William and Mary that it consider awarding Joseph Ewan an honorary doctor's degree for his important contributions to the history of American botany. We have already been encouraged to do this by Dr. J. T. Baldwin of the Department of Botany at the College of William and Mary. Since Joe's and Nesta's most recent work, John Banister, is devoted to the life and times of one of the College's founding trustees it seems likely our proposal will be favorably acted upon. I am sure you would want to contribute a letter in support of our proposal. It should be addressed to Prof. A. Carlyle Beyer, Chairman, Honorary Degrees Committee, College of William and Mary; but it should be sent to me for inclusion with our proposal.

I remember with great pleasure the afternoon I spent with you and the Ewans in your office looking at rare books. I hope 1971 has much good in store for you.

Sincerely yours,



George B. Van Schaack
Bibliographer