



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
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.

JOHNSON, M.A.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
NEW BRUNSWICK NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

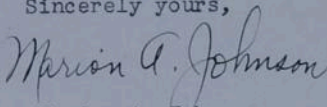
April 28, 1945

Dr. John M. Fogg
Department of Botany
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

I expect to be at the University
Library some day during the next two weeks and
would like to see you in regard to securing a
young instructor in Ecology and Taxonomy. Perhaps
you might care to suggest one of your students. I
am not teaching this quarter and can therefore drop
in on you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,



Marion A. Johnson

Head, Department of Botany

May 3, 1945.

Dr. Marion A. Johnson,
Department of Botany,
Rutgers University,
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Your letter of April 28th is before me and I am writing to say that I shall be very happy to see you and to discuss with you the matter of securing a young instructor for your Department. In general, Monday and Tuesday are poor days for me but the rest of the week is usually fairly clear. It happens that next week is pretty well filled, however, with the exception of Thursday the tenth, and I am wondering whether it might be possible for you to come on that day.

Administrative duties make it difficult for me to spend much time in the Department of Botany these days and I suggest your coming to my office in room 111 College Hall, which is on Woodland Avenue between Thirty-fourth and Thirty-sixth Streets. If you arrive late in the forenoon, as I suppose will be the case, I shall be very happy to have you take lunch with me at our faculty club.

If this date is not convenient to you, I wish you would write stating your own preference, and I shall try to adjust my plans accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Professor of Botany.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
NEW BRUNSWICK NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

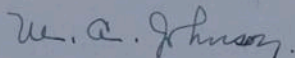
May 4, 1945

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Department of Botany,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

Thursday, forenoon, the 10th
will be quite convenient for me to call.
This courtesy is greatly appreciated and
I am looking forward to seeing you.

Very sincerely yours,



M. A. Johnson
Chairman, Department of Botany

October 29, 1945

Dr. Marion A. Johnson, Head,
Department of Botany,
Rutgers University,
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Several years ago there came to us the
Witmer Stone Herbarium, which is particularly rich in
New Jersey plants. I have long promised Dr. Chrysler
that if there were any duplicates in this collection
I would see that a set was sent to Rutgers. I am now
writing to inform you that within the next few days
there will go forward a package containing 437 mounted
specimens in continuation of the exchange agreement
which we have for many years enjoyed with your Univer-
sity.

The present shipment consists largely
of Stone's specimens with a few additional sheets which
I hope you will find of interest.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Professor of Botany.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
NEW BRUNSWICK NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

November 1, 1945

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
University of Pennsylvania
Botany Department
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

In reply to your good letter of October 29 I can say that both Dr. Chrysler and myself are delighted at the prospect of having the plants from the Witmer Stone Herbarium. We have always regretted that materials from Stone's collections were absent at Rutgers. Your cooperation in filling this want is certainly much appreciated.

Early in September I had a letter from Mr. Schaeffer in which he stated that he was interested in the position in our department. I replied immediately to his letter but haven't heard from him since. Have you had word from him recently, or has he been transferred to a new area? According to your excellent recommendations, I think he must be the type of man that we really want and need at Rutgers. If you should be writing him for any reason you might acquaint him with the situation here as you understand it.

I was interested in seeing a fine review on your book on weeds. I have ordered a copy for the library and am anxious to see it. We are trying to find a manual which will be useful in our General Biology classes. Perhaps yours will fill this need.

With my best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Marion A. Johnson

Marion A. Johnson
Associate Professor of Botany

MAJ:hn

November 2, 1945

Dr. Marion A. Johnson,
Department of Botany,
Rutgers University,
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Since Dr. Fogg is absent from the University because of illness, I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 1st, and also to give you the following change of address for Mr. Schaeffer:

OLD: Mr. Robert L. Schaeffer, Jr., HA 1/c,
U. S. Navy Hospital Staff,
Portsmouth, Virginia

NEW: Mr. Robert L. Schaeffer, Jr., HA 1/c,
Unit A Dispensary,
N.O.B., N.T.S.,
Norfolk 11, Virginia

The new address was contained in a letter from Mr. Schaeffer received on October 7th. A letter which Dr. Fogg had sent to the old address on September 14th, was returned undelivered just a day or two ago.

Sincerely yours,

Janet L. Bowen,
Secretary to Dr. Fogg

February 4, 1948

Dr. M. A. Johnson,
Department of Botany,
Rutgers University,
Newark, New Jersey.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Dr. Schramm tells me that you are interested in our student, Mr. Edwin T. Moul, and he has shown me a copy of the letter which he is writing to you concerning this young man's qualifications for a possible appointment at Rutgers. Since Mr. Moul is working under my sponsorship, I am taking the liberty of adding my unsolicited approval to the letter which Dr. Schramm has written in his behalf. There is little which I can add to the very full account which Schramm has given you, but I wanted you to know that I heartily indorse his estimate of Moul's competence. He has indicated both Moul's strength and his weakness and has expressed my own conviction that the former so far outweighs the latter that you would have in him a valuable addition to your teaching staff and a man who would continue to do productive though perhaps not brilliant research.

Moul is one of the most completely reliable and sincere students I have ever had and I am so interested personally in his future that I would like nothing better than to see him find a berth with you.

With warm regards and every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Professor of Botany.

February 19, 1948

Dr. M. A. Johnson,
Department of Botany,
Rutgers University,
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Mr. Moul has just been talking to me about his recent interview with you and has told me of your desire that he could receive his Doctor's degree somewhat earlier than planned. I have gone into this matter with Moul carefully and have come to the conclusion that if he applies himself assiduously to the completion of his work, it ought to be possible for him to receive his Ph.D. at the Convocation which will be held at the end of August. This, of course, will make it necessary for Moul to revise rather fully his plans for the next six months, but there is so much at stake here that I am sure he will be willing to do everything possible to bring about the desired end.

If by any chance Moul should not succeed in completing his dissertation in order to receive his degree in August, it would be necessary to hold him over until February 1949, but knowing him as I do and feeling confident in his ability to accomplish what he sets out to do, I believe that it is safe to assume that he can complete the requirements for the degree by the end of August.

He tells me that he greatly enjoyed his interview with you and is certainly keenly interested in the possibility of an appointment at Rutgers. As I said before, if you get him you will have a man upon whom you can always depend.

Sincerely yours,

Professor of Botany.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
The State University of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

August 3, 1953

Professor John M. Fogg
Department of Botany
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

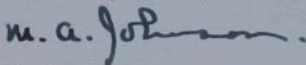
Dear Professor Fogg:

I have just received an application for admission to graduate study from Mr. Albert Silverman. He suggested that you would be willing to write him a letter of recommendation.

Will you please give me an idea as to his ability and possibility for doing good graduate work. In what field of botany would you naturally expect him to excel?

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



M. A. Johnson
Chairman
Department of Botany

MAJ fmb

August 10, 1953

Dr. M. A. Johnson
Department of Botany
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Mr. Silverman, concerning whom you have requested my opinion, is something of a problem. He is, as you know, a mature person who has not only taken his Bachelor's degree, but also the M.A. in Sociology. His interest in botany is of somewhat recent origin and when he applied to us a year ago for admission to graduate study, we told him that it would be necessary to take a number of undergraduate courses without graduate credit in order to round out his background. He took my taxonomy course this spring and did extremely good work. This is a phase of botany in which he is keenly interested and frankly if he had decided to do graduate work in systematic botany, I would have been willing to accept him, although with some misgivings, due to his age and the difficulty of finding him a position. However, he seems to want to work in plant physiology, and the Department feels that his background not only in botany, but in physics, chemistry and mathematics is too weak to enable him to complete a dissertation in that field. We, therefore, had no other course but to refuse his application for admission to Ph.D. candidacy.

Personally, I like Silverman and feel that he has considerable ability. If he can find a problem which some member of your Department considers feasible and is willing to supervise, I see no reason why you should not accept him.

With best wishes and warm regards,

John M. Fogg, Jr.

JMF:ddg