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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.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

November 6, 1946

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
Vice-Provost
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your kind letter concerning the reprints. In accordance with your advice, I have sent a similar set to your student, Mr. Edwin T. Moul, and will keep his name on my mailing list for the future. If there are any older papers that he would like, I should be glad to send them along. A first-class study of the Bryophytes of Pennsylvania would be a very important contribution, and I shall be very glad to help in any way possible, such as the identification of specimens. Mr. Moul might be interested in visiting the University Biological Station region, which is extremely rich in Bryophyta.

Now that MacVaugh has come to Ann Arbor, and we have Drew at East Lansing and Cain at Bloomfield Hills, it seems appropriate for us to start a cooperative botanical survey of the state which may eventually lead to a "Flora of Michigan." I recall with interest various reports of progress you have given at different meetings of the Botanical Society, and seem to recall that you have published upon the techniques and methods which you have used in the preparation of floras of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Under any circumstances, we should certainly appreciate -- and profit enormously from -- any suggestions or advice which you might have to offer us.

Sincerely yours,



William C. Steere
Professor of Botany

November 13, 1946

Dr. William C. Steere,
Department of Botany,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for your letter of the sixth and for your kindness in sending copies of your papers to Mr. Moul, who I believe is deserving of any encouragement which you can give him. It may be that a little later he will wish to send you some material for verification, but I shall try to see that he makes every effort to identify his stuff first, thus relieving the amount of work necessary for you to perform.

I regret to say that although I have, as you mention, spoken a number of times about the techniques which we have been using in our flora work, this material has never been put in form for publication. I started to do it several years ago for *CHRONICA BOTANICA*, but for some reason the job was never completed. I think it should be done, however, and possibly as a result of the stimulation which you have provided I can manage to get back to the task and put something into shape.

With best wishes and warm personal regards,

I am

Sincerely yours,

Professor of Botany.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

April 22, 1949

Dr. J. M. Fogg
Marfarlane Hall
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Jack:

For many years I have been struggling with the idea that graduate students should have available to them a tropical biological station where they could get acquainted with the different types of vegetation, and learn something first-hand of the many problems in all phases of biology to be found in the tropical environment. This is meant to be no reflection on the research stations in Bermuda, the Canal Zone, and Cuba. These institutions, however, are at sea level, and furthermore, carry on no teaching activities. A station situated in the temperate climate between 2,000 and 4,000 feet, with access upward to areas above timberline, and roads to sea level, would be desirable. In addition to the effects of altitude, one could see clearly the results of different amounts of rainfall on different sides of a tropical mountain. All of us who have worked in the tropics have had to teach ourselves, and have had our efficiency reduced thereby. If a student could learn, for example, the more common families and genera, and could become familiar with the effects of the different ecological factors such as day length and temperature, he would think in much broader terms in his later research.


The costs of founding and operating a tropical biological station would be well beyond the budget of any one institution, and I am wondering if we cannot get a group of the more progressive institutions of the country interested in a proposition of this sort. I believe that we could find facilities at the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences at Turrialba, Costa Rica, and I have just received a letter from one of our old students, Doctor Tobias Lasser, saying that the Ministerio de Agricultura of Venezuela would be willing to let us use their Station not too far from Caracas. I believe that we could get the use of laboratories with very little or no cost, and would have to pay only living costs. Our Summer Session has established the policy that, in general, a professor's salary depends on five to eight graduate students, and I am sure that this number could be turned up without too much difficulty among a dozen cooperating institutions. In this way, one institution could provide a man once in two to four years at no great annual expenditure. I would envisage in the beginning a staff of two or three men for botany, and perhaps the same number for zoology, if zoologists are interested, and I would suggest botanical courses in ecology, higher plants, and lower plants.

Your ideas on the foregoing suggestion will be greatly appreciated. If you have any sympathy with it, I would appreciate knowing whether or not your institution would be willing to co-operate -- not an official statement, but simply an unofficial opinion. If there is someone else in your institution who would be more interested in this sort of work, please transfer this letter to him. Your advice, suggestions, or criticisms will be looked forward to.

Most sincerely,

Bill
William C. Steere
Chairman

WCS:ss


UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA
4
THE COLLEGE

Zoological Laboratory
38th St. and Woodland Ave.

July 7, 1949

Vice-Provost John M. Fogg
109 College Hall

Dear Jack:

Since both of the enclosures begin this same way, I think I ought to follow suit. (I am referring to the Dear Jack.) Not knowing whether my letter should go to you or Schramm, I am sending it to you with a copy to Schramm.

I am in a grand rush in trying to get away so cannot reply in detail to the letter from Steere. My impression is, however, that this matter of a tropical station is one which we would have to get together and talk over. Like you I see at present no resources for the project. Indeed we have both in Zoology and Botany so many urgent needs that unless some funds could be found available for this which would not be available for any other use, I doubt if we would find it advisable to enter into this arrangement in the near future. However, these are just my offhand notions, and I would, of course, be glad to sit down and discuss the proposition.

I am sorry to have held things up by not replying sooner, but I have been swamped; and I have assumed that if there was anything urgent at all, you would notify me.

As you know or will know from a separate note, I am getting away shortly and probably will not be in Philadelphia again until September. However, don't hesitate to write me in care of the department here if anything comes up because the letter will be forwarded or the matter attended to.

Cordially yours,

C. W. Metz
C.W.M.

C. W. Metz

CWM:hm
CC: Dr. Schramm

From Fogg

July 8, 1949

Dr. William C. Steere, Chairman,
Department of Botany,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

See new address

Dear Bill:

I regret that I have taken so long a time in replying to your interesting letter of April 22nd concerning the advisability of establishing a tropical biological station. I have wanted to give this matter every consideration and have therefore shown your letter to a number of my colleagues in Botany and Zoology, including the Chairmen of those two Departments. Everyone here feels that this is a splendid suggestion but agrees that the resources at present available make it almost impossible for us to participate in such a plan in the near future.

We have recently revised our curriculum in such a way that a far larger number of students take work in the biological sciences. This is placing an added burden on our teaching staff, with the result that it would seem almost impossible for us to spring a man loose even for a single term. I admit that this situation is somewhat temporary and that given three or four years to work out our problem we shall be able to expand our teaching facilities to a degree which would make this feasible.

There is, of course, also the financial question, and although we have a larger number of students taking science than was previously the case, our over-all enrollment is undergoing steady diminution, which of course means a reduction in income. We are, therefore, faced with a need for effecting certain economies which I feel would render it out of the question for us to contribute to such a plan until we can see our way out of the woods.

I would be keenly interested in learning what reaction you have received from other institutions and specifically what ideas you have developed concerning the cost of setting up such a station.

It was grand to see you at Ohio State last fall and I hope that our paths will cross again in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

September 18, 1951

Dear Jack:

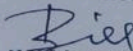
On my return from a summer in Alaska, I find your letter of June 11. Thank you for thinking of us in the matter of distributing Ed Moul's duplicate mosses. I am trying to build up a collection here, and his specimens will be of real interest and help. Thank you again.

In addition to the institutions you mention, I believe that the National Herbarium, the University of Tennessee, and the Chicago Natural History Museum would appreciate having sets. I gather that Farlow Herbarium is not particularly interested in general collections at the moment.

We are having a grand time here in California. With no administrative responsibility and with as low a teaching load as I wish (3 lectures this coming quarter), I hope to get caught up on some of the research so sadly neglected during the past ten years. There is also a certain stimulation in working an area here that has had relatively little study.

I hope that you will make a point of visiting us if you get out this way. We live on the campus in considerable splendor and always have room for friends.

Most sincerely,



William C. Steere

February 9, 1955

Dr. William C. Steere
National Science Foundation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

I have just returned from a three weeks' visit to Mexico and am writing to say that we are all looking forward to having you here to address our Departmental Seminar on the 22nd of this month.

If it should at all fit in with your plans, I should very much like to have you go home with me for dinner after the seminar and spend the night with us. If, however, you must return at once to Washington, some of us will see that you are taken comfortably to the station. I earnestly hope that the former is the case and that I may have the pleasure of an evening's chat with you over a couple of long drinks.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Fogg, Jr.
Director and
Professor of Botany

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 15, 1955

Dr. John M. Fogg
Professor of Botany
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your very nice invitation to dinner and to spend the night with you. This sounds like a very pleasant plan, but I find that I have agreed to join some of the staff at an informal dinner which Dr. Cantino tells me is the usual custom. However, I would be glad to spend the evening with you later--although I could probably get a late train back if it would be more convenient for you.

Thank you again for your thoughtful and generous invitation.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Program Director for
Systematic Biology

P. S. I plan to arrive sometime late in the morning in order to have a few hours to talk to people and to visit the scenes of my ancient crimes!

February 18, 1955

Dr. William C. Steere
Program Director for
Systematic Biology
National Science Foundation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Bill:

Just a hasty note to say that since I find that Ed Cantino has made no plans for dinner following your seminar here next Tuesday, I am suggesting that you come to dinner at our house with the Goddards. You can then either spend the night with us or, if your schedule requires, return to Washington that evening. It is a simple matter to get from our house to North Philadelphia Station where there are quite a few trains to Washington.

I note with interest that you expect to arrive during the late forenoon and hope that I shall have a chance to visit with you and even take you to the Faculty Club for lunch, if you have no other engagements.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director

STEEER

to Foggy

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 23, 1955

Dear Jack:

My visit to Penn was even more pleasant than I had anticipated, thanks in large measure to your extensive hospitality. I hope you will extend to your wife my appreciation for a delicious dinner and attractive company - my only regret, of course, is that all of us were going in different directions, and that I didn't have as much time with the Foggys as I would have liked. However, I do hope we can find ways and means for getting together again, either in Washington or Stanford -

Gratefully
Bill Steere

April 30, 1956

→ Dr. William C. Steere, Editor
American Journal of Botany
Department of Biological Sciences
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Bill:

Dr. Li has shown me your letter to him of April 23rd concerning the manuscript of his article on the Chromosome Studies of Azalea. Red Camp has had the original copy of this manuscript since last September and has consistently ignored Li's request for its return. Li tells me that he could doubtless submit the carbon copy but unfortunately the copy which Camp has contains marginal corrections which should be incorporated in the final draft.

I don't know how it is with you but I find it almost impossible to get a letter out of Red and am usually forced to put through a long distance call in order to get an answer to the simplest question. In this case, however, I am writing a letter designed to appeal to his better nature and I hope very much that it will be effective in having the manuscript returned to Dr. Li in the near future. He will then make the necessary corrections, possibly have it retyped, and submit it to you as soon as possible.

With best wishes and warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR

May 3, 1956

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director
The Morris Arboretum
Chestnut Hill
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your courtesy in pushing Red Camp a bit on the return of Li's manuscript. I have had no response at all from a letter written to him several months ago and that was the reason I wrote to Li, suggesting that he ignore Camp's opinion completely and simply send in his manuscript for publication even though this might make him the trouble of retyping it.

You are in a good position as Director of the Morris Arboretum to bring the necessary pressure. I can't understand so callous an attitude on the part of a reviewer, especially one with whom I have considered myself from time to time on reasonably friendly terms.

Sincerely yours,

Bill



William C. Steere
Editor

WCS:sp

Steele, Wm. C.

from Steele

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK
NEW YORK 58, N. Y.PRESIDENT
CHARLES B. HARDING
TREASURER
BERKELEY GAYNORVICE-PRESIDENT
FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR.
DIRECTOR
WILLIAM C. STEELE

January 29, 1959

Dr. John M. Fogg, Director
Morris Arboretum
University of Pennsylvania
3815 Walnut Street
Philadelphia 4, Penna.

Dear Jack:

I noted with pleasure your appointment by Alan Waterman to the Science Information Council. One of the movements in the field of plant taxonomy has been to get much of the information concerning plants and the names of plants into a form that would be more easily retrievable. At the moment, much of what passes for research is actually the study of books. How to get the information from the books into the computer is the problem and will probably have to be initiated by plant taxonomists who through their lack of acquaintance with IBM and other computers are a bit suspicious of them. I know that you will be especially concerned with this matter both as an outstanding taxonomist and as a member of the Board of Managers of The New York Botanical Garden.

For the last five or six years Mr. Sydney Gould of Madison, Connecticut, has been working on the idea of getting the names of all plants into IBM or some other computing device in order to correlate information and to retrieve it easily. He is very knowledgeable in the IBM field through extensive experience during the war, but he is not a professional taxonomist. As a result, in spite of his very dedicated interest and his willingness to put in unlimited time and energy, taxonomists have been a bit reluctant to encourage him or to help him get grants for a test of his ideas. A part of this reluctance was based on the thought that in some way he was intruding in a field in which he was not professionally qualified. My own feeling has been that there is a great deal waste effort in taxonomy today in searching out and verifying names, synonyms, authors' citations, etc., etc which is done over and over again. If all this information could be put into one file and easily retrieved, many of the time-consuming clerical aspects of taxonomic research could be removed once and for all.

Dr. David Rogers of The New York Botanical Garden is

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likewise interested in a program of this sort, with special reference to economic plants, since through computer methods he could bring together the names of plants with data on chemical constituents, uses, distributions, etc. He has developed an approach in his own research on Manihot that the IBM people in White Plains have found to be very well conceived, at least from the standpoint of machine operation.

During the fall, Rogers and Gould got together on the basis of their common interest and have prepared a proposal which if supported would give them an opportunity to start a program of the sort suggested above. I feel that this sort of work is essential as well as inevitable partly through ambition for the Garden but just as much because of the fine library and research facilities here I would like to have us do the pioneer work. I hope that a proposal can be developed which will not alienate the good taxonomists of the country, and I believe that many of them who now have faint enthusiasm may develop a warmer feeling toward the idea when they see how it works. Eventually, of course, the program can be more sophisticated than a mere card catalogue system and can be built into a logical searching technique. The first step, of course, is to establish the basic data on punch cards, which will be useful even from the first to produce lists and catalogues.

To sum up all this, I feel that the basic idea here, regardless of the individuals concerned or the techniques they propose to use, is fundamental to the rapid progress of biology today and should be supported. I would be very grateful to you for your careful thought on the questions I have raised and on the enclosed proposal to see if this is something to which the Science Information Council could not lend a helping hand. I believe that a small grant from the National Science Foundation to bring together a group of experts, both taxonomists and IBM people, might result in a warmer and more persuasive document. I do not feel confident today that the Advisory Panel to the Program for Systematic Biology of the National Science Foundation -- or its program director, Dr. David Keck -- would be wildly enthusiastic about this proposal or would even recommend its activation. However, the communication and information retrieval aspects are terribly important in our present day world with its scientific information accumulating at a fantastic rate. Not long ago Dr. Killian suggested publicly -- with the obvious approval of the President -- that scientists would profit greatly by using in their own work the very machines they have created, in order to organize better scientific information. He further stated that this desirable end should be reached through the support of National Science Foundation. I am writing also to Graham DuShane, one of your fellow members on the Council, and to Hiden Cox in the hope that the development of more effective and efficient techniques for the retrieval of taxonomic information will be facilitated.

I should have made it clear earlier in this long letter that I am asking for your opinion and advice on an informal basis and that we are not asking Science Information Council officially either for money or action on this whole matter which I think has

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a potential of developing into one of the most modern techniques
in the whole field of biology.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

wcs/gd

February 13, 1959

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, New York

Dear Bill:

The subject of your recent letter strikes a very responsive chord with me. I have long felt that biologists in general and systematists in particular have been far too slow in recognizing the potential advantages of the newer information storage and recovery devices.

As you point out, a tremendous amount of time is wasted by all of us in routine mechanical chores. The mere looking up in Index Kewensis and its supplements of the specific names in any fair-sized genus consumes time that could more profitably be devoted to more important work.

It is too soon to say what the functions of our newly formed Committee will be. We had an organizational meeting a couple of weeks ago and accomplished little more than electing a Chairman (Baker of the Bell Lab) and talking rather fuzzily around the fringes of our assignment. We shall have another meeting, probably in April, and by this time I hope we shall be in a position to know what our main objectives should be.

Judging from some of the ideas expressed at our first session I should suppose that one of our functions would be to pass upon projects submitted for our consideration. If, therefore, at some future time you should decide to move in this direction I should be glad to know of it in advance. Perhaps we can discuss this on the occasion of my next visit to the Garden.

Incidentally, I am deeply distressed over the exigencies of my teaching schedule which makes it impossible this year for me to attend meetings of your Board. I seriously wonder whether I should not tender my resignation for I dislike heartily being a member of any group in whose activities I can not participate. At any rate, I hope to be able to get over on some day other than a Wednesday this Spring.

Sincerely yours,

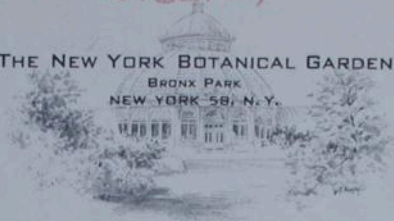
JMF:am

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

P.S. The N.S.F. has done me a slight disservice by announcing my address as 3815 Walnut Street, Philadelphia. This, of course, is the address of Biological Abstracts and it means that letters, like yours, which are so directed, take an extra day or two to reach me.

Steere,

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN
BRONX PARK
NEW YORK 58, N. Y.



PRESIDENT
CHARLES B. HARDING
TREASURER
BERKELEY GAYNOR

VICE-PRESIDENT
FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR.
DIRECTOR
WILLIAM C. STEERE

February 17, 1959

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18, Penn.

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your responsive letter of February 13th. I am glad that you take at least a sympathetic viewpoint of the sort of project that Rogers and Gould are proposing.

I do hope that you will get to the Garden one of these days when I am here as I have so many things I would like to discuss with you as a friend as well as one of the members of the Board of Managers. Please do not be too distressed over not attending our Board meetings and I, in my turn, would be distressed if you resigned since, when the time comes when you can take a more active participation, your counsel and guidance will be very much appreciated.

Most sincerely,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

wcs/gd

Vander -

- Vander

STEERE, William C.

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN
BRONX PARK NEW YORK 88 NEW YORK LUDLOW 4-8500

President
CHARLES B. HARDING

Treasurer
R. GORDON WASSON

Director
WILLIAM C. STEERE

Vice Presidents
FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, Jr.
Mr. HERMANN G. PLAGE

July 17, 1959

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18, Penna.

Dear Jack:

As I mentioned to you informally in Washington a couple of weeks ago, Dave Keck has decided to remain in his position as Program Director for Systematic Biology and I have just received his official letter of resignation -- with much personal regret.

The time has come to start a careful search for a successor to Dave and I would be grateful to you for any nominations you may have to make. So far as I am concerned, the "man" is the important thing and interests, age, and salary will be secondary.

I would also be grateful to you for any advice you may wish to give on the direction that taxonomic work should take here at the Garden, since the man we appoint to replace Dave should have a strong guiding force. My own inclination is that we should find someone with a very real interest in experimental taxonomy or biosystematics, but I would like to have the advice of several friends in whom I have confidence before taking any steps.

I wish that we could talk about this personally and perhaps we can get together for a bit in Montreal in order to talk over the whole matter since I feel, in all modesty, that this can be one of the most important positions in American taxonomy.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

wcs/gd

August 31, 1959

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park, New York 58, N. Y.

Dear Bill:

I have given a good deal of futile thought to the problem of replacing Dave Keck and to date have really nothing definite to propose.

One of my first suggestions was going to be Richard W. Pohl of Iowa State. Dick, as you know, works with grasses and is keenly interested in chromosome counts and genetic problems. It had seemed to me that he might bring the strength which attaches to a family of great economic importance plus an emphasis on biosystematics. However, when Dick stopped off here on his way to Montreal he admitted frankly that if he moved at all it would be to the West rather than the East.

of
I think, of course, another of my former students, namely Carroll Wood. I doubt very much whether you could get Carroll away from Arnold, but then again one never knows until he tries. It seems to me he is definitely someone to keep in mind.

Bob Platt at Emory is, to be sure, primarily an ecologist, but one with a broad knowledge of plants who would perhaps open up new vistas.

I'm darn sorry I didn't get to Montreal, but there was just too much to do here. I hope that you made some interesting contacts there among younger botanists and I hope that we can get together soon for a discussion of the possibilities. If further suggestions occur to me I'll pass them along.

While I'm writing let me ask you whether you whether you ever permit qualified students to collect herbarium specimens from the trees and shrubs in your garden. The members of my summer course on Woody Plants make their own collections totalling about 500 species. One of them, a young high school teacher of biology, wants very much to continue adding to his collection. He has been taught always to use clippers and never break off branches. If you are willing to have someone send him a permit or letter for this purpose he would be grateful. He is Albert Tint, of 582 Syracuse Ave., N. Massapequa, N.Y.

Warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMF:am

The New York Botanical Garden

BRONX PARK · NEW YORK 58 · NEW YORK · LU 4-8500

CHARLES B. HARDING, *President*
 FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR., *Vice President*
 MRS. HERMANN G. PLACE, *Vice President*
 R. GORDON WASSON, *Treasurer*
 WILLIAM C. STEERE, *Director*

April 4, 1960

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
 The Morris Arboretum
 9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
 Philadelphia 18, Penna.

Dear Jack:

A recent estimate shows that no more than 20 per cent of all the wildflowers of the United States have been treated in books intended for the intelligent lay public, and that colored illustrations have been published for no more than 10 per cent. Since the public has so little reference material available to it, a committee has been formed, with Mrs. David Rockefeller as chairman, to promote the publication of a series of books which will eventually contain all the wildflowers of the United States, illustrated in color. A rough outline of the project follows: Five zones or vegetational areas of the United States will be recognized, with one or two volumes for each area. This will mean a total of at least 9,000 colored illustrations, with line drawings as a further aid in the identification of the wildflowers. The text, as well as the drawings and colored plates, will be prepared under the supervision of The New York Botanical Garden. Because I feel that this is a wholly worthwhile project, and one that really needs doing, I have agreed to serve as general editor. Within the next few weeks, we hope to have a precisely detailed plan, with the exact number of species to be included and the number of plates needed to illustrate them.

It is hoped that this basic work for illustrating and identifying the wildflowers will not only serve in nature education in general but will aid and support wildflower and other conservation movements, and will put on permanent record those species that may later disappear under the onslaughts of civilization. The books will be scientifically accurate and at the same time as non-technical as possible. Although not primarily intended for professional botanists, The New York Botanical Garden expects that these books will be useful to botanists and indispensable to professionals in other fields.

The economics of the publishing business prohibit this project as an enterprise for any publishing house to undertake by itself--but rough figures indicate that this can be a self-supporting publishing project, provided that the plates for both

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.

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text and colored illustrations can be made and leased to the publisher. We estimate that the funds needed will come to approximately \$1 1/2 million.

If you approve of the project so briefly outlined, I hope you will indicate your endorsement by allowing your name to be used as a member of this national committee, still unincorporated. It is most important that we have the backing of prominent people whose interests touch upon this field before making our appeal to foundations. We would also be grateful for any suggestions you might think of value, and we are, of course, only too glad to answer any inquiries. This is in no sense a personal appeal to you for money, and you will find that your support of our program will neither now nor later commit you in any way to any financial obligation--we just need your sponsorship. We feel that a work of this magnitude can be undertaken only with the aid of interested foundations over the country, and as soon as our plans are precise and our professional support unquestionable, we plan to go ahead and approach these foundations.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

WCS/gd

April 11, 1960

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, New York

Dear Bill:

I have read with considerable interest your letter of April 4 and want to say at once that I shall be happy to have you enroll me as a member of the committee to sponsor the project which you describe.

I have long felt the need of the kind of handbooks which you have in mind. Several European countries are far ahead of this in this respect and I feel that it is incumbent upon us to remedy this situation. I had not heard of this undertaking until it came up at the Board meeting and I am glad to have the additional details contained in your letter. As the project materializes I shall, of course, hope to receive further information.

What, for example, is a wildflower? Is cat-tail a wildflower? If so, then, is bur-reed? And what about cotton-grass, pipewort, and many others? The problems here are many and varied, and I hope that these books can be as comprehensive as possible. The complaint one most frequently hears about popular handbooks is that the very plant the user wants to identify is omitted.

I am sure that matters of this kind will receive the most careful consideration and I shall certainly be pleased to render any assistance which I can.

It was, as always, a pleasure to see you the other day and I look forward to future meetings. Please take seriously my suggestion of paying us a visit and seeing something of our place as well as others in the neighborhood.

Warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

Steere, Wm C.

November 3, 1960

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, New York

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for your letter of October 31 with its more-than-generous comments on my little Arboretum article.

I would indeed be pleased to send copies to members of the Board. Shall I send you the desired number, to be mailed out by you or will you have someone send me the names and addresses of the group so that I may send them from here?

May I take advantage of this writing to ask a favor of you? Please have Tom Everett let me know whether you have Ilex collina growing at the Garden. If you have I might also decide to come over to see it this fall, that is, if it is still holding its foliage. I am doing an article on deciduous hollies for our Bulletin and want very much to see material of this species. A plant which Mrs. Barnes has under this name is certainly something else.

Thanks a lot and all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMF:am

The New York Botanical Garden BRONX PARK • NEW YORK 58 • NEW YORK • LU 4-8500

CHARLES B. HARDING, *President*
FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR., *Vice President*
MRS. HERMANN G. PLACE, *Vice President*
R. GORDON WASSON, *Treasurer*
WILLIAM C. STEERE, *Director*

November 9, 1960

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr., Director
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18, Penna.

Dear Jack:

Please send me reprints of the article along and we will mail them so that they will come officially from the Garden on your behalf-- and save you a bit of labor.

I am passing your letter along to Mr. Everett with the request that he answer your question about Ilex collina. Although we do not have an ilex collection as such in one place, we do have some very interesting things scattered about through the Garden. We are always anxious to improve our collections and if we do not have this species we will be grateful to know where you eventually find it.

Sincerely yours,

Bill
William C. Steere
Director

WCS/gd

cc: Mr. Everett

Steere, Wm. C. Dr.

November 17, 1960

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, New York

Dear Bill:

There are going forward to you 35 copies of my Arboretum bed-time story. I am not sure this is enough, but would point out that reprints have already been sent to Mr. Henry duPont and Senator Desmond.

If you need more please let me know. I hate to seem so parsimonious, but there has been a surprising demand for copies of this article.

Warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMF:am

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The New York Botanical Garden

Office of the Director

11/23/60

Dear Jack:

Although we don't
have living material of
Alex collina, we can
(+cotypes, if any)
dig up the typeⁿ for you,
if you wish, as soon as
the herbarium is open
again -

Sincerely

Bill

P.S. I gather that this has
been relegated to synonymy.

Steere, Wm C. DR.

December 5, 1960

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, New York

Dear Bill:

Thanks a lot for your offer to dig up the type of Ilex collina for me. I doubt if this will be necessary for my present needs, although some day I want to see it.

I am not entirely sure yet that this name should be relegated to synonymy. Jack Sharp says that the species is inseparable from I. longipes, but at the present time I am inclined to look at it as fairly distinct.

Thanks again and good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMF:am

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Steere, W. C. Dr.

January 11, 1962

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park, New York 58, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

It grieves me greatly that I shall not be able to get to your lecture on the Tundra on Tuesday, January 23. I have a class from 2 to 5 that day and must miss you.

If only it were my course in Plant Geography, I would come and bring the whole class, but it's undergraduate Taxonomy of the Angiosperms and we shall just be getting into flower morphology that day.

If you come over early or stay late I should like very much to see you, but I imagine Carleton Lees will have you booked up for every available minute.

We're just back from a couple of weeks in Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala, and I must say that today's temperature almost persuades me that I should have stayed on in any one or all of them.

Best wishes for '62.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMP:am

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Steere to Fogg
Steere, W.C.

The New York Botanical Garden

Office of the Director

8/14/62

Dear Jack:

Here is the first
in statement of tundra
slides, promised last
spring. The rest will come
soon - any special wishes?

Dorothy and I had
a pleasant and productive
summer in Greenland &
got hundreds of slides!

Sincerely
Bill Steere

August 17, 1962

Dr. William C. Steere
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, New York

Dear Dr. Steere:

This will acknowledge your note of August 14, addressed to Dr. Fogg. As soon as summer school ended on August 10, Dr. Fogg took off for Oslo. He will visit Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland - terminating his trip in Belgium where he will attend the International Horticultural Congress at Brussels.

Thank you for the two kodachromes of the tundra - Dr. Fogg will be delighted to have these.

Give my very best to Mrs. Steere and we all hope to see her when you next visit the Arboretum.

Sincerely yours,

Alice N. McKinney
Secretary to Dr. Fogg.

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September 13, 1962

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, NEW YORK

Dear Bill:

A thousand thanks for the tundra slides which I found here on my return from Europe yesterday. They are just what I want for my course in Plant Geography.

If I were to be so bold, I might say that I would like something similar from Alaska. I have a goodly series from Newfoundland, although unfortunately they are all black and whites taken B.K. (before Kodachrome) in the 1920's. On this recent visit to Norway I got a good many shots in the alpine passes between the fjords, so gradually I am accumulating a series which will be very useful in my teaching.

The Congress in Brussels was really very exciting and I am sorry your place was not represented. Incidentally the next meeting of our Board of Managers will be on Wednesday, October 31. I do hope you can be here. We should be delighted to have you and Dorothy spend the night with us if it fits in with your plans.

Thanks again and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMF:am

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The New York Botanical Garden BRONX PARK • NEW YORK 58 • NEW YORK • LU 4-8500

CHARLES B. HARDING, *President*
FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR., *Vice President*
MRS. HERMANN G. PLACE, *Vice President*
R. GORDON WASSON, *Treasurer*
WILLIAM C. STEERE, *Director*

September 11, 1962

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director, Morris Arboretum
Philadelphia 18, Penna.

Dear Jack:

It gives me real pleasure to send you this pre-publication copy of the first volume resulting from a pioneer venture and a new departure in the field of Botany--the large-scale application of data-processing tools and techniques to the handling, ordering and presenting of plant names. Once correct information is given to the data-processing machine, the combination of punched card and offset printing eliminates any possibility of the clerical and typographical errors that plague conventional recording and printing methods.

In this first of a series of books, Sydney Gould and his staff present the names of the families of the Plant Kingdom, listed in several different arrangements to suit the special need of the user. The information concerning the author of each name and the date and place of its publication adds still greater value to this work.

Although I am not presuming to ask you for a formal evaluation of this book, I shall appreciate having your informal opinion of it. We will be especially grateful for advice or suggestions that may increase the usefulness of future volumes.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

WCS/gd
Enc.

I'll never forget the "softening-up" conference you arranged!

C
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September 14, 1962

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18, Pa.

Dear Jack:

C
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Phyllis Parkins was here yesterday to talk to our library people on Biological Abstracts business. In the course of conversations she mentioned that Biological Abstracts does not have the same close relationship with the University that it had when I first knew it many years ago. It seems to me that with its enormously increased output BA must be a very important part of the biological community at the University of Pennsylvania and that the University might well benefit itself to retain some official connection, even though it not be either administrative or financial. For example, I would think that some sort of University title for Miles Conrad would be most appropriate. Columbia University has a whole series of distinguished people from which it can demand a certain amount of service occasionally, by giving them the title of Lecturer, or Adjunct Professor. You may know that through tradition I am actually a member of the Department of Botany, with the title of Professor, without qualification. At Stanford University, the staff of the Carnegie Institute of Washington, who have their laboratory on the campus, are adjunct members of the Department of Biology. This sort of thing strengthens both organizations and recognizes officially what is rather taken for granted informally. With the development of programs in communication at Penn, I can see the possibility of graduate students holding a sort of internship at Biological Abstracts as part of their training.

This idea occurred to me last night after our meeting and so I pass it on to you for what it is worth. I am looking forward to seeing you on the occasion of the Morris Arboretum meeting next month.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) BILL

William C. Steere
Director

WCS:gd

Steere, Wm Dr

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CHARLES B. HARDING, *President*
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WILLIAM C. STEERE, *Director*

September 14, 1962

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18, Pa.

Dear Jack:

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This idea occurred to me last night after our meeting and so I pass it on to you for what it is worth. I am looking forward to seeing you on the occasion of the Morris Arboretum meeting next month.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William C. Steere
Director

WCS/gd

September 19, 1962

Dr. William C. Steere, Director
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York 58, NEW YORK

Dear Bill:

Your letter of September 14, concerning the relationship between B. A. and the University, strikes a very responsive cord in me. I have for some time been aware that there are no longer the same intimate ties that prevailed formerly and have actually invited Miles to submit a memo on what might be done to rectify this situation.

Your letter now provides the necessary catalyst and I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of it to Dave Coddard. I know of no one who is in a better position to study this matter than he.

May I also, at this time thank you for the copy of Sydney Gould's "Family Names." I have not yet had a chance to examine it carefully, but as soon as I do I shall give you my reaction.

I expect to attend your Board meeting on the 2nd, so try to bear up until then, won't you?

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMP:am

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CHARLES B. HARDING, *President*
FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR., *Vice President*
MRS. HERMANN G. PLACE, *Vice President*
R. GORDON WASSON, *Treasurer*
WILLIAM C. STEERE, *Director*

November 7, 1962

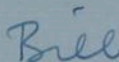
Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 18, Pa.

Dear Jack:

When I was with you recently I forgot to tell you that Roger Vilmorin will be in this country in August, 1963. Would it not be nice to set up some talks for him?

Dorothy and I certainly enjoyed a very pleasant evening with you, Helen and friends. It was a lovely occasion and we were delighted to have a chance to get better acquainted. I hope we can have a return engagement in Bronxville. Please let me know when you next expect to be in New York and we can make some plans--definitely.

Most sincerely,



William C. Steere
Director

WCS/gd