



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](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://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.

Avon Fog

June 26, 1927.

Dr. Rodney H. True,  
Dept. of Botany,  
Univ. of Penna.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. True:

I had the pleasure of showing your Paulsboro grass to Bayard Long shortly before leaving town, and he recognized it as Alonecurus ramosus Poiret. This species, which differs from A. geniculatus chiefly on the basis of its shorter anthers, is of Austro-riparian affinities. It lacks recognition in our present manuals, but Long regards it as a perfectly distinct species which, with us at least, is doubtfully native, occurring usually in waste places, near cultivated fields, or around old farmhouses. Farther south the thing is indigenous.

Also, I talked with Long about the matter of giving a course on the local flora and found that, just as we had suspected, the initiative was on Dr. Pennell's side entirely. Long had regarded the propositions absurd but had finally yielded to Pennell's insistent demands to be allowed to broach the matter to you. He says he has absolutely no pedagogic ability or equipment and even paid me the compliment of saying that I was the logical person to give such a course, which is pure modesty on Long's part, for I doubt that I shall ever succeed in developing his critical judgment and keen discrimination. At any rate, it seems to me very doubtful that Long could ever be prevailed upon to give the work and he has said that he would communicate this information to you himself.

Please let me express once more my sincere appreciation of the helpful and thoughtful interest you have displayed in my behalf. I shall certainly never forget your kindness and my every effort in what I do next year will be directed towards rendering myself worthy of it.

I hope that you and Philip are going to have a wonderfully enjoyable vacation and I wish that you might find it possible to pass this way. I would like particularly for you to see just now the several acre field across from the Botany Laboratory a golden mass of Cytisus.

With best wishes, I am,

Most sincerely yours,

The American Association for the Advancement of Science  
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

A. A. NOYES  
PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION  
CHAIRMAN, EX-OFFICIO

RODNEY H. TRUE  
SECRETARY

ANNUAL MEETING  
OF ASSOCIATION FOR 1927-1928  
NASHVILLE, TENN.  
DEC. 26, 1927. TO DEC. 31, 1927

OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE  
BOTANICAL LABORATORY  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Botanical Laboratory, July 6, 1927.

Mr. John W. Fogg, Jr.  
Maine Biological Laboratory,  
Woods Hole, Mass.

My dear Mr. Fogg:-

It was good to get your note of June 26, after a week in Washington. I am glad to know all that you have told me. I thought that I knew Alopecurus gracilicollis but could not see what else this might be. Hence some satisfaction in seeing that it is a near relative.

I am much interested to hear about your interview with Bayard Fay.

We are digging away here. The Committee of One Hundred is keeping me busy. Hope to start for New England about July 20, if all is favorable.

A line from you as convenient will be appreciated.

Philip joins in all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Rodney H. True

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA  
THE COLLEGE

BOTANIC GARDEN  
RODNEY H. TRUE, DIRECTOR

October 4, 1927.

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,  
Gray Herbarium,  
Harvard University,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Fogg:

I suppose that by this time you are getting sight of your work for the year and are perhaps already started on it. I know something of the wonderful opportunities you are enjoying at the Gray Herbarium, both as to material and men. Please give my best regards to Dr. Robinson and Dr. Fernald.

The work is beginning here and according to present indications our beginning classes will be somewhat smaller than usual, but I think we shall have sufficient to keep us busy. Miss Briggs and Joe Adams are getting adjusted to the new place in the cellar, which, now that it has been reconditioned, is a rather imposing room. I think were you to look into it you would like it. Joe had considerable misgivings regarding the desirability of the climate there, but I think he is feeling better about it as he sees the room take on its finished form. Miss Briggs wishes a key to the herbarium and I am wondering if you took your key with you and if so whether you would be kind enough to let her have it. Since there was a considerable loss of books last year from the library which is accommodated by the same key I am quite anxious not to increase the number of keys unless absolutely necessary. Perhaps you can lend her yours.

We have been having a very warm spell lately. Hope all goes well with you. I shall be glad to hear from you as time and inclination serve.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Rodney H. True*

*Perhaps you have other keys to that would be useful if here.*

from Fogg

Gray Herbarium  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Mass.

Oct 5, 1927,

Dear Dr. True :

I want cordially to thank you for your kind letter which reached me this afternoon. Your good wishes are deeply appreciated by me and I need not tell you that your sympathetic interest is always an inspiration to me.

A very special Providence seems to have presided over my doings here, for I have a lovely room in a private house with a family of great culture and intellectual and artistic attainment. I am only three minutes walk from Gray Herbarium and an equal distance from the University Museum.

Work at the Herbarium is progressing well. Everyone has done everything possible to make me feel at home, and I am revelling, as you have well conjectured, in the wonderful facilities of the place and the splendid contacts that it offers.

I am right glad to hear of progress on the basement quarters. I confess to having been dubious, at the time of my leaving, that the place could be rendered habitable within a short space of time.

Enclosed you will find the key to the Herbarium and a master key to the wall lockers in Room 36, the only other key I have that you would find useful.

I trust that the Poetry Circle still thrives, and that the Field Club is on its way to a banner year with Philip - to whom please remember me most kindly - at the head.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA  
THE COLLEGE

BOTANIC GARDEN  
RODNEY H. TRUE, DIRECTOR

November 9, 1927.

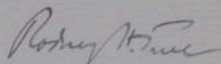
Mr. John M. Fogg,  
Gray Herbarium,  
Harvard University,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Mr. Fogg:

It was good to get your note of October 5 reporting on your interesting situation and doings at Cambridge. I feel sure that you are having a wonderful time and getting what you went for. The keys to the herbarium and the master key to wall lockers in room 36 came in your letter. The Poetry Club which you mention has not yet resumed operations but is thinking about it. The Field Club is on its way rejoicing.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



40, Shepard Street  
Cambridge

March 13, 1928.

Dr. Rodney L. True,  
Dept. of Botany  
University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. True:

If my memory serves me correctly you are by this time back in Philadelphia after what, I am sure, must have been a very wonderful and enjoyable trip. I shall certainly look forward to having an account of it from your own lips.

You may recall that when I was home at Christmas time we spoke about the possibility of my working up and presenting a course which would deal with the origin and problems of the flora of the Philadelphia local region. I have since given this matter a great deal of thought and firmly believe that I see just how such a course might be offered and how it might be made instructive and profitable. If you are still disposed to consider it as practicable, say for the college year 1928-29, I should like to offer the following suggestions.

As I see it, a course like this would best fit into the Spring term, primarily because of the advantages to be derived from field study at that season, and also because there has for some time been a paucity of courses in Botany offered the second half. I should think that six hours a week would be necessary for an adequate treatment of the subject, say 2-5 Tuesdays and Thursdays, afternoons being preferable for a certain amount of field study.

I have given considerable thought to the subject matter of this course and to the possibility of its appearing as an encroachment in the eyes of certain members of the Botanical Faculty. Dealing with the latter problem first, it has seemed to me that it might be politic to recommend Botany 2B, in addition to Botany 1, as required for admission to the class. We might say "Botany 2B or its equivalent" which would provide a loophole, subject to your discretion, for admitting such students as had already sufficient familiarity with the more important families of flowering plants. This knowledge would naturally be very desirable, for it would obviate my having to spend too much time on the more obvious things and would hasten the hour when we could plunge in to a consideration of geographic, historic and taxonomic data.

As for the subject matter, you already know its scope. I should want to dwell briefly upon the development of the subject; touching on the older works, such as "Flora Cestrica" "Flora Philadelphia" etc., showing how our present knowledge has been built up. I should want to deal in a general way with taxonomic practice and herbarium technique, giving some insight into the workings of nomenclature and the organizing of collections and, above all, the application of each to a thoro understanding of the problem in hand. Meanwhile, laboratory work, say during February and March, would be devoted to acquiring a greater familiarity with our more significant groups of native plants from study of herbarium material. There would be descriptions to compare, literature - general and monographic - to consult, keys to work with, unknowns to identify, drawings of critical characters to make, keys to make up for the species of a genus or the genera of a family, working knowledge of fundamental morphological and descriptive terms to instill, and a hundred and one other things too numerous to mention. In fact, whereas at first the finding of sufficient laboratory seemed to me to constitute a problem, the task now seem one of restricting the laboratory activities to those which appear most profitable. It may even be possible to place the more advanced students on a problem basis, giving them some piece of systematic or nomenclatorial research. In this connection, I am not forgetting that the collections and library of the Philadelphia Academy will be accessible to us. I do not see why such a course should not in time constitute the basis for some real work.

I should plan also in lecture to take up the geographic and climatic factors offered in our area and to deal with the origins of the various elements in our flora. What constitutes the Coastal Plain, the Piedmont? What is the Carolinian life-zone, the Alleghanian? What percentage of our plants are southern types pushing northwards? What percentage northern forms reaching southwards? How many are general throout all of eastern U.S.? How many introduced? How many endemic, and why? How many with their nearest relations in eastern Asia, and why? How many related to plants of the Southern Hemisphere, and why? How did glaciation influence our flora? What is the relation of the old Beacon Hill formation to the Pine Barrens of today? And so on, taking up the countless interesting facts of phyto-geography and phylogeny and showing wherein lies the really fundamental relation between the problems of plant distribution and those of a more general and far-reaching nature.

With all of this there would go, of course, during the spring months a certain amount of careful and concentrated field work, learning how to observe, to collect and to record, and the myriad other lessons that only field study can inculcate. I fear I have wearied you unpardonably with my brain-child, but you asked for a more concrete outline and here it is. I should be glad to know if you still think there is room at Penn for such a course as I have in mind. Please remember me most cordially to Mrs. Trueand to Phillip. Also, I should like to send thru you my kindest regards to Miss Clark and the gentlemen of the staff. With every good wish to you, I am,

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA

BOTANICAL LABORATORY  
38TH ST. AND WOODLAND AVE.  
RODNEY H. TRUE, DIRECTOR

July 28, 1930

My dear Dr. Fogg:

A note has been received from A. W. Hill, of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England asking the Department of Botany of this University to appoint a delegate to attend and vote at the discussion on nomenclature to be held at the International Botanical Congress in August. I think you will undoubtedly want to be present and I should be very glad if you would act as a delegate of this department. I have written to Dr. Hill naming you as delegate from this Department. Not knowing how to reach you otherwise, I am addressing this in care of the Congress, thinking you might probably apply to the post office for any possible mail.

We are having a dirty time in the Botany building, the plastering is being repaired and the inside painted. I hope that it will be quite made over by the time you are back.

The last few days have been very hot and uncomfortable and you are to be congratulated on being elsewhere. I hope that you and your wife are thoroughly enjoying your travels and that in due time we may see you back in Philadelphia.

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

*Rodney H. True*

Sat. Aug 30  
 maid 10/0  
 porter 5/6  
 taxi 4/  
 cigarets 4/  
 porter 7/6  
 paper 1/  
 porter 4/0

deck chairs \$2.00

~~Edward II~~  
 -1871

Henry VI  
 1430

James I  
 1603 - 1625

5

Samuel  
 1653

Wm Shakespeare  
 1689 - 1702

Geo. I  
 1714

Norman Anglo Saxon?  
 Benet Church  
 Jean College

Vicia  
 See Tuttle  
 Shaw  
 Ballard

mount.  
 store

fier  
 chef 20.38

20.38  
 20.00  
 20.81

40.00 Knives  
 36.00 fork

5.00

65

Cambr. £ 3 = 15 = 35.00  
 bread 18-23  
 London 67 - = 35.00  
 23-30  
 65.00

Wed 20

Thurs:  
 lunch - - 8/0  
 tea 1/0  
 RR sta 3

Fri  
 Taxonomy photo 5/0  
 bus fare 2  
 movies 1/6  
 candy & potatoes 1/11

Sat.  
 stamps 1/6  
 // (parcel) 0/6  
 candy 0/5  
 cards 1/11  
 books - 1/0/6  
 taxi 3/5  
 lodging 5/0/0  
 tip 5/0

Bus  
 7/6  
 1/11  
 1/6/6

From Fegg

6511 North 8th St.

Aug. 12, 1932.

Dear Dr. True:

Spending a summer at home certainly has its compensations. For nearly ten years I have been longing for the chance to have a good look at our local flora during July and August, so this season finds me trying to make the most of my opportunity. I have visited about twenty localities in south Jersey, collecting about 500 specimens, among them some of the rarer and more interesting specialties, such as: Schizaea, Tofieldia racemosa, Narthecium (Abama), Rhynchospora oligantha and Ludwigia hirtella. I would like to take you to some of the stations in the Pine Barrens which I have come to know.

Our trip down into Delaware was not so successful as I had hoped. Apparently we never got into the best part of the Ellendale Swamp, but we did find plenty of interesting material and I'm very eager to compare notes with you. One of the best places we struck was Glendaniel Pond, about a mile north of Ellendale, where Sagittaria Engelmanni, Fuirena hispida, Eleocharis olivacea constituted the chief attractions. I forget whether you have collected from this locality. Alnus maritima, also growing there, must be near the very northern limit of its range.

I had a very interesting letter from Mr. McGowan telling me something of your botanical activities and it sounds to me as tho the Herbarium were in line for some valuable additions. I am looking forward to seeing your material and hearing all about your finds.

McGowan also transmitted your kind invitation to stay with you when we drive north, which we plan to do near the end of August. I can hardly tell you how deeply my wife and I appreciate your kindness or happy we would be to take advantage of it if the date of our arrival did not coincide with a time which will doubtless find you engaged with the happy details attendant upon Philip's Marriage. We plan to leave here about the 25th driving north slowly, stopping en route with Mr. E.B. Bartram at Bushkill, at a cousin's camp near Lake George and with some friends at their cabin near Elizabethtown, N.Y. From Elizabethtown we shall cross over to Gorham, arriving there the 30th. Philip has invited us to join him in the ascent of Pine Mt. to witness the eclipse on the 31st. We should like to make a few side trips out of Gorham, if time permits, so that I fear greatly that at just the time which will find us heading south

1880  
1881

you will be on your way to Gorham for the festivities. If, by good chance, we should see you in Gorham I should indeed rejoice, but I have given Philip to understand that we are loathe to intrude upon his plans in the slightest way and I do not want either him or you to have us on your minds at a time when you will have plenty of other things to occupy you.

Helen joins me in sending our very best regards to Mrs. True and yourself. If we miss seeing you both at Gorham and North Berwick, we shall certainly look forward to a visit soon after your return in September.

Most sincerely yours,

Our trip down into Delaware was not so successful as I had hoped. Apparently we never got into the best part of the Ellendale Swamp, but we did find plenty of interesting material and I have been very busy ever since. I have been to the best places we struck near Ellendale, about north of Ellendale, where Samuel's Swamp is situated. I have collected from this locality. I have also collected from the very northern part of the range.

I had a very interesting letter from Mr. McGowan telling me something of your potential activities and it would be as the Herbarium were in line for some valuable additions. I am looking forward to seeing your material and hearing all about your finds.

McGowan also transmitted your kind invitation to stay with you when we drive north, which we plan to do near the end of August. I can hardly tell you how deeply my wife and I appreciate your kindness or how we would be to take advantage of it if the date of our arrival did not coincide with the date which will doubtless find you engaged with the happy domestic contentment upon Philip's marriage. We plan to leave here about the 25th driving north slowly, stopping en route with Mr. E.R. Hartman at Hamhill, at a cousin's camp near Lake George and with some friends at their cabin near Elliptown, N.Y. Elliptown we shall cross over to Gorham, arriving there the 30th. Philip has invited us to join him in the month of June. We should like to make the entire trip out of Gorham, if time permitted, so that I can greatly thank at just the time which will find us heading north.

RODNEY H. TRUE  
4111 BALTIMORE AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA

North Benning, Maine, Aug. 16, 1932.

My dear brother Fagg,

Your letter telling of botanical thills in New Jersey and Delaware came this morning and I am keen to run over the catch with you. We shall have to find some time for comparing notes someday. It is good to know that you are heading northward shortly and we are trying now to get a program worked out that may provide for as much as may be practicable. I certainly hope to see you and your lady before we meet in Philadelphia. We submitted the following program in the hope that it may be feasible for you.

We plan to drive to the Androscooggin Dam, East of Gorham about 2 miles in a beautiful place near the Androscooggin Dam River, arriving on the eve of August 30. On the 31<sup>st</sup> we shall join a party of Philife that includes you and Mrs. Fagg to go upon to Pine Mountain to see the eclipse. Aug 31. On Sept. 2, Friday, Philife's wedding takes place. We plan to continue a couple of days at the Inn climbing Mt. Washburn via Fackerman's Ravine on Sept. 3. I shall hope for an hour in the floor of the Ravine where Arnica racemosa occurs and perhaps a look into the alpine garden with hope for Carex capitata. Night on top of Mt. W. On Sept 4. we shall return to the Inn and make ready to return to North Benning, "Vicia", on the 5<sup>th</sup> perhaps

Now, can not you and Mrs. Fogg make trips about  
Graham and Clinch the mountains by going up Mt.  
W. with us? This would delay you a little perhaps, but  
would seem to be possibly worth while. I should greatly appreciate  
making that climb with you. Then perhaps or stop at  
Picca as you journey southward might be practicable.

I believe Kyle Jackson and his lady are driving this way  
at about the eclipse time and might make the trip too.  
I understood that Mrs. J. wishes to climb a mountain.  
Perhaps Woshing ton will do.

I'll hardly stand this late to discuss the plants so  
far. I prize *Senecio* *pusilla* rather highly and a  
little extension of my range for *Carex aurea* into New  
Hampshire is a satisfaction. Have a few things that  
I have rather hazy notions about. Will have to define  
them later.

Must close and do so with all good wishes from  
Mrs. True, Philip, just arrived, Mrs. Luc Evans  
and of course from

Yours sincerely,

Rodney H. True



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
THE COLLEGE

Botanical Laboratory  
38th St. and Woodland Av.

Philadelphia

July 29, 1933.

Dr. Rodney H. True, Director,  
Morris Arboretum,  
Chestnut Hill,  
Phila, Pa.

Dear Dr. True:

Having learned that Mr. Rodney Philip True is applying for a Morris Arboretum Fellowship, I take great pleasure in writing a few words of endorsement in his behalf.

Since these Fellowships are primarily designed to aid the student who has fully embarked upon a serious piece of investigation leading to the doctorate, moreover the student who has demonstrated pronounced research ability, it seems to me that Mr. True is an ideal candidate, one whose claims for consideration can scarcely be ignored.

Of the applicant's personality, cultural background, intellectual alertness and scientific curiosity I entertain the highest possible estimate—an estimate based upon nearly ten years of contact as teacher and as friend.

I am fully of the opinion that, as holder of one of these Fellowships, Mr. True would reflect nothing but credit to the Morris Foundation and am therefore only too happy to have this opportunity of unreservedly recommending his appointment.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.  
Asst. Prof. of Botany

MORRIS ARBORETUM  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
CHESTNUT HILL  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

RODNEY H. TRUE  
DIRECTOR

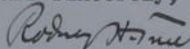
July 31, 1933.

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

My dear Dr. Fogg:

Your note of July 30th, concerning the candidacy of Mr. Rodney Philip True for a Morris Arboretum Fellowship, has been received, and I am very glad to have your opinion of him and his work.

Yours sincerely,



Rodney H. True  
Director

RHT-R

6511 North Eighth St.  
Oak Lane, Phila.,

Sept. 3, 1933.

Dear Dr. True:

Just a few lines to let you know that things are going well here and at the Arboretum.

My work on the families is progressing steadily and is now into the Fagaceae, which means that difficult groups like the Willows, Poplars and Hickories have been studied and their Arboretum representatives named with a fair degree of finality.

I have had several good days in the field with Bayard Long, and, as a result, have brought back to the Arboretum for propagation cuttings of several of our native trees as well as much helpful material for the herbarium, which is now increasing by leaps and bounds.

Joe and I had a profitable trip to south Jersey last week, bringing back living plants of such things as Iva, Baccharis, Magnolia, Rhododendron viscosum, etc., which are now thriving in the nursery. We also made cuttings of many desiderata and filled our presses with specimens of the woody flora for the herbarium.

I have been in touch several times with Dr. Ryerson, with the result that we are now able to substitute names for numbers in the case of a long list of plants received some years ago from the Bureau of Foreign Plant Introductions.

You may recall that I wrote to Dr. Stewart, telling him that we would like his Kashmir plants but had no funds for them at present. He replied by sending us his most complete set (nearly 1200 nos.), leaving it to us to pay for them when we wish to!

The check for my bonus arrived in due course, and I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the interest and effort which you have exerted in procuring it for me.

Miss Heller tells me that you have been in touch with Seymour. I certainly hope that he can arrange to come. All signs point to an interesting year ahead and I am looking eagerly forward to the assembling of our "Compton family."

I certainly hope that you are enjoying your well deserved vacation to the fullest extent. Please accept my very best wishes for a splendid time for yourself and Mrs. True.

Most sincerely,

MORRIS ARBORETUM  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
CHESTNUT HILL  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

February 19, 1934.

RODNEY H. TRUE  
DIRECTOR

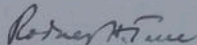
Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,  
Department of Botany,  
University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Dr. Fogg:

Miss Rowe has looked up the question of the draft going to Dr. Stewart for his Kashmir plants, and I have written Dr. Stewart in the terms of the enclosed carbon.

I hope that he has not been inconvenienced by the delay that seems to have taken place in the Pennsylvania Company.

Yours sincerely,



Rodney H. True  
Director

RHT-R

Enclosure

Dr. Ralph R. Stewart,  
Gordon College,  
Rawalpindi, India.

My dear Dr. Stewart:

I learn from your letter of January 15th to Dr. Fogg that on that date you had not yet received the check from the Morris Arboretum for the set of Kashmir plants forwarded about the time of your departure for the East.

I have had the matter looked up and find that a letter authorizing payment went to the office of the Morris Foundation on October 19th. It was forwarded on the Pennsylvania Company on October 23rd for payment. The matter seems to have rested for about three months in the office of the Pennsylvania Company. The draft in your favor was sent out from the Pennsylvania Company on January 3rd, and obviously had not reached you on the date of your letter to Dr. Fogg - January 15th. I hope that by this time the draft has been received.

I am sorry for the delay which happened in the bank which handles the funds of the Arboretum. I hope that you have not been inconvenienced. I shall be glad to have word from you that you have received the draft for the sum due.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

Rodney H. True  
Director

RHT-R