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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.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

AC 504 865-6226

Department of Biology

14 December 1974

airmail

Dr. H. L. Li  
Morris Arboretum  
9414 Meadowbrook Ave. R5  
Philadelphia 19118

Dear Dr. Li:

Your good letter of October 28th deserved a more prompt reply but this term has been particularly busy, not the smallest item being the preparation for the Columbus symposium at UCLA next February, not to forget the plans for the '76 Centennial Dibbling in History for the PHS.

I am forwarding the article on Hura polyandra to Mrs. Lois Chambers Stone, Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, 94720, who is mentioned in the story and who would have access to the Grayson plate that you asked to be reproduced for the Arboretum Bulletin. I am sure that Lois will do everything in her precincts to assist you.

Regarding the references to me in the article as how best to indicate me, "Joe" or "Prof. Ewan," I am inclined to think under the circumstances of the article's informality of tone, "Joe" is best. But of course I shall follow your editorial decision here quite happily.

~~X~~ Hura polyandra is evidently the closely related Mexican counterpart of the West Indian H. crepitans.

Very sincerely,

*Joseph Ewan*  
Joseph Ewan  
Ida A. Richardson  
Prof. of Botany

cc: Mrs. Lois Chambers Stone

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

Oct. 22, 1969

Dear Ida: Believe it! I was at West Chester last week but Overlease had me busy and I was picked up and delivered to the Phila airport on close schedule so had no chance to phone you. I had your letter just before leaving NO. I wish so much I could write the magic word. 1) Have you asked Correll? He has a Mex interest and has (at times!) dinero mucho. Texas flora seems to have dried up the funds and he told me at Seattle that he was at last going to see the book out. What this may mean about any other funds for such a project I cannot say. Would take \$1200 to clear up U Fa Press if I understand your letter? and release the copies to Mex for their disposal. Some stocks should be kept for slow sales abroad.

2) Harry Lubrecht came down to West Chester last Fri and told me he had words from you and, rest assured, he is interested but just now with the transition to Macmillan (SH has merged you know) things are hard to swing which last year would have been relatively simple. He commented that there would likely be calls for the book 20-40 years from now verging on panic or something like that. Hardly help for 1969 but keep in touch.

3) Jack Fogg? I know he is no longer with Morris Arb but I thought he might be freer to speak on that account. What you need is some corp to pick up the tab for \$1200 on tax write-off and send the books to Mex with its blessing. Now what Amer corp has made a pile in Mex and feels guilty? Best with some econ botany tie-in. Louis Williams likely knows the possibilities, and is an awfully nice fellow, very human. Perhaps he can suggest? Rog McVaugh? Would the U Mich take over the stocks? Harold Moore? Cornell U Press take over? YOU MUST NOT GIVE UP!

Hastily but most sincerely,

*Jose*  
Joseph Ewan

I think Hunt B Lib is having to restrain its spending from over-extending itself in late years.

*refert.*

TULANE UNIVERSITY

*College of Arts and Sciences*

NEW ORLEANS 18

*Department of Botany*

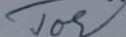
16 January 1965

Dear Ida:

Special delivery from Science this morning comes your big bib baby!  
I see you have written your estimate on the dust wrapper--Agave!  
admirable! and what more can I say?

Great!

Sincerely,



Joseph Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

24 November 1964

Dear Ida:

Good to hear that your Mexican bib is nearing completion! Thank you for your generous thought on my behalf and I shall of course be happy to review this august tome in Science. I have written to Sarah Dees alerting her of my intention, and I think she will abide by this suggestion, as she has done in the past. Now if the UPa Press feel that they cannot be overly generous with complimentary copies let me take the Science copy as mine-- it will come to me routinely if I do their review. If, on the contrary, they seem to be flush with copies, send me another and I shall pass it on to a deserving botanist abroad who would not be able to afford it--perhaps Wm T. Stearn at the BM(NH) or someone else.

I do not think you will need to send copies for "advertising" purposes, will you? Will not review copies be the dispersal propogule? Science would not need an advertising copy, unless you had in mind a column ad? This is better done by mail ads sent to members of the ASFY for example. I would suggest that the Press be encouraged to make up a sheet, like the APS did for John Lyon, to mail to a list or lists of botanical public. Torrey Club, ASPT, BotSocAmer come to mind as membership lists that would be likely bait; Press will do this if you give them the names of secretaries, etc. for the Press to contact.

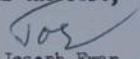
REVIEW copies should be sent to:

* AMER. MIDL. NAT.	ASB BULL.	** RHODORA
* Bot. Jahrbuch.	ECOLOGY	* LIBRARY JOURNAL
** MADRONO	**NATURE	** SCIENCE
TAXON (perhaps not necessary to send a copy in order to get the book noticed in Taxon?)		
** QRB	* SOC. BOT. DE FRANCE	
** KEW BULL.	* BULL. TORREY BOT. CLUB	
* ZEITSCH. BOT.	* NEW PHYTOLOGIST	

I do not think the others on the list are really called; depends on attitude of Press. I would insist on those marked with \* above. Press may be ungenerous. Here is a baker's dozen. If they say only 6 copies for reviews then I think those with \*\* would be the ones to get them.

I would ask Wiggins to do the review for MADRONO. Fosberg or Rickett or McVaugh for QRB, which now goes to many AIBS readers. Dick Schultes or Rollins for RHODORA. Sandwith of Kew for NATURE. Unless Corner of Cambridge who knows neotropics would be better. Sandwith of course may wish to review for KEW BULL but NATURE goes all over the world to all the colonists and would be important. Alicia Lourteig would do a review for the SOC. BOT. de FRANCE. There you have it.

With all the best,

  
Joseph Ewan

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA 4

The College  
DIVISION OF BIOLOGY

August 5, 1963

Dear Madam:

I wonder if it would be possible for you to provide me with the answers to the following questions:

1. What is the title of the work on Agave by G. A. von Jacobi which was printed in *Gartenflora* 17: 346-350, 1868?

(*monograph des Agave?*)

*purp.*  
*(hand)*

2. In Moeller's *Deutsche Gaertner Zeitung*, 11(10): 109-112, 1896, there is an anonymous article entitled C. A. Purpus und seine einfuehrungen. Is there a photograph in connection with this article, perhaps in the pages preceding or following of Purpus seated in front of a specimen of Arbutus? If so, is the species purpusi or purpusii?

If you wish, you may put the answers right on this sheet and return to me. I shall be most grateful for your help.

Sincerely,

(*Mrs.*) *Ida K. Langman*  
Ida K. Langman  
Research Fellow

*answered by*  
*J. Ewan*

The title of C.A. von Jacobi's work is Agaven  
It is included in Ferd. Cohn, Bericht über die Thätigkeit der Botanischen Sektion der Schlesischen Gesellschaft im Jahre 1866.

There is a photo of " C.A. Purpus " on the first page of the article mentioned. It is located at the bottom of the page and depicts the man seated beneath a tree. He is bare headed and clasps a plant in his hand. The leaves could be almost anything. Under the photo is his signature. This is on page 109.

On page 297 is another photo of him this time a formal one. Under it is the signature "A Purpus "

I noticed that under each man's picture they used a hand written signature instead of type. But why in one place the " C.A. Purpus " and in the other only " A. Purpus " ?

Throughout the article there is one i not two (ii) used with plants named for Purpus.

This is numbered Volume XI .

= Arbutus purpurea twig

= Headgardener at Darmstadt !  
not C. A. Purpus !  
=

To Idea Langman:

Interdepartmental Correspondence

TULANE UNIVERSITY

12 Oct. 1963

Notes on two questions of your letter of August 5th:

- 1) This is a book review! by E/duard/ R/egel/ of Ferd/inand/ Cohn, Bericht, etc. 1866, wherein Jacobi's work evidently appeared as "Monograph der Agaven" but no precise title is given. Then follows a synopsis of the genus of 155 spp. arranged by sections. Pagination= 346-351.

Issues of Cohn, Bericht, at AA, Harvard, but not the precise one in question to examine the original reviewed in the Gartenflora.

- 2) See my scratch notes written on your letter. Important correction is that A. Furgus is the headgardener at Darmstadt, not C. A. Furgus, as concluded and therefore not to be confused with the collector under consideration.

The specimen held in hand of C. A. Furgus is surely Arbutus purpusi.

J. Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

17 August 1962

Pendle Hill  
Wallingford  
Pa.

Gentlemen:

Please send me a copy of  
Pringle, C. G. Civil War Diary. Pamphlet no. 122. 1.00  
for which I'm sending herewith a check in the amount indicated. Thank  
you for this courtesy.

Very sincerely,

Joseph Ewan  
Prof. of Botany

incl.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Ida:

I take this to be a reprinting of  
THE RECORD OF A QUAKER CONSCIENCE. Cyrus Pringle's Diary.  
with an intro. by Rufus M. Jones. Macm. 1918. 93 pp. cloth.

but I'm pleased to know it is again to be had. This little volume  
is scarce and I waited a long time before I located my copy. Likely  
this new ed. has a new intro.?

\* Leave tomorrow for Montreal by auto with a grad student of History  
Dept. who will ride as far as NYC with me.

Dorothy is progressing s l o w l y and Nests, the dedicated dear, is  
pretty much tied down but we still hope she may be able to get away  
in Sept. to come back with me.

In haste,

Joseph Ewan

You may interested to know (teste I. L. Wiggins) that that Humphrey  
disaster by Ronald Press went 'round and round before finding a publisher;  
of course Banister made 3 rounds, 2 by invitation! before settling down  
with U Wisc Press! Just interesting . . .

+ an. yesterday! Working at Blacker Library, McGill

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

19 May 1961

Mrs. N. Floy Bracelin  
2214 Vine Street  
Berkeley 9, California

Dear Bracie:

Mrs. Langman is leaving for Mexico City June 2nd for a three weeks' visit, bearing on her work on the preparation of a Bibliography of Mexican Botany. She wonders if you have contacted Sr. Echanes regarding the Mexia chest? It is possible that she might be in a position to expedite the sale if she were informed of the progress of the negotiations.

In the event you make up a list of duplicate books for sale don't forget that Mrs. Langman is interested. And, then, there's Dr. Roger Conant and the Standley, Trees and Shrubs of Mexico. . .

I've sold the Sodiro, Contribuciones (Quito, 1900-1905), \$20, and Sodiro, Cryptogamae vasc. quitense (Quito, 1893), \$12.50, and my check for \$32.50 is sent you herewith.

We had a very pleasant visit from Karl U. Kramer of Utrecht, who came in from six months in Surinam, and George VanSchaeck, of MBG, joined him here and that was great sport. Then Dr. Taylor arrived for three-day visit, and again, it was a fine visit. He brought an excellent film of Kew and some fine color slides. It was good weather, the Miss. R. at flood stage and rather a thrill crossing the ferries for that reason. At Mary Plantation down river we visited the Knoblochs. They have a good collection of subtropicals. One hybrid Erythrins was singing with the sparring hummingbirds darting in and out of the crown of bloom. What a sight!

Well, I must be going but write Mrs. Langman if convenient so she may have the facts . . .

Nesta joins in very best,  
sincerely,

Joseph Ewan

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION  
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY  
SOILS, AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

DIVISION OF  
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

PLANT INTRODUCTION GARDEN

Plant Industry Station  
Beltsville, Maryland.

February 24, 1947

Miss Ida K. Langman  
2316 Delancey Place  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Dear Miss Langman:

Your inquiry regarding certain sources of botanical books, directed to me on the suggestion of Dr. F. W. Pennell, has been received, and I hasten to reply with the hope that some notes may prove useful.

Since Trelease, long-time director of the Missouri Botanical Gardens, was interested in the genus Agave and wrote on that group, I suggest that rare titles in that field may be sought there. Miss Nell Horner, Librarian, Missouri Botanical Gardens, Tower Grove Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, will be glad to assist you I am sure. Mr. William Hertrich, Superintendent, Huntington Botanic Gardens and Art Galleries, San Marino, California, may be able to assist with special titles, for though their library in botany is not comprehensive it is rich in some rarer works, and their living collection of Agaves is very fine indeed.

As for locating titles on coffee, it rather depends on the nature of your problem. If historical literature on coffee is sought, I believe that the New York Public Library has a special collection of books in that field. The U. S. Department of Agriculture Library here in Washington is comprehensive in such lines, and since the subject is of pivotal interest to the Latin American republics I would suggest that hard-to-find titles may be located in the excellent library of the Panamerican Union here. The last is exclusively a reference library.

For questions on oil palms, I suggest that Dr. Miriam Bomhard, U. S. Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C., may be able to assist you, with both their literature and nomenclature.

Very sincerely,

*Joseph Ewan*

Joseph Ewan  
Associate Botanist

JE/emn