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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.



*International Union of Biological Sciences*

INTERNATIONAL BIOHISTORICAL COMMISSION

*from the secretariat: CHRONICA BOTANICA HOUSE, WALTHAM 54, MASS., U. S. A. — Telephone: WA 5-0600 — Cables: FLORA*

June 28, 1954

Mrs. Ida K. Langman,  
The Academy of Natural Sciences  
of Philadelphia,  
19th and the Parkway,  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mrs. Langman,

Thank you for your good letter of June 24. I mainly do not go to the Paris Congress to "conserve natural resources", I am quite busy with CHRONICA BOTANICA 17 and quite happy with its progress.

The full name is "Davy de Virville". At one time he was an Admiral of the French Navy (unless I am mistaken)!

It would be good to send Dr. Sharp still some direct instructions regarding the presentation of your paper and slides. Correspondence for Congress members should be addressed thus:-

Congrès International de Botanique,  
Sorbonne,  
Paris 5e, France.

It is my understanding from certain previous letters from Rickett that he will not go to Paris.

I have been distressed that a grant from the A.P.S. did not materialize. I knew that they would not be keen to make funds available for the preparation of a bibliography and emphasized therefore at length, in the memorandum which I prepared, that the bibliography would be of a tremendous help to various kind of research workers concerned with Mexican affairs. You will now have to try to approach the Rockefeller people again, along these lines. Their extensive Mexican staff needs your bibliography.

V. ex animo,

Frans Verdoorn.

FV/h-24U



*International Union of Biological Sciences*

INTERNATIONAL BIOHISTORICAL COMMISSION

from the secretariat: CHRONICA BOTANICA HOUSE, WALTHAM 54, MASS., U.S.A. — Telephone: WA 5-0600 — Cables: FLORA

NEWSLETTER 1 - On FUTURE VOLUMES of CHRONICA BOTANICA

Upon completion of Vols. 14-16 (E.D. Merrill's "The Botany of Cook's Voyages", I.W. Bailey's "Contributions to Plant Anatomy", E.H. Krelage's "Three Centuries of Flowering Bulbs in the Netherlands" which are in press), CHRONICA BOTANICA will be issued, under the auspices of the Int. Biohistorical Commission, as "An International Biological and Agricultural Record", with special reference to the cultural, international, historical and methodological aspects of the life sciences, according to the following, tentative scheme of Volume 17 (1955):-

MEMOIRS.- To include, e.g., Garrett's "Biology of Root-Infecting Fungi" and Rickett's "Strabo's Hortulus".

"SYMPOSIA & MANUALS".- To include, e.g., "Recent Advances in Tropical Biology and Agriculture" and the "Paradisus Arcadiensis" (the scope of the latter will be extended to cover the United States Subtropics and neighbouring regions).

RETROSPECTS AND PROSPECTS.- Recent advances in the biological sciences in historical perspective.

THE FORUM.- Essays on timely, methodological and historical subjects.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE C. B. LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES.- To include, e.g., "Linnaeus and his Time", "The Plant Sciences during the Second World War", and (in later volumes) various guides to the history of biology.

THE CHRONICLE.- News, Quotations, New Books, Notices, etc.

RAMBLES IN THE PAST.- Mainly notes on the history of botanical gardens.

FOURTH WORLD LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN PLANT SCIENCE INSTITUTIONS.- A revised world list of other institutions will appear in subsequent volumes, while this section will be devoted in later volumes to our "Concise Biographical Dictionary of Plant Scientists (Indicis Botanicorum Prodromus)".

INDEX BOTANICORUM, I.- Biographical sketches of plant scientists, according to the outlines given in Chron. Bot. 8: 425-448 (1944).

BIOLOGIA 3.- A survey of international biological and medical affairs (Biologia 3 seq. will no longer be made available separately).

CONTRIBUTORS TO VOLUME 17. - INDICES TO CHRONICA BOTANICA 17 and BIOLOGIA 1 & 2.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT (Pallas 3).- Perhaps, Hales's "Statical Essays" (p.p.).

Volume 17 seq. will be issued as single, 500-600 two-column page, volumes, to be set up with electric typesetters, in our own office, which will enable us (1) to bring more material in the new "Record" than we had in previous volumes, (2) to produce fairly sizable volumes, fast and economically, (3) to include again World List data such as we had in Chron. Bot. 1/3, (4) to include again news and articles such as we had in Chron. Bot. 4/3, (5) to publish worth-while, lengthy mss. which cannot be produced, under present conditions, as single books, (6) to publish certain symposia and manuals, which cannot easily be completed or produced as single volumes, over a period of years, and (7) to publish the very extensive bibliographies which we have been preparing since the early 1940's in appropriate instalments. - Photographs and old prints will be reproduced, in a superior way, on coated offset inserts. - The Chronica Botanica Co. will publish at least one volume of the new "Record", a year, on behalf of the Int. Biohistorical Commission, at approximately the same volume price as previously.

*Oran Venter*

June 16, 1954

General Secretary



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC UNIONS IN COÖPERATION WITH UNESCO

Botanical Section of the International Union of Biological Sciences  
INT. PLANT SCIENCE RELATIONS AND PHYTOHISTORICAL COMM.

Chairman: FRANS VERDOORN  
Executive Secretary:  
HILDE DE VRIES

from the chairman:  
CHRONICA BOTANICA HOUSE  
Waltham, 54, Mass., U. S. A.  
Telephone: Wa. 5-0600  
Cables: Flora

February 16, 1952

Mrs. Ida Langman,  
3509 Baring Street,  
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Langman,

Thank you for your letter of February 8 and the picture, which I am glad to have, indeed!

I was in poor health during the fall and early winter, I went to the South for some weeks, and am now again much better.

I look much forward to receiving your manuscript from Dr. McVaugh and will give it serious attention, without delaying things.

You will hear again from me shortly.

Your new address has been noted!

I just received a copy of Guerra's Bibliografia de la Materia Medica Mexicana. This was published a couple of years ago and will be well known to you.

With kind regards,

Yours ever sincerely,

Frans Verdoorn

FV/r118Un



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC UNIONS IN COÖPERATION WITH UNESCO

Botanical Section of the International Union of Biological Sciences

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Cables: Flora

19<sup>th</sup> 52  
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Dear Miss Langman,

Thank you for your letter of June 5.  
The ms. (what a gem!) just arrived  
from the U. of Michigan and I look forward  
to the opportunity of examining it!

I shall write again soon and will  
return the ms. shortly to you at the Academy  
(not to your home address, unless you will  
instruct me otherwise).

I glanced only through some parts  
of the ms., this must have been a tremendous

job!

I wish only that I could be of more affection  
help, in due course, with the publication of  
your book!

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Grass, Vernon

*Miss Langman  
Philadelphia*

from the editor

# Chronica Botanica

P. O. Box 151,  
WALTHAM, 54,  
MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

June 18, 1953

Miss Ida K. Langman,  
Academy of Natural Sciences,  
19th and Parkway,  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Miss Langman,

Thank you for your letter of June 12, 1953. I will not go to the Madison meetings, wonder whether you are planning to come to Boston, some time this summer or fall.

I have been going with much interest through your bibliography. - It is quite a valuable opus, as much Mexican literature is very obscure, i.e., not properly included in existing bibliographies or abstracting journals. There can be no doubt that the Mexican literature is often less available to the world at large than the Argentine and Brazilian plant science literature.

If properly edited and set up, your bibliography is not as large as I've previously understood. It could easily be set up to make a book of about 250-300 pages. - I could not produce such a volume in the U.S.A., but I may be able to induce one of the large, international Dutch publishers, as Nijhoff or Brill, to publish your bibliography, whenever you feel that it will have been completed.

In due course, I may be able to help you with some minor suggestions and additions. Today, I should like to write you about a matter of principle. I have been wondering, a great deal, why you arranged your references by subjects. I strongly feel that this does not work out so well in this particular case. Would it not be better, from all points of view (the reader's, the authors, and the publishers) to arrange things approximately in the same way as in Merrill and Walker's bibliography, with a good subject index, by numbers, at the end?

Regardless in which way your references will be arranged, your bibliography will look better in print, I believe, if the entries would be retyped in a slightly different way. To show you what I have in mind, I will have a few pages retyped, these will follow in a few days.

As to subsidies, these would have to come from American organizations interested in Mexican affairs. I am afraid that I cannot make any worth-while suggestions, wonder whether you ever contacted Mangelsdorf about this. Did he ever see sections of your bibliography? If not, I should be glad to show him the

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# Chronica Botanica

From the editor  
P. O. Box 181  
Waltham, MA  
Massachusetts, U.S.A.  
June 18, 1955

Mrs Ida V. Langham,  
Assistant of Natural Sciences,  
1928 and Parkway,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Your kind letter regarding the manuscript is received.

I will make certain that you will have the manuscript back during the first week of July and look forward to hearing again from you.

With sincere appreciation,

I have been going with much interest through your bibliography. It is a very valuable and interesting bibliography. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature.

*Frans Verdoorn*

Frans Verdoorn  
I have been going with much interest through your bibliography. It is a very valuable and interesting bibliography. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature.

In due course, I may be able to help you with some minor suggestions and additions. I should like to write you about a matter of principle. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature.

References in which my references will be arranged, your bibliography will look better in print. I believe, if the entries would be typed in a slightly different way, to show you what I have in mind, I will have a few pages typed, these will follow in a few days.

As to subtitles, these would have to come from American organizations interested in Latin names. I am afraid that I cannot help any workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature. I am sure that it will be of great value to many workers in the field of botanical literature.

verdo

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, likely a library or archival stamp.





Botanical Section of the International Union of Biological Sciences  
INT. PLANT SCIENCE RELATIONS AND PHYTOHISTORICAL COMMISSION

Chairman: FRANS VERDOORN  
Executive Secretary:  
HILDE DE VRIES

from the chairman:  
CHRONICA BOTANICA HOUSE  
Waltham, 54, Mass., U. S. A.  
Telephone: Wa. 5-0600  
Cables: Flora

19<sup>20</sup> - 53  
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Dear Mrs Langman:

I spent again a few hours going through your bibliography and should like to present a few observations:

Today, any sort and useful bibliography should be selective, a complete bibliography defeats its own purpose. If one tries, e.g., to make a complete bibliography about Linnaeus, one ends with a complete bibliography of Botany for 1750-1850 (±) in which no one can find his way.

In deciding which entries to include in your Mexico bibliography, I (if I have to do it) would distinguish between:

- A) material published in Mexico (incl. the Southern U.S. & other areas of nearby C. America)
- B) material recorded elsewhere.

A) "Everything" <sup>plausibile</sup> "Killed for it", particularly on  
 the Mexico (literature is obscure and has it has  
 never been included properly in existing bibliographies  
 and abstracting journals. - You have already  
 been doing this wonderfully well & you have a  
 wealth of authors about I never saw listed  
anywhere ....

B) I would be selective. - You cannot include  
 any German book on C. America (published in  
 Germany) if it has a few lines on the pine  
 or cactuses of Mexico. - Let us say,  
 there will easily exist a 1000 Italian  
 books on various aspects of pharmacology (s.c.),  
 each of them will list Mexico drug plants  
 or drugs, but you cannot include them unless  
 the authors has some direct bearing on the  
 Mexico. ! - You also cannot include, I feel,  
 all general taxonomic works, monographs, revisions  
 which mention 1 or 2 or 3 Mexico specimens,  
 for that purpose there exist other bibliographies in  
 which the taxonomist will find his data quite

I hope that these comments will help and not disturb you. - If they  
 are considered to be of any value taxonomic works (on G. S. systems  
 of plants, Benthale's, Saffron, etc. etc.), which are of importance to  
 Mexico flora, but not of a specific Mexican character, as a separate list,  
 with some general comments.  
 Federico de Valle  
 Orono, Vt.



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19  $\frac{23}{vi}$  53

Dear Miss Laegre:

Under separate cover, I send, with my best  
compliments, a copy of Sartori's, H.S.U.S. You will  
not find anything of interest in the section Botany, but  
much useful information in other sections, particularly  
Meyer's, lists of botanical events, the lists of  
proceedings of int. organizations, etc., etc. The bulk of  
a wealth of material but we try to comb it to  
find it. If you go only by the subject headings,  
you will miss the best things [this is the case  
with all bibliographies, therefore I am against arranging  
material by subject in any long bibliography, not  
prepared for "elementary introduction"].

I 're-note' a few of your entries and enclosed them with the latter book.

Being a bit of a perfectionist, I changed your entries as far as my own style (which I am following in my bibliography of *Limnæaceæ* & some other *Hydrozoales* we are preparing). Each bibliographer develops his own style and I am not suggesting you follow my style. The way I retyped things shows, in any case, how <sup>one may</sup> prepare things in order that they can set up more easily and more clearly by the printer.

I did not keep any copies of my entries, if we can get together some time later this year, could you bring them.

In due course I suggest the following markings:

- |                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| <u>    </u> bold cap. | ==== s. cap. |
| <u>    </u> bold l.c. | —— ital.     |

These marks should never be made until a m. is entirely ready for the printer. I made these marks and to show the typographic style I have now, in mind.

With all best wishes

Yours sincerely  
O. S. V.



27-vi-53

Dear Miss Langman,

I could not sleep much, last night as it was so hot in Boston & spent several hours leaving through the halls of your bibliography.

I am really amazed at the amount of obscure, but interesting things you found. I saw many items which are not in existing bibliographies, where they should have been, should these bibliographies

I will show Mangrove on the bibliography & will see that the  
m. is not in a footnote.

Cover the Argentine and Brazilian  
literature must better. This confirms,  
what I wrote before, that the world  
at large is much less well informed  
about the Mexican literature than  
about the literature dealing with  
certain the Latin American countries.

From the point of view of the history  
of science, your bibliography is also  
very valuable.

I shall do what I can to help  
with publication, in due course. If  
you agree your refs., ± ± ± as far  
my sample, the bibliography does not  
have to make an extensive (and as expensive  
to produce) a book as I originally  
understood.

v. ex animo

G. V.



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Cables: Flora

July 8, 1953

Dr. Ida Langman,  
Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia,  
Nineteenth and the Parkway,  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Langman,

Thank you for your letter of June 28, 1953.

I look forward to talking with you before the A.A.A. Meetings, hope that you will be in town before Christmas as we will leave for the South on the morning of December 25. We will probably be terribly rushed between December 21 and 24!

You must not take my "re-writes" too serious. I made them chiefly to show you how things might be typed in order to enable the printer, in due course, to set up your copy more easily and in a more economic manner than the present version of the ms. will permit. In making these samples, I followed my own style, but this is a different matter and something of secondary interest.

I have a copy of Guerra's "Bibliografia de la Materia Medica Mexicana", it seems a useful book!

I will return your ms. very shortly, during the past few days, Mangelsdorf\* had to go out of town a number of times and I have not been able to get in touch with him. I am anxious to do so, on your behalf, as he may be of quite some help, in due course.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Frans Verdoorn.

FV/hv43UN

\* I just got him in the phone. - He will look at your book next week and I will see that I can get you a copy next week, all right?

To: Miss Leavina  
from FRANS VERDOORN, Editor of *Chronica Botanica*

There is nothing new in this  
letter, I wrote it mainly  
in an effort to interest  
Mangelsdorf!

Yours

F. V.

JUL 16 1953

P.O. Box 151, Waltham 54, Mass., U.S.A. - Tel. WA 5-0600

I also sent a copy to Ray Fosberg who  
wrote me formerly a number of letters in your name.



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July 16, 1953

Dr. Ida K. Langman,  
Academy of Natural Sciences  
of Philadelphia,  
19th and the Parkway,  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Langman,

In a few days, I will return your "Bibliographia Botanica Mexica" which is at present being examined by Professor Mangelsdorf.

It is a most valuable piece of work and, in due course, I will endeavour to have the book published for you.

I hope that you may succeed in obtaining additional support to go again to Mexico, but if this may not work out well, I would most positively "close" the bibliography as it is and make it ready for press without much further delay.

I do not doubt that you will be able to find quite some new data in Mexican libraries, but, on the other hand, the bibliography, which was not started with the aim to be absolutely complete, seems in a very nice shape and fairly exhaustive, rather than sketchy or unbalanced as so many other, published bibliographies are.

I would most certainly weed still out some of the books published abroad which are not too important from a Mexican point of view. I think that I saw, e.g., certain travel books published in Germany which might well be omitted. Also, to give another example, an Italian pharmacognosy text, which does not deal in an authoritative or original way with Mexican drugs, might well be deleted. There are no end of such books in Italy, Spain, France, etc., and they will all have to say "something" on Mexican drug plants. In the same way, any booklet on plant geography will say something on the many vegetation zones of Mexico, but, unless these authors were in Mexico or present a new theory of a particular Mexican interest, I would skip them...

On the other hand, your bibliography is unusually valuable as it includes many obscure titles published in Mexico, which were never included in the world's abstracting literature, and I think that these should remain, by all means, in the bibliography, even though they may not seem of any importance from a contemporary point of view. These entries make your bibliography very valuable from many, particularly also the historian of science's point of view and I can well understand that you feel entitled to some additional support to dig for more of these references which no one else will ever make available to us.

continued on page 2.

July 16, 1953

This being a scholarly piece of work, not a bibliography primarily prepared for, let us say, a moderately intelligent employee of the U.S.D.A., who just wants a couple of references on maize in Mexico, I continue to feel that your entries should be arranged in alphabetical order, according to the authors, as was done in Fritzel or Merrill & Walker. In that case, the book will need a good subject index, something like the subject index which we have at the end of the second edition of Fritzel. This is a more useful index than the condensed index which we find at the end of Merrill & Walker!

As I pointed out previously, considerable space can be saved if your entries are retyped in a certain way. The subject index can also be made as useful as, but to take less space than Fritzel's index.

If I were to make such a bibliography, I think that I would divide the material in three sections:-

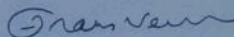
- 1) Pre-Linnaean authors, including recent publications of their previously unpublished mss., new editions, etc.;
- 2) All other authors;
- 3) Important, world-wide, taxonomic reference works, as De Candolle's Prodrromus and Engler & Prantl which do not deal with Mexico in particular, but which often include Mexican genera and species.

I would follow this arrangement as each of these groups needs a different type of annotations, but this may be just a personal preference.

I am almost certain that I can interest a Dutch publisher in producing your bibliography, in a very nice way, without too much (if any) subsidy, provided the ms. would be retyped, uniformly, in order that the work can be set up in a more economic manner than the present ms. permits (roughly as per the sample entries which I made for you).

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,



Frans Verdoorn.

cc: Professor Mangelsdorf.

P.S.- Publication in Holland would not interfere in any way with a good distribution in the U.S.A. (via the Chronica Botanica Co., or another firm) and it would secure the book much better distribution in soft-currency areas, as in Germany, Spain, the British Commonwealth, and particularly also many Latin American countries (which buy much more books in Europe than in the U.S.A., for currency exchange and other reasons). The services of an active Mexican distributing agent (perhaps that large, new medical publishing house which published the Guerro bibliography) can also more easily be obtained by a Dutch than a U.S. publisher.

Mrs. L. - I wrote this letter  
in order that I could send a copy  
to Dr. M. - show him (1) that  
he is not being quoted, (2) that  
we expect his help a little  
later! - M. says that the  
Rockefeller Foundation has recently  
made money to the Library of  
Capers for Latin America Bibliographic

projects, but he did not know the  
exact name of the project, etc.

Harbilly Jones

Dr. V.



Botanical Section of the International Union of Biological Sciences

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Cables: Flora

July 24, 1953

Dr. Ida K. Langman,  
Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia,  
19th and the Parkway,  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Langman,

Professor Mangelsdorf returned your ms. to me and I am forwarding it again to you, by railway express, insured.

Dr. Mangelsdorf is also much impressed. He told me that he agrees generally with the views expressed in my letter of July 16. He also feels that the book would be improved by deleting such items as, to give an imaginary sample, a small plant geography book, published in England, which has some pages on Mexico, while the author was never in Mexico and does not express any original views on Mexico.

As to the subsidy needed to gather additional references to obscure literature published in Mexico, Spain, etc., as well as archivalia, and to make the ms. ready for press, Dr. Mangelsdorf does not have and cannot make very specific suggestions.

To me, <sup>i.e., to Dr. M. (who does not want to be quoted, cf. infra)</sup> there seems a good possibility that the Rockefeller Foundation may be interested. I understand that your best chance would be (1) to work via the Rockefeller-Latin-American project (it may be called different!) at the Library of Congress, or (2) to try to secure a temporary appointment with the Rockefeller Mexican project.

It seems best that you approach Dr. Harry M. Miller, Jr., Division of Natural Sciences, The Rockefeller Foundation, 49 West 49th Street, New York, N.Y., in a general way, starting only by asking for some general advice how to proceed and most positively without mentioning either Dr. Mangelsdorf or me.

Dr. Mangelsdorf is an official advisor of the Rockefeller Foundation and he can only be of help, after a formal application will have been made. It is not proper for him to initiate, or even to be associated with, a request for help such as I am suggesting.

I am sending Dr. Mangelsdorf a copy of this letter in order that he will know what I wrote you, and remain, with the assurance of my appreciation and consideration,

Yours sincerely,

*Frans Verdoorn*

Frans Verdoorn.

FV/hvUN

Shall be in abroad and will not return to her!



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC UNIONS IN COÖPERATION WITH UNESCO

Botanical Section of the International Union of Biological Sciences  
INT. PLANT SCIENCE RELATIONS AND PHYTOHISTORICAL COMMISSION

Chairman: FRANS VERDOORN  
Executive Secretary:  
HILDE DE VRIES

from the chairman:  
CHRONICA BOTANICA HOUSE  
Waltham, 54, Mass., U. S. A.  
Telephone: Wa. 5-0600  
Cables: Flora

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Dear Mrs. Layman:

In order that you will not "worry", I  
did not yet return your ms. (as I wrote Friday).  
I want to have a rough estimate made of the  
nature of how the book would take in print.

This will be attended to today, & as  
I will return the ms. early tomorrow by railway  
express.

It is a wonderful piece of work and I  
hope that I shall be able to get it published  
for you.

Yours sincerely

F. Verdoorn



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC UNIONS IN COÖPERATION WITH UNESCO

*International Union of Biological Sciences*

INTERNATIONAL BIOHISTORICAL COMMISSION

from the secretariat: CHRONICA BOTANICA HOUSE, WALTHAM 54, MASS., U.S.A. — Telephone: WA 5-0600 — Cables: FLORA

February 18, 1954

Mrs. Ida K. Langman,  
Academy of Natural Sciences  
of Philadelphia,  
19th and the Parkway,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mrs. Langman,

I think that I owe you a letter or perhaps even several letters, but I am frightfully much behind with all correspondence as for almost two weeks I had to give every hour to the proofs of Dr. Merrill's forthcoming memoir on "The Botany of Cook's Voyages".

While making the revision of these proofs ready, Dr. Merrill added the rider of which I enclose a carbon. Much reference is made in this to rebus Mexicanis and I should be grateful if you would find it possible to go once through the enclosed material. If you find anything which is not correct, I shall be obliged, indeed, if you will treat the enclosure as if it were a printer's proof and if you will return this to me, if possible within a fortnight.

I beg that you will not communicate directly with Dr. Merrill, he has not been well at all lately and should not be bothered at present. He gave me full authorization to make such changes or corrections in his riders as I might consider desirable.

I shall write again soon about other matters.

V. ex animo,

Frans Verdoorn.

FV/hv21U