



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

2/2/70

Mrs. Langman

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

The University Press

3933 WALNUT STREET

January 28, 1970

Dr. A. Orville Dahl
Director, The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia 19118

Dear Dr. Dahl:

Thank you for your note of January 21 acknowledging the receipt of the remaining 396 copies of Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman's A SELECTED GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE ON THE FLOWERING PLANTS OF MEXICO.

Please consider these books from now on the full and exclusive property of the Morris Arboretum. We no longer offer these books for sale, nor carry them in the Press inventory, since to do so would, under the accounting procedures we must follow, produce costs in excess of what sales income we could expect. In your hands, however, these books might be useful for exchange with institutions or individual scholars in soft currency countries, and other such scholarly rather than commercial purposes. Any income that you may secure from the outright sale of any copies in future should be retained by the Arboretum.

Very sincerely yours,

Fred Wieck

Fred Wieck
Director

FW:ns

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

The University Press

3933 WALNUT STREET

January 12, 1970

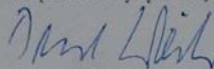
Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman
248 Harvey Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144

My dear Mrs. Langman:

The two enclosed notes to Robert Warren, our business manager here, are coming to you as evidence that your GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE OF THE FLOWERING PLANTS OF MEXICO is finally being placed into the hands of those who can distribute the remaining copies to the greatest advantage to the world of scholars. I can even conceive that your book, if used as a medium of exchange with soft currency countries, will in those hands be of economic value as well.

All that remains for me to do now is to thank you for your patience.

Respectfully yours,



Fred Wieck
Director

FW:ns

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19104

TO: Robert Warren - Business manager

FROM: Fred Wieck

DATE: January 12, 1970

ITEM: Please make arrangements to have all the remaining unbound copies of Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman's SELECTED GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE OF THE FLOWERING PLANTS OF MEXICO shipped cheapest to

Dr. Arturo Gómez Pompa
Jefe del Departamento de Botánica
Instituto de Biología
UNAM -- Cd. Universitaria
Mexico, D. F. 20, Mexico

There will be no charge for this shipment.
We will prepay all cost, insurance, and freight charges.

Notify me when arrangements have been made,
so that I may write to Dr. Pompa.

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UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

THE UNIVERSITY PRESS
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19104

TO: Robert Warren

FROM: Fred Wieck

DATE: January 12, 1970

ITEM: Please get in touch with Professor A. Orville Dahl, Director of the Morris Arboretum, to make arrangements for delivery of all of the remaining bound volumes of Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman's SELECTED GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE ON THE FLOWERING PLANTS OF MEXICO.

You may have to take on a part-time helper-- the Arboretum has no suitable staff (see their letter of December 8 attached). There will be no charge for this delivery. A simple receipt will be sufficient for our records.

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

12/2/69

Mrs. Langman

The University Press

3933 WALNUT STREET

November 25, 1969

Professor A. Orville Dahl
206 Biology Building
University of Pennsylvania

Dear Professor Dahl:

I understand from Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman, who compiled "A Selected Guide to the Literature on the Flowering Plants of Mexico," that you would like to receive the remaining bound inventory of her bibliography whose publication we must discontinue for economic reasons. That inventory, slightly in excess of 400 copies, has considerable bulk and weight; we should be glad to deliver it to whatever address you wish to specify, and whenever you indicate to us that you are prepared to receive it.

I am concerned that you may understand our reasons for discontinuing this publication through our facilities. After distributing the book to the scientific institutions and libraries, here and abroad, who were in need of it, we found that the further demand generated by our seasonal and yearly catalogs and various announcements, and even by our special efforts to find bookstore outlets for the work, became so small (twenty-nine copies during the twelve months ending June 30, 1969) as to occasion a drain on our resources in clerical help and warehouse space. A commercial publishing house in the same circumstances, would have pulped the books at that stage - something we here cannot in conscience do. At the same time, our resources must be made available for further works of scholarship that clamor to be published.

I am grateful to you, then, for helping us in allowing the book to remain available. And I should not be surprised if the distribution of the work under your sponsorship, through exchange or otherwise, were to increase beyond the distribution we have been able to secure through our channels here.

It will be of interest to you that we are sending to Mexico an even larger, though still unbound, number of copies.

Sincerely yours,



Fred Wieck
Director

FW:es

cc: Dr. David Goddard

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UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

The University Press

3933 WALNUT STREET

November 20, 1969

Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman
248 Harvey Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144

My dear Mrs. Langman:

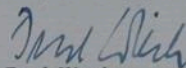
A conversation today with Dr. David Goddard, Provost of the University, prompted me to dig more deeply into the file of your SELECTED GUIDE TO THE FLOWERING PLANTS OF MEXICO. I learned little that was new to me-- but I was impressed by the fact that the correspondence between you on the one hand, and my predecessor and myself on the other, and including a number of outstanding scholars in Mexico as well, has been going on for almost a year and a half, without any concrete issue. This is absurd, because clearly the books ought to be in the hands of your Mexican colleagues, who are better placed than we are to put them to work in the service of scholarship.

Therefore: if you as the author will signify your agreement, I shall give instructions to have the unbound copies remaining at the printers, bound up at our expense, and to have them as well as all but a few of the copies remaining in our warehouse shipped, again at our expense, to whatever Mexico City address your Mexican colleagues may indicate to me. Then, at last, the books will be where they prove most useful.

This proposal, if you agree to it, will place the financial burden entirely on the University of Pennsylvania Press, for me to deal with. But that makes more sense, perhaps, than to allow it to hang in mid-air. And it would get me out of a position in which publishers look particularly foolish-- standing between a book and its natural audience.

May I hear from you?

Respectfully yours,



Fred Wieck
Director

FW:ns

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

The University Press

3933 WALNUT STREET

October 3, 1969

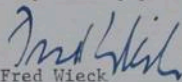
Mrs. Ida Kaplan Langman
248 Harvey Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144

My dear Dr. Langman:

I attach two copies of my letter to Dr. Pompa, as I promised you
in Thursday's conversation.

It was a great pleasure to meet you--I only wish it had been on
the occasion of a more cheerful event.

Respectfully yours,



Fred Wieck
Director

FW:ns

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UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

The University Press

3933 WALNUT STREET

October 3, 1969

Mr. Arturo Gomez Pompa
Instituto de Biologia
Departamento Botanico
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
Mexico, D.C. 20

My dear Dr. Pompa:

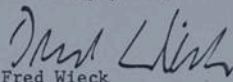
Permit me to introduce myself as the new director of the University of Pennsylvania Press.

I gather from the correspondence I find in our files that you have expressed your willingness to receive the approximately four hundred bound copies, and the approximately nine hundred and fifty unbound copies, of Dr. Langman's distinguished work *A SELECTED GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE OF THE FLOWERING PLANTS OF MEXICO*; and that you have arranged to make available the small sums required to release the partially bound copies from the bindery, and to ship them as well as the bound and finished volumes, to the Mexican border at Laredo, where the National Railways of Mexico will take them over for delivery to Mexico City.

We are now ready to carry out the arrangements. If you will, then, send us a check in the amount of twelve hundred and ninety seven dollars, American currency (\$1297.00), and indicate to us the proper and exact recipient to whom this shipment should be consigned, we shall be glad to proceed without further delay.

In anticipation of your early reply, and in gratitude for your generous collaboration in this matter that is so important to the world of scholarship, I remain,

Sincerely yours,


Fred Wieck
Director

FW:ns