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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 MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

January 7, 1956

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

My dear Baki:

It was a great pleasure for me to receive your letter. And what a surprise, you are married. Well Baki congratulations to you. I am sure you are happy with Elisabeth. It would be nice if you could send me a picture of both of you.

Now as to the possibility of getting a teaching position here in the U.S. I called the Department of Botany in this university. They told me that once in a while there is an opening. My suggestion is this: Write immediately to the Department of Botany in the University of California at Berkeley. As far as I know you have an excellent reputation there. They may know about an opening and what is even more important, they will give you a good recommendation which is vital for securing a position. I think you are in a pretty good bargaining position. Having experience at the U. of Ankara and the present job with the U.N. you should not have difficulties to get one. Please send me a statement of your training and experience containing: Name, place and date of birth, address, education, fields of concentration, professional history, publications and knowledge of languages. Indicate also what position you would be interested in, at what level (assistant professor or associate), your minimum salary etc. Enclose a photograph. I would present this material to the chairman of the department of Botany here.

I hope you have received my christmas letter which I sent to the University of Ankara. You know by now that my position in the University of Minnesota is a temporary, one year appointment. The man whom I am replacing will be back in September. Thus I am looking for a job too. In February I am going to apply for my citizen papers. You also know that my status is that of a "permanent resident". I am still single, unable to marry due to the fact that I have no job. And time is passing fast, I am already 43 years old. I hope Baki that you will get a good position here in the U.S. and perhaps I too and then we would celebrate together.

Minnesota is a cold state, we have had snow since October 29. It cannot be compared to the Bay Area. In summer it is very hot. But I am glad to be here. The University is a fine place to work.

Write soon again I will try to help as much as I can.

Best wishes to Elisabeth and you.

Karel

*applications sent to Karel
on the 22 nd of Jan. 1956*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

February 4, 1956

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Baki:

Thank you very much for your nice letter, photographs and statement of training and experience. I will answer your letter as soon as I can. Today I want to tell you about the job situation and how to go about it.

Before I left Berkeley I talked to Mrs. Cave asking her about the jobs in botany. I asked her especially whether it is as bad as in the field of political science. I don't have to tell you that there are simply no jobs in my fields, neither economics nor political science. People with a Ph.D. degree in social sciences are working as unskilled laborers. The situation is and was desperate for at least five or six years. Mrs. Cave told me that the same is true about botany. I do not want to discourage you but it is better for you to know what's going on. I think that in future the situation is going better.

I wanted to intervene on your behalf in the Department of Botany in this University. I was told, however, in our department not to do it. It may do more harm than good. After a discussion with several of my colleagues the best suggestion for you to do is exactly the same as we do, namely to start to write a number of applications. Be prepared to write at least 70 or more letters to different universities in the U.S. You can have your personal data sheet mimeographed and write the same letter again and again. Do not be discouraged, we are doing the same. Address the letter as follows: Chairman, Department of Botany, University of . . . , address. Put an application to the University of Minnesota, but do not mention my name. People in our department feel that you should apply for a position as an assistant Professor, since you have no experience in teaching in this country. Salary about 5,000 \$. Some Ph.D's are getting 3,200 \$ a year. Here are some addresses: Harvard U., Cambridge, Massachusetts; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass; Boston U., Boston, Mass; U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Wayne U., Detroit, Mich.; Princeton U., Princeton, New Jersey; Columbia U. New York; Fordham U., New York; New York U., N.Y.; Syracuse U., Syracuse, N.Y.; U. of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y. ; Ohio State U., Columbus, Ohio; U. of Cincinnati, Cincinnati; Western Reserve U., Cleveland, Ohio; U. of Oklahoma, Norman; U. of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon; California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.; Stanford U., Stanford, Calif.; UCLA, Los Angeles, Calif.; U. of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Your department (meaning botany) in Berkeley will be in the best position to know about the openings. It was a good idea to write them. You can get the names and addresses of the U.S. Colleges and universities in the U.S. Embassy in Amman. Until next time, so long Baki and write again. Elisabeth is a very pretty girl. Hope to see you soon in this country.

Best regards,

Karel
Karel