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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.

March 1, 1957

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Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc.

605 Third Street

San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir,

I have seen your beautiful chart of mold organisms in local drugstores. Indeed it is a very impressive jungle of molds. I believe it will be very useful for my students in cryptogamic botany and taxonomy. I shall be very glad to have two charts (a large one and a small one) to use in my classes and labs.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Baki Kasmigil

Assistant Professor of Botany

(212)

CHAS. PFIZER & CO., INC.

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Dear Teacher:

When the full-color painting of mold organisms that you see on the enclosed wall chart was published by Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc. in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN magazine, many teachers wrote to ask us for reproductions. They felt this kind of graphic treatment of a new frontier in science would be useful in their work.

To fulfill this demand we have converted the painting into a classroom wall chart which tells briefly how microscopic living organisms have been harnessed to give us better food and drink, better clothing and shelter, and better medicine.

The painting is an accurate representation of many mold organisms, with a representative variety identified in the key to the chart.

The chart is designed to be helpful to students of general science, biology, botany, bacteriology and chemistry. At the same time it illustrates developments of importance to modern industrial technology, to agriculture and to medicine.

We hope you will find the chart useful in your classroom and would be pleased to have your comments on it.

Sincerely yours,

Educational Services Department