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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.

No. 1620.

Report

Disposal

Habit

Gen.

Avalon

Sta. Catalina Isl.

Cal.

Nov. 2 ccy.

Mr. Frederick V. Coville —

May I say a
word in regard to the San
Diego plants? — Not in
apology, for I do not be-
lieve better specimens
can be collected. Last win-
ter there were copious
rains, and April is the
flower-time in the San
Diego.

I wished merely to say —

that it is a dying soil
unceasingly wind swept,
sand-carved and fog
enmantled, while busy
threads of water wind in
and out of the eroded cliffs.

In a softer land plants
dust-covered and sand-
laden could be cleansed
before putting in the press.
Not so in San Nicholas,
where cold winds beat under
the sand and sharp sands
beat the eyes; where a
clump of *Opuntia*
gladdens the eye.

bespeaks "foxtail" and
other grasses, and looks
wise over the small
plants at its feet.

It is strange that
amid the bleaching leaves
and kitchen-middings
my bright-hued plants
lead the heart to lift
up their faces - yet
fittingly they dwell there,
lulled by the cracker - a
part of the old soul of San Vie-
of a S.

Very truly,

Blanche Trausk.