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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.

Bulletins prepared to simplify my correspondence
Bulletin no. 4, November 18, 1946

1. Introduction to the history of science - Volume III dealing with science and learning in the fourteenth century is being proofread. Printing is exceedingly slow. Most of the galleys have been read, as well as 637 page proofs, less than one-third.

A photographic reprint of vol. 1 (1927), long out of print, has been published by Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore. This was done without my knowledge and hence the book contains neither errata nor new preface. A few corrections will be indicated in the preface to vol. III.

2. Harvard lectures - The third part of the course on the history of science, dealing with the XVth, XVIth and XVIIth centuries, is now being explained to about 212 students. These lectures are given in the Geographical Building, Divinity Avenue, on Tu., Th., Sat. at 10 A.M.

3. Talis - Latest no., 104 January 1946 (vol. 36, 2). The printing of vol. 32 (stopped by the German invasion of Belgium) has been begun by the St. Catherine Press in Bruges.

4. Osiris - It is hoped that vol. 8 will appear in 1947. It will be dedicated to Paul Ver Eecke, Belgian historian of Greek mathematics.

5. Latest publication - no. 357. Demetrio Canevari, New York. Still available upon request.

6. London lectures - I had tentatively accepted to deliver a few lectures at the University of London in the spring of 1947. The possibility of my being able to do so is weakening every day, for I cannot leave Cambridge before having signed the final proofs of Vol. III.

Harvard Library, 185
Cambridge, Mass., U. S. A.

George Sarton