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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.

9/20/64

Sept 27 1963 Lakeland Fla.

My dear Otto and Isa:

. Many thanks to you for the delightful and safe arrival of the book and the various inserts that I have never thanked you for adequately. I have No.5, and 6 and older ones too , all so welcome. Many thanks to thee! Your description of the packing for Europe is a master piece so I have put your letter in Vol. 6 and if anyone wants to know how to pack they will find it in your book., in years to (You asked about my address- It is while I come. am hereat 923 E. Lexington Street Lakeland, Florida. (Much to my chargrin for I dislike the town being so FAR to reach (with no car) and everybody I have seen are BAPTISTS with a " vengeance." talk of nothing but small children and church. The letter carriers in Yonkers sent your letter right to me. They have been very nice about that the whole time I since I left N.Y.) Marguerite enjoyed your book and I send you my

sincere thanks. I am so glad that you have adwelling place hurrah! Hurrah! And that the GRANT keeps you "on the "GO". I imagine you slipping or carefully stepping down into valleys and quere places and finding rare things! What a wonderful chance, and the result will enlarge Botanical knowledge It is well that the Cattle Manager (though 96 old) could collect at all. but now YOU will carry on. with sharper vision and clear any mistakes he may of made. I am glad that you stay safely in your house, and let the animal hunters stay far from you. The way you have packed the new material is a botanical wonder. Botanists will appreciate your method!

I hear from Grace Schilling now and then, and get Garden news.. Alexander is gone now.I don't know why.

I suppose you know that Dr. Skottsberg died, That was in the N.Y. weekly paper which I take. He was nice, Skottsberg, I went went with him and his wife to the Mtvpdolitan Opera-House in N.Y. His wife was somewhat "Finnash". (not like Skottberg.)

Did you know that Dr. Forman T.McLean died on Sept. Istl?

† have just received a letter from "rs.McL. Was sorry indeed 6 to
hear that. We were good friends.

I wrote to Bro.Alain yesterday, and gave him your address in ease he ever wants to write. but I wrote Mauai on my envelope, however I hope it will reach him. I got your letter by the SAME (yesterdays) mail, as YOURS! I should have put LAUai Hawaii but am were the P.O. will straighten that out on arrival.

When you descend mountains, or descend valleys, watch your step, my good man..! I suppose you know Alain. He is teaching at present in Perto Rico.. (Adress is Bro.Alain, Maceo Il Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

He is teaching there, and very horrified over the miserable condition that exists there. It is not a very safe place to be, but of course his heart is bent on finding rarities and etc.. so I sympathise with him. He is as French a I am, you know!

Best wishes to you both that you may have a wonderful lot of specimens, and may you stay well!

The weather is the cause of this awful typing. so DAMP AND HOT that the type sticks when I touch it. " as the Germaans say "Bitte sehr "exouse me." I am driping with moisture and the clothes can hardly be bworn. It is not MY idea of a lovely

Best love to you both, and the snapshot for Isa!

Devotedly your old friend.

Palmegal

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

for confidential file, Director's office. IvoYalleCo

palate Louise de Châteaudun Mitchell

1607 38a.... Flione, San Francisco, Salif. Ap.2, 1990. died Memphis Tr. Sept 16 1968

let. term

Museum Aide: 1901-1904. Kerbarium Aide: Library Essit. Associatel 2000 = Curator: 1920 to date.

Aug .Alde:Aug.13,1901 (530), 1902, 640,1902-04 .50 .. (Helping Prof. Underwood, Dept. of Not. Gol. Univ. once weekly, incl. Clerical.) nes igned Love 23, 1906. (The day before she was married

Jerbarium Aide July 13, 1920. 860., 1921-23 Mar . Aide and Library Assit. halftime ea. appr. (80. also overtime work in mocal Herb. arrang, geographically and checking distrib. 07 1080100.

Associate-Curetor , Nov.1, 1923. \$2050, Jan.1928 92110, Jan.1930 92199.84

pullear

(Detnil) care of the verious flowering-plant herbaria: Installing new covers, case and genus labels, expanding heabarium, alphabetizing sequence, recording numbers of incoming collections, (Tate, Small, Rydberg, Bickmell.) Sorting, distributing, preparing and selecting outgoing loans, listing, checking on return, entering re record of re-determinations, Sorting, laying out in sata unmounted material. Translating when requested. Taking classes through Range Ro.1, (in emergency.) Caro of Total Herb. and Bickmell Collection.

Class betany at school, collecting speciment for herb.

proparing horbarium.

Translating . U.S. Postal Gensorship Service as Senier Translator and

Examiner, Uncommon Language Dept.

(Pransl. from Germanic and Romance languages, Swedish Asperanto, proulle, some code, and illegible handor Itim/20) MeloDes Cice Reporting to Colleles

Norwegian French Panist

Augstion: Coverness (U.S.A.) Private School(1: Sweden) (Beron Cederstrom's in Vermland)

Plane for works Continued pereral harberium routine, recording and preparing the Licknell Herb., expanding the Local Herb. into 4 new cases.

CIGS for Bolding of Dorn 1442

or franslater to bentor 19 42 and Censorship 9000

year. 24 19

end of year.

State de 1917. t

Serving 1 1m Fall Started

Mrs. Wm. Mitchell 923 East Lexington Street Lakeland, Florida 33801

My dear Dr. Degener

I have lost the letter your wrote me not so lo g
ago so I am stupid as a an idiot. but I think of
you and Mrs. D. went I write and hope you are bothn
well, that is important. I am hoping you are
managing with collects and what are you going to
io now, I am sorry I could not see you during
your short visit in New York. We have had a lot
of unpleasant weather. heavy rains or in the other
parts of the U.N.S. are simply 'frozen in snow,
heavy snow. People can hardly get along safely.
Not HERE but in the other parts of the USA.

When I find again your letter to me
I will write you a REAL letter. In the mean
time I am wishing you both health and a good
Easter tiem somewhere.. in some beautiful place.
My love to you! Palmytte

apr. 2 1968 Dear alma trank you for the gay she hasn't appeal tereyes yet and still can't swallow The hosp. staff take good care ofher & keep Her comfortable and 10 go daily (a slow business pybus).1 many friends have sent loving grettings and like you have done so all thru the year which has meant so much to her. Thank you. All write soon again: Sallie Q.

2226 aley Road Movember 8 1968 Dear Otta and Dea, mother always called you by your first names and file Head so many of your long letters that I feel we are friends too. ever if not contemporarys- (Din 62) Marke this letter will have to wait till you return from higis. Os. lands. It will be interesting to hear what you have to say about the government administration of those beople now _ in your book which O heread recently you gelt there should be many charges made and a great deal more self-quernment. Especially charges in allitude of the "Colonial Powers forward" the Natives". In looking thru mathers desk

I came across the enclosed resume which she must have prepared at for the Director at the B. U.B. G. (probably Dr. merrill) at the time they were reviewing each persons duties to see where they could reduce the staff - bottom of the Depression around 1934) Sure enough, Ler beloved job was taken from her (as she had a husband to support her and it would not be a financial hardship for her) The item about her work with the n.y. Postal Concorship 1942-1945, I imagine was typed of later, She walked into the n. Y. Bot. Garden a dainty young lody in a white em-

She walked into the n.y. Bot. Garden
"a dainty young lady in a white embroidered dress" as Dr Rydberg said +
Ler first words to Dr Britton were
"Daesn't it smell heavenly?" Because the Hinipal of her boarding school
in Eweden Baron von Cederetroim, had been
He Herbarium

an avid amateur botanist, he instilled a love of plants in his students. They collected all the time. However she had no formal training at all in Botanle. But she certainly knew her Engl + Brantt and especially where to find certain plants in the woods, a"natural ecologist." She was so enthusiastic and cheerful and always enjoyed waiting on older men (she adored her great-grandfather who brought her up), so O suppose she carried those very pleasant attitudes over note her work ... anyway, they all liked her. I remember them well Dr Britton Drunderwood died before I was born Dr Murrill, Or Dodge Dr Howe, Dr Gmall, Dr Gleason Dr Hollick, Dr Bembart, Dr Seever, Papa Rydberg (he had attended upsels at the pame time as mother's Swedish step-father + took a special interest in her also per wilson who began working at the n.4.B. G when mother did.

One summer D worked halfdays in the Herbarium printing labels for the recently arguired "Birknell Collection" - mostly plants from the dunes on martha's Unneward 15. at that time a younger group of men were beginning to occupy the desks Dr merrill Lad become Director. The Depression had started and mother had quite a large crew of women put in her charge. They were mostly "maiden ladies" of an uncertain age who desparately needed work of Keir palaries were tail from some city welfare funds. almost all were rather homely with "difficult "personalities and endless home problems, but mother with her loving hearted interest in each individual, welded them into a surprisingly capable work force + they had Christmas parties & celebrated any small

achievements with coffee of some of Ler delicious home made Hough mits, For years & years after she left there and their group was disbarded they wrote Ho Lor + she to them. Do you know I have written Abver 125 letters, not notes, to her driends, and am only about helf I way through her list, now. I Am so sorry to hear about Soa's bad fall, and Lope that by now she is back to normal so that you can go ahead with the trip you play lan acre of rain - forest on Aprioni sounds delightful. How about inviting andy moldespe to come over and "do the Coleagterat? alma + Harold write fairly frequently. They came to see mather When they (+ we) were in ofterida a couple of years ago - lovely people: my best to you bother - Sallie M. Go mother belonged to Torrey Club from 1901012 - about 1953?

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN BRONX • NEW YORK 10458 212/933-9400

December 3, 1968

Dr. Otto Degener Waialua Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

I had not realized that you wanted the photograph of Mrs. Mitchell returned to you, and I had sent it to the files.

I have pulled it out, and return it to you herewith.

I expect to publish necrology in the <u>Garden Journal</u> soon, and will include what you have told me about Mrs. Mitchell.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Elaine C. Cherry Editor, GARDEN JOURNAL

Enclosure: color photograph of Palmyre de C. Mitchell

P. S. I would prefer that you not address Botanical Garden business mail to my residence. I am living in an apartment for the first time in my life, and find the mail delivery and miniature size mailboxes most unsatisfactory. My dear Otto and Isa:

I have just read your letter of the 17th of Sov.

of horrifyed at all you have endured. but now doubt
this is all going to vanish taking TIME. In the mean time
you can rest enough to recuperate and return to the
Isalnds. What a horrible condition when as many as
100 people were attacked by it. The mononucleomis:

Dont let go of your cottage, there will certainly, a rach for such a time goes on and you wont be able to get another.

We had No hurricanes here. that is not in Fla.
it is a vile climate otherwise as far as can see.
The houses being NO fitted with regular furnace. etc
means one can freezely indoors, and in summer there is
no help to stay cool, a small machine here helps in
one room, the rest is just a pest. I shed clothes as
hard as a native would, when the heatbegins here.

Now for "small talk". I mpect you know dear nice Bro.Alain is at Porto Rico now and teaching and using every free minute in collecting plants. and hopes to continue in between the "teaching times." He writes me every now and then. our affiliation of being both of Swedish parentage draws one to the other.

I suppose you know that Alma Molenke has been in poor heal all this year. Went several times to stay in different Hospitals, returned home and got all sick again, and finally after staying some time in N.Y. came home. and had tried to teach at College again, but could only endure it but TWO days . had to give it up entirely (at least for the year.) Heart trouble.

The father and mother are, I believe boarding in some Old Age People place.. don't know the neame, but they seem to thrive there very well. Alman has a woman come once a week to do the heavy work. It is such a shame that Abe should be weak still . she is such a dear. Andy is doing well, I write to him sometimes (when the apirit moves me.)

What lectures you could entertain people indescribing to them the various Hurricanes you are acquainted with.'! Go to it!! give lectures at Oahu. While you've waiting to recoup?

A nothing at all small and silly I am sending to Isa after a while..but I made it with thought of her and will you please give her my love. t was so nice to see her the evenings you came to my house.

Goodby, dears, and may you have nice Phristmas; Affectionately yours,

today with yellow spire!

my very dear friends: I sit here rejaicing over the delightful gift you sent me I Coconut Lyrup guara gelly and the macadamia nuts! The last was unknown to us omargarite and I can hardly abstain from grabbing some every time eve are near it all! The things are delicious, and I appreciate the very great Rindness on your part in sending me all this! And Such a surprise; many thanks to you both! I have such an avalanche of mail the last 2

weeks, that I fity the Letter-Carrier, and I can just barely answer them even now From Sweden much

Bro-Alain writes me now and then - I think he will head jos the nigh, and see what he can do jor some possibility to work in San Danigo -. Mrs. moldenk is at home, returned from the Various hospitals she had stayed up quite a while. The is too energetic and I hope she will " tone down " a bit.

Hovence Wilson came here yesterday on a short visit and we certainly mad the welken ring! To much is changed at the garden - I hate to think of all the changes, especially all over the grounds and the nice marble benches have,

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Marguerite and I are hoping that the miserable disease you contracted, on that Island. will graduly disappear - what a condition for Dry to battle with and you mentioned 200 fatients! I do trope that you are relaining your house on the island - and that will return there soon and Continue your fine work! But supervised by "medame" who wont let you clamber Olsson in steep dangerous places! Let us hear when you decide to return to the Island so I would send a letter to the right place. We shall dip in to the goodies , gars and think of both of you with gratuide and It is certainly lovely to sond me those lars, They arrived in perpet condition. my love to you both - and may you get stronger day very day Exeuse my Jeangul writing - (due to having to curite about letters (really!) also my new pen delights in spilling blots of ink - 80 do forgive me! Good Luck to you both, jor, 1964, with love to you with Palmysel

Jan. 28 1964 Lakeland Fla. 923 & Reynight H. 1 33801

My very dear friends:

received your delightful letter telling of the change of plan and the collecting on Lauai and the trip " around the world, that you intend to take. What a joy for your parents when you get to Schwartzwald and see them and other friends. Those trips on the top of the mountain is enough to take aaway anybody's feeling of safety. I am sure you got a lot of specimens. I wonder what they look like! I suppose you will let me know where you are during the round-the-World trip.. I shall send this to your home agrees at present I suppose.

There is nothing interesting to relate from here.. but J do get mail from the dar Moldenkes, A. is managing along but o has a lot to do, especially with the boarder Mr. Redmond ill.

I suppose yo u will see the Moldenkes. I wish I were there too, but I am stuck here for life and as I dont to any walking I see no one. One Swedish aquaintance is all I ever meet.

where will you be in Fla. (if you come to Fla.) I have unfortunately no room or place to house any dear friend. but! suppose there are may be places down in the town. I never get there. And have no car, only a taxi can be had. Which country are you going to v visit? I don't know the lady you wrote about as I can't get over to those small towns from here. My mail from

Sweden andother places keeps me absolutely BUSY. I better do it before the ditestable, horrid HOT weathercomes here. then one is as limp as a rag. How are you making out, you did not say . I expect that you are soon to be well again fiter the disagreable sickness that you are quierd up in those mountains. May you have better luck, from now on. Isa is a dear to write me and tell that she liked the little doily thing I made. it was a pleasure to do it.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

I cant do so very much here as I have no sewing machine and would not be able to have one has there is NO room. It is all I can do to find a spot where I can write. (not so easy).

May you have a lovely trip and rturned greatly refreshed from it all. I heard from Bro. Alain recently. I suppose you know him, he at latest writing was to Puerto Rico and inlendes I think later to to to the N.Y.Bot. Gard. and see if he can manage to get a help from the N.B.G so that he can continue work in the Islands. probably he spoke of San Dmingo, I think

Maym you have a fine trip and I shall think of you often, antery thing to do when + still have some very FINE adibles you kindly sent to me for Xmas. Such a nice surprise. Best love to you all.. every time I dig in a jar from Hawaii I will think of both of you. Get well now, and make the most of your trip. I hope your house will still be waiting for you when you return!

New York has been snowed in a lot, and the R.R. people had to walk home always snow to high end risky. You will avaids all that I hops.

Many thanks to you for those fine Xmas things.. I
was mightily surprised when they came! Good luck and my
love to both of you. Let me hear if you are coming near us here

ft would ad for me not to even SEE you.

Good Luck and my love to you both.

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THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN BRONX • NEW YORK 10458 2 212/933-9400

April 24, 1969

Dr. Otto Degener Waialua Oahu, Hawaii 196791

Dear Dr. Degener:

Your letter of 16 March regarding Mrs. William Mitchell, addressed to Miss Dietz, was referred to me, since for the past year I have been Historian for the Torrey Botanical Club. We have searched through the archives at hand but as yet have not been able to find any indication of Mrs. Mitchell in the records. I have a feeling that the archives of the club are not together. Perhaps some past officer still has some of these earlier records. I will be alert for such. We did find a record of a Mrs. William Mitchell of 54 Hancock Avenue, Yonkers, who was a member in 1927. I doubt that this is the same person that you are interested in.

I am sorry that we can not be of more help at this time.

Sincerely,

Clark T. Rogerson

Historian

Torrey Botanical Club

CTR:JT

MRS. WM. MITCHELL 923 EAST LEXINGTON STREET LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33801

Sept. 20/64

My very dear friends:

Your long and so very interesting letter from Cordova has given me much to read over and over again. How sorry I am to think that your sister has died and how imselfish to keep you not in (keep you in nervs) and you get sick too. I am surky sorry that you could not go to see her.

And you can imagine how very disapointed I am now to see you on this journey. but I can image she as well as you realize that the trip is much to fir a journey, from N.Y. to this miserable town of "Lakeland. where there is no possibilty to ever reaches ones friends. from abroad. I wish I hadn ever come here, at all. The glare and heat and very strong icy dos in Winter xan give you an idea. Amd as I am no BAPTIST likes every other person that lives here. I meet nothing. And no car or any way to go any where. You are not missing enough much Still I hope there MIGHT some year you will come over in this direction.

I am glad to hear good news of the herbarioum condition in Endingory, and How very interesting that in the British Museum you came upon herbarium (I suppose) of plants from 100 years ago! What a thing to have, In deed I think you will send collections for the Br. Museum! It muss one shiver at seeing specimens badly placed in herbariums and only a scarce lot of them. Is England going to stop attending to its Herbarium?

tiresome. I think you may be at the Garden yet, as far as I know. The Madenkes will tell me when they write, every once and a while.

I am glad that SOME of the Univ. herbarium scattered in Europe may hold out and not be ruined for lack of good handling. Wish I were there! I would make " the flowers be safely in press, and suitibly laid in suitable paper sheets.

Let me know some time, who you make out when you get settled down again at your home.

Some tome early in around Easter time perhaps it was I sent a tiny thiffle (a five dollar bill) for you, but sent it to island (is it MAUAI) and never heard that it reached you. Never mind, accidents WILL happen sometime in transition.

May you be well , both of you, and forget my miserable typing I can hardly type(with people talking across a THIN paper wall near my room) I can hardly think clearly.

Your escription of the things you saw and so forth in this trip of yours I will keep and put it in the book you sent me some time ago, so one can always keep or Bel rather I should say I know what is happening. Give Isa my love and I wish indeed I could not have the joy of seeing both of you in MY HOUSE in Yonkers. I miss that nice visit you came to me. Au revoir, and may you BOTH be well, and remain well. Do not OVERWORK to much. Best love to you both.

Palmyre

2.

I can hardly see to type here.. some days it is very dark here. A most uninteresting town.

I do hope that Isa is not too wern yout and that she and you gratuelly get over the loss of your sisters death. My friend, Bro. Alain, is now working a good deal several days a week in the herbarium and is most interested in what he finds. He intends to move eventuelly to San Domingo.. and that is a good thing for him. That is where my ancesters were i living in grand State before the uprizing of the the blacks. I have many documents and letters from that time in San Domingo..A. wants to work the flowers of San Domingo, as soon as as it is possible.

You know that the Garden here in N.Y., is having a new Library East side wing. I think it may be well on the way. But Oh I hate to think that the center of the Library in middle of our building should perhaps be moved or perhaps not a vailably. I don't hear from anyone there, so don't know.

I spent about 15 years work there in divided a years, after the two wars were gone. Which had broken me just out of the Museum, for about two years and later about 11 years. anyway I HOPE the speciens in herbarium wont be carelessly treated, now.

I expect you wee at the Garden right now on a short visit. I wish I were there too. The Moldenkes are so kind, and keep me well informed all events.

May your veturn to Hawaii be safe and not

August 3_1965

My dear kind friends! of yours, your zine new lot of pages of Flora Hourahiensis are a joy to have, + I shall just them with other ones that I have in safety here. I though you so much - for ferenting my small fine - I all happy to have aided some what in your work. The book is really very fine. I hope you are all week, The drawings are admirabil! (Ex cust my very bad writing.) with people playing on their piano-lessone (here) I it is hard to think clearly - so excuse me, We have damp, I warm climate - it is good that you both can exclipe the (what I consider) miserable weather!

I go nowhere -, I leve by reading - which has allways been my comfort. my love to you both! may you stay well and excuse my hasty jew lines no doubt better writing to you layeryon, excuse the Sound of piano (a pupil is hard att it so is don't write very well just now.)

July 22 1965

My very dear friends.. you and Isa:

Your delightful letter from a few days ago, is elightful to have to read and get ll news. It allow by of you to send me the

the large lot of pages of the delightfil

Specimens of which I am proud to have the a

owner of now. Your ading my name at the base of the volumes at I am glad indeed am glad to appreciate your letting ME be at the base of the pages. Thanks indeed to you. I am delighted to se my miserable small self included on the page.

Howare YOU both? may gas be well, and YOU also. I have seen no one from the Garden since over 3 years, so I miss that ploe, an I am fortunate enough to resive the week monthly magazine I manage quite well.

This type writer is not in too goo condition. It is lovely to have the fine lot of volumes that recently arrived and a e indeed a great comfort to me. I know NOBODY here, im this town. With no car to travel, with, I I sit here at the porth hand see people pass. by they have cars.

Almas son (son of Mrs. Moldenkes) wird
is a dear. and they write to me, so do the
the whole family, keeps me quite on hand as to
what is going on now. The Moldenkes are now
going to move to New Tersey. They are selling that
their house in Yonkers. (TO my regret. feels
as if the place will no longer will be wanted
but they are going to I THNK it is to Jersey

If I make a maistake about that you will know I have not yet heard about ito It is lovely of you to put my name on the bottom of the magazine (I was SO surprise whe I saw " Mrs. P. Mitchell etc. at the bottom of the page.)

I wish YOU two would once again come to USA.. it is santo have only friends so, VERY far away. Howver I can bless the dear USA Postoffice.. I could not live without them. We have good service here in Lakaland.

Are you tow well?

I owe letters t people all over the World.. and do not catch up with it ..

You have by now read that the very incredibley unfortunate weather in Colorado, streets down, and emdless damage down, my son lives right there (in Denver, and other parts. (they zer separate and roads and all. My son did not live in the low parts, so his house is still O.K.

My dear fiend Bros Alain who is a n colden friend of man, is often at the Garden and is doing well. So I who what goes on there. He is a very talented botanist and like ME is part FRENCH. (All my ascesters were French)

May I thank you again for ending the the Bot. magazine, you genead sent me now. I shall wish that you both stay WELL had come threalth. I have a cat walking around me so that the little pet is very much in my way and exceuse thereour the mistakes in the typing.

Tell Isa I send my love to her, and hope you bothere well, let me know, some time HOW you are. My loveto you both and may you have success with paking the various books. Etc.



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

we are far apart or so. exent your selves por the plant souches you two are useful, + it is fine that you can collect still? My love to you both! Palmyre 1965

Whatever the season,
Whatever the day,
It's brighter because of
Your warm, friendly way.
So, whatever the wishes
You're hoping come true,
That's what this greeting
Is wishing for you!

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

my dear friends: How kind you are to send me the "Coffee" such a surprise to me! and Overy welcomed I surely with of could tell you how good a surfice the coffee when it arrived (many teants to us, here.)
I see no botanist here, but of do know some who write to me, Bro. alain writes me often, and has be is as French as my familly, we agree very well, I only wish you and "madame" would visit the U.S.A. again. Are you both well? I hope so! I go nok where, has no connection with assorted people here, to I do doubly appries the letters that you are kind enough to sond me and other bits of Tnews. many thanks.

I wish I were living near you, all I see here are masses of Baptists - all over! I stay in sure silence and I have no like king for that set. - Botanists don't come his this fart of Florida! There is a university near hear but I do not care for thom.

May you have a pleasant christmas day, I shall think of you.

May love to both of you!

Calmyre

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN BRONX • NEW YORK 10458 212/933-9400

April 29, 1969

Dr. Otto Degener P. O. Box 154 Volcano Hawaii 96785

Dear Dr. Degener,

It was certainly nice to hear from you again. I am forwarding your article on Mrs. Mitchell to Dr. John Small, editor of <u>Torreya</u>, who usually takes care of these matters. I imagine he will contact you direct.

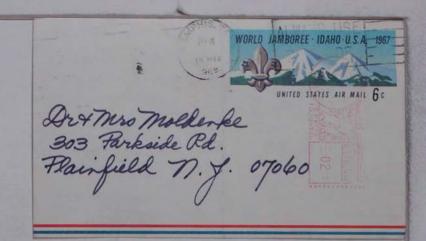
Are you and Isa planning to go to Seattle for the International Botanical Congress? If you are, we will look forward to seeing you there.

Kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

ANNETTE HERVEY

AH/bw



Dear alma Sat. 8, on Mar. 30 In The afternoon of the day mother picked out a birthday card for your mother bake had a severe C. V. a" + has not regained consciousur since, She is in the hospital with the usual Destrose, breathing + collater tubes. She has regained the use of right leg, but arm is useless. If she improves to where she can swallow doctor will put her in mursing Home. I will put her in mursing Home. Chrysanthenums on T. Y. Bot. Program you heat. Will write you soon. Love - Sellie G.

P.O. Bex 154, Volcane, Hawaii 96785. April 28, 1969.

Dear Dr. Rogerson:

chell. Or course the late Mrs. Wm. Mitchells formerly of 54 Hencock Ave., Yonkers, is the member I am writing about.

Please 'phone Mrs. Hervey for the letter and meanelegy of Mrs. Mitchell which I mailed to her April 17. Them let me know if the Torr. bet. Garden Bulletin can print it is tote with a photo which I am temporarily keeping here.

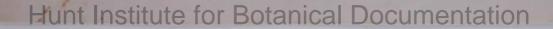
Whe. Mitchell was such a live-wire during br. Brittes's regime that I am shocked he one presently at the Gerden seems to know about her! Of nourse Mr. de la Montagne would, Fred Seaver, Mrs. Schilling and a few old timers if any still exist.

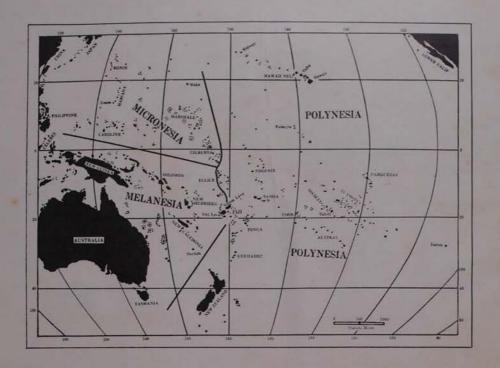
According to her own letter to me I know she was a member from 1901 or '02 until apparently 1961. I though Club membership might have been listed in the minutes of meetings and easily available or reposing in the Library to clinch the precise dates. It bot, the 1901 or '02 can stand in the biegraphy without too much abjection.

Please let me know soon about your reaction as a nearclegy is particularly timely shortly after a death - this me., has been kicking about on my deak for some months.

In Fijl Mrs. P. & I grabbed a few fuegi, added formelin, and hedled them back home to behu. They are not in good condition and I hardly think you would want them, Mikines published recently on Haw. fungi and I offered the mess to him. He has not yet an awared. If you know of some one istercated in some agarics s.l., pelypores, eye., please lat me know. I would be interested to know what we callected before I die of eld age. We are presently on Hawaii, and won't be back on Oshu for two or three months where the specimens are repeasing.

Alohe,





P.C. Bex 154, Velcane, Hawaii 96785; May. 10, 1969.

Dear Prof. Small:

Many thanks for your letter, which came teday in the same mail with an explanatory one from Prof. Rogerson.

Enclosed is the necessary photograph. Do, please, note that her first name was Palmyre and NOT PALMYRA, as recently published in error in the Garden Journal. I have another photo of her. It was taken in 1963, but it is of course years after her ret rement and I would think therefore not as appropriate. I can't imagine Torreys would want to reproduce two photos of any one person.

I know little about any bibliography of Mrs. Mitchell's. She prepared U.S. Censor reports, some short fictional articles and an article in the N.Y.B.G., Journal 29:No. 345:243. I don't off hand know the year for this last. Her duties were of course more like those of Gus Wittrock and later of Mac, and like them published little.

I always assumed you were related to Dr. J.K. Small. Are you not? New Jersey is not too far distant from Pa.

Have you not quite a large collection of my haw, specimens is your herbarium? Delightful Will Witte used to BUY (!) them from me, mount them, and then donate them to Rutgers. I believe he was long technician in your Bot. Dept. I have many of his characteristic letters in my files written from his most interesting old Dutch-type house. It was like a Museum. After his death, I fear the family lost it.

I used to go on trips with Dr. & Mrs. Chrysler - very enjoyable.

Aloha,

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY The State University of New Jersey

RUTGERS COLLEGE

Department of Botany Nelson Biological Laboratories New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

8 May 1969

furte Small

Dr. Otto Degener P. O. Box 154 Volcano, Hawaii 96785

Dear Dr. Degener:

I must start with an apology for the long neglect of your kind offer last winter to prepare a biographical sketch of Mrs. Mitchell. At the time I inquired at a club meeting, looked in American Men of Science and otherwise tried to find out who she was. Then the matter got into my "neglected" file you see. I thought at the time that I had a memory of Mrs. Mitchell at the N. Y. Botanical Garden but I could not verify it up there. Isn't it remarkable how soon one is forgotten and unknown after leaving the scene?

Now, I am very happy to have your manuscript. Dr. Rogerson has read it and we wnt to print it in the Torreya section of the Bulletin. I hope you can send the photograph along at once. Did Mrs. Mitchell have a bibliography of published material that you know about? The manuscript is also of interest in that you recalled some others of the earlier enployees on the garden staff. It is good to bring them back to the attention and memory of their successors. I arrived at Rutgers in 1924 fresh out of the University of Maine. I do not believe that I ever met Mrs. Mitchell hot did I meet the Brittons but I knew several of the others that you recall to some extent.

Sincerely yours,

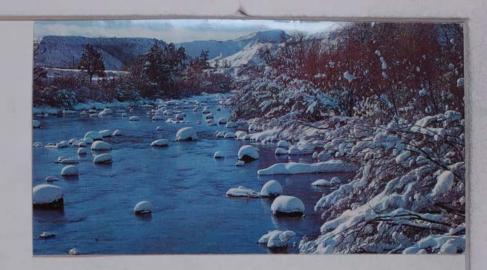
Associate Editor for Torreya
BULLETIN OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



hearted love and concern Sept. 30 1968 for her many many griends Dear Da and Otto. tremained evident till her We have sad news last stroke. for you. after having a You made her so happy Imassive Froke which with those long news-filled left her paralysed in musch letters that you sent from Mother lingered on till time to time! ... and also the generous box of favaires Sextamber 16 f. then peacefully goodies "that you sent her and apparently in my pain Owhen she first moved to she sliped duray. She was Florida, with her, it wasn't 88 and until this last episode so much what the gift was as that someone loved her enough had never had any illnesses to go to all the bother of surchasing except for a number of small straked "which left her unable packing and mailing off a. token of their affection to think very clearly or answer Am wohdering where any austion that required and how you spent your summer? no illnesses Thope. Maybe a facts __ but her warm -

little more accomplished on your publication or a trip to some interesting (botanically speaking) spot for more collection Our seden soo who was teaching at M. I.T. this year has obtained a Science dellawship for a year of " thinking" at the Institute for adv Studies at Princeton. He baid grants "are scarse this year and We was lucky to get one no doubt Heterras been a curtailment in Botany Lunds too. though you two were my friends and Olhave certainly followed your careers with interest write when you can We have lost a precious serson but at last she is happy and free and with those she boack who had preceded her. sellie Mithell Godman



Der Atot Isa What a wonderful experience your weest have head in your revent trip intetues in Seattle I have head will so divide. She met to the mietues in farold sale met phytoLOGIO which from obutury notice will putto from now the form of the corresponding is not set up yet; one is in the free now, her the common hard is not set up yet; one is in the free now, her they soil they be strongly shill is you can reach they server for many terms and probably shill is you can reach they through the ny By or he Roderfeller Franchitary for they bound through the ny By or seit to divisite is membership secretary and through they free Ditty or Seit to divisite is membership secretary and through the files of the hor the fatherfus, here to your both from the fatherfus,

P.O. Box 154, Volcaro, Hewaii 96785. April 17, 1969.

Peer Mrs. Hervey:

We of course get the various Garden notices way out have in Namei, and so know pretty well about the activities of the resident staff. Isa & my activities out here in the center of the North Pacific are collecting botamical prizes for the Garden, working on a local Flora, and attending to a few other activities now and them. One of these, a sad one, was writing a neorology about Mrs. Witchell who was at the Garden for the total of four or five years I speat there during the regime of Drs. Britton & Merrill. Iss met Wrs. Mitchell, and we have corresponded off and on until her death last Fell.

Because of Mrs. Mitchell's long membership in the Torr. Ect. Club, please let me know if this biography can be published in full. If so, I shall mail a photo of her to you to add to the article. I do not wish to risk it soing back & forth in the mails unnecessarily as I could never replace it if cace lost.

We can impose the Carden is enchanting at this time - we so enloved our welks to end from the spuff mill, being careful not to step on the early Lumbrious terrestris specimens that the early robins had missed.

Alohe,

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Waislus, Oshu, Hawaii 196791. March 16, 1969.

Dear Hiss Diets:

Over two months ago I wrote to the Forrey Betanical Chab, C/o N.Y. Betanical Garden, about Mrs. Palmyre (not Palmyra) Mitchell about whom Mrs. Degener & I are writing a necrology. Evidently the latter never reached its destination.

hes. William Mitchell (nde Palmyre Louise de Chatemudum) was born in 1880 and 4164 last September.

She was long a member of the Torrey Bot. Club (as I am also), a intaining her membership from 1901 or '02 to about 1953. Could you kindly verify or correct these dates? We wish to submit our illustrated necrology of our remarkable friend to the Fulletin for publication, and need this information.

If you lask these records, please turn this letter ever to our good fried Dr. Annette Hervey or perhaps to Dr. Reed.

Aloha,

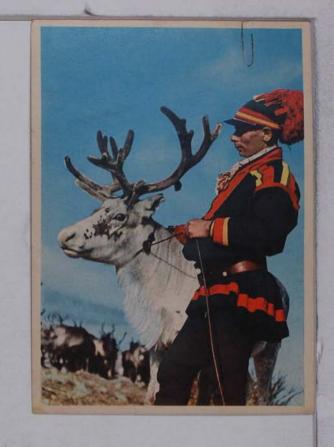
1/7/61

Yorkeles Jan-7-1961

Dear Isa and Otto:

you are to send me the delicious Carrotment of Harraisan Conserver! Such a surprise, most undeserved, and greatly appreciated. Ich danke Timen, with a hug and many thanks. which alreved safely, and which or am provid to own. The Hale abala Truck is charming, and most informative, a very well written book indeed. I like that map especially, and the part on plants where you ail Skottsberg are mentioned What a rugged Ruleus you have It is all very literesting many thanks to moving is in Hawaii you a mouth of so she is victing her daughter married to Commander Lowentraset at aira, Hawing I'm been there twies this year tho. It his in Calif. at Seal Black.

I believe she called on you & no only home. I finally trexigned from the Porkey Club, as they meet always at Columbia, eleposable for me to make that 4- Bection this at hight 4 is the Escredible sheet and see to have had the programs are so entirely specialized (each person his hoppy) that a person who look plant and I terbatuin is more than bould It is all "Lat science"_ So I don't want to go I wish they had returned their programs to the sommer kind of lestures " bised 14 about 1902 of think, Brof Underwood abonioned me. The winter here has been me Sofely at home sicy streets very bad, so I take no changes. I cuclose a small clipping and wonder if it applies & some member of now family. alma moldentel was her to centre ound we always have a kalle-blettely & good talk al you can integris! I do with non word thehe too. Mr. Clemens just wrate me, but only about missions so mot a word of botany there, to my segret. I am glad to know Isa is well and all is well with you. Many thanks to you with many though, affection thely youth of



This cand will be and the stand of the search of the search of mouthern Rainceah.

They have in far-away

Lapland in houth sweden,

As Grafisk Kona, Stockholm Palmyrl

192

Yonkers

February 6 1961

Dear Isa and Otto:

Just a few lines to thank you for the very fine additional pages of your Flora, which reached me "before the Blizzard", nothing reaches us AFTER that blizzard. It was indeed a "whopper". The drawings are so fine, I do enjoy looking at them. Thank you so much for not forgetting my interest in plants, and both of you too.

I enclose some clippings.. it is not from a newspaper I would read or buy, but my tenant handed it to me on account of the photos that show you somewhat the condition of affairs here.. the snow tisin great MOUNTAINS" up to the top rail of our handrails going up to front door. So I stay RIGHT here, in doors and look from afar. The newspapers can not even be delivered. Or much of anything else. The first blizzard was bad, but the second MUCH worse, the storm was so noisy and everytning was flying aloft all night .. MOUNTAINS of snow line each side of the street.. in most places it is so high that crossing is impossible. A good thing that I did not plan to go to the Torrey Club dinner.. would not have reached my destination.. very cold just about then. I send the clippings so that you will appreciate better in the fullest, your good fortune in being on Oahu. Best love to you both .. and again many thanks. The house is warm, Oil bill for Jan. \$90.83(!)

With love, yours,

That should make you grateful that you are in Hawaii.

April 24 1960

Dear Dr. and Mrs.Degener:

I have hardly thanked you sufficiently for the parts of your Flora sent some time ago., I measure them all, and thank you very much. It is delightful to have those nice drawings, even though I have never seen living specimens..

Forgive the anaemic color of my typing, the ribbon seems to be tired of working! It was so nice that the Moldenkes could meet you both last Fall. they are, as you say, very fine people. I was also so glad to meet Bro.Alain last Fall, he is French you know. so thereis a sort of kin-ship between us.(All my ancestors were French).

My half-sister, ars. Murray, went to Honolulu recently and was quite enchanted, she sent me from there a small book "Hawaii Blossoms" by Dorothy and Bob Hargreaves, in that little book I found your name (a Passiflora). the flowers are very gayand I shall let them live next to the various other Hawaiian publications with which you have blessed me.

Talking of "blessing", I wish Mrs.C. would write about the various plants, instead it is a very confused and abundant detail about missionaries of whom I have not least acquaintance. I usually know the botanists she does mention, but as you say, it is hard to extract the botanical from the other subjects.

The streets have been so ice-covered all winter that I went nowhere, not to the Torrey C.Dinner, tho I had paid both my dues and also for the dinner. but as I stayed safe here I still have my arms andlegs. which is more than a lot of people can not boast of. I was 80 years old last April 2 and I wish you could see the MAIL that came. from every corner, of the Globe. I got over 40 letters alone, and ,to my great delight, a CABLE from Sweden. from a friend I have not seen since 1904. You can imagine howit warmed my heart. I still "owe" the writers for 15 letters, so am just running off a few lines to you before I get absolutely "up to my ears" in writing here, there, and everywhere.

Volcances are things I have always heard about as my step grandfather lived in Hawaii and I heard many trimes about people fleeing, it reminds one a bit of the lisaster at Martinique (if I remember right) I hope you on Oahu always will escape such troubles. I have even a piece of lava that was made into a pin by someone, years and years ago. I hope your friend Mrs. L'Orange appreciates her home country too. Norway is a wonderful place as it has high mountains, and very talented fine people. It also has high mountains with fjords at their base and one can NOT "promenade" there unless one is smart as a Mountain sheep.

I hope you have no more high water or eruptions to contend with. I always watch in paper when Hawaii is mentioned.

Mayyou stay well, collect LOTS of new specimens and remember that you are never forgotten here. I wish you lived nearer.

collecting you have a lovely summer, and much good fortune with

Hunt Institute for Botanical Botumeritation

P.S. The sketch of your abode 1s delightful.

7/16/57

54 Hancock Avenue Yonkers, N.Y.

July 16, 1957

Dear Dr. Degener:

You cannot imagine how delighted I was on receiving the separates of your Flora! They are splendid, and it gave me a thrill to see the plate signed "Degener and Degener"! Wonderful that you married someone who could carry on at your side and do the illustrations. I especially liked the ones where the specimens had been "s'ippled", as I used to do a lot of that in Sweden in my wood carving, (which was all the rage) Invery proud to own so much of the Hawaii Floranow, as I had others that you had sent previously some years ago. It is a showy and very different flora from ours, is'ent it?

I have all those together now in my "Botanical Shelf" It is a dear memento of the Garden and my many dear associates.

That great tidal wave that forced you to move or yourlares and penates upstairs was truly an experience. I PITY you both at the very thought of moving all that furniture, and I suppose your books, herbarium and everything, and the repeating the performance next day. May that be the last violent action of the sea, for years to some. I didnot think that moving heavy objects around was particularly salutary an exercise.

I have not heard much from the Garden of late, the usual maddening weather conditions keep one from promenading to any great extent, but I get a phone call once in a while and stay au courant of things. The Moldenkes are good neighbors, though we do not meet asoften as one would wish, due entirely to the fact that their home is on a high pinnacle.. in fact a tortuous street leads to the very heights of Yonkers. We usually manage

to meet for a bit of Christmas cheer... he has those awful daily drives all the way down to near Plainfield, N.J. daily, as you, of course know.

My "cheer" is not so

so great at the moment as the water pipe that comes up the enbank ment here and is the source of water supply as sprung a leak, and it is running like a small stream down to street, so I am due for a session with "excavators" (sounds like an animal), and plumbers tomorrow, and the estimate for newinstallation is \$430. Can you believe it? It deals me a cruel blow! Plumbers are millionaires nowadays.. and theman that comes to fix ten minutes work on the furnace (when needed, once in a year or two) gets \$5. for the FIRST half hour! Is'ent the world topsy -turvy? At any rate it is a bloodless revolution really that is taking place.. there are no "poor" among us, except the "white collar" class. However it was achieved by blood and guillotine.

I hear from Earl Core once a year and now and then from dear Mrs. Clemens, but herletters are not as "botanical" as I might wish. I wouldrather hear about her determinations of species she has collected, than about many good people scattered all over in various Missions, whom I do not know.

The festivities in Sweden during the Linnean days in May were notable, you have probably read all about it. my Swed. newspaper gave very detailed and delightful accounts of it. I have, as you may know, about eleven Vols. of the Sv Akademiens Handlingar with some original articles of new species by Linnaeus himself. They are mostly from around 1745,,1746 (and.with fine plates.) I tried to interest Dr.G. in buying them for the Garden, but he was not the least interested in them .. to my surprise.

You know Dr. Camp went over to Sweden for the celbration and of course an endless lot of other scientists too. I getmail from Sweden nearly every week or two, still have many friends there, and Prof. Dahl, and Prof. Svedelius (whom you probably met around 1926, at the Garden) sendme magnificent ill. magazines every Christmas.

To see me, I am sure Mrs. Degener would enjoy seeing a lot of my books here which include 36 dictionaries. (No Priental)

You were good to telephone when you did. passing through here, but I did regret not seeing you both.

"botanical team", like Dr. and Mrs. Britton, it seems, soehow to carry on the tradition. And the Moldenkes dowell too, as Alma, despite all she has to attend to with her school etc., does both write and ecture on botanical subjects.

Botanists are the nicest people in the world, and I am

Many good wishes to you both and may you stay well, and experience no more freak storms of nature, from land or sea.

Au revoir, best greetings to Mrs. Degener,

Sincerely yours,

Palmyre de Mitchell

Callona Vulgaris gram de Deutschland!

February 26, 1958

Dear Dr. Degener:

What a dear you are to send me still more of the pages of the Flora H. And as your photo and Mrs.Ds, are also here, I feel quite in touch with you. 't is charming of her, but I do not think yours does you justice, hoever it is now enconced in my "Botanists' Album". Many thanks, indeed.

I went to the Torrey Coub Annual Dinner, at Hunter. Mrs.

Moldenke got a taxi and came for me and we rode in state to

Woodlawn and upon returning shehad theman come for us and I
hadonly to walk up my steps. an easy trip in such awful weath—
er, compared with whatit would have been minus "taxi". The

Moldenkes are all right though Andrew got badly hurt before
Thanksgiving (I think it was). was out in woods with some
other "woodsmen" of his age and slipped on a big boulder, was
unconscious for two whole days in hospital in consequence. I
think now hels well and safe again. it was a terrible ordeal for
the Moldenkes.

You know. I stuppose, that a new Director

if taking over at the Garden, and his assistant is aman from Konsas State. Lawrence University. familiar to me. but he is apparently a specialist on Cryptogams. of which I know next to nothing. Rosalie Weikert has retired from the Gardenand also Grace Schilling, whom you certainly must remember. She and I came to work at Museum in 1901. just count theyears! Rosalie W. was there 41 or 42 years I believe I say as Dr. Denslow said to me, when I left. WE have been here during the ATIME of the Garden Many good arrangements have been made with the Museum exhibits, downstairs, but otherwise it is so largely devoted to Horticulture. that I do not recognize the place.

You know, of course that we have endured a real snowstorm and so many that roads, streets and all were impassable. I didnot go out of house for about 11 days. and the streets till have mounds all along the curbs. autos covered with snow stood here from our house to the corner so piled overwith snowthat all one saw was a "m" "mound". I stayed right here and didnot break anyy bones!

I dived into alot of books and never even looked out of the window, icicles hung all around our eaves here and were great heavy things, some fell on my cellar door (garden entrance to cellar) and broke, by their very weight, through right in middle my nice door.

Good thing that no one was standing there. at the time.

I love the drawings (plates) in your Flora.. andit is so nice to see Degener and Degener." reminds one of the great botanists of the past..doing team-work! It is wonderful for you that "rs.D. has all that talent. I love the "stippling" on the drawings.. at least we used to call that: "stippling" when we carved in wood, in Sweden .. I still have the tools for such work. The snowscene I enclose will make your shiver.. my son who is now Regional Manager for the Schulmerich Carillon Co, drives and goes over and through a lot of just such places, as he now has ll Western States to cover..he is a fine driver, but uses mostly planes now, it is easier to ignore Mt. passes then! As his home is in Denver he has been a gooddeal in contact with the Rockies!

Do you hear from Mrs. C. at all. her letters of late are entirely about missionaries , hardly a mention of collections and the herbarium work. I think she is still at the Museum in Brisband. What will become of all her fine collections?

Best regards to Madame.. do forgive this vile typing, I am NOT a typist by profession, as you can see. I think of you and the days at the Garden, often! Again thankyou! Sincerely, Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation