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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.



Mrs Otto and Isa Jagerski
RR 1 Box 89
Waialeale, Oahu
Hawaii 96791

T

P.O. Box 446
Kilauea, Hawaii 96753
January 2, 1980

Dear Drs. Degeer,

I am most interested in the letter
from Walt Judd, so I dropped him a
note.

Your trip to Europe I hope was an
interesting one and I shall be happy
to hear about the award.

While in Kauai recently, Dr. Theobald

Give me some plants to bring home to
Rene for our Botanical Garden.
We are hoping for better days ahead
where our new mayor, Humbert
Tavares, has time to learn of our
plights with the County!

Best wishes for the New Year of 1980.

Aloha,

Heleu

P.S.

I hope you received the money order for your books.

[Gov. Judd's daughter
interested in
Maui Bot. Garden]

HAROLD N. MOLDEWIL
303 PARKSIDE ROAD
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY
07060



Dr. Otto Degener
68617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

96791

USPS 1978

Dec. 30, 1979

Dear Otto,

We hope you and Isa had a wonderful visit to Germany.
Thank you for your letter.

I had a nice Christmas card from a Russian botanist at the Komarov Institute, thanking me for complimentary PHYTOLOGIA copies which I had sent him (probably at your suggestion), but I cannot decipher his name. I would like to send him some more. Can you give me again his name and full address? Sorry to bother you. I'd like to send him more as his note seemed so friendly (in English yet!)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

as ever,

Next issue will have a
paper by Derral Herbst

(US Fish & Wildlife Serv., Honolulu) on Hawaiian plants.

Harold



Collegiate School

241 WEST 77TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10024

December 28, 1979

Dear Alumnus,

This is a slightly different form of appeal, for a change - one for information.

An important part of my role as Alumni Secretary and of the Alumni Office is keeping you informed of what's happening at Collegiate, through Alumni Update and News From Collegiate, and of what's happening with your classmates, through the Alumni Notes which are published twice a year in News From Collegiate.

One of the best ways we at Collegiate can keep the alumni up to date is to ask you to support your Class Representative by sending him news of you and your family. College news, job changes, or relocations are items of interest for the recent alumni, while the activities of children or approaching retirement are newsworthy items for "old grads."

This letter is being posted by your class rep. His address is listed below. Won't you take a moment to drop him a line and send him word of your activities?

Sincerely,

Eaton S. Lothrop, Jr.
Alumni Secretary

Class Representative:

R. Sherrard Elliott
323 S. Fairfax St.
Alexandria, Va. 22314

41, Norton St.,
Old Trafford,
Manchester, M16 7AG,
Lancashire,
England.
24th. Dec., 1979.

Dear Dr. Otto Degener,

Thank you for your letter dated 16th. Oct., 1979, which because it was by surface mail has only arrived a few days ago.

I have posted a small package of British plants to you few days ago and hopefully you'll receive it in good condition. I have enclosed with this letter £8-00 for the "Flora Hawaiensis" Books 1-4 which I hope will include the postage.

I am extremely grateful to you for continuing to collect plants for me but please, don't spend too much time on it —. I wouldn't dare waste any of your time on me.

I thank you again for the herbarium specimens and I look forward to the books soon.

Hoha.
Wai yot Lee

P.S. I was going to send you British Postal Orders, but America would not accept them.



14 bis, av. de Cour

Lausanne, le 21 décembre 1979

Monsieur et Madame
Drs Otto & Isa Degener
P.O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96 785 U.S.A.

Madame et Monsieur,

Nous avons bien reçu votre dernier envoi d'exsiccata en provenance d'Hawaii et nous vous en remercions vivement, car ils contribuent à enrichir nos collections.

Nous vous félicitons également pour les différents diplômes que vous avez joints à votre envoi. Malheureusement, nous ne sommes pas habilité à vous en décerner de semblables, mais nous vous remercions pour l'importante contribution que vous apportez à la connaissance de la flore hawaïenne.

Avec nos vœux les meilleurs pour l'année 1980, nous vous prions de croire, Madame et Monsieur, à l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

G. Müller, conservateur

G. Müller



THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM of HARVARD UNIVERSITY
22 DIVINITY AVENUE · CAMBRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS 02138 · U.S.A.

December 19, 1979

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

Dear Otto:

Your letter, with enclosures, was a pleasant surprise, and I thank you for writing it and then sharing the copy. I'll add it to the Arnold records for the biographical data and botanical history it includes. I'm teaching a class in plant families this year, and you and Isa get mentioned frequently. Your photo with Betty, taken in Leningrad, is part of the story. The week of Thanksgiving I took the class to Miami, and Kay Sweeney invited us to stay at the Kampong. Here Fairchildiana came forth, including the Cheng Ho story in part. I didn't know a manuscript had been assembled on the story of the ship. Sometime tell me where on Kauai this is resting.

Your version of the Howard Irwin story is a bit different from what circulates here. Call it a mess, no matter what the facts.

How many times I wish I had the correspondence that Merrill destroyed, as you said, sheet by sheet while I sat across the room and could only be frustrated. However, the Dean said it was his right, and that was that.

I do wish you a good holiday and a wonderful New Year.

Sincerely,

Rich

Richard A. Howard
Professor of Dendrology

RAH:dt

Botanischer Garten
und Botanisches Museum
Berlin-Dahlem
Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8
D-1000 Berlin 33



Postk

Herrn

Dr. Otto Degener

P.O.Box 154

(Postfach oder Straße und Hausnummer)

Volcano, Hawaii 96785

(Postleitzahl) (Ort)

U.S.A.

Botanischer Garten
und Botanisches Museum
Berlin-Dahlem
Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8
D-1000 Berlin 33

BERLIN

(030) 8 31 40 41

17.12.1979

27

Mit verbindlichem Dank bestätigen wir den Eingang von:

40 No. Herbarmaterial

We acknowledge with best thanks the receipt of:

i. A.
Botanischer Garten u. Botanisches Museum
Berlin-Dahlem
Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8
D-1000 BERLIN 33



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

December 17, 1979

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Your material mailed October 30, 1979 arrived today. Copies will be in the mail to you later this week. Your request for an estimate on labels has been forwarded to Mr. Al Angerman, Garden Print Shop. He will send the estimate to you under separate cover.

Best wishes to you and Isa for a joyous holiday.

Sincerely yours,

Charles R. Long

Charles R. Long, Director
Library and Plant Information Services

CRL/d

cc: A. Angerman

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waiialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.
Dec. 15, 1979.

Editor, News Letter,
Haw. Bot. Society,
Univ. of Hawaii.

Dear Editor:

As Miss Greenwell was known generally throughout the Islands, her home, Mrs. Degener & I thought readers of our Newsletter should know about the living memorial established to her memory in New York City.

If not suitable, please return the ms., so we can add more biographical facts about Miss Greenwell and submit the altered version for publication to Phytologia. That magazine is the property of our colleague at the New York Botanical Garden. Harold Moldenke and Alma M., have been sponsoring this project for years, just as we have ours and Fulling had his. After their deaths, arrangements have been made for Foundations to take over.

Aloha,



Der Bryologe Fr. D. R. Smith hat Dr. N. Ziegler
Wasserschiff im Gymnasium, und nicht einmal
also nicht Wasser, was keine gute Sache ist.
hinein war, und er hat es zu tun, und
er antwortete, dass er zu tun hat.
Ich bin - um durchzufüllen zu antworten.

Ich habe ihm eben eine Xerax/sofie von
ihrem Brief geschickt, also sollte es bald
darauf antworten.

Was verstehen wegen dem hohen Aussehen
mit dem Professor Titel, daher wird es
nicht zu kompliziert für Anglisten, besser
im weiteren Bereich, den Titel zu nehmen, und
nicht. Es gehört zu einer Deutschen mit
ihrem ganzen Titel, Biographische von 60 - 80
Arbeiten. Dieses müssen sie mit Dr. H. -
mann aufarbeiten. Ich habe es probiert
vor paar Jahren für was sa. ich ge-
druckt haben, und veröffentlicht.

Ich habe einen Doktorat Titel der ich von
meiner Alma Mater bekommen habe
ohne regelmäßige Arbeit zu haben.
Es ist für meine Arbeit in Harvard, Di-
tau, um einen Titel zu bekommen, wenn
man in Amerika, muss man eigent-
lich eine Theses für Prüfung der Fakultät
schon zu kritisieren. Ich habe das nie ge-
tan, aber Teile gedruckt so schnell wie
geschrieben, und verkauft. Das ist un-
regelmäßig. Der Professor Titel ist unregelmäßig
glauben wir und darum mehr be-
stehend.

Wir hoffen es gibt Schmerz stillend
Medizinen in Europa. Ob es sie hier
gibt für Steine wissen wir nicht.
Wo würden zu einem anderen
Arzt gehen der vielleicht eine an-
dere Methode hat die besser
wirkt. Wir tun so etwas oft.

Alto
Dr (Houc.) O D.

DEC 17 1979 0/ENTRY



Hale Degener

WAIALUA, OAHU, HAWAII

Dec. 13, 1979.

Dear Mr. Mellett:

Mrs. Degener & I wish to thank you for your Christmas wishes. We wish you a Mele Kalikimaka (the Haw., language lacks some of our sounds, so substitutes must be used) as well as Mrs. Mosher.

We dropped further work on "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks" during the past year as too expensive for us freelance botanists. Now with a new tax year ahead, we are ready to try to complete the present job, keeping costs down by printing a small edition. We shall try even though we again overreached ourselves by an unexpected event: We flew to Germany where I was awarded the Willdenow Medal at the Tercentenary Celebration of the Founding of the Berlin Botanical Garden. NOT being modest & hoping to stimulate sales, I am adding the award information on the present fly-leaf.

We had some bad luck, the fault of BB as well as of O.D. BB destroyed some photo trons for which I could not unearth the original ms., as I have been getting rid of my seemingly useless possessions before I, an octogenarian, die of old age. It was a nasty task being forced to hunt up perhaps second rate substitutes. Anyway, the beginning page proofs have now changed, altering pagination throughout the book. Hence all present 1.) Plates, 2.) Figures and 3.) Allusions to Pages in the text need revision!

Do have your Business Office send me a very tentative estimate of what an edition of 1,000 of the forthcoming job will cost. In a month I should have another dozen or so pages to add, and I guess half a dozen plates. Please inform Mrs. Mosher that we have not quite completed revision of the book from Family 340 onward. Too much has been discovered recently which deserves inclusion.

I would probably need two months to pay bill as I get rents on first of each month.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

Royal Botanic Garden
Edinburgh EH3 5LR

Telephone 031 552 7171

7.12.79

Dear Sir

CUR DEMAND No. L 2148 of 19.10.78

I have not yet received:-

DAGENER, O AND ISA

PRODROMUS OF GALEATELLA AND
NEOWIMMERIA PAMPHLETS 1-13 1974

and I shall be grateful if you will hasten delivery.

Yours faithfully

R. Bell.

RP D M HENDERSON
Regius Keeper



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK

P.O. BOX 537

MAKAWAO, MAUI, HAWAII 96768

December 5, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

We have not been able to finalize the draft General Management Plan for Haleakala National Park - primarily due to very complicated and sensitive land and visitor related issues which erupted in the Kipahulu coastal area early this year.


The original public input was strongly favorable toward the plan as a whole; however, there was enough public concern about location of the park boundary and public use of the Kipahulu coastal area to cause us to restudy that situation.

As a result, what I hope to do is split the original plan into two sections so that the Kipahulu Coastal Area can be dealt with separately at a later date. Thus, my recommendation will be to approve a General Management Plan for the Crater District and the Upper Kipahulu Valley (with a few technical corrections suggested by you and others). Unfortunately, due to the Kipahulu situation and other pressing matters I have not had time to complete the editing.

I am sorry that we will not be able to meet your January 1st deadline for sending an updated plan to the New York Botanical Garden. However, your continued interest in Haleakala is appreciated and mahalo for wishing us a "White Christmas" on Haleakala - who knows?

Our best to you and Mrs. Degener for this coming season and the New Year.

Aloha,


Hugo H. Huntzinger
Superintendent

cc: State Director, HISD



Dear OTTO & ISA

140 Volcano,

December 2, 1979

Thank you indeed for the "STATUELICHE
MUSEEN" papers which arrived yesterday!
The loose reports are especially interesting.

News bulletins:

1. Jack is nearly finished - Trans mission
is completed & car expected to be home
by Friday, Dec. 7th.
2. In case you missed my last note,
I have cashed Otto's check & purchased
5 volumes of Krauss ethnobotany.
Shall I send these up to you?
(Quite bulky!)
3. Volcano has quieted down & deflated.
4. We are all well, but are expecting
grandchildren again and are cringing
already.

Love to all,

Hub

P.S. Roger Baldwin has an autograph

Party to celebrate his new
book on Hawaiian Poisonous Plants.

CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAII

Hawaii Island Chapter

P. O. Box 1222M

Hilo, Hawaii 96720

28 NOV

1973

John Hancock

Patriot



U.S. Postage 10¢

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
P. O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785

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IT'S MEETING TIME

The CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF HAWAII: Big Island Chapter will present the following panel discussion during their monthly general meeting Tuesday, December 4, 7:30pm, at Hona Hawaii.

Topic: NOXIOUS WEED PLANTS: Research and Control

Participants: Representatives of the State Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry, University of Hawaii, and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

This meeting will present and exchange information from the various State and Federal agencies on the problem of weed infestation within Hawaii's native forest and agriculture lands.

SEE YOU THERE

Nov. 22, 1979.

Dear Dr. Theobald:

Mrs Degener & I just returned to our Cahu home, and have glanced at your kind gifts/ We need time to study them carefully.

Off hand Miss Haas' Pittosporum paper is fascinating but, according to our opinion the better a person knows taxa the more will they tend to split them. Here she has gorgeous plates; but as we see it she, with clouded vision, has done little more than lump Dr. Sherff's more precisely studied, and hence named, trivial taxa. Had we not noted dates, we would expect the Haas publication to have been an earlier, pioneer one perhaps dated around Hillebrand's time - crudely lumping. Sherff's monograph would logically be the more modern one, refining the ancient one of Haas. According to our opinions, many of Haas' "species" should be synonymized as "P. so-and-so in part sensu Haas." The work cannot be ignored. It is too bad that she did not tackle one of the genera that no outstanding botanist had ever touched before. There are so many of them.

Regarding the new Fiji Flora, we dare not write Al until we have really gone through the entire pencil to jot "thoughts" on page margins. Confidentially to you we consider Al so erudite that he produced a volume for scholars of the Fiji flora to read. As there are not more perhaps than 2 or 3 in the entire World (and we Degeners are not Fiji students, but Fiji plant collectors), the sale of the book (whether expensive or not) is limited to perhaps less than five individuals! On the other hand, volumes deserve to be on the shelves of leading institutions, especially if they have our scattering of about 50,000 sheets, such as Adelaide, Amherst, Ann Arbor, Auckland, Berlin, Brisbane, Canberra, Edinburgh, Geneva, Helsinki, Bishop, Kew, Leningrad, Leiden, Munich, NY, Paris, Peking, Smithsonian, St. Louis, & Wellington. You might mail them brochures, but don't be disappointed if librarians ignore far off, practically unheard of Fiji. They may not know the wealth of Fiji material in their various herbaria.

Later volumes like our Fl. Haw., would gain a limited sale among the few plant lovers in Fiji were the descriptions fuller and more down to earth. Mrs. Kai Viti and Miss Archibald may not be interested so much in the fine points of morphology of a taxon, but whether its flowers are red or blue. Personally, we believe Vols II & III must be doubled in size with more complete descriptions and at least some illustrations such as I printed in "Trop. Plants World Around," in four parts in the N.Y. Bot. Garden Journal. In fact, I could help you with cuts of some pantropicals.

With the Degener history of collection garbled, when Al knows me so well, what has he done with collectors strange to him? I with assistants paid by me collected over 21,000 numbers aggregating about 50,000 sheets that I distributed widely by gift and sale. Institutions having them should be your best customers for the set. He thinks Mrs. Archibald financed me! I financed myself, even paying for my Filipino protégé's expenses. I left the Chong Ho in Savu Savu Bay after discovering the crew would leave the ship and the expedition would fail. Technically, I remained "member of the Exped-

in Fiji last Mrs. Archbold lose face.⁴ That I collected in Fiji once is also incorrect. More recently Isa & I were in Fiji twice, botanizing in Viti Levu & sailing our catsh. to Al. Miss Haas even cites (O. & I. Degener) our finds of Fiji Pittospora in her monograph, presumably first identified by Al.

Like our own Flora Haw., Vol. 1 of Fiji is hardly a vade mecum. If we were to exaggerate, we would describe the work as an outstandingly erudite book review of a modern Flora of the Monocots of the Fiji Islands which does not yet exist. The make-ready & colored cuts are excellent. Unable to publish a glowing book review, we are delinquent about this "duty." If I were Al & Emma (and all offspring had been fledged and on their own), Isa & I would purchase all copies from your Garden at cost (or below, if your Trustees agreed) and mail them gratis to perhaps 75% of the institutions listed in the "Index Herbarium." For those given to US institutions there would be the regular tax exemption involving eleemosynary institutions. It would be a monument which Al & Emma could give themselves for all time, and outstanding advertising for your Garden. Incidentally, many institutions owning Vol. 1 would purchase Vols 2 and 3. Such would be our reaction. Why have all this stored, like St. John's useful book, for a hundred years, become obsolete, and be discarded? We are clearing our shelves, selling our books below cost. Are we not, pupule, or are we?

Should we live for another generation, don't be surprised should you see a published Cheng Ho account which Lawai buried. We own much of the ms., and of course the original documents concerning this modern piracy. We helped & edited Austin's work on it. It would be in the vein of "The Last Cruise of the Cheng Ho," published in parts in 1943 in the NY Bot. Gard. Journ. Do read it, or perhaps get xerox copies for your library from NY or Beltsville.

With no chance getting a grant from NSF and with printing prices so exorbitant, I waste more time writing letters.

Happy Thanksgiving with turkey & oheloberry pie.

Aloha,

P.S. To forestall financial disasters
& insure sales, we recommend
one line drawing per genus



MARY GEORGE

STATE SENATE
WINDWARD DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

November 20, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Hi. 96791

Dear Otto:

I was delighted to read of your latest accolade.

It's well merited, and no more than you deserve
for your unique contribution to Hawaii.

Warm personal regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary".

MARY GEORGE
Senator

Hunt

96791

Nov. 16, 1979.

Time Editor,
Rockefeller Center,
New York City.

Maula:

I read with some disgust your article entitled "Do People Really Eat People?" in your October 22 issue. The question is based on "The Man-Eating Myth" authored by William Arens. I have not bothered reading the volume as its title is a falsehood.

I botanized in the Fiji Islands for about eight months in 1940-41, employing Fijians who were as expert in their environment and as ignorant of subways as I am expert in the New York City environment and ignorant of Fijian lore and the Fijian environment. These Melanesians or Oceanic Negroes, with a large admixture of Polynesian blood among the coast due to Tongan traders, are a truly splendid race. I attribute this to the fact that the Africans who peopled the Islands in prehistoric times were the most enterprising and robust individuals to take to sea in their canoes; and that they practiced cannibalism even in the days of grandfathers I have met. The gene pool of these ~~inbred~~ ~~inbred~~ ~~inbred~~ inbred offspring of superior immigrants was cleansed year after year of the anti-social and the criminal in a very effective manner: the men possessing them were eaten by the chiefs. Incidentally, the practice of cannibalism in Fiji became rampant and genetically ineffective after the coming of the Caucasian with firearms. In the hands of the Fijians, antagonistic tribes started murdering each other, and even the common man or Kai Viti indulged in cannibalism. The idea of cannibalism to many Fijians in the '40s seemed no more distasteful to them than a blood transfusion is to us, Caucasians. My chapter about "Cannibalism" comprises pages 155 to 176 in my book entitled "Naturalist's South Pacific Expedition: Fiji," published in 1949 and available in larger Public and Botanical Garden libraries.

Sa moca,

Dr. Otto Degener

Dr. Otto Degener

Staff Member, New York Botanical Garden resident in Hawaii

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PLANT TAXONOMY

Regional Treasurer U.S.A.:
Dr. R. S. Cowan
Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution
Washington D.C.-20560

WASHINGTON, November 14, 1979

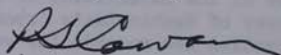
Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, HI 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

Thank you very much for your recent payment of IAPT dues. However, we have noticed your check is dated Nov. 6, 1978. If you could reissue another check with a more current date, we would be most appreciative. The 1980 rates for Regular Personal Membership is \$30.00 and Emeritus Membership is \$22.50. Thank you very much.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



Richard S. Cowan
Regional Treasurer

RSC/mjm

Enclosure

Nov. 22, 1979.

Dear Dick Cowan:

I would suspect that an octogenarian like me would have gotten the year wrong on that cheque; not Mrs. D.? Anyway, here is the corrected one. We are surprised the bank refused the first. Is not a cheque good for a year?

Disgusted with the Nixon regime, an attorney colleague of the convicted Mitchell of Manhattan who unluckily attended to some Degener family Trusts, and the behavior of a Smithsonian at the Montreal Congress that kept Mrs. D., and numerous foreigners uncomfortable, we "remembered to forget" about your institution to which I had donated so many plants beginning in the days of Hitchcock, Maxon & Rose. Now that the Smithsonian has done some house cleaning, we shall continue to mail it specimens - not many, however, because of the infirmities of age and slinness of purse. To begin with, you might ask Dr. Meyer of Washington's Arboretum to hand over to you a slim bundle mostly of grasses representing new records for various Haw. islands. I thought he wanted such exotics, but evidently he concentrates on ornamental cultigens.

If the Smithsonian does not want any specimens we may happen to mail, please pass them on to an institution not on the accompanying list of h.s., recipients.

We rather like the idea of having many of our plants deposited in institutions of potential enemy countries. Should WW III destroy many of our institutions, Degener herb. specimens, now probably extinct in life, will not have been annihilated. Remember, the British with our luckily inefficient help, destroyed the Berlin herbarium with Hillebrand's plants during aerial bombing in WW II. We probably destroyed priceless collections in Hiroshima & elsewhere. Don't forget that after such inane butchery has reduced population pressure, erstwhile enemies become the firmest of intimate friends.

After observing the antics of SOME of our tenants, civilian and military, marijuana smokers and not, we are no longer as proud of our citizenry as formerly. So many in foreign countries are so far superior, hence we tend to be more & more cosmopolitan. Anyway, botanists of any nationality, are largely nonpolitical animals.

We now live half the time at the beach, where you & Mrs. Cowan once visited me; half the time, just outside Haw. Vole. Nat. Park.

Mrs. D., & I wish you & family a Merry Christmas & a Happy 1980.

Aloha,

Nov. 14/1979

Dr. Degener,

We are returning your material under a separate
cover.

P.K.

BERNICE P. BISHOP MUSEUM

P.O. Box 19000-A, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 • Telephone 847-3511

Nov. 13, 1979.

Dr. Otto Degener,
Box 134,
Volcano,
HI

Dear Dr. Degener,

Some weeks ago you sent me at the museum two collections of Cyrtandra. I have not heard from you about them, but since both are represented by two sheets, I am returning one of each to you, and retaining one each for the museum.

They are:

34916 *Cyrtandra Grayana* Hbd., var. *latifolia* Hbd., f. *gransis* Rock

34917 *C. Grayana* Hbd., var. *lanaiensis* Rock.

Sincerely,

Harold St. John

Harold St. John,
Professor of Botany Emeritus

Hunt
Nov. 23, 1979.

Dear Dr. St. John:

Got back from Europe & Volcano to Mokuleia, where your Nov. 13 note reached us. Thanks for the determinations. After getting your previous ones, I mailed off all plants to various institutions in the World. You should have kept what I had mailed, to fill the two B.M., sheets. I will mail the material returned to us to the Smithsonian now that Washington seems to have gotten rid of their Nixonian and jippie types. We omitted D.C., for 10-20 years from our gifts.

My long letter to you is probably in Director Creutz's safe. Carsons are at New York & elsewhere to be on record. Had the letter been botanical, we would have run off xeroxes at 5 cents each and mailed them with herb. specimens to 75-85 recipients of our duplicates. NY usually gets unicates. At my age, I am clearing out our private herbarium. If we need an thing we can always borrow it IF regulations for loans are limited to six months. We don't approve of longer loans as evidently allowed at B.M., with Hibiscus.

By the way, perhaps B.M., monographers should be aware where our dupe., get deposited. If they want taxa of their special genera, it would be wise to mail a postal to each possible recipient. They should ask what is available, particularly in insertae sedis folders. We no longer risk putting all our eggs in one basket. You know what happened to Hillebrand's collection in Berlin, and my Sophoras lent Alvin Choek. We were pleased when we happened to look through the Psilotum folders in Berlin. According to the Bermuda Esp. Station Alan MacCallan, H.H. Whetzel and my collections of 1921 were demolished by insect, and general neglect. Yet here in Berlin I found the Bermuda rare Psilotum I had collected in Paget Marsh way back in 1921!

We consider the Haas Pittosporum paper an antique work belonging in Hillebrand's time, and Sherff's work modern. It looks just as if he had scrutinized Haas' lumped taxa to split them up into more logical inferior taxa. It's a topsy turvy World.

Aloha,

P.S. I guess ⁸ may as well place the carbon of this letter in the Berlin specimen box with a Haw. Nei P. They may enbalm both in their P., cabinet.

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.
Nov. 13, 1979.

Dear Mr. Argent:

Mrs. Degener & I were surprised to receive your Nov. 6 letter so soon after ours of Oct. 28. We left our Volcano, Island of Hawaii home for our Mokualea beach home Nov. 7. Not wishing to carry a bundle of plants on the 'plane, we mailed the specimens to you even though some had not completely dried. We hope these won't arrive too moldy. Do, please distribute widely after you have done with them. I do think the package will warn the cockles of your heart whatever "cockles" may be. The fruit is so fresh that you have a ple seed for planting & chromosome counts.

Have you read what we have published about *Vaccinia* in our "Plants Haw. National Park" & "Flora Hawaiiensis". Of course Skottsberg's studies are outstanding. If you have a legitimate reason for citing such publications, please do. Also, please be sure to borrow our specimen collected as early as 1922. Some of such taxa may be extinct by this time. I wrote you from where to borrow them in my previous letter. Have you written by this time for the loans? Probably many in insertae sedis folders. Of course, you and we are not on safe ground until we know what the type of each named taxon actually is. Without that knowledge, anything done is just more or less intelligent guesswork. So here are our guesses:

Regarding *V. berberifolium* check with the Int. Rules Bot. Mon., if orthography must not remain *berberifolium*. I printed about this somewhere. With our package almost on your doorstep, you will certainly note differences between *V. calycinum* var., and *V. reticulatum*.

Prefers shadier, moister terrain. Pioneer on vole, cinders & also forms dense scrub with or without *Styphelia*, *Dodonaea*, lichens, etc. Up to 2 meters & more tall; branches + or - erect (The var., on Molokai, perhaps deserving higher rank, is beautifully low, densely spreading bush - I collected it in 1922).

Leaves more or less membranous; not flat. Fls. few, more greenish (or perhaps "sun-burned" with more red; sparse. In Nov. it was late for fruit & early for fls. Fruit narrow-globose.

NOTE FOR MRS Argent: *V. reticulatum* are good to eat but surprisingly taste MUCH better cooked. A friend makes delicious *V. reticulatum* (chocolate) pies by adding a few of the BITTER berries of *V. cal.*, to the mixture to give it character. Remember that when you pass through Hawaii on your trip to the Bot. Congress in Australia.

By the way, the old road starting from Hilo & going around the island had most useful stone mileposts firmly placed every mile along the old winding road. Where we collected most of the *Vacc.*, in the box came from "27 Miles" (= milepost from the city of Hilo); but as the road had more and more curves bulldozed away, the distance became shorter from 10. Perhaps what we still call "27 Miles" by poetic license may more truthfully be "26" or "26 1/2".

Another thing: As we state on the label, the *V. reticulatum* we collected & photographed at 27 Miles is not in a typical area for it. That near the Golf Course, also photographed but on a film not yet developed, is typical for SCRUB. ALSO, plants growing in pure cinders about Kilauea, not yet collected nor photographed, grow in typical terrain. When back on the Island of Haw., (in 3-4 months) we can get abundant material for you (by permit) from Nat. Park "off the beaten track where we won't upset watching tourists."



Royal Botanic Garden

EDINBURGH

EH3 5LR

6 November 1979

Mr O Degener
Wailua, Oahu
HAWAII 96791
USA

Dear Mr Degener

Your letter of 28 October was passed to me and I was delighted to read it. I am indeed working on Vaccinium and related genera, at present mainly from Borneo and Ecuador but I became interested in the Hawaiian species when I had to check the determinations of a few specimens in the herbarium and two we had growing in the Garden.

I had great difficulty deciding whether some herbarium sheets were V. calycinum or V. dentatum although in the keys they are theoretically easily separable by flower colour and habit. Our specimens had neither flower colour nor habit annotated and I could not find any other useful character mentioned that would separate the material. I hope eventually to borrow the material you suggest and work the group up if James Luteyn in New York is not already doing it. We have one member of the Garden staff here who is very keen on Hawaiian endemics and grows silver swords to perfection. We grow Vaccinium berberidifolium very successfully flowering and fruiting it regularly. We used to have V. peleanum but unfortunately lost it. If you should come across ripe fruits of any species we would be very pleased to grow them and would hope the plants could be used for chromosome counting and further taxonomic study.

It is dreadful that you have such problems as booby traps and being shot at to contend with in your field work. I hope the situation improves.

Very best wishes

George Argent

George Argent

Nov. 11, 1979.

Dear Mrs. Karg:

Isa & I are now getting some of the parcels we had mailed to ourselves here at Mokulua Beach from Berlin. In one is the address of;

Herrn Günter Jurisch
(Fotographische Arbeiten -- Festlichkeiten)
Weisstrasse 58
1000 Berlin 44
(w) Germany

Jurisch has a big array of photos for sale of the Berlin Bot. Garden Tercentenary Celebration - of course, mostly of the Botanists. If I were you, I would quickly grab a set before he destroys the negatives. We purchased those involving ourselves (being normally flattered)

and a delightful one of Dr.
Rechniger, whom we did
not recognize as he now has
a ----- white, fluffy
beard, spreading out coarsely
from his neck. His very
pleasant, diminutive, second
wife was with him.

We are so pleased The News-
letter published a necrology con-
cerning Dr. Haas. Perhaps dates of
birth & death might have been
added after first occurrence of his
name. We knew him for about
ten years, but only as a wheelchair
invalid. He was glued to his radio
whenever classical music was be-
ing played. Whenever we happened
to 'phone him at such a time,
he would curtly tell us (& every
other 'phoner) to call back at
the end of the program. Though
evidently suffering much
pain, he was always cheer-
ful.

Alfred,

OO

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BERLIN · NEW YORK

1000 BERLIN 30, GENTHINER STRASSE 13

November 1979

Betr.: Kürschners Deutscher Gelehrtenkalender 1979

Im Laufe des November wird die 13. Ausgabe des Gelehrtenkalenders erscheinen, die wieder einen vollständigen Überblick über die Daten aller lebenden deutschen Wissenschaftler bietet.

Nähere Einzelheiten über dieses unentbehrliche Nachschlagewerk wollen Sie bitte dem beigegeführten Prospekt entnehmen.

Auch diesmal besteht die Möglichkeit für alle im Gelehrtenkalender Verzeichneten, das Werk zu einem wesentlich ermäßigten Preis zu beziehen. Wir bitten Sie daher, falls noch nicht geschehen, Ihre Bestellung auf anhängendem Bestellschein spätestens bis zum 31.1.1980 aufzugeben.

Mit den besten Empfehlungen
Walter de Gruyter & Co.

i. V. *Joachim Dest*
(Joachim Dest)

Bitte liefern Sie mir

..... Expl. Kürschners Deutscher Gelehrtenkalender 1980
(13. Ausgabe) zum Vorzugspreis von DM 248,--

(Der Vorzugspreis erlischt am 31.1.1980
Der Ladenpreis beträgt DM 348,--)

Die Anschrift meiner Buchhandlung lautet:

Name:

Datum:

Unterschrift:



Hunt
The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220-8700

November 5, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
R. 1, Box 89
Mokuleia Beach
Waialua, Oahu
Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

Thank you for the archival materials (via
Clark Rogerson) received today.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Long

Charles R. Long, Director
Library and Plant Information Services

CRL/d

Encl.

Hunt

Nov. 23, 1979.

Dear Dr. Theobald:

Mrs. Deane & I just returned to our Oahu home, and have glanced at your kind gifts/ We need time to study them carefully.

Off hand Miss Haas' Pittosporum paper is fascinating out, according to our opinion the better a person knows taxa the more will they tend to split them. Here she has gorgeous plates; but as we see it she, with clouded vision, has done little more than lump Dr. Sheriff's more precisely studied, and more solid, trivial taxa. And we not noted dates, we would expect the Haas publication to have been an earlier, pioneer one perhaps dated around Hillebrand's time - crudely lucid. Her work's advantage would be only to be the more modern one, refining the Ancient one of Haas. According to our opinions, many of Haas' "species" should be synonymized as "f. so-and-so in part sensu Haas." The work cannot be ignored. It is too bad that she did not tackle one of the genera that no outstanding botanist had ever touched before. There are so many of them.

Regarding the new Fiji Flora, we dare not write Al until we have really pore through the entire pencil to jot "thoughts" on page margins. Confidentially to you we consider Al so erudite that he produced a volume for scholars of the Fiji Flora to read. As there are not more persons than 2 or 3 in the entire world (and we Deane are not Fiji students, but Fiji plant collectors), the sale of the book (whether expensive or not) is limited to perhaps less than five individuals! On the other hand, volumes deserve to be on the shelves of leading institutions, especially if they have our scattering of about 50,000 sheets, such as Adelaide, Amerst, Ann Arbor, Auckland, Berlin, Brisbane, Canberra, Edinburgh, Geneva, Helsinki, Kew, Lancaster, Leiden, London, NY, Paris, Peking, Smithsonian, St. Louis, & Wellington. You might call them brochures, but don't be disappointed if librarians are far off, practically unheard of Fiji. They may not know the wealth of Fiji material in their various herbaria.

Later volumes like our Fl. Haw., would gain a limited sale among the few plant lovers in Fiji were the descriptions fuller and more down to earth. Mrs. Kai Viti and Miss Archibald may not be interested so much in the fine points of morphology of a taxon, but whether its flowers are red or blue. Personally, we believe Vols II & III must be doubled in size with more complete descriptions and at least some illustrations such as I printed in "Trop. Plants World Around," in four parts in the N.Y. Bot. Garden Journal. In fact, I could help you with cuts of some pantropicals.

With the Deane history of collection garbled, when Al knows me so well, what has he done with collectors strange to him? I with assistants paid by me collected over 21000 numbers aggregating about 50,000 sheets that I distributed widely by gift and sale. Institutions having them should be your best customers for the set. He thinks Mrs. Archibald financed as I financed myself, even paying for my Philippine protest's expenses. I left the Cheng Ho in Savu Savu Bay after discovering the crew would leave the ship and the expedition would fail. Technically, I remained "leader of the Exped-

in Fiji lest Mrs. Archbold lose face.⁶ That I collected in Fiji once is also incorrect. More recently Isa & I were in Fiji twice, botanizing in Viti Levu & mailing our catch to Al. Miss Hass even cites (O. & I. Degener) our finds of Fiji Pittospora in her monograph, presumably first identified by Al.

Like our own Flora Haw., Vol. 1 of Fiji is hardly a vade mecum. If we were to exaggerate, we would describe the work as an outstandingly erudite book review of a modern Flora of the Monocots of the Fiji Islands which does not yet exist. The make-ready & colored cuts are excellent. Unable to publish a glowing book review, we are delinquent about this "duty." If I were Al & Emmie (and all offspring had been flogged and on their own), Isa & I would purchase all copies from your Garden at cost (or below, if your Trustees agreed) and mail them gratis to perhaps 75% of the institutions listed in the "Index Herbarium." For those given to US institutions there would be the regular tax exemption involving eleemosynary institutions. It would be a monument which Al & Emma could give themselves for all time, and outstanding advertising for your Garden. Incidentally, many institutions owning Vol. 1 would purchase Vols 2 and 3. Such would be our reaction. Why have all this stored, like St. John's useful book, for a hundred years, become obsolete, and be discarded? We are clearing our shelves, selling our books below cost. Are we not, pupule, or are we?

Should we live for another generation, don't be surprised should you see a published Cheng Ho account which I have buried. We own much of the ms., and of course the original documents concerning this modern piracy. We helped & edited Austin's work on it. It would be in the vein of "The Last Cruise of the Cheng Ho," published in parts in 1943 in the NY Bot. Gard. Journ. Do read it, or perhaps get xerox copies for your library from NY or Beltsville.

5 With no chance getting a grant from NSF and with printing prices so exorbitant, I waste more time writing letters.

Happy Thanksgiving with turkey & oheloberry pie.

Aloha,

P.S. To forestall financial disaster & insure sales, we recommend our line drawing per genus.

NYBG

The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

November 2, 1979

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

We have received 62 of your specimens collected in Hawaii and Europe. Thank you very much for sending us this material which we are very pleased to add to the Garden's herbarium.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Pat

PKH:ldm

Patricia K. Holmgren
Head Curator



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

30 October 1979

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

Dear Otto:

Thank you for the package of information including parts of Flora Hawaiiensis and letters for the Archives. I have passed the latter on to Mr. Long in the Library.

I did get all of the papers published in Phytologia since I check it for the Torrey Index. Anything I missed elsewhere will be placed in next year's compilation of Staff Publications.

The news here is that we are in another financial crisis. Irwin is no longer President. A search committee made up of board members is looking for a new president. In the interim a sextet including Prance (botany), Lees (horticulture), Ode (buildings and ground maintenance), Dexter (finance), Reed (outside grants), and Weinberger (fund raising) is running the Garden.

I hope that all goes well with you and Isa.

Sincerely,

Clark T. Rogerson
Senior Curator

CTR/mk

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

July 11, 1980.

Dear Clark:

Isa & I have not much to show for the past year: We were abruptly flown out of our Bot., routine by flying to Germany last Autumn. We worked on the new edition of our "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks" paperback now in Ann Arbor for printing of 840 copies, and we fought in behalf of Conservation as some holographs in the Library show. The last assault on our native rainforest with endemic plants and the endemic animals that feed on them & find shelter among them, is chopping everything down for wood chips to ship to Japan for paper pulp. Nothing much can be done when such forests are privately owned by individuals or trusts except to buy them outright. Who can do that unless perhaps the Nature Conservancy? I guess they have enough to do with Mainland problems at this time.

We mailed a Necrology of Dr. Theodore Haas to the local Bot. Society but never could find out if it was published. I have alerted our coauthor Dr. Taussig (who lives on Oahu) to go to the University library and look through the past few nos., of their publication. We also sent two ~~two~~ old historical letters about the near-extinct *Kokia cookei* with explanation to the Waimea Arboretum for publication. Our collaborator Mr. Woolliams, formerly of Kew, has not yet answered us about it.

Over eighty & the proud wearer of a pacemaker - a new & smaller one since the end of May - I am concentrating on labeling our mass of herbarium specimens quickly at least as far as the genus to get the taxa into the public domain for monographers. Isa cannot do such work as she cannot decipher my private shorthand hieroglyphics on the margins of the newspapers in which the specimens are housed. Anyway, she is head over heels with rental and tax problems. We even had to go to Court because of a swindler paying us with worthless cheques on a California bank. He knew it would take some time for the local bank to discover they were no good. Isn't LIFE interesting?

Aloha,

Otto Degener

NATURHISTORISCHES MUSEUM WIEN
BOTANISCHE ABTEILUNG
BURGRING 7, POSTFACH 417, A - WIEN
ÖSTERREICH AUSTRIA

-Empfangsbestätigung-

Journal Nr. / 197
Wien, 22.10.1979

Empfänger / addressee:
Dr. Otto u. Isa Degener
P.O. Box 154 Vulcano, Hawaii

U S A

Bitte adressieren Sie unpersönlich: An den Direktor
Please address to: The Director

Wir senden Ihnen / We are sending you

Wir haben empfangen / We have received

durch / by: Post / mail

Persönliche Übernahme

in / in: Paket / parcel

Päckchen / small parcel

des unten angeführte Material / the material indicated below:

Entlehnung / loan

Rückgestellte Entlehnung / return of loan

Teilrücksendung / return of loan in part

Tausch / exchange

Geschenk / gift

Verzeichnis des Materials / Description of specimens

Gesamtzahl der Belege / Total number of sheets / specimens:

Diverse Pflanzen aus Hawaii, teilweise mit Pilzbefall.
Indet.

! Für Ihre Ablage / for your records !

Sendung übernommen / specimens received:

Datum / date:

Unterschrift / signature:

NATURHISTORISCHES MUSEUM
BURGRING 7
A. 100

FLORA MALESIANA

ISSUED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE KEBUN RAYA INDONESIA (BOTANIC GARDENS OF INDONESIA)
BOGOR, JAVA, AND THE RIJKSHERBARIUM, LEIDEN, HOLLAND, SPONSORED BY THE FOUNDATION FLORA MALESIANA
GENERAL EDITOR: DR C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS

Sehr verehrte gnaedige Frau,
lieber Herr Degener,

Leiden, 16.10.53

Besten Dank f. Ihren Brief v. 14.10. und das beigelegte Separat. Ihre Karte aus Jugoslawien habe ich dank der Findigkeit der hiesigen Post erhalten. Mein urspruenglicher Plan, schon im Oktober nach Paris und Genf zu gehen, laesst sich leider nicht ausfuehren, und so kann ich jetzt nicht nach Freiburg kommen, sondern erst im Februar-Maerz. Die Flacourtiaceen von Malaysia sind derart schwierig und zeitraubend, dass ich nicht so schnell damit fertig geworden bin, wie ich zuerst dachte. Ich fahre erst Ende Oktober auf 2-3 Wochen nach London. Wenn Sie nun aber von Rotterdam Anfang Dezember abfahren, so kann ich ja leicht von hier aus nach dort herueberkommen am Tag der Abfahrt des Schiffes oder wann Sie nach Rotterdam kommen. Haetten Sie nicht Lust, wenn Sie nun schon einmal in Holland sind, auch das historische und wirklich sehenswerte Leiden incl. Rijksherbarium zu besichtigen? v. Steenis wird allerdings nicht hier sein, er geht zum Pacific Science Congress in Manila.

Bitte teilen Sie mir mit, wann Sie endgueltig abzufahren gedenken, und wo Sie in Rotterdam bleiben. Beste Gruesse, auch von meiner Familie an Sie und Ihre Eltern

Mr. N. Menner b. wenden.

D. C.

41 Norton Street,
Old Trafford,
Manchester,
M16 7QG
Lancashire,
England.
18th September, 1979.

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener,
P.O. Box 154,
Volcano, Hawaii,
96785 U.S.A.

Dear Drs. Otto & Isa Degener,

Thank you again for your letter of August 19th, 1979.

I have already sent you a letter dated 1st September. But due to the trouble we've had with our post, I am sending you this further letter in case the previous letter wasn't received. If you have received the previous letter, then please ignore the following because I'll just repeat what I've wrote before.

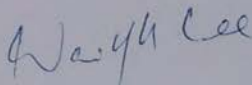
Collecting and exchanging herbarium specimens has been a keen hobby of mine for over sixteen years. I've a wide collection of herbarium specimens from different countries which I greatly treasured. So, if you do send me some Hawaiian plants, you can be assured that the plants will be kept with the utmost care.

I'm sure I will not give up collecting herbarium specimens. Even if I do, I will send the specimens to Kew Garden in London where can be kept with care.

I would be very grateful if you will kindly tell me whether you like collecting British plants. If you do, I'll send you a parcel. If you don't, then please also let me know so I can send you the expense and the postage for your specimens.

I look forward to your reply and the specimens.

Aloha,



Wai Yu Lee.

Helen Toms

October 11 1979

P. O. BOX 476
KIHAI, HAWAII 96753

TELEPHONE
879-1055

for Dr. Degener
from Rene Sylva
for the books

Enclosed is money order
in the amount of

\$139.56.

Helen Toms.

Please only: P.O. Box 154, Volcano, Hawaii 96785. After Oct.: 68617 Crozier Drive, Waialua, Oahu 96731. We prefer Volusia Beach in winter and Volcano in summer. But actually where we shall be at any particular time depends on time of tenant turn-over.

Oct. 6, 1979.

10/6/79

Dear Dr. Theobald:

Mrs. D., & I returned from Germany yesterday P.M., and still feel a bit "jet laggy." We now have your interesting letter before us thanks to a friend who lived in our house during our absence, babysat our dogs, had the key to our mail box, and had five weeks accumulation of mail stacked on our dining room table. Now with your welcome cheque, our business accounts are in applepie order.

Regarding Smith's Fiji volume, it was of course not among the lot, and presumably is lying in the Waialua, Oahu post office until we call for that accumulation of mail. Many thanks for the gift. We are most eager to study it. On a New Zealand round trip in 1969, we stopped off in Fiji to do a little collecting and sight seeing, so she has an inkling regarding that island flora.

I don't remember what I wrote you before, but I always thought that my semi-popular Fiji book, Prof. Austin's ms., upon which I spent a fortune of time - hours spent by us botanists are certainly worth more than those spent by a carpenter, plumber or electrician -; and Smith's Flora would be a splendid trilogy honoring Anne Archbold, an outstanding woman of action so dynamic as to ever shadow her children. We surmised that B.M., the Smithsonian & perhaps you had advised John against the publication.

If you will see my Naturalist's S.P. Exped.: Fiji, you will note on pages 236-236, the specimens I collected to help in this work. This collection made during almost 8 months' stay in Fiji was at my own private expense. I did not ask nor receive any cash from Mrs. A. I did get some from NY & I guess AL. It was mostly a private investment with paid assistants, I collected wholesale, sending everything to AL. I was delighted he identified everything so that I could distribute my catch mostly as gifts to leading institutions throughout the world. At that time I was stupid not to evaluate my gifts to US eleemosynary institutions, and get a tax credit. We do so now.

The failure of the Kauai institution to see Austin's work through the press, and the seeming irreclucancy in business matters scared us away from having it take over our assets to continue our Fl. Haw., upon the death of the last Begerer survivor.

The peculiarities of the Bishop Museum - I think it was Dr. Fernald who tried to break Amy Greenwell's will - of one kind or other eliminated that institution. Do you realize that I have given ON LOAN a considerable fortune in Haw., herbarium specimens (including a Fiji set). On the average they are worth at least \$3.00 each UNMOUNTED, and the value is going up. When I spent two years working at Bronx Park on Haw., plants under Director Merrill during WW II, he complained to me that B.M. was extremely top heavy regarding exchanges. He wrote repeatedly to Honolulu, asking for South Seas plants owing M.T., without success. He finally got success when I legally turned over my loan agreement with B.M., to W. Merrill merely demanded return of the Begerer plants unless B.M. sent him the specimens owing him. B.M. then complied. Begerer plants went B.M., AFTER the B.M.-NY fibro lie is still still being told me (or NY). After Mrs. Neal's death, it is so difficult seeing even our own specimens at B.M., that we hardly send anything there anymore on "permanent loan." And after spending about an hour with the nonbotanist Dr. Cretz we rewrote our request of over 50 years standing to have that institution continue our Fl. Haw.

Lyon Arboretum eliminated itself by reducing sale of my paperback by outright stealing my copyrighted illustrations for a similar work. With no Island institution meeting our approval, The Directors of NY and St. L., shall supervise continuation of our brain child. Who they will be after the last of us has died is of course a mystery. We hope one director will at least be interested in the Pacific area like Merrill.

According to rumors picked up mostly at Berlin., Director Irwin has retired and

and his place is to be taken by a "Committee of Four" until a new director has been chosen. By the way, another rumor picked up is that our hippie friend in DC left under a cloud against his wishes. That I wanted to impart to you in my previous letter was the rumor I had heard even before our Berlin trip that Kawai might get another Director. He thought you might still have time to guard against this. Of course the higher a person rises, the more people snipe at him.

It is certainly kind of you to invite us to see your Garden, but I am really too old. The trip to Berlin & back, even with stop-overs, seems to have promoted my aging as slightly faster feet indicate.

We made spot checks of the Berlin herb. Though we Americans bombed the Museum Building in WW II, it was with little damage; but British bombing caused havoc. Nevertheless, due to gifts and return of specimens out on loan, the herbarium is OUTSTANDING - about 2,000,000 sheets. So many historical types are there, even of Hillebrand with his nasty brief annotation that his plants came from the the Sandwich Islands. It is so frustrating that he did not even mention that Island!!!! There were a dozen sheets of *Angyroxiphium* (some from us); several *Wilkesia*, outstanding cabinets of *Diplazium* which, however, have nothing matching a specimen we took along from Haw., for determination; lots of *Lycopodium* & *Fallotum*. One thing pleased me a lot. In the summer of 1921 I botanized in Bermuda, leaving a set at the local Exp. Station & my personal set at NY. According to my correspondence, my collection in Bermuda has gone up, not in smoke, but in insect mass. I was delighted to see my Bermuda specimen collected in 1921 in Paget Marsh in the Berlin herb.!!

We spent well over \$100 to get *Degeneria* seeds from Fiji. One shipment in moist cotton was moldy & worthless; another too old & dry. Not a single seed of the lot we planted, germinated, so we scattered the rest among museums for specimens of an Angiosperm that bears not one, nor two, but three or four cotyledons!!!! If you have some seeds to spare, please mail me some.. If you should order more, please enlarge your order to include some for me, and send me the bill. We are in principal against the introduction of exotics, but we ARE human. We want to have *Degeneria* growing on our Volcano lot.

Berlin is disgusted with selecting Jewish men as Directors. After a couple of years they retire, or die, because of age. So they chose Dr. Greuter, apparently in your age group, as Director. As you know, you are a perfect stranger to us. We sorely heard from a Jew that you are a fabulous lecturer. Should you suspect what tendencies may have met with disapproval on Kauai, are you not young and intelligent enough to avoid possible pitfalls of the past? Are you not a New Yorker? Why not invest in a 15 cent postage stamp & write the Garden that you learned from the Degeneria that an opening for Director exists at NY? Not knowing you, I neither approve nor disapprove of any decision NY might make. I think nothing will happen should you write - you are neither Jew nor Negro - yet miracles sometimes do happen. Why not try?

Alma,

NY 10/12/79
DRS. OTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134 Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.
Oct. 12, 1979.

Dear Dr. St. John:

Thanks for your determinations. I am distributing duplicates. One set of Passeriferae goes to the center for study of the family in Denver where more of my material is waiting for you or some other monographer to work up.

As always, Nos. 54,916 & 54,917 are a continuation of my early DeGener-U.S. loan agreement.

Dr. Wreutz should be alerted to the fact that during World War II when I was at NY for two years working up Haw., taxa, Dr. Merrill bitterly complained that the NY-BM plant exchange agreement was top-heavy in favor of BM. He mentioned that his repeated letters asking for specimens of South Seas material were ignored. Being a New Yorker with my 1921 summer collection of Bermuda plants at NY, my loyalty has ever been to that institution. To help my chief, I turned over my BM contract to NY. Merrill then wrote BM's Director either to return the DeGener loans to NY or to send over S.S. material. This prompted almost immediate evenin' out the exchange of specimens.

In summary: Dr. Wreutz and Trustees should know that DeGener specimens up through 1942 belong outright to NY on a loan basis, while specimens of later date still are covered by the original loan agreement and legally belong to me. Dr. Wreutz and the Trustees must realize that I have never been paid a cent for specimens, not even for my magnificent collection of Fiji plants collected in 1940.

The above situation as we DeGeners see it is academic rather than practical as Dr. and St. J. directors will supervise continuation of the Flora Haw., after the last survivor of the couple DeGener biters has been lost. But more importantly, quite likely resulting in a much more tightly associated with D.S., would then work on specimens collected by the DeGeners & others aided, however, by an of about 100 other institutions of the world having S.S. material & some have been willing to that way for the chief reasons 1.) not to have all eggs in one basket subject to possible destruction by perhaps A III, and 2.) not to clutter up B. with perhaps unappreciated material. Why send coats to Newcastle when other cities prize any fragment coming from the "Sandwich Islands"?

Since Miss Neal's death, as though the bot. collections somewhat in his lodypig-gledy disarray, all have just about abandoned the institution. Too often even specimens I had collected myself as early as 1921 were not available for St. J. & me to study because on loan (like Vibiscus for too long a time) to some mainland monographer or certain families are so related for monographers perhaps only on the distant horizon. Also, I have not gotten back my Mikstroemia specimens and the huge mass of Polypora Alvin should worked on at BM. Loss of duplicates is expensive as we use many for tax credit by sending them to 35 miscellaneous institutions. A curator like the live-wire Paul Steinmann would soon crush a wealth of duplicates in some forgotten herbarium case. It is true she lacks a doctorate at this time. Miss Neal, the ideal bot. Curator, had none either. A doctorate might be too credit to dirty his hands resorting dusty specimens.

I went back to Berlin recently because of the Garden's Bicentenary Celebration. To herbarium, in spite of British bombing - NY was indifferent - during World War II has grown to 2,300,000 sheets. Hillebrand's Flora, as you know, was printed in 1910. As St. J. & I could easily settle in Berlin and, with herbar. library, easily publish two more books of our Flora. Informal, often not verified while, a day, friends and non-acquaintances, was refreshing after pure bot. lectures. The one way to avoid personal criticism oneself was to be about the last person to leave the group. Director Irwin, W. G. G. & Raven were there and I guess 2,300 others. Not one German as well as English. We were bilingual; but if German was spoken too rapidly, it was difficult for me to follow. I learned New York City is

is bankrupt and that Dir. Irwin, probably seeing the writing on the wall, has resigned and is being replaced by a Board of Four until a new Director is chosen to take over. West Berlin, where the Garden is located, is surrounded by Russian territory and we believe may become a second Venice. As no German wanted the Directorship, the Swiss Dr. Greuter accepted. He is good, but we would criticise him for pushing the Garden into publishing a Flora of the Balkans rather than revising authoritative work Engler-Prantl. It is interesting that Engler always added Prantl as coauthor even though Prantl had died years before. That was a surprise to us. At a Spring cleaning at the Smithsonian our hippie friend against his wishes was dropped. He was already an embarrassment to us more puritanical Degeners & Europeans at the Montreal Congress. Dick Howard, whom we always admired, is leaving IA if he has not already done so. I doubt such a Director, unlike Forster in the case of Amy Greenwell, would have scared future bequests from their institution by trying to break a Will. It seems we two can be best admired as ugly ducklings who have developed into swans. It came as a surprise to the Germans when I explained that my Teutonic name "OTTO" had stigmatized me cruelly during eight years of World Wars I and II. Perhaps Dr. Greuter felt this also. From Mrs. Frank and Ray Torrey you must have suffered unjustly likewise. I guess I reacted as a result with perseverance at my chosen project. I am not sure, but I believe they looked kindly and condescendingly at me as though I were deteriorating with age. Otherwise why would Mrs. D., & I publish so little in our Fl. H., & so much miscellaneous material in Phytologia. We shall try to get back to our major project. I don't quite know reactions with your major, magnificent work on Cyrtandra ending with Oahu and being replaced with misc., articles in Phytologia.

Funny thing, I enjoyed this rambling while getting over jet lag and listening to classical tapes which we bought at WOOLWORTHS in Germany.

I will alert the new Director concerning Degener plants reposing in Hon.

Aloha,

C. D. Greuter



Oct 3, 1979

[1510 Heald St. #2201, New. 98522]

We send warm greetings and heartiest
congratulations for the honors you
have received. Since you do not get
the Star Bulletin perhaps you did not
see this.

We have just returned from 2 weeks
in London where Hamp gave two talks
and helped chair a symposium on Insect
cytology. We also enjoyed plays and museums.

We hope you are well and hope to see
you sometime soon.

In this food web . . .
How many animals does the fox feed on?
How many animals feed on primroses?
Card EC3 Printed in England

Cordially

Meredith & Hamp
Carson [signatures]



ABBOTT

Scientific Division

Abbott Laboratories
North Chicago, Illinois 60064
Dept. 474, Bldg. L-3
USA

HOME: Ruth, Ralph und



JUERGEN SCHRENK
8320 Grand Oaks Court
Gurnee, IL 60031 USA

Dear Friends and Colleagues,
Please note our new addresses as of October 1, 1979.

Liebe Freunde und Kollegen,
ab 1.10.1979 schreiben Sie bitte nur noch an unsere neuen
Adressen.

Office/beruflich:

Boehringer Mannheim GmbH
Biochemica Forschungszentrum
D-8132 Mutzing/Obb.
... Germany (BRD)

Personal/Privat:

Fuerst-Bismarck-Str. 4
Postfach 130609
D-4100 Duisburg 13
W. Germany (BRD)

Herzliche Grüße!
U. Schrenk

FRIENDS OF FOSTER GARDEN

PRESENT

GARDEN FAIR 1979

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9:00 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M.

FOSTER GARDEN

RARE PLANTS + BONSAI + ORCHIDS
HAWAIIAN PLANTS + FERNS + CACTUS
SUCCULENTS + PALMS + SPECIAL HOUSE PLANTS
DRIED PODS + HANDICRAFTS
AND LOTS MORE!

AUCTION 11:00 A.M.

SKIP SCHUMAN, AUCTIONEER

WITH HORACE CLAY AND JIM HUBBARD

IMPORTANT: PLEASE CALL FIVE FRIENDS TO REMIND THEM OF
GARDEN FAIR 1979

GARDEN FAIR is a special project of the Friends of Foster Garden
to support our Education Program and our international
Plant Import Program

*They should concentrate
on local endemics.
O.D.*

Friends of Foster Garden
50 N. Vineyard Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96817

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit #1287
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua 96791

Hunt
4

Memo to: Dr. Otto Degener
From: Charles R. Long, Library Director
Subject: REPRINT PUBLISHING PROGRAM: WALTER J. JOHNSON, INC.
Date: 9-10-79

Dear Dr. Degener:

The New York Botanical Garden has been asked to assemble a reprint series in botany and horticulture. Drawing upon the suggestions of staff, this program will make available books and other publications (i.e., journal publications by a single author on specific topic(s)) long out of print, and useful to present day investigators.

The New York Botanical Garden will benefit from this program in the following ways:

1. The role of The New York Botanical Garden in the dissemination of botanical and horticultural literature (found in the Garden's book collections) will be enhanced;
2. The New York Botanical Garden will receive attention throughout the world as it is proposed that the name of the Garden will be connected with the series;
3. The Garden will receive income from use fees and from royalties;
4. Arrangements have been made for consultant fees for those staff members who wish to write introductions to the individual works.

The following are specific topical areas for which suggestions are needed: generic treatments (all major plant groups), Orchidaceae, Compositae, economic botany, mycology, paleobotany, Amazoniana, plant geography, ecology, gardening, classification, and other horticultural classics. Other ideas and suggestions are most welcome.

Thank you for your advice and cooperation.

Bob Long
CRL/d

cc: Executive Committee

Your tax-deductible membership dues will be put to immediate use to help preserve natural areas and wildlife that once lost will never, never return.

Many thanks, Pat Noonan

September 10, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
68617 Cozier Dr.
Waialua Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

Your membership in The Nature Conservancy has lapsed, and I wonder why, for we miss your support.

If you chose not to renew because of something The Nature Conservancy has done, or has failed to do, will you tell me about it? I ask this favor as a friend who shares your interest in nature and the outdoors.

On the other hand, if you simply never got around to rejoining I hope you will use the convenient form enclosed with this letter and get back with us today.

We need your help and support today as never before. Currently we are involved from coast to coast in the preservation of over 35 areas of environmental importance including dunes, pinelands, wildlife refuges, glades, and prairies.

Besides, you and I live at a very critical moment in history. Even while you are reading these words, bulldozers are destroying, in the name of progress, parts of America's last remaining forests, grasslands, and marshes. The Nature Conservancy is working to save some of the very best of these today, for tomorrow will be too late. Once a wilderness is destroyed, it is gone -- not for days, months, or years, but forever.

Please then, give us your continued support. Choose the class of membership you wish, and use the enclosed envelope to return both the form and your check now.

I look forward to welcoming you again as a member.

Sincerely,

Patrick F. Noonan
President



The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy

1800 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 524-3151

September 10, 1979

Dr. Otto Degener
68617 Cozier Dr.
Waialua Oahu, Hawaii 96791

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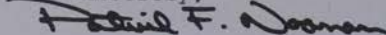
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I look forward to welcoming you again as a member.

Sincerely,



Patrick F. Noonan
President



Too expensive!

Exp. (to Hunt)

Aug. 26, 1979.

Dear Dr. Prance:

Mrs. Degener & I wish to thank you for your Aug. 22 letter, and the informative Systematic Botany Resources in America, Part II." It was not only informative, but interesting to read.

Considering that the Hawaiian Phanerogam flora consists mostly of taxa that are on the verge of extinction, that we have a gasoline-devouring jeep to hunt for them, that we have an electricity-eating dehumidifier to dry them, that both of us have doctorates and have concentrated on study of the local flora full time for a total of about eighty years - our time is worth per hour more than that of a carpenter - we modestly consider the average value of our gifts to eleemosynary institutions in the United States at \$6.00. From a spirit of patriotism, we shall foolishly cut this sum for tax purposes by half. Hence for the year 1979, we shall value our gifts ~~\$3.00~~ ^{\$3.00} for Hawaiian material.

Moreover, just as inflation and the debasement of the dollar is about 10% annually, we plan to raise the value of our gifts in January 1980 by 10%, or a total of ~~\$3.30~~ ^{\$3.30}.

Regarding the 150+ Russian plants that I requested for the Garden, we believe them not as valuable as those from Hawaii. They are for the most part not of restricted range - not endemic to a single mountain, gulch or even lava oasis - but probably far-ranging. Scientifically they have less value than our Hawaiian material. Being mounted, we shall value each sheet at \$6.00 for tax purposes.

Should the local tax assessor question our judgment, I may quietly ask each of the State of Hawaii Senators, who recently passed a Resolution commending me, for advice. Many are attorneys.

Mrs. Degener & I really don't know, but would it be wise to print an announcement in the Garden Journal that gifts of herb specimens to the Garden have a value of
- - - - - per sheet if from the United States Mainland or Europe, and a value of
- - - - - per sheet if from botanically relatively unknown areas? It might start a stampede of plant parcels from South of the Border to the Garden from vacationing U.S., botanists at no cost to it.

Thanks again for your financial help. By the way, we are putting our Honolulu property on the market. I paid in round figures \$10,000 in good valuable US money for it in 1926 and now am asking \$330,000 of present near-worthless Confederate-like sandwich dollars for it. Don't gasp. Little will remain because of the Capital Gains tax. We Senior citizens are partly enslaved by having our hard-earned savings taxed away from us so that loafers can live off welfare. All the latter need do to steal our cash is to cast their vote for the right politician. It is interesting, but sad, to see the advent of another Dark Age. Mrs. Degener, and I were so impressed by the lack of Welfare in Russia in 1975. All they need is a foundation of Capitalism as we had it, instead of Socialism ^{as we have it}.

Aloha,

Orth. Degener

IV. THE VALUE OF AN HERBARIUM SPECIMEN

The real value of an average herbarium specimen is a matter of considerable interest and some debate. Using the figures per specimen that have been generated in the preceding pages, it is possible to approach some of the calculations very objectively. These values are shown in Table 23.

Table 23. ACTIVITIES COSTS IN HERBARIUM SPECIMENS

General Costs:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Identification: | \$2.500 | |
| Accessioning: | 0.139 | |
| Mounting: | 0.812 | |
| Insertion: | <u>0.185</u> | |
| Direct Costs: | \$3.636 | |
| Overhead Invested: | <u>1.818</u> | |
| Total General Costs: | | \$5.454 (General Only) |
| Value Added--Exchanged: | \$0.562 | |
| Overhead Invested: | <u>0.281</u> | |
| Total, Exchanged Specimen: | | \$6.297 (General + Exchange) |
| Value Added--Loaned: | \$0.254 | |
| Overhead Invested: | <u>0.127</u> | |
| Total, Loaned Specimen: | | \$5.835 (General + Loan) |
| If Loaned and Exchanged: | | \$6.678 (General + Loan + Exchange) |

If one accepts as an average specimen, one that has been identified, mounted, accessioned, and inserted into the herbarium in the ordinary way, with the overhead included but without any other special actions, such as

involvement in completed loan or exchange, the investment that has been put into it is just over \$5.45. If the specimen was received through exchange, costs to the sender and to the receiver add another 84.3 cents, and the specimen is now worth about \$6.30. A specimen that has been loaned and returned has acquired an additional investment of 38.1 cents, and has cost our institutions about \$5.84. If a specimen has been involved in both exchange and loan, the total cost associated with it is nearly \$6.68. These numbers do not include recognition of investment for storage, which, if one assumes a cost of \$415.00 for a modern, delivered case, and fills it to the brim with 2,600 specimens, adds an additional 16 cents.

Even without storage costs included, the implications of these figures for the value of a sizeable collection are obvious. For a million specimen herbarium, with a mix of one quarter having been loaned, and one quarter having been exchanged, the investment (assuming random assortment of loans and exchanges) is approximately \$5,865,375. The value of specimens for our entire National Resource Collections network is in the neighborhood of a quarter billion dollars, a national treasure, indeed!

To calculate the entire cost of a specimen, one must still add the price of acquiring it in the field, and pressing it for transport to an herbarium. The minimum cost on the average is estimated to be approximately \$1.00. Thus, it is safe to say that the value of a well prepared, accessioned specimen today lies between \$6.45 and \$7.68.

Ian Jackson
P O Box 9075
Berkeley CA
94709 USA

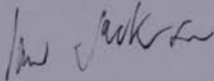
24 August, 1979

(415) 548-1431
Dear Dr. Degener,

Thanks for your suggestion of Dr. Harriman as a possible customer: he turned out to be well worth sending a catalogue to. My magazine limps on: I have all the articles set to go; only lack of time prevents a prompt appearance. Too many other obligations and the nuisance of getting out a quarterly catalogue of books ~~XXXXXXXX~~ keeps me from publishing; that and the knowledge that it is sure to be a money sink. I haven't given up though, and it will appear eventually.

I write now really simply to order two more complete sets of FLORA HAWAIIENSIS (1-7) and one set of Books 5-7.

Yours sincerely,



And, of course, my congratulations on your several awards.

P.B.S. A last note: kindly remember to include the note lamenting the fact the book has become a repository of recently extinct species at the front: as I advertised the two sets I've already sold as bearing such a note, these next two customers will be disappointed if theirs lacks it. Many thanks.



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

August 22, 1979

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Howard Irwin has asked me to reply to the business side of your letter to him of August 14th.

I enclose a reprint which has recently come out which attempts to place a value on a herbarium specimen. You will note the various different values.

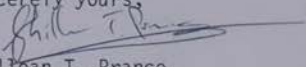
It is extremely hard to be objective. No herbaria I know purchases specimens at the \$5.45 value in this report. The maximum we pay at NYBG is \$1.00 per unmounted specimens. We purchase many for as little as 30¢. There is obviously a greater value for specimens from places of different access. Specimens from Russia are much more valuable than those from your back yard! Specimens are generally sold unmounted so that individual herbaria can mount them on the card of their choice.

I hope that this is of some help. If I can be of any further help please do not hesitate to write.

I hope that you have an excellent trip to Germany.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


Ghilleen T. Prance
Vice President,
Director of Botanical Research

GTP/fm
cc: Dr. Irwin

IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Department of Botany
Bessey Hall
Ames, Iowa 50011

August 17, 1979

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

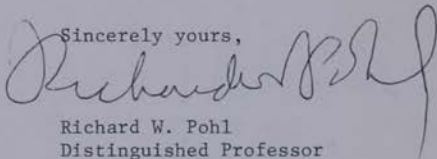
Dear Dr. Degener:

We have your letter of July 29 and the specimens. We appreciate very much having these since we have very little material from Hawaii although we do have your loose-leaf manual. I am afraid I cannot offer you any information about Lycopodiaceae, since I work entirely with grasses.

I appreciate your concern about the extinction of rare species in your area. I worked for a number of years in Central America and I see the racing pace of deforestation and the conversion of large areas to scrub pasture. This is proceeded so far in El Salvador that I no longer plan to go to that country because I think the flora is virtually wiped out.

With many thanks I am,

Sincerely yours,



Richard W. Pohl
Distinguished Professor
Curator of the Herbarium

RWP:ch

Internationaler Degener-Kreis · Postfach 1443 · 4830 Gütersloh 1

Herrn

Drs. Otto Degener

P.O. Box 154

Volcano, Hawaii

96785 U.S.A.



Internationaler
Degener-Kreis

14. August 1979 -Dienstag-

Sehr geehrter Herr Drs. Degener,

vielen Dank für Ihren Brief.

Ich habe mich heute mit 4 Berliner Tageszeitungen in Verbindung gesetzt und um Übersendung der Reportage gebeten.

Wie teuer ist Ihr Buch "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks"?

Ich nehme an, daß Sie meinen Brief vom 31.5.1979 mit den Briefen Ihres Herrn Vaters erhalten haben.

Es ist schade, daß Ihre Frau Dr. nicht nach Berlin kommen kann; ich wünsche ihr gute Gesundheit.

Zwischenzeitlich habe ich Kontakte mit Dänemark und Brasilien aufgenommen.

In Deutschland haben wir zur Zeit einen sehr schönen Sommer, aber im nu ist auch dieser wieder vorbei.

Sowie ich von der Reportage Exemplare habe, werde ich Sie davon in Kenntnis setzen.

Ihr Herr Bruder ist der älteste Degener von Europa und ich wäre sehr dankbar dafür, wenn eine Verbindung zustande käme. Ich habe seinerzeit meinen Brief in Deutsch verfaßt. Hat Ihr Herr Bruder eine Schreibkraft, die die eingehende Post beantwortet? Ich werde ihm in den nächsten Tagen einen Brief in Englisch schreiben. Mein Bruder kommt aus Italien und kann perfekt Englisch.

Ich freue mich auf eine Antwort von Ihnen.

Mit freundlichem Gruß

Heinrich Degener

Internationaler Degener-Kreis Heinrich Degener

Postfach 1443 · Rhedaer Straße 39 · 4830 Gütersloh 1 · Telefon 05241/51654

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



Post Card

切手

Aug. 23, 1929
Ishikawa

Dear Mrs. Otto and
Ira Degener,

Thank you very much
for the ten Hawaiian
specimens of vascular
plants and the one
of mosses which you
kindly sent us.

They form a valuable
addition to our

herbarium.

Many thanks are also
for the pamphlets and
copies of several articles
inserted among the
specimens.

With best wishes for
your good health and
continuous activity in
Hawaiian botany and
nature conservation.
— H. S. Gentry

Shortia, Solanum, Malus, etc. (1929-1930)
在東京で見たものは、1929年10月、日本植物学協会に
送られたものである。送られたものは、
1929年10月、日本植物学協会に送られたものである。

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

Aug. 13, 1979.

Sehr Geehrter Herr Dr. Biedl:

Frau Degener & ich haben Ihren Brief. Ich erinnere Ihren Lehrer, den ich vor vielen Jahren getroffen habe.

Obwohl ich über 80 bin und viele Sachen fertig machen will, vordem es zu spät ist, werden wir Ihnen gerne gelegentlich Pilze schicken. Natürlich die auf endemischen Phanerogamen werden höchstwahrscheinlich auch endemisch und meistens neu sein.

Manche Nummern wie die *Scaevola* c., im kommenden Packet, hat die Blätter natürlich schlimm infiziert aber nicht alt genug für Parasitenmaterial für Sie zu studieren. Wir raten dass Sie einfach die Menge Blätter mit ein bisschen Feuchtigkeit in einem Gefäß mit losen Deckel lassen so dass der Parasit mehr Zeit hat zu "brüten" & wachsen. So bekommen Sie eine Menge Material für Dubletten.

Frau Degener & ich schicken Dubletten an ungefähr 75 Institute der Welt als Geschenke. Wenn ein Museum im Krieg vernichtet wird mit seinen Exemplaren (so wie Berlin im Zweiten Weltkrieg), sind Dubletten vielleicht in Australien, Peking, Leningrad, Wien oder Oshkosh. Viele davon sind natürlich schon vernichtet in Hawaii. Für alle Geschenke zum Ausland bekommen wir keinen "praktischen" Vorteil. Aber für jede Nummer die ich an einen Botanischen Institut oder Universität der VEREINIGTEN STAATEN als Geschenk gebe bekomme ich \$3.00 Kredit vom US Steueramt. Das Drucken ist jetzt so sehr teuer dass jede \$3.00 uns natürlich hilft. Also, behalten Sie Unikate, Aber ich möchte wenigstens ein Dublett haben für NY., und ein Dublett für Missouri Bot. Garten in St. Louis. Bitte verteilen Sie so viele Dubletten selber wie Sie wollen. Wenn noch etwas übrig ist, schicken sie es zurück und ich werde es weiter in Amerika verteilen wegen Wissenschaft & meinen hohen Steuern. Amerika ist verrückt geworden. Leute die das ganze Leben gespart haben unterhalten jetzt die faulen Leute durch Steuern. Natürlich im Denken für Politiker haben beide Sorten Leute die gleiche Macht. Wir haben nicht für Pres. Carter gewählt.

Wir sind enttäuscht mit *Palhinhaea*, aber vielleicht finden Sie doch ein Pilz. So etwas primitives hat vielleicht noch etwas sehr primitives als ~~am~~ Parasit oder Saprophyt.

Wir fliegen nach Deutschland Sept. 2 da ich eine Willdenow Medallie Sept. 10 von Berlin bekomme, werden wir Sie dort treffen? Ich kann gerade so nett in Berlin als zu Hause von Alter krank werden. Meine Mutter, in 1920 gestorben, war eine Wienerin: Frä. Maria Ludovika Kaempf von Baldenstein. Gibt es solche Namen noch?

Von Frau Degener & mir, Aloha,



DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

Aut. 10, 1979.

Dear Mr. Yamashita:

Mrs. Degener & I received your letter regarding our University property.

I bought it in 1926 when I was teaching Botany at the University, and remodeled it to my liking. It was ideal for walking to class, and of course choice according to my standards because of the Park opposite. The main house on University Ave., and the guest cottage in back on Waiu Way are old, but we have always kept them in good condition. Both houses were painted inside and out six years ago, and since then both have been treated for ground and dry wood termites. We used to keep the guest cottage for ourselves when we lived at Mokuleia Beach and wished to attend concerts and lectures in "far off" Honolulu. Now living near the National Park - I was once connected with the Park - we don't anymore. So we don't quite know what tenants have done. But I imagine any damage is but skin or paint deep, and can be more or less paid for via the cleaning fee we hold.

The lot is 11,250 square feet and the Tax Key is 29002002. If really serious, why not go to the Tax Office & the Bureau of Conveyances Building makai of the Kamehameha Statue for correct information. It would be better than what I can tell you from memory.

We are getting \$500 for the main House on Univ., Ave., and \$225 for the guest house on Waiu Way monthly. Realtors advised us we should ask much more; but as I am over eighty, I did not wish to bother with possible tenant turnovers. But with continuous enslavement of the older, thrifty generation by devaluing the dollar to almost Confederate standards, we are forced to raise rents Jan. 1 whether tenants move or not. So near the University, a bus line and a gas. shortage, we can always get better ones in the one slovenly kept unit. By the way, we are outright old fashioned capitalists who toured parts of Russia during a scientific convention in 1975. I am ashamed to report that we can learn a lot in phases of good government from them: no bums on welfare, etc., to gain votes.

Our land is probably worth in excess of \$25 per square foot and the main house, according to an insurance man, would cost well over \$60,000 to replace. We want \$330,000 net cash for this fee simple lot and everything on it. If you are a realtor belonging more or less to a hui criticised and want to charge a fee of 6 to 7 % it is alright with me. All you do is add that to a higher asking price.

Mrs. D., & I are NOT interested in a trade because of our ages. If really interested you can of course view the place. Mrs. Charlene Greer, the tenant ('phone 946-8710) sent us the rent cheque ahead of time because she was going to visit her folks on the Mainland. She may be back by this time. Why not contact her by 'phone?

We are watching Pres. Carter's actions carefully, and may be frightened into raising our selling price about Jan. 1. I get "robbed" as it is in the sale via the capital gains tax, not having used the place as my residence recently.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

Volcano, Hawaii 96785.
Aug. 7, 1979.

Dear Prof. Beaman:

Mrs. Degener & I are shocked and greatly saddened concerning Dr. Gillis. He visited us at our beach house on the North Shore of Oahu. He even 'phoned us long distance from the Mainland! That was some years ago, when he showed unusual promise of becoming an unusually keen scientist. The terribly tragedy is the passing of a man with such a fine personality and love of life. Mrs. Degener and I suspect that his death was due to some accident. He was always so robust.

I collected in "Kassau" on my way back to the Hawaiian Islands between 2/12 and 3/23/46, and Marguerite Gillis was interested in such plants depicted at NY and at the University of Massachusetts.

Thank you for writing me —
I hope our good friend did not suffer.

Mrs. Degener joins in aloha,

Att. Degener

Death notice from Mich. State U. in big file
Gillis

1717 Mott-Smith Dr.
Apt. 602
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Aug. 17, 1979

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to your "For Sale" sign on University Ave. I would like specifics regarding your house such as: 1) Asking price 2) Size of lot and house 3) Age of house 4) Number of bedrooms and baths 5) Terms.

If the specifics are within our range and requirements, would we be able to view the house? Also, would you be interested in a trade of properties. I have two properties

- 1) 3 bedroom 2 bath house in Kailua
- 2) 2 bedroom 2 bath condominium in Honolulu

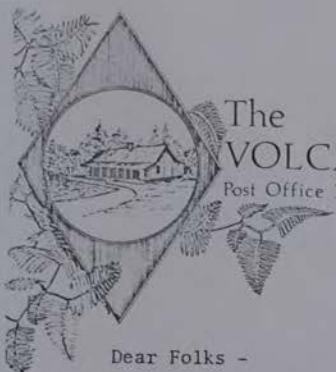
You may write to me at the above address or call
at 537-1387 home
944-2204 business

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul Yamashita

Mrs. Charlene Green (phone 946-8710)
sent us the rent cheque ~~to~~ ~~for~~ ahead
of time because she was going to visit
her folks on the Mainland. She may be
back by this time. Why not contact
her by phone.

We are watching Pres. Carter's
actions carefully and may be frightened
into raising our selling price
about Jan. 1. I get "robbed" as it
is in the sale ~~the~~ via the capital
gains tax not having used
the place as my residence for
some years.



The
VOLCANO ART CENTER

Post Office Box 318, Volcano, Hawaii, 96785

August 5, 1979

Dear Folks -

I hope your check reflects the renewed flow of visitors into the national park after the air strike and groundings of the DC-10's - we've noticed an increased flow and are grateful. We were also grateful to discover that the Art Center is not totally dependent on tourist traffic, i.e. the whole show didn't come tumbling down just because the planes weren't flying. Let's hear it for our kamaaina supporters from all over the state!

Hey, really, the weather in Volcano has been just extraordinary this summer. For those of you who haven't made it up here so far this season, we extend a hearty and encouraging invitation. We know a walk down the trail, even a picnic at Bird Park, would refuel your creativity batteries - so don't miss it. Also, we'd really like to see each and every one of you. We feel so connected to you through your works, which we share with people every day, that it really means a lot to us to keep up with you, hear of your latest projects, etc., This dream weather can't last forever, so hurry!

The Swartz exhibit was inspirational to many geologists, who were here for a conference in July. Her one-day Ainahou workshop was a grand excuse for artists in many media to get together - dancer Earnest Morgan made it over from Honolulu, and Kona's own Hiroki Morinoue encouraged many artist friends to take it in so there was some very fine sharing going on with felks whose lives are art - you know how that goes. Don't miss astronomer-artist Bill Hartman's paintings or his talk in the gallery on the 10th---an evening slide show of space art from all over plus a discussion of the "Relationship Between Astronomy and Art."

That's all - much aloha to you all. May a sense of renewed creativity refresh you!

See you,

Marsha!

Marsha Anne Morrison
(Gazette Editor) for the whole gang

*If you're still in
Volcano - would love
to interview you for
the Gazette.*

A non-profit locus for the visual and performing arts at the
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

S.  R.

~~MINISTÉRIO DO AGRICULTURA~~ JUNTA DE INVESTIGAÇÕES DO ULTRAMAR

CENTRO DE BOTÂNICA

~~TELÉFONOS 20000000~~

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
68-617 Grozier Drive
Walalua, Oahu,
HAWAII 96791
U.S.A.

Sua referência

Sua comunicação de

Nossa referência
Of.-B/B/79

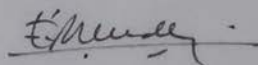
~~Exterior 20000000~~ - Portugal

ASSUNTO

Dear Drs. Degener,

Following my letter of. 4/B/79 of the 28.FEB.1979, it is my pleasure to return to you my letter 85/75/B dated 1975.10.01 which has been found today "lost" between two pages of the copy of your "Prodromus of Galeatella and Neowimmeria" which we have received early this year.

Yours sincerely,



E.J.MENDES, Lic. Biol. Sci.,
Director

E. Menninger, Jr.
Rt 1, Box 1002
Jensen Beach, Fl.
33457

Friday 8/3

Dear Doctor:

Once again I'm obliged to you for your thoughtfulness. My dad passed along this week the latest lot of stamps from you, and thank you so much for them. As usual there were many which I hadn't seen previously, so one builds a collection. You're a great source.

Not much new here. My father gets along fine, gets lonely but is much better about it now. Mrs M has been gone 15 months today. My wife, who had been bedfast with bone cancer for over 2 years, died June 16, so I'm alone again. My previous wife died similarly. But I've got much to do all the time and I don't brood and there's always a new, brighter day ahead.

Thanks again,

E. Menninger

Arnold
Arb.

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

Aug. 3, 1979.

dear Librarian:

Of course it is my own fault in being confused.

I sent a night letter from Honolulu to Dr. E.D. Merrill many years ago regarding J.F. Rock's fabulous collection of Chinese in cunabula. I am no longer certain whether Dr. Merrill at the time was still Dean at one of the California universities or Botanist at Harvard.

I wrote some time ago, asking where Rock's collection of these ancient Chinese mss., are located. Thus far I received no reply. For my own satisfaction I wish to make sure that the marked paragraph overleaf is correct or needs revision.

I have been donating herbarium specimens chiefly from Fiji & Hawaii to the Arnold Arboretum for decades.

I shall value your answer if you have one, and deposit it in library archives concerning Dr. Rock.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER

P.O. Box 134

Volcano, Hawaii

96785 U. S. A.

3 Aug. 1979.

Dear Miss Young:

June 4 I wrote your Society that we had enjoyed visiting Burlington House at the time of the Int. Bot. Congress in Edinburgh. We asked permission to view and purchase a picture of Linnaeus' sheet of Lycopodium cernuum.

You replied June 27 "I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter which will be brought before the Chairman of the Curatorial Committee at the Earliest opportunity." Mrs. Degener & I have received no reply thus far.

I recieved the Linné Medal from Stockholm, and Sept. 10 I am being awarded the Willdenow Medal from Berlin. Mrs. Degener, who had planned to accept it for me as the trip would be too strenuous for me (an octogenarian), had planned to stopover in London between Honolulu and Berlin. Her purpose was to study Linneus' one sheet.

As we have received no permission from your Society thus far and our travel agent can delay no longer with the purchase of 'plane tickets & hotel accomodations, we have cancelled the London trip. Anyway, our agent has found out that the Gresham Hotel is booked and that the Park Court Hotel at Lancaster Gate charges 19.25 per day.

We are still interested in a photograph with legible label of "Lycopodium cernuum" and its cost if you can furnish it. We want to print it next to a photograph of its Hawaiian relative. Whether you can oblige us or not, we plan to describe our hunt for the elusive sheet in our forthcoming publication. We are tarrying because of the missing photograph.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

Aug. 1, 1979.

Dear Sirs:

In cleaning out an overstuffed cabinet, Mrs. Hegenbarth & I came across a slender accumulation of Hawaiian specimens. I am mailing you them now.

I believe these & more botanists are coming to my opinion, held as early as 1925, that the different islands of the Haw. Archipelago, due mainly to isolation strengthened by ecological and other factors, have developed largely an endemic Phanerogam flora of their own. In fact, very often, a kipuka or lava oasis, will harbor a unique International Treasure not known anywhere else in the world. This endemicity is not limited to the species level but more strongly to the varietal and still more strongly to the formal. These truths regarding Phanerogams extend less to Pteridophytes & mosses and still less to yet more primitive groups with easily disseminated spores.

Due to the introduction of feral herbivores; plant & insect pests, agricultural, lumbering & livestock industries; huge areas given over to golf courses & housing developments; wide belts of highways; military maneuvers with heavy equipment & tanks; rampant forest & other fires; and the bulldozer craze; most of our remaining endemics after Cook's rediscovery of the Islands are being exterminated more quickly than they can be collected, studied, described and named. This fact, incidentally, makes it impossible to assign the recent taxa to a "Red Book" as "rare or endangered". Now list the unknown! Name extinctions, we know they exist. Thus each taxon can be destroyed legally without anyone being the wiser.

I may be repeating myself to you, but not to other recipients of copies of this letter. What the taxa I have collected since 1948 are in many cases NOT rare and endangered, but actually extinct! Much voucher specimens have been deposited mainly at the New York Botanical Garden in my home city, and to a lesser extent at the University of Massachusetts, at Berlin, at St. Louis and at over fifty other institutions including your own. Unfortunately most of those early donated to Berlin were destroyed by bombing during World War II, but by this time Berlin has an excellent collection of cover but not as critical material. Should monographers wish to complete their studies of Haw. plants, we urge them to contact about seventy five larger institutions of the World of extinct Hawaiian taxa lurking between insane and doers under their proper scientific names or their synonyms.

Due to age and lack of devotion & library facilities in the middle of the North Pacific, we are continuing to distribute our accumulation of specimens, often in our much identified only to the genus. Thus they will be easily available for monographers. We can spare the material as we presently have enough unfinished projects to keep us occupied for several life-times.

The present project, for which we are now asking you and other recipients of Haw. plants, concerns the Lycopodiaceae SHIBU LATA:

1. Splitting this family aggregate, how does Lycopodiaceae SHIBU SHIBU differ from Family Euphorbiaceae?

2. When recognizing Euphorbiaceae, e.g., from Dr. Hain's six genera, Franco & Vasconcellos' Palhinhaea, Kunze's Psylliodes, and Reichenbach's Diphysia, what are the differences?

3. Euphorbia and Phlegmaria are two genera represented in the Hawaiian Islands. How do they differ?

4. We shall be very grateful to you & others for information regarding a.) morphology of sporophyte, b.) morphology esp. of gametophyte, c.) spore structures, d.) stelar type, e.) chemistry, f.) while from Dr. Love we can get chromosome information. Of course we do not expect answers to all our questions. Should you know of more recent papers about the above, do please cite them so we can borrow them from NY, Washington or elsewhere.

Aloha,

Dr. C. H. Hegenbarth

Dr. Isa Degener
RR Nr. 1, Box 89
Waialua, Oahu
Hawaii, U.S.A. 96791

Winters mostly

Summers mostly

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.
July 30, 1979.

Dear Mrs. Matsushige:

Your July 26 letter was just forwarded to me. I herewith grant the Dept. of Education, Hawaii State Library, 478 South King Street, Honolulu until further notice permission to photocopy the Temporary Index for the Flora Hawaiiensis.

Our Flora is not really adapted for the local population. There are three kinds of intelligence: Theoretical, Social and Practical. Our Flora is for the first group, scattered pretty well around the entire World. It is not for the second, of whom many members are of Polynesian extraction; nor for the practical, who are the result mainly of a thrifty plantation background.

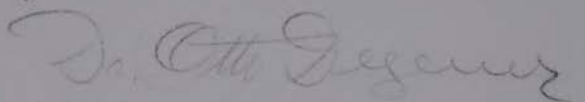
Our Fl. Haw. can never be completed because of the continuous introduction of exotics by horticulturists and the continuous discoveries regarding exotics by "egg-head" type botanists of whom the Degeners may be considered types. That is why the Flora is in troublesome loose-leaf format. Thus far our BOOKS, 4 to date, are just a beginning to be continued by the capable New York Botanical Garden and the Missouri Bot. Garden in St. Louis after we Degeners start picking asclepiads along the Milky Way. Purely local botanical work, we feel, has too often been what pidgin is to true English. Mrs. D., & I try to maintain International Standards.

I guess because of our standards, I was awarded the Linné Medal by Stockholm some years ago; a commendation this year by our Legislators of whom many are modern & not provincial, a Distinguished Service Award in May with Mrs. Degener from the New York Botanical Garden, and Sept. 10 I am to be awarded the coveted Willdenow Medal from the Bot. Garden & Museum in Berlin.

We locals with our social & practical intelligence prize splashy-colored exotics of no intellectual worth; while the bot. intelligencia of the world admire our endemic CREATIONS - true International Treasures - that we lolos wantonly destroy.

My edition of usually 1,500 copies - which I usually sell for less than a penny a page - is almost sold out. More copies are probably in libraries of the OUTSIDE WORLD than in Hawaii Mei.

Now that I have tooted my own horn; octogenarians are usually garrulous anyway - it helps sell books to enable us to afford to print Book 7 to a fatter ending - it is time I wished patient you aloha,



(only living person with a Plant Family named for him)

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

July 29, 1979.

Dear Larry:

Isa & I were glad to hear from you, but sad that we can't give you and Chris a favorable answer concerning your Acacia.

This difficult group in the Islands has been made still more difficult by my late friend Charlie Judd. He was the only trained forester - had graduated from the famed Forestry School at Yale - of the Territory in his time. He was efficient with koa from his professional, practicable standpoint; but from the botanist's standpoint of untangling relationships of the koas, he may have caused utter confusion.

In the late '20s or early '30s I visited Judd at the Terr Bd. Agri. & Forestry at Keeaumoku & King Streets, Hon. His foresters on the various islands rightfully wished to reforest denuded areas with koa. So the Bd., advertised in the local newspapers that they were prepared to purchase koa seeds. As a result, Hawaiian, nisei, haole, etc., urchin on various islands scrambled to the nearest koa trees, and gathered the seeds. As the postman delivered them, they were dumped into a large bin built, with others, against the wall of a room. Judd showed me the large collection and the ladle with which seeds were dished out and mailed to anyone on ANY island who needed seeds.

Whenever I see a koa tree younger than 50 years, I don't know if it is native or endemic to that spot or one of Judd's mixtures from any one of the other islands. Furthermore, how are we 100% certain that any of the younger trees growing wild are not hybridized with Judd's exotic pollen?

Just because Acacia fls., are small is no reason that they are less diagnostic than a large lily fl. Yet I know of no one, besides Skottsberg & perhaps J.F. Rook, who have bothered to compare them from different parts of our islands. We Degeners have done nothing, being preoccupied with other genera.

In conclusion:

1. Your specimen is NOT A. koaia Hillebr., which is a small dense tree in the '20s forming a beautiful forest along the road between Kamuela & Hawi in the foggy zone). (We likewise collected it on Lanai, but don't know whether G.C. Minro may not have planted it there.
2. Enclosed is a twig of the K.-Hawi plant. The beans are very narrow & so the seeds must lie at a different angle in the pod. Don't be confused; some Australian recently monographed Acacia and blundered in lumping the Koaia with the koa. I guess he merely saw poor herbarium specimens.

By the way what is the koa that grows more or less in rows & evidently planted along your Belt Road along the north shore. Is it truly Mauian? Perhaps your find is one of the true Maui koas of dry Kula before cattle, and wheat fields killed them off. They seem to be old. Perhaps you should watch them, and try to preserve them from chopping. Of course good specimens with fls, pods, seeds and even juvenile or watersprout leaves should be collected & saved in herbaria for the time when some koa monographer turns up.

I am writing in full - in the midst of good music - as I am mailing your specimen to the New York Bot. Garden with our letters for their herbarium. Perhaps the koa monographer has not yet been born, but eventually he or she will turn up.

Aloha from Isa & me to you & Chris,

Otto Degener

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

July 26, 1979

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We had the opportunity to glance through the US Army Draft of the Installation Environmental Impact Statement dated June 8, 1979.

The Kane writer left New York City in 1922 for the University of Hawaii to study for an advanced degree and write an illustrated Flora of the Hawaiian Islands. He taught Botany at the University in 1925-27, was Naturalist of Haw. National Park in 1929, and lived at the Volcano House until publication of his "Plants of Hawaii National Park" in 1930. Soon thereafter he became associated with the New York Botanical Garden, representing this great institution in Hawaii Nei. He camped & botanized extensively. Spending fall time on the local flora, not interrupted by teaching and other duties since 1929, he assumes he is more familiar with it than any one else in the world. His conceit is fed by books and hundreds of articles he and his wife have published and by honors awarded them locally, on the Mainland U.S., and elsewhere.

He experienced having Japanese 'planes Dec. 7 flying over him in his home, as he describes in the introduction of the second edition of his Flora Hawaiiensis. He vividly remembers anticipating that Tojo's forces would attack Oahu where he lived, and his perishing with a few stab wounds between his ribs. Though outwardly calm while in bed nights, he remembers how the muscles on the inner side of his thighs would tremble with subconscious fear. The one thought of comfort was that the Islands, and Oahu in particular, were being defended from destruction by the US Army, and what remained after the holocaust of the Navy and Air Force.

He is convinced, and his wife, a professional botanist with a doctorate agrees with him, that the so-called Washington, D.C., "Red Book" of Rare and Endangered Species is most valuable for most Mainland States. But both are convinced, and we have published our beliefs, that it is a farce except in a very few instances for the mostly unknown flora of the Hawaiian Islands. Each island, and often each valley system, gulch or mountain may have a distinct flora of its own. Even small, isolated kipukas can harbor a species considered an International Treasure. To list a certain Flowering Plant as rare or endangered is all very well, but it ignores the 20,000 to 30,000 endemic Flowering Plants that have not yet been collected, described nor named. How do you list endangered plants that have no name? Evidently by the Red Book method they can be AND ARE BEING exterminated with impunity.

Instead of the Red Book we approve of a fanciful Blue Book, a book that considers all native Hawaiian plants rare and endangered except certain specified ones, such as some koa, ohia, kokoolau & naupaka that are listed by capable botanists (not carpet baggers) as common until further notice.

Incidentally, please note that these rare and endangered plants unscientifically listed in the book are practically limited to trees, as though a huge boulder is more important than a small diamond. Are there no rare ferns, mosses, lichens, fungi nor limu in the Islands? The list of endangered species on pages J-1 to J-3 to us is unimportant piffle. It is nice for botanists to know, and that is about all.

We Degeners have gone around the world zigzag and have spent some time during the International Botanical Congress in 1975 in Moscow, Leningrad & the Caucasus. In such travels we have found the average foreigners charming, hard working and frugal, not dopey with drugs or "medicines," honest, and highly patriotic no matter what the form of Government may be as they have never experienced anything better. What is so frightening is that the average citizen of conscription age of the USA rates distinctly lower at the present time. I would never hesitate to walk the streets of

Moscow, Leningrad, Tokyo or Berlin at night; but hardly those of New York, Memphis, Los Angeles or some parts of Honolulu. In case of a Third World War this present sniping at the US Army with idle demands for EIS information is, without the principals realizing it, increasing the opportunity for some enemy Nation to conquer and destroy us. In an emergency, our conscripts will hardly compare in efficiency and patriotism with theirs.

Though we are rabid conservationists, our plea is to keep hands off the US Army, Navy and Air Force PROVIDED THEY GO EASY WITH FIRES AND KEEP VEHICLES OUT OF OUR NATIVE FORESTS. If we don't let them concentrate in their duty of protecting us, we may yet have some Tojo or Idi Amin jab us to death with bayonets and feed our babies to crocodiles and sharks.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Sengner

Of the record, I am surprised at my correct conclusion. Army keeps vehicles out of native forests, they are an asset as they police areas. We wish they would stimulate their personnel to catch pigs. If Kahoolawe goats are exterminated, endemic vegetation from dormant seeds might rehabilitate the Island. But what do we lolo do now? Replant island with exotic weed trees. I am for Army retaining it and using it so as to be properly prepared to protect us in times of war. We consider the ohana Hawaiians pathetic misguided, poorly educated dreamers. Natives never made much use of Island in older days anyway. Fuss about Maui's endemic flora is silly. I collected all through it from both sides of Waianae Range in early days. It is true I collected a new mistletoe there named for me, but the area was a devastated pasture where Lester Marks ran his cattle. Some of the cliffs had endemics which Army hardly reaches. By this time Kahoeloa has pretty well crowded out natives everywhere. O.S.

Most witnesses oppose Army Big Island move

By Frankie Stapleton

Tribune Herald Staff Writer

Some said they would welcome the Army coming to the Big Island as an answer to its economic woes, but most of the testimony presented at a public hearing Thursday night opposed the possibility of relocating the U.S. Army's 25th Division here, citing the detrimental effects such a move would have on the people living here and the natural environment.

However, Army officials conducting the hearing said the Army will "continue operating essentially as it's doing today."

"There is no intent to increase the strength of the permanent party at Pohakuloa in the foreseeable future," Col. William Mastoris, commander of all Army support forces in Hawaii, told the Tribune-Herald. He added further studies would have to be conducted if a move to the Big Island is ever seriously considered.

Mastoris said the environmental impact study, which has been underway for nearly three years, is fulfilling a legal requirement mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency several years ago, and that in its assessment of the Army's effect on its immediate surroundings, the study lists four alternatives to its Oahu operations.

The alternative of relocating the 25th Infantry Division to the Big Island would take more than \$500 million from funds that otherwise would be used for training support and munitions throughout the Army, "thus causing a negative effect on combat readiness and national defense," the EIS draft states.

The second alternative, which would transfer live ordnance combat training from Oahu to Pohakuloa, would likewise use up funds the Army feels could be better spent in maintaining the national defense in other ways and would increase fuel consumption.

The third alternative mentioned would transfer all training to Pohakuloa but, the report says, that would impair the combat readiness of the Army.

Closing all Hawaii's Army installations and relocating them to the Mainland or elsewhere was the fourth alternative listed.

The mayor sent Deputy Planning Director Duane Kanuha to reiterate his sentiments encouraging a military relocation, but the mayor said the county and its citizens would have appreciated "an earlier and more appropriate notice" of the study being done by the Army.

4/27/79
Melvin Fong, a retired military man who grew up on Oahu and is now a Hilo businessman, testified he would be "more than glad" to have the military move operations to the Big Island, so employment and the county's infrastructure would improve, views similar to those expressed earlier by William Toyama.

But that was the extent of the oral testimony on behalf of any additional Army commitment here.

Herbert Kai, a member of the Prince Kawanakoa Hawaiian Civic Club, said he did not want this island to become a military target, as Oahu is, adding that distinction "should not be split among other islands by the proliferation of more bases."

Kai said it is commonly believed that where military bases are established,

crime follows, and since there are no houses of prostitution on the Big Island, it would be up to the civilian female population to "service" the "hot-blooded" military men who would be sent here.

Jade Emory said she did not want to see the Big Island become the "garbage dump" for Oahu's problems. She said additional military presence here would cause the bars, alcoholism, drug abuse, and prostitution to flourish, adding the military "defile the sanctity of the aina."

The possibility of the presence of nuclear weapons was also mentioned, and Lorraine Ahuna of the Protect Kahoolawe Association brought up the recent raid on a Pohakuloa ammunition dump attempted by six Hilo youths.

Suwa's state post will open scramble for his successor

State Rep. Jack Suwa of Puna may be appointed deputy director of the Department of Transportation, but the appointment may not come until after Suwa's term ends, as his deputy in the department retires by the end of this year, it was reported.

Suwa, 54, who is chairman of the House Finance Committee, has announced he will not seek re-election to his 11th term and plans to resign soon as Amfac's assistant vice president of commercial development.

Since he announced his plan not to seek re-election there has been speculation as to who may be appointed by the governor to succeed him when his term ends.

The early favorite for appointment, Hiroshi Yano, president of the National School Boards Association, reportedly has been working with the national organization is competing for the post.

Suwa's favorite, Councilman Tomio Fujii, wants to finish his council term.

Still jostling for appointment are County Council member John W. Hironaka, a delegate to the 1978 state Constitutional Convention, and Hitco Moving & Storage Service Co.

While declining to speculate on who people are interested, I think it will be over 10 years for the seat."

Suwa said it would be too early to say before the next legislative session, but he would take over all of his duties in the finance committee.

Suwa's retirement will be a full administration.

As a \$12,000

After serving

\$30,000 and

If named

a year

Kula, 27 VII. 79

Dear Dr. Degener,

Many thanks for your letter.

Before anything else, let me express sympathy with you in the discomforts of your respiratory infection. I hope you didn't have to repair to the hospital in Hilo; but if you did, I hope, at least, that things are now improving. I also trust that Mrs Degener's "flu" has now receded? I agree that the persistence of your symptoms in the face of the antibiotic would seem to suggest a virus infection. What was the antibiotic? And how long had you been taking it, with no fall in temp? Anyway, I sincerely hope I can look forward to hearing better news — ~~then I get~~ whether by letter, or when I get in touch with you by phone after I reach Hawaii.

Thank you for the suggestion that I stop off at the "Degener Cottage". I would greatly enjoy doing so, and meeting you both. My plans are as follows. I shall fly to Kona on Tue, 7 Aug (a.m.), rent a small car, and meander towards Nā'alehu — where friends of mine have just acquired a small old house. They have only yesterday come over to spend several weeks, and start fixing it up. I don't have their phone number yet, but no doubt they'll be getting hooked up shortly. In case you should wish to contact me on the evening of the 7th (or early on 8th), the phone may be either under David Dwyer or Judy Jordan. In the frequent modern manner, they are not legally married, but seem to be as durably conjoined as most ^(or many) conjugal pairs!

I think I may have mentioned in my last letter, that my main practical aim in making this trip is to have a general look-around, with a view to possibly moving over there from Maui... In principle, I've already made the decision: it's really a question

of how soon, where to (exactly), and how! Just this week, a family has moved into an all-too close new "speculation" house, in this 'subdivision' called "Kula Kai"; and now the shrieks + yells of a (?) 3-4 year old assail one's ears — on top of yapping dogs, constantly grinding bulldozers, concrete mixers, hammering of carpenters, etc., etc.

So, if I have my way, the Transmigration will occur sooner, rather than later! You may say: why not elsewhere on Maui? And I would gladly move to some "older" place, like Keokea. But, at this point in our absurd inflationary spiral, I doubt if I could raise the \$\$, even after selling my present house (which I expect to have to do, of course — assuming the Recession still makes this feasible)... It all seems slightly messy; but of course it is trivial, I suppose, compared with the travails of such places as New Haven, my old home, and of Yale, too, if it comes to that!

Rather than weary you with more plaintive details, I thought I would enclose a map that I made, as a guide to my wanderings (~~physical~~ physical and mental!). Please forgive any extravagance of thought or language! It was intended as a soliloquy! Perhaps I could retrieve it when I come to visit you, as I would still like to have it, to refer to, when consulting realtors and others? (Incidentally, if you happen to know of any abode which seems to answer my aspirations, do please let me know!)

I realize I didn't finish my itinerary. On the 8th, I propose to explore the areas E and NE of Kaivalae and Hōlualoa (marked ③ and ②, respectively), staying that night at the Kona-Hukilau [part of the Hawaiian-Air rented-car package]. On the 9th, to the area between Waimea + Honoka'a (No ①), where I also hope to meet friends of a mutual friend, Erik and Karin Hazelhoff. Unless they waylay me with hospitality, I hope to travel the Saddle Road (for the 1st time) and stay the night at the Hilo-Hukilau Hotel. Then, on the ~~9th (Thursday)~~ 10th (Friday),

(and meet
a friend
of friends,
Don Perry
by name)

make my way up to Volcano — the home-site-seeking being by then at an end! I expect I should be there by late morning, if that's all right. On the other hand, if I am happily detained by the Hazelhoffs [though I don't see why they should, and I certainly don't expect to be!], then I suppose I would get to Volcano some time during the afternoon. In any case, I shall try to reach you by phone on the evening of ~~Wednesday, August 8th~~ ^{Thursday, August 9th}, to let you know what's happening.

Mahele for your explanation of the use of "ex"! As for Copelandia, I'm afraid I don't yet know how the name was derived — or precisely what it replaced. However, I hope to be writing to Dr. Clifford Smith shortly (at UH), to ask how his Agaricales monograph is faring; and I'll ask him. But, since is the off-season, he may be away; so there may not be a rapid reply.

Gute Besserung!

I hope I may look forward to seeing you and Mrs. Defence on Friday, the 10th of August.

Aloha,

George Le Bouvier

P.S. I am enclosing my \$10 cheque for Vol 7. I much enjoyed the picture of the lion dozing at Lake Manyara (I presume it was there?). He now adorns my "bulletin-board," i.e. the wall of my kitchen!

Dear Dr. Le Bouvier:

Mrs. D., & I were glad to get your 27.VII letter, and can report that the respiratory infection is about ended. I had, Mrs. D., a 101° I thought only 100. The antibiotic was not Tetrao., but the usual quadrangular pink bitter hippo-shaped pill. I saw no physician, but was taking pill for a root canal infection. I thought a previous cold perhaps a year ago had left my lungs a bit leathery. The present excess mucous seems to be getting the epithelium back to normal. As a side effect, the anti., seems to have brought back urine flow to normal force - but I had a little bladder infection without realizing it. So far for the past. What annoys us now is Mrs. D.'s examinations for a possible polyp or "translucent" gall stone. She left for Oahu Sunday P.M. Preliminary examination yesterday was favorable. I am awaiting 'phone call this P.M., with of course a little anxiety. I just hope her trip may not be due to a dog tapeworm. We have FOUR as useful pets.

Volcano is overflowing with marijuana dopes, degenerates out on bail or parole. We encourage our dogs to bark to advertise that our land is out of bounds. We have been reaped up to \$300 value, and have had marijuana planted on OUR land! Even so, we advise you to select Volcano as your next home. You have National Park, with cooperative personnel NOW who would be glad to help you with your researches in the Park. They have a small, useful library. You have a good hotel for meals should you want to entertain without bother to your self. Kilauea Military Camp in the Park has an infirmary, and has an ambulance (which, when I had my heart arrest took me to the Hilo Hospital for my pacemaker installation). But don't take our advice. CAVEAT EMPTOR. By the way, we would only BUY FEE SIMPLE land. In 13 yrs., our property has increased in value about three times! Cash can always help further work on our fl. Env., after our deaths.

I believe you have special advantages if you exchange one home for another taxwise if done within 6 months or is it 12 months? A realtor would know. We are trying to sell our Honolulu home without a realtor as they seem to charge about 6%.

Our advice, BUT DON'T TAKE IT & then blame us should anything go wrong. CAVEAT EMPTOR - is to buy in the Volcano District. Your married choices on your map seem horrible - caveat emptor! - Concentrate on the Volcano area - caveat emptor & forget others.

I do so hope Mrs. D., can leave for Germany Sept. 10 and to the center attraction at the Bot. Garden & Museum in Berlin from where I stole her marriage in 1953. Some of her old colleagues are still around.

Both of us do so much hope to see you soon. Caveat emptor - At least in neighborhood of your home if here won't be bulldozed. They don't do that Nat. Parks.

Caveat emptor & au revoir,

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

July 26, 1979

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We had the opportunity to glance through the US Army Draft of the Installation Environmental Impact Statement dated June 8, 1979.

The kane writer left New York City in 1922 for the University of Hawaii to study for an advanced degree and write an illustrated Flora of the Hawaiian Islands. He taught Botany at the University in 1925-27, was Naturalist of Haw., National Park in 1929, and lived at the Volcano House until publication of his "Plants of Hawaii National Park" in 1930. Soon thereafter he became associated with the New York Botanical Garden, representing this great institution in Hawaii Nei. He camped Y botanized extensively. Spending full time on the local flora, not interrupted by teaching and other duties since 1929, he assumes he is more familiar with it than any one else in the World. His conceit is fed by books and hundreds of articles he and his wife have published and by honors awarded them locally, on the Mainland U.S., and elsewhere.

He experienced having Japanese 'planes Dec. 7 flying over him in his home, as he describes in the introduction of the second edition of his Flora Hawaiiensis. He vividly remembers anticipating that Tojo's forces would attack Oahu where he lived, and his perishing with a few stab wounds between his ribs. Though outwardly calm while in bed nights, he remembers how the muscles on the inner side of his thighs would tremble with subconscious fear. The one thought of comfort was that the Islands, and Oahu in particular, were being defended from destruction by the US Army, and what remained after the holocaust of the Navy and Air Force.

He is convinced, and his wife, a professional botanist with a doctorate agrees with him, that the so-called Washington, D.C., "Red Book" of Rare and Endangered Species is most valuable for most Mainland States. But both are convinced, and we have published our beliefs, that it is a farce except in a very few instances for the mostly unknown flora of the Hawaiian Islands. Each island, and often each valley system, gulch or mountain may have a distinct flora of its own. Even small, isolated kipukas can harbor a species considered an International Treasure. To list a certain Flowering Plant as rare or endangered is all very well, but it ignores the 20,000 to 30,000 endemic Flowering Plants that have not yet been collected, described nor named. How do you list endangered plants that have no name? Evidently by the Red Book method they can be AND ARE BEING exterminated with impunity.

Instead of the Red Book we approve of a fanciful Blue Book, a book that considers all native Hawaiian plants rare and endangered except certain specified ones, such as some koa, ohia, kokoolau & naupaka that are listed by capable botanists (not carpet baggers) as common until further notice.

Incidentally, please note that these rare and endangered plants unscientifically listed in the book are practically limited to trees, as though a huge boulder is more important than a small diamond. Are there no rare ferns, mosses, lichens, fungi nor limu in the Islands? The list of endangered species on pages J-1 to J-3 to us is unimportant piffle. It is nice for botanists to know, and that is about all.

We Degeners have gone around the World zigzag and have spent some time during the International Botanical Congress in 1975 in Moscow, Leningrad & the Caucasus. In such travels we have found the average foreigners charming, hard working and frugal, not dopey with drugs or "medicines," honest, and highly patriotic no matter what the form of Government may be as they have never experienced anything better. What is so frightening is that the average citizen of conscription age of the USA rates distinctly lower at the present time. I would never hesitate to walk the streets of

Moscow, Leningrad, Tokyo or Berlin at night; but hardly those of New York, Memphis, Los Angeles or some parts of Honolulu. In case of a Third World War this present sniping at the US Army with idle demands for EIS information is, without the principals realizing it, increasing the opportunity for some enemy Nation to conquer and destroy us. In an emergency, our conscripts will hardly compare in efficiency and patriotism with theirs.

Though we are rabid conservationists, our plea is to keep hands off the US Army, Navy and Air Force PROVIDED THEY GO EASY WITH FIRES AND KEEP VEHICLES OUT OF OUR NATIVE FORESTS. If we don't let them concentrate in their duty of protecting us, we may yet have some Tojo or Idi Amin jab us to death with bayonets and feed our babies to crocodiles and sharks.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Tegener

Chairman,
Army Conference Room
450 Wai'anuenue Ave.
Hilo
Commander, ^{and} U.S. Army Support Command,
Attn. Environmental Management Branch (H&E)
CAPZV-EHE-E
Schofield Barracks,
Oahu 96857

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.

July 23, 1979.

Dear Prof. Sugiyama:

Mrs. Degener & I received "A Comparative Study of Nodal Anatomy in the Magnoliales based on the Vascular System in the Node*Leaf Continuum," and wish to thank you most sincerely for it. It certainly represents a tremendous amount of technical work and thought, and to us opens a new horizon for evaluating the relationship between Families and between Genera.

We are not too sure that some one some day should not consider Liriodendron deserving monospecific Family status, with a variety in Japan.

Have you any clue as to why Natural Selection or, is it less likely, just coincidence would have induced mainly petioles to evolve from one number and position of leaf traces to another? Is there some advantage regarding strength, stiffness or trembling in the wind like that of the leaf of the aspen?

Of course - being human - we are particularly interested in the Degeneriaceae and that your researches show leaftraces resembling those of the Myristicaceae. To us this is most interesting. It evidently brings their ancestry closer together.

I always thought "my" family was unusually primitive, but never realized it was an Archaeopteryx in the Plant XXXIX Kingdom. In Fiji I dried all my plants over kerosine lanterns in a privy (or toilet outhouse) with of course human filth accumulated in the pit beneath. While Degeneria and other specimens were drying, a hurricane warning was issued, and the native warned me of the "Big Wind." I evacuated to a stone Rest House at Mandarivatu about three miles distant. During the hurricane and my absence, the stream near the privy overflowed. All my drying plants and the newspapers and blotters about them were filthy with human excrement that had swirled up through the toilet seat holes (there were two). I threw everything away except the strange Degeneria. This I very gingerly removed from the excrement surround newspapers and dryers, placed them between fresh ones, and then properly redried the twigs. Should anyone ever test the chemical composition of the type specimen, the investigator must realize that the unusually high nitrogen content is due to human excrement.

Have you seen a recent article about Degeneria showing a cross-section of its pollen? It is very primitive. Not being home at present, I cannot cite you the paper.

It is unimportant, but we do think you could have considered two plant names misspellings by the original describers and corrected them to *T. hodgeonii* (p. 233) and to *Magnolia liliflora* (p. 248). The word is derived from *Lilium*, not *ilum*.

We don't agree (p. 248) that "the cotyledon is an independent foliaceous structure, and not an ancestral form of the foliage leaf." We would rather consider it fundamentally an ancestral form, but so tremendously modified in many cases to absorb food from the endosperm or to store it that its ancestral character is well obliterated.

It is too bad that your fundamental article gives little clue to the world outside Japan Japan who you are. Is this study a thesis for a doctorate?

Mrs. Degener joins me in aloha,

47 Fenwick Rd
Hastings on Hudson
New York 10706
23 July 1979

Dear Otto:

It was a surprise and pleasure to receive your recent letter even though my cousin Ned Smith had written that Manuel of the Bermuda Department of Agriculture & Fisheries had contacted her regarding both of us.

The account of your activities and especially of the Archaeopteryx was most interesting. Coincidentally two of my grandmother's brothers settled in Fiji before 1900 and I and some of my cousins in Bermuda still have some war clubs etc sent home to Bermuda. Their name was Tucker.

Now to give you a brief resume of myself since I last saw you at the N.Y. Botanical Garden prior to World War II.

I am in excellent health, at least for my age. One of my hobbies is hiking on the nearby trails on the Shawangunk Mountains, etc. The past Saturday we, my son and I, did a typical 10 miles with a quick swim in Lake Awestung. Another hobby is gardening here on our half acre place - ornamentals and vegetables. A third is family genealogy. At least three lines go back to the beginning, or near, of Bermuda.

All of my professional life has been at the Boyce Thompson Institute. In 1959 I left active research and went into Administration as Secretary of the Corporation (the No 2 job). Finally retired, after a consultantship and ended as the first "Scientist Emeritus". However, I am still on the Board of Directors, and ditto for the related but much smaller Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum in Arizona east of Phoenix. I suppose the high point was election as President of The American

Phytopathological Society for the 2nd year 1961. When in research I turned out some 100 papers as sole or joint author. These were mostly on the nature of action of fungicides, which in turn led to various invitational papers including England, Italy, and Japan. While returning from the Pacific Science Congress in Japan in August 1966, Hazel and I visited Hawaii briefly. I telephoned your home several times but I judge you were away. We were sorry to miss you.

I have also been interest in "professional" history and have written the history of The American Phytopathological Society; that of Fungicides, and that of the Boyce Thompson Institute - both a personalized one and one on its finances for the 50 years 1924-73.

Several years ago the Board of the Institute decided it would be wise to move away from this area, both because of current pollution and of high expense. The governor of Oregon offered to build us a suitable laboratory with accompanying greenhouses on the Corvallis campus. When the governor of N.Y., Nelson Rockefeller, heard of this he outbid Oregon and offered new quarters at Cornell. Most of the staff preferred the latter which we accepted. The Cornell building with attached greenhouses was completed last fall and the complete move was made to Ithaca.

After much family discussion, since most of our friends are now at Ithaca, we have decided to move to Ithaca also, and last week we made a deposit on a house with one acre of land. If all goes well the move will be on or about October 1, and the new address will be 60 Dart Drive Ithaca, NY 14860.

We still maintain contact with Bermuda where I have

numerous cousins of whom I am the eldest. The older generation are now all gone. Last winter Hazel spent two months and I one with Nea. However, I would not want to live there now. The population has increased from 20,000 of your time to the present 56,000; there are enormous out size Miami Beach style of hotels; much automobile and motorbike traffic; agriculture is minor and the former Agricultural Station with additional land has become a creditable Botanical Garden; and finally there is considerable racial unrest. My sister Lydia, a widow lives in Providence, R.I., her only child is married to a lawyer in the Chicago area.

My wife Hazel is moderately well but had a mastectomy a few years ago. She will be glad to leave this pollution for Ithaca but would prefer Santa Fe, New Mexico where our daughter is a librarian and in charge of the State bookmobile service. There are two grandchildren. Perhaps we will end up by having the equivalent of two homes! Our son is somewhat incapacitated with hypoglycemia and related problems. Had he been able to finish college he probably would have become a professor of history - his great interest. The only other member of our family is a much pampered cat who weighs all of 16 pounds.

In closing Hazel reminds me that we very much cherish the Chinese bowl which you gave us for a wedding present in 1929.

With best wishes to yourself and to your wife from both of us.

Alar McCallan

(S.E.A. McCallan)

Nov. 11, 1979.

Dear Alan:

You may have wondered why I never answered your most interesting July 23 letter, and seemingly disappeared from the Earth. No, I did not die, but did consult my cardiologist and came to the sensible conclusion that a German physician or mortician could take just as good care of me or my remains as a Hawaiian one. So Isa & I took our "second honeymoon" to Germany before I had the chance to write to you. We had a delightful and most interesting time; but for a person over eighty, I guess I aged a year for each month of my absence from routine living in the Islands. But, really, it was worth it. There is a little injustice in MY being awarded the Willdenow Medal. Isa & I are a team. Actually, I studied Haw. plants about 50 years; Isa, about 25. I, as you know, am a ploughhorse; while Isa is brilliantly quick in thinking. So actually, the honor belongs to us equally.

The Berlin herbarium has 2,000,000 herbarium specimens. You may remember that we learned that the Bermuda herbarium we had built up with Dr. Whetzel has been destroyed by insects. When Isa & I looked through the many folders of Psilotum, we came by chance across a sheet I had collected in Fagot Marsh! Neither you nor Whetzel evidently were alone, otherwise I would have added your names to the label. I was so surprised & overjoyed. I know I exchanged herbarium specimens in the early days with Filser of Berlin to get a set of Engler-Franke, and I guess that is how my Psilotum got to Berlin.

I remember Tucker's Town named for your ancestors. I remember Lydia and am glad she is among the living. My sister Irma, with whom I lived at Stephen's boarding house, died 15 years ago after an interesting 83 years. In a way, one cannot "complain" against death when lucky enough to live beyond 80.

I am a New Yorker - lived in sight of the Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument of 89th Street and as a child one summer was at a private boys' camp at Lake Awosting. It is, or at least was, beautiful & interesting country with its wild animals and plants.

You got your honor early; I had to wait 20 years longer.

I am sorry you missed us in August 1966. We live on two Islands: at Mokuleia Beach, Waialua, on the North Shore of Oahu mostly Winters; and at the edge of Haw. Volc. Nat. Park in the village of Volcano mostly Summers. Will you & Hazel attend the Int. Bot. Congress in Australia, and come through MY islands again? Perhaps we four will take an excursion in Australia together, but I doubt I can remain robust enough for it that far off in the future. I do "fade" a little at times due to low bloodpressure & I guess hardening of the arteries.

I have been donating herb. specimens to Cornell for years, perhaps subconsciously because of H.H. Whetzel. Do, please, for the fun of it look through some of the Degener plants in the L.H. Bailey Herbarium I sent there from Hawaii, Fiji, elsewhere (And perhaps even Bermuda). I am having trouble with my typewriter, or it is having trouble with me. I would not like to visit Bermuda, but just remember it as it was in 1921.

Isa had a mastectomy after cruel whittling away by surgeons year after year. She has been in perfect health ever since. A plastic surgeon was absolutely excellent. He put her on a diet, including much FISH milk and excluding such else. Thus she was in the very best of health for the operation. Isa, who had got Pharmacology in Berlin to premedical & prepharmacy students in Berlin during WW II and was also Filser's & others' assistant, often starved like so many other Berliners. We have no children, though wanted "a few."

By the way, I may not have written you that I collected a grass of the genus Lepturus on Canton Atoll of the Equator which I could not identify. So I mailed it to the specialist Dr. I. Hansen of Berlin, who described it as the new Lepturus pilgeri Hansen. Due to starvation conditions in Berlin, I then mailed Dr. Hansen CARE packages of food. In 1952 my sister Irma & I visited Berlin, where I worked on Haw. plants. Hearing that my unknown friend Hansen was recuperating from pleuresy in a neighboring hospital, I went there. I was told to go up to the patient's room. I knocked at the door, and a young embarrassed lady dressed in a nightgown imprinted with 4-leafed clovers and "Property of the City of Berlin" opened it. I had never realized that Dr. I. Hansen was not a man! In 1953 Isa & I got married., and have been happily living ever since.

Merry Christmas and Happy 1980 to Hazel and you from Isa &

23 Juli 1977.

Ihr geehrter Prof. Dr. Greuter:

Mein Frau hat die freundliche Einladung von Prof.
Poty das ihr Hausgast zu sein angenommen und auch
alle Flugkosten für die Reise von und nach Berlin
sind jetzt in Ordnung. Es ist so möglich, dass
sie die Willkommens-Messe für mich am 10. Sept.
persönlich in Empfang nehmen kann.

Es ist für sie eine besondere Freude, die der 300-
Jahr-Feier teilnehmen zu können, da sie
am Berliner Museum für Jahre bis zu ihrer
Heirat im 1953 tätig war.

Sie möchte auch das Wilhelmsee & Loro-
Symposium besuchen und an Exkursion-
en teilnehmen. Bitte lassen Sie mich
die Teilnahmegebühren dafür wissen,
in welcher Zeit möchte sie die Erlaubnis
haben Bibliothek und Herbar benutzen
zu können.

Ich bedauere nochmals, dass ich nicht
selbst wegen der langen, anstrengenden
Reise nach Berlin kommen kann.

Alloha,

Otto Degener

The Nature Conservancy

1800 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 841-5300

July 18, 1979

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

Dear Dr. Degener,

Thank you for your most informative letter. I certainly appreciate your taking the time to respond to my note.

We understand clearly what your desires are and we are well aware of your great work in cataloging the extraordinary flora of Hawaii. The Conservancy, through Henry Little of our Western Regional Office, is making a concerted effort towards our hopes for preserving and protecting Hawaii's diversity. We know what and how much -- probably more than in any other section of the United States -- needs saving there.

We are most grateful for your consideration and wish you continued success with your publication.

Thank you again for your response. We shall be excellent watch dogs!

Most sincerely yours,

Rick Hoagland

Mrs. Joseph C. Hoagland, Jr.
Director
Planned Giving Program

KH/nv



100% Recycled Paper

Herrn
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Ihre Nachricht vom 26. VI. 1979

Unser Zeichen Ru/s

Datum 13. 7. 1979

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Degener,

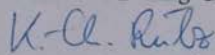
besten Dank für Ihr Schreiben vom 26. 6. 1979. Leider sind wir nicht mehr auf dem Verlagssektor tätig, so daß wir Ihrer Bitte um eventuelle Herausgabe eines Taschenbuches der "Flora Hawaiiensis" nicht entsprechen können.

Auch Ihre Bitte um Aufnahme in unseren nächsten Katalog müssen wir leider ablehnen, da bei einem Preis von \$ 10.00 pro Buch der Verwaltungsaufwand (in Katalog auflisten, bei Ihnen bestellen, Zahlungseingang überwachen und dann mit Ihnen abrechnen) viel zu groß wäre. Bitte haben Sie dafür Verständnis.

Wir hoffen, daß Sie mit Ihrem Schreiben an andere deutsche Adressen mehr Erfolg haben und verbleiben

mit freundlichen Grüßen

Dr. Martin Sändig GmbH


(i. A. K. -Ch. Rulz)

Junly 11, 1979.

Dear Miss Prideaux:

Mrs Degener & I received your letter regarding our University Avenue property.

I bought it in 1926 when I was teaching Botany at the University, It was ideal for walking to class, and of course choice according to my standards because of the Park opposite. The main house on University Ave., and the guest cottage in back on Waiu Way are old, but we have always kept them in good condition. Both houses were painted inside and out six years ago, and since then both have been treated for ground and dry wood termites. We used to keep the guest cottage for ourselves when we lived at Mokuleia Beach and wished to attend concerts and lectures in far off Honolulu. But we don't anymore, so don't know quite what tenants have done. But I imagine any damage is but skin or paint deep, and can be more or less paid for via the cleaning fee we hold. *and remodeled it to my liking*

The lot is 11,250 square feet and the tax key is 29002602. If really serious, why not go to the Tax Office & the Bureau of Conveyances Building makai of Kamehameha Statue for correct information. It would be better than what I can tell you from perhaps not too accurate a memory.

We are getting \$500 for the main house on University Ave., and \$325 for the guest house on Waiu Way monthly. Realtors advise we should ask much more; but as I am over eighty I don't want to bother with possible tenant turnovers.

I consider the place choice, especially because the dollar is getting more and more worthless like Confederate currency and because property near the University and a bus line will be gobbled up by present suburban residents as the gas., shortage deteriorates.

The land is probably worth around \$25 per square foot and the ^{main} house, according to an insurance man, would cost well over \$60,000 to replace.

We want \$325,000 net for this fee simple lot and everything on it by preferably a purchase money mortgage or by cash. We are not interested in the fee you charge. Just raise the price of the place to include it, and get us the \$325,000. Should Pres. Carter, like Hitler in a similar situation, suddenly devalue the dollar 20 to 1, selling is not too wise. Why don't you eventually add a couple of neighboring lots? Then you can have a multimillion dollar "Arcadia" or Faculty Housing? before you! Zoning can be changed.

Mrs. D., & I are pretty well convinced that all we need do is wait, and we shall get the price we are asking. As you know, this lot will continuously appreciate in value.

Aloha,

July 6, 1929

Dear Sir,

I tried to call the telephone number on your sign posted at your house for sale but was told it was temporarily disconnected.

I have a cash client who is very interested in your property and would like to know your asking price, taxes, size of lot and any other information you might be able to give me concerning the property.

I would appreciate it if you would call me collect at either Locations Inc. 735-4200 or my home number which is 323-3344. My name is Dot Briedauf.

Hoping to hear from you real soon

Sincerely
Dot Briedauf

Brideaux

July 11, 1979.

Dear Miss Wittig:

Mrs. Degener & I received your note regarding our University Ave., property.

I bought it in 1926 when I was teaching Botany at the University. It was ideal for walking to class, and of course choice because of the Park opposite. The main house on University Ave., and the guest house in back on Walu Way are old, but we have always kept them in good condition. Both houses were painted inside & out six years ago, and since then both have been ~~was~~ treated for ground termites and dry ~~termites~~ wood termites. We used to keep the guest house for ourselves when we lived at Hukuleia Beach and attended concerts and lectures in far off Honolulu. But we don't anymore, so don't quite know what tenants have done, but I imagine any harm is ~~but~~ skin or paint deep.

The lot is 11,250 square feet and the Tax Key is 290020002. If really serious, why not go to the Tax Office & the Bureau of Conveyances Building next to it, where all records are kept. Get your correct official information, rather than what I can tell you from perhaps not too accurate a memory.

We are getting \$225 monthly for the guest house on Walu Way and \$500 for the main house on University Ave. Realtors advise we should ask much more. But as I am over eighty, I can't be bothered with possible tenant turnovers.

I have bought real property, but have never sold any. I do know that realtors want a ridiculous 6% for rather routine paper work! I don't see why I and the prospective buyer can't avoid this outrageous expense.

I consider the place choice, especially because the dollar is getting more and more worthless like the Confederate dollar and because property near the University and a bus line will be gobbled up by present residents of outlying districts as the gas., shortage deteriorates.

The land is probably worth around 25 per square foot and the houses, according to an insurance man, would cost well over 60,000 to replace.

We want \$325,000 for this fee simple lot and everything on it by preferably a purchase money mortgage or by cash. Why not make us a serious offer and how you would be able to finance the deal. If it seems we can get to some agreement, we would spend some cash to consult a tax expert & lawyer for far less than 6%.

Mrs. D., & I are pretty well convinced that all we need do is wait, and we shall get the price we are asking. This lot will never deteriorate in value but continuously appreciate. ~~add a couple of million dollars~~ *as you know* ~~eventually~~ *of neighboring ones eventually*, and you have a multimillion dollar Aloha, "Arcadia" or

*Faculty Housing before you!
Young can be easily changed,*

We are not interested in the fee you charge. Just raise the price of the place to include it, and get us the \$325,000.

July 9, 1979

Department of Drama & Theatre
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
1770 East West Rd.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

To whom it may concern,
I am interested
in purchasing your
house in Manda;
would you send
information please!

Sincerely,
Peggy Wetzig

1717 Mott-Smith Drive
2402
Hon 96822 July 2, 1979.
Richard C. F.

Dear Mr. Chun:

Coming to our summer home at the above address from Mokuleia Beach, Oahu Saturday to avoid possible closing of the Hilo Airport due to the strike, we were surprised that the postman had not forwarded your FIRST CLASS letter to us. He had bungled also with a letter enclosing a cheque! Even though you are no longer interested, I am answering your letter this late lest you think I am a lazy loafer. (?)

The lot at 2234 University Ave., measures 11,250 square feet. I purchased the place in 1926 and have not used it as a home recently so I will lose a horrible sum off selling price to the tax office/ I used to teach at the University. The place is of course in fee simple, and has always had a clear title. I am getting about \$500 rent per month for the main house and 225 for the guest house on Waiu Way in rear. Both houses have been painted inside & out six years ago, and more recently treated for both ground & dry wood termites.. How tenants have treated the place during the past few years I don't know.

Local realtors seem to be trying to charge 6% for sales, a practice which I hear has been questioned as restraint in trade or something of the sort by the Government for the last two years. We feel we should get, NET, at least \$325,000 for the place/ It is opposite a park, near a bus line handy for people who may vacate homes miles distant from Honolulu when they really feel the gas., crunch, and in an attractive neighborhood esp., for Univ. faculty members. I bought the place because I taught at the University.

Mrs. Degener & I thought of selling on an agreement of sale PROVIDED we are Guaranteed that the buyer does not become delinquent in payment during the next couple of years before finalising everything. Going after cash & a possible foreclosure can be messy for a couple of years and expensive with lawyer & Court costs.

The main house has two and a half bedrooms, VERY large living room with oak floor, inside dining room, outside dining room, kitchen, but only one bath. Our rent for the main house of \$500, according to realtors, is much too little. But as I am over 80 I don't want to ask for a higher rent & perhaps be bothered with tenant turnovers. An insurance man estimated replacement of the main house to be well in excess of \$60,000.

If still interested, my suggestion is that you make us your offer in writing, & how you would pay - agreement of sale may not be the only method. Then with such suggestions from you, we could consult a tax expert, etc., for advice.

We are a bit scared of selling AFTER a Minnesota friend wrote me the rumor that Carter might devalue the dollar 20 to 1. Have you read yesterday's newspaper article about "New Bucks inflation cure."?

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

Dot Prideaux
Realtor Associate
Residence Phone 373-3344
Business Phone 735-4200
1339 Hunakai Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
Real Estate Sales & Research

locationline



Instituto nacional de investigaciones sobre recursos bióticos

Dirección Oficial
Heroico Colegio Militar N° 7
Apdo. Postal 63 Xalapa, Ver.
Tels. 774-69 784-37 751-02

Oficina en la Ciudad de México
Marcel M. Ponce 175
México 20, D.F.
Tels. 65-36-23 y 651-27-89

July, 1979.

Dear Sir:

With the support of MAB-UNESCO and the National Program of Ecology from CONACyT, Mexico, we are updating the information in the Index of Current Tropical Ecology Research Vol. I and II to be included in Vol. III. Please confirm the continuity of your project or any modification to it. In case we do not receive the information, we will decide the project has ended and will not appear in Vol. III.

Sincerely,


NORMA EDITH BARRERO
INIREB-SECOBI

'Enclosure'

NEB:Rbm.