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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.

Let To Whom It May Concern



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Graduate Division and Research Administration

Spalding Hall • Room 360 • 2540 Maile Way • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 • Cable Address: UNIHAW

January 4, 1983

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96701

Dear Drs. Degener:

Thank you for the courtesy of calling my attention to the availability for sale of your home on University Avenue. My wife and I have lived on Oahu now for 20 years, so we are not looking for a place.

Let me wish you the very best in the sale and also a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Howard P. McKaughan
Acting Dean, Graduate Division

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Let To Whom It May Concern



University of Hawaii at Manoa

University Libraries

Thomas Hale Hamilton Library

2550 The Mall • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 • Cable Address: UNIHAW

Office of the Librarian

January 5, 1983

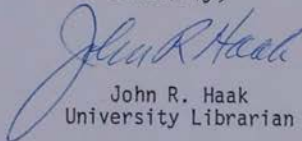
Dr. Otto Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

Thank you for telling me about the home you are offering
for sale. My wife and I have found a place so we are settled
for now.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,



John R. Haak
University Librarian

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

NAGOYA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

CHIKUSA, NAGOYA, 464, JAPAN
Tel : (052) 781-5111

January 9th, 1983

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

Dear Drs Degener

In the middle of November I received your excellent book "Flora Hawaiiensis Vol. 1-6" and several plant specimens. Just after this, I visited Taiwan, China and stayed there until the end of the last year. When I returned from Taiwan I found that additional packages including your book "Hawaii National Park - illustrated" and "Naturalist' South Pacific Expedition: Fiji" had arrived. Thank you very much indeed. I read your messages and informations on back covers of these books. They are very precious memories and presents to us.

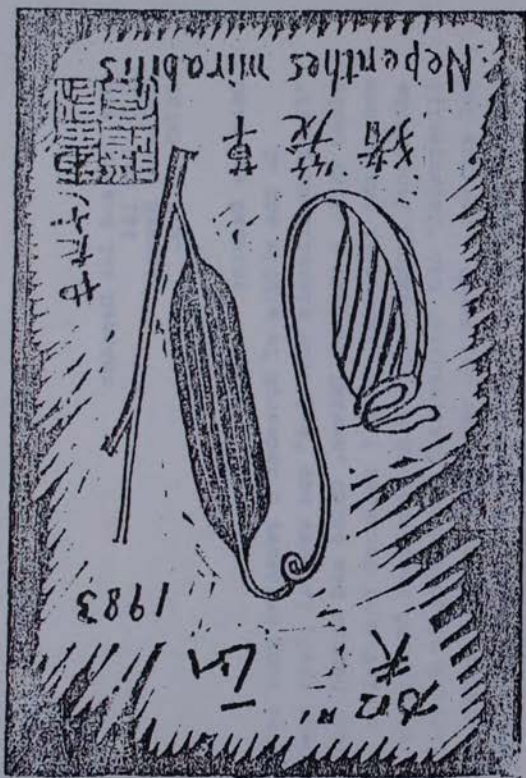
In the 1983 January issue of a Japanese semi-scientific magazine "Chemistry and Biology", I wrote a prefatory note entitled "Chemistry and Plant Taxonomy" in which I mentioned that Dr. O. Degener, a discoverer of one of the most primitive Angiospermae: Degeneria was sending many plant specimens collected by him to many research Institutes all over the world for succeeding botanists and that biological education in Japan has been too much inclined toward modern biology especially molecular biology since the 2nd World War and the situation has resulted in the destruction of nature and increase of pollution problems, therefore we have to restore the spirit to love nature by reforming biological education in Japan and encouraging the activities of Herbariums and Botanic Gardens of our country. The semi-scientific magazine "Chemistry and Biology" has more than several ten thousand circulation. I expect the present ill-situation of biological education in Japan will gradually be normalized by paying esteem to plant taxonomy and systematics.

Thanking your kindness and hoping your good health,

Very sincerely yours,

M. Yatazawa

Michihiko YATAZAWA



A Happy New Year

This is my home made card. I cut and printed. New Year is the year of Wild Boar in the twelve honary sign of Japan. Nepenthes mirabilis is called "Boar Cage Herb" in the Orient, because a pitcher of this plant resembles to a bamboo cage for this animal.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
HAWAII 96718

IN REPLY REFER TO:

January 11, 1983

A22

Drs. Otto and Isa Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu
HI 96791

Dear Otto and Isa:

Thank you very much for your New Year greetings.

The copy of an article from Science, v. 218, 12 November 1982, is read with great interest, and we will share this with those involved with us in current geothermal matters. The difficulties Union Geothermal encountered at Valles Caldera in New Mexico would certainly seem pertinent to the Hawaiian situation. Developers here, of course, have recently been reminded of the rather impermanent nature of the East Rift landscape! Last week's eruption has probably compounded their risk factor.

Please accept our condolences over the passing of Isa's mother.

Sincerely,

David B. Ames
Superintendent



Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney

Mrs. Macquarie's Road, Sydney, NSW, 2000, Australia

Phone (02) XXXXXX 231 8111

In Reply Please Quote JS:SM

National Herbarium of New South Wales

13th January, 1983.

Drs. Otho & Ira Degener,
P.O. Box 154,
Volcano, Hawaii,
96785
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Degener,

We received your donation of botanical specimens and the literature in good order.

Thank you very much for all these, it is always appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

Loans Officer
for the Director.

(Mrs.) J. G. Smith

Sent To Whom ---, From Lawrence to Silverwood,

Jan. 21, 1983.

Dear Mr. Whitten:

Mrs. D., & I are now beginning to mail xeroxes like enclosed
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN to hopefully interested individuals throughout the
World; and from February 1 on to similar State of Hawaii residents and groups.

An early, crude version, not illustrated, was kindly printed by "The Na-
tive Hawaiian" of Dec. 1982, which deserves credit.

Aloha,

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.
Jan 23, 1983.

Dear Ms. Ashley:

I knew the deHarnes casually when he was connected with the now defunct ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Waialua Hospital. They were a delightful couple, highly endowed with social intelligence. Will the Library named in his honor have an Archives Section? Enclosed are some letters & clippings for it:

Drs. Eric Fennel & Harry Arnold, Sr., families came to the Islands during World War I. Eric's father had owned a drugstore in, I believe, Cincinnati, and Eric was a "coryboy" before becoming a physician. The two families purchased a lot at Mokuleia Beach, Waialua, for week end use. The cottage consisted of an apt., of two bedrooms & bath on the east and on the west side of building with a central, common living room between. The kitchen was in the southeast corner of the building. With the inconvenience of having a common kitchen, the Arnolds sold out to the Fennels.

In 1935, on advice of Eric & Nancy (a Southern lady of the Nichols clan & possessing a few drops of Pokahontas blood) ~~I advised me to~~ purchase the neighboring lot, really abandoned pasture land, as they did not care for the then owners, a Korean club with many lively weekend members.

I had plantation carpenters build my two-story house, which I used jointly with my Vancouver Drive (now named University Ave.), ^{since} from 1936 on. We visited continuously back & forth week-ends.

In the garden nearer to road the Fennels had a flowerbed of assorted roses, really unusually thriving. One morning, perhaps in 1937 or '38 I saw Eric watering them with a frothy, dark red, thick liquid out of a very large glass bottle similar in shape to a malted milk jar. I naturally asked him what it was. He explained he was fertilizing his roses with old blood from his supply at The Clinic he owned, I presume, with Drs. Arnold & J.E. Strode. The building was a veritable, wooden firetrap.

Modest Eric Fennel deserves credit for starting the BLOOD BANK ~~X~~ IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, and less modest Dr. "Pinky" Pinkerton does not though he certainly ~~ows~~ credit for advertising it. My assertions were in greater detail from technical standpoint expressed in a letter to the Editor of the Hon. Advertiser or perhaps Star-Bulletin many years ago. Copies of the papers must be available in the Hon. Archives & elsewhere.

Dr. Otto Degener

Blood clot patient at Wahiawa Hospital Jan. 1983

Beatrice Bayley
Box 55, Springhill Road
Sterling, Pa. 18463

January 24, 1983

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

Dear Friend:

In reply to your inquiry, we do not feel our
book would have the information you requested.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Bayley
Beatrice Bayley

BB:so

*[Writing a biography of the
Degeners in America,
O.D.]*

A NOTE FROM
BERTRAM ZUCKERMAN

2.13.83

DEAR DR. DEGENER:

I AM
NOW FINALIZING MY TRAVEL
PLANS AND AM ANXIOUS TO
KNOW IF I WILL BE ABLE
TO VISIT WITH YOU ON
THURSDAY MARCH 24th.

YOUR EARLY
REPLY WILL BE GREATLY
APPRECIATED.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS
Bertram Zuckerman

BERTRAM ZUCKERMAN
P. O. BOX 162070
MIAMI, FLA. 33116

(To Whom It May Concern, etc.)

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waiolua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U. S. A.

Jan. 25, 1983.

Editor, "Forbes"
New York City.

Dear Sir:

My wife and I are delighted with M. Clephy's excellent "East of Eden" article in your Jan. 31 issue! It should help induce the State of Hawaii to become a bit more Americanized.

We were biology teachers, augmenting our incomes by owning five modest rental units on the Island of Oahu. This is the island on which Honolulu and Pearl Harbor are situated.

During the past fifty years we have had 200-300 tenant families ranging from some very good ones, many average good ones to some few execrable ones involved in antisocial behavior and outright crime.

In the State of Hawaii when a tenant is delinquent in rent payment or destructive to the landlord's property etc., the landlord can go for "justice" to Court. But what seems so UnAmerican and unreasonable is that the landlord is not allowed to be represented in Court by an attorney; while the opposing tenant can have one, even free of charge!

We seldom go to Court anymore, having learned that it is usually (except once under a Judge Honda - hush, hush, confidential) useless due to the communistic tendency to hate landlords. Because of unjust losses in upkeep & to worry, we raised our rental prices. Our units thus may remain empty for months at a time, State & Federal Governments losing a small fortune in tax income.

Being biologists, we hope you will have an out-of-State of Hawaii expert attorney study the above situation and deal with it in a coming issue of "Forbes."

XXXXXX Aloha,
Confidentially (D. Otto Degener)

Sent Book 76 2/1/83, Degree --- speaks from M. to whom I & Mary C. were
Rachel's, requires a family, Shigematsu's Evol. of I.P., Residents --- of course
--- getting project, Paul. Sect. again & Del. Annet, Hawaii, Vanishing Native,

Jan. 26, 1983.

Dear Skip:

Isa & I are delighted to get your note. I shall reply liquaciously:
Of course it happens to every family, but we were unusually saddened by Isa's
widowed mother, who lived on our beach property in her own house, dying at a
79 miserably from cancer. Though not religious, she expressed the wish for her
ashes to be interred with those of her husband in Freiburg, Germany. So we had
the services conducted there last May with a small group of her intimate
friends.

Instead of flying home in a bee line, we flew in a wide curve over Spain
and Portugal to let off steam and sorrow with stop overs on two Canary Islands
on Madeira and on six Azore Islands. Of course the trip had no taxonomic connection
with Hawaii Nei, but we botanized out of habit. It was badly done with
merely newspapers used for drying in our hotel rooms. Much, as expected, mold
ed during slow surface mail to Hawaii.

Our jaunt was, however, mildly instructive in a couple of ways. The Atlantic
islands, most with "civilized" man living there twice as long as in our
pet Haw., Archipelago, are overrun so far as Phans are concerned, with exotic
weeds almost to the exclusion of endemics. We expect the Haw., Islands to be
similar wrecks much sooner because of modern "progress" via the bulldozer,
etc. That is nothing new to you. Furthermore, you will remember our treasure
areas of endemics, the kipukas. The corresponding area to a kipuka we have
discovered to be bulldozed roadcuts! These are too steep for "cultured" cattle
& sheep to climb and nibble down to the ground; and they are too close to
frightening auto & horse or mule traffic for feral herbivores to approach. So
we stopped at such places with our taxis or U-Drive cars to gather a goodly
lot of endemic prizes. We don't sell them, but give them away to USA eleemos-
inary institutions for tax credits.

Not writing you properly earlier is due to our trip, preoccupation with
rental units & a tenant who forced us to go to Court - we won - and illness.
The first for me after years of normal living is now ending after nine days
in the hospital very comfortably & painlessly housed. After botanizing eight
months in Fiji in the '40s, I have had a slightly swollen left foot presumab-
ly due to a mild infection. The M.D., at the time thought it a touch of filar-
iasis. During our recent Iwa Hurricane, I was unusually active. Whether my
getting a blood clot in my "Fiji leg" is coincidental or not, I don't know.
But I am being treated successfully with "coumadin", a trade name for coumarin,
pills derived from *Dipteryx odorata*, etc. It is essentially the rat poison
warfarin!

While in the Wahiawa Hospital I corrected PAGE PROOF of our former 300
page "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks" to a new 500 page edition. All is already in
page proof. Now I should like to get your idea as to whether my fig. 12 &

plate 13 may not be *T. odoratissimus*. Of fig/ 12, growing near Hauula in the '20s I have no specimens available. But regarding my plate 13, it looks to Isa & me like *T. odoratissimus*. Can I label it thus? We are inclined to do so.

Do please write us what the key differences are for distinguishing this species from *P. tectorius*, thus saving us the time of looking through our private library. I simply gave up when I noted on our file card that we have about 105 pamphlets mentioning the genus, and probably half that number of pertinent letters from various botanists.

We are still stubbornly *P. tectorius* (J.P. du Roi) Des. & Deg., fans. Du Roi belonged to the Degener clan, but merely by marriage. In fact, when with my parents on summers' visits in 1905 or '06 and 1910 to B., & Berlin, I hobnobbed with two elderly cousins with of course Degener blood in their veins. One ~~one~~ owned a cigar factory and raised long-tailed Japanese ^{chickens} as a hobby; the other was a politician in Berlin. A Heinrich Degener is the genealogist of the International Degener ~~Circle~~ in Rhedaer Straase 39, Altersloh, W. Germany. He would know whether they were second or third cousins. Being an evolutionist, I am interested in family history. One is being published NOW, on the Degeners in the New World. I just sent a cheque for a copy.

Your bibliography is very imposing! We are taking the liberty of making a xerox copy to Librarian Charles Long of the NY Bot. Garden of which Isa & I are staff members. It will be very helpful, and forty of so years hence may well appear in a necrology of YOU. Of course, Isa & I wish, if you can spare reprints or xeroxes of Haw. items for our personal library, ~~as~~ as: 1, 2, 8, 10, 26, 27, 62, 63, 14, 17, 18, 20, 46, 59, 64, 73, 95, ~~101~~, 101, 158, 168, 170.

At our ages, we will hardly make use of more than a couple, but individuals - perhaps future generations of Stones - involved in the eventual "Degeners' Fl. Haw. Trust", if our three fee simple, unnumbered real estate parcels increase in normal value, will certainly do so.

After we have cleared our two homes of herbarium specimens and other material, we shall get back to publishing in our Fl. Haw.

We are curious regarding the salient differences between the two *P.* species; can any average tourist reader of our paperback visualize them?

Isa joins in aloha to you and your family,

Otto

P.S. Am mailing you some printed matter
by cheap surface mail.

Forbes

Forbes Building
60 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10011

212 620 2200

Editorial Offices

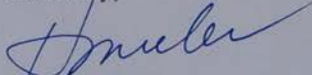
February 2, 1983

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96971

Dear Drs. Degener:

Thanks for your January 25 and enclosures.
We've passed them along to our editorial
staff. Thanks for writing and we hope
that you continue to enjoy reading FORBES.

Sincerely,



Harriet Miller
Editorial Department

[Protesting geothermal,
Nat. Park foolishness.]
OS.

proving the profits," says Finkelstein. "You must earn it by having the right merchandise and presenting the goods properly." That sounds like a cliché. What matters is how you do it.

Finkelstein's strategy springs from the way he looks at a department store. Says he: "We try to think of each of our departments as a specialty store, so that each has an appropriate ambience and personality." Finkelstein bristles at the word "boutique" to describe Macy's approach. He says it is simply a return to what a department store originally was—a collection of independent shops. Macy's shops are highly individualistic. You might almost call

Macy's a show business approach to merchandising. Finkelstein, a dignified man, prefers to say: "I discovered early on that this business involves form as well as content. When you have both, a synergism develops and customers respond." The Macy's approach clearly works. It also requires a bit of nerve. Last year most stores cut back sharply on inventories, then wondered why customers were bored at Christmas. Macy's was one of the few to boost inventories. The result showed. According to Joseph H. Ellis,

Goldman, Sachs' respected retailing analyst, sales in stores that existed the year before were up 10% for Macy's in November and December, vs. just 2% for Federated's department store division. Macy's fast markdown policy is geared to the same end: Take the markdowns quickly so you can replace the slow stuff with fresh merchandise.

Bamberger's and Macy's California have been expanding rapidly in recent years, while Macy's New York concentrated on rebuilding. Now, with renovation mostly behind it and with the Finkelstein philosophy firmly established, the New York division is ready to expand

again. Last year it opened its first store in almost a decade, in wealthy Stamford, Conn. But because Macy's is already heavily concentrated in the mid-Atlantic states, the New York division will expand outside the Northeast. It will open ten new stores in Florida and Texas by 1988.

Finkelstein is also planning to push expansion in the 13-store, \$300 million Davison's division in Georgia, which he believes can become the most profitable division. It is already the fastest growing.



Macy's Finkelstein

Even Macy's Midwest, the smallest division with less than \$200 million in sales, is beginning to turn around. After three years of losses and considerably beefed up management, Handler expects it to break even in fiscal 1983—no mean achievement in an area where even Detroit's venerable J.L. Hudson's is being forced to close.

Money! Finkelstein can easily cover his three-year, \$375 million capital budget, plus Macy dividends, out of cash flow, an enviable position for a retailer these days. Finkelstein has plenty of uses for spare cash. Macy's is still geographically underrepresented, and Macy's Midwest will require a lot of nourishment.

One course Finkelstein plans to avoid is diversifying into other businesses like supermarkets and discount stores as some of his competitors have done. "It's interesting to me that most of the people that go into those businesses usually aren't doing so well in our kind of business," he says. "They diversify out of weakness."

Ten years ago Macy's was doing just \$66 a square foot, according to Ellis' figures. Today it's doing \$137, the best among major department store chains. Some Macy's stores do over \$250 a square foot. Keep the eye on that ball, Finkelstein says, and all the other numbers will fall in line. You can't argue with the record. ■

Under beautiful Hawaii's planned economy, sugarcane becomes scenery and once-valued acres are given away.

East of Eden

By Michael Cleply

HIS VOICE SOFT AS THE trade winds, Alexander & Baldwin Inc. Chairman Robert Pfeiffer puzzles over the company's treasure of lush Hawaiian land. "People tell me our 97,000 acres are worth \$1.3 billion," he muses. "To whom? For what? When? I ask them. I suppose we

could build 160 golf courses. At least there would be no waiting at the tees."

It may come as a shock to mainlanders to hear a man like Pfeiffer, born in Fiji and raised in Hawaii, talk so disparagingly about some of the world's most beautiful real estate. But look at the economics behind his point. The bulk of A&B's prime acreage is in sugar, most of it on Maui's

sprawling Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co. plantation. Through 1980, when sugar peaked at 44.2 cents a pound, that was a boon. But under pressure from corn sweeteners and subsidized competition from Western Europe, sugar prices have fallen. Wages are high in Hawaii, and A&B now spends 16 cents a pound to produce sugar that sells for about 17.5 cents under the precarious federal price-support system. After losing \$21 million on sugar in 1981, A&B edged back into the black last year by furloughing workers and burning cane wastes for salable electricity.

For all that, sugar—at 21% of its \$395 million sales—is not the biggest problem for the company. The primary problem for A&B, and for such other traditional Hawaiian landholding firms as Amfac Inc. and Castle & Cooke Inc., is Hawaii itself. The "paradise" state is a veritable purgatory for business, with a stagnant agricultural economy and a powerful political and labor union bureaucracy that has smothered attempts at industrial development.

"Hawaii protects agriculture and exports jobs," complains a frustrated

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Warren Haight, president of Castle & Cooke's Oceanic Properties, which seeks to develop Hawaii's first high-tech park, at Mililani on Oahu. "To get land from agriculture into manufacturing is extremely difficult," he says. "Three times we've applied for light industrial zoning. Three times we've been turned down."

Castle & Cooke would like to convert pineapple lands to uses that are more productive both for the company and for the economy. But the powerful International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, faced with declining membership, wants to see any land taken out of production matched with new plantings elsewhere. Still bearing the Marxist ideological stamp of its founder, Harry Bridges, the union has imposed its will on the islands, regardless of the bad economic consequences. "This union is politically active," says tough-talking ILWU Regional Director Tommy Trask. "We've got people on the Land Use Commission, people all over, and the companies know if they mess with us we can screw 'em. We've done it."

Not surprisingly, the more farsighted of the old Hawaii firms—think of Amfac, Dillingham, Castle & Cooke—have for years placed their new investments outside Hawaii. Alexander & Baldwin, which has long remained stubbornly loyal to the islands, recently announced plans to spend up to \$200 million for acquisitions. It is shopping the mainland.

The companies are fleeing what may be the U.S.' most thoroughly planned economy. Hawaii's political leaders, led by Governor George Ariyoshi, could compete with the Soviet Union's bureaucrats in their rigid regulation of every facet of the islands' economic life. Example: Suppose you want to manufacture circuit boards in Hawaii. Better check first where you fit in the all-encompassing State Plan that has governed the islands since 1978. (Try Section 226-10: "Objective and policies for the economy—potential growth activities.") Then prepare to wade through the morass of implementing boards and commissions—it may take four to six years to approve a

plant site—and brace yourself for "protective" measures like the 4% use tax on equipment purchases made outside the state and a 0.5% excise on manufactured goods. No wonder high-technology firms, though assiduously courted by Ariyoshi's planners, employ a scant 200 workers in Hawaii.

The state aims to retain agriculture—and agricultural jobs—by force. Yet the result is uneconomic agriculture. Hawaii has 250,000 acres under cultivation, when fewer than 3,500 would suffice for its own use. The balance is intended for export, of

it will close its 16,000-acre Puna plantation by 1984, giving five acres to each employee in return for release from provisions in union contracts against closing up shop. Total cost of the severance package: \$11 million, with land valued at \$2,000 an acre.

But, irony of ironies, the state bureaucracy set up to protect the workers may deny them ownership of the land. County zoning laws prevent the subdivision of Puna into five-acre plots, and officials are reluctant to grant exemptions. "We don't want to set a precedent other companies might use to divest themselves of land," says one county planning director. So hostile is the atmosphere to business that even generosity is regarded with suspicion if it comes from business.

But surely, you say, the Hawaiian Islands are a paradise for developers of condominiums and hotels. Sadly, that golden goose has also died. Last year, Alexander & Baldwin's nonagricultural land management profits, heavily dependent on the plush Wailea ocean-side resort on Maui, were a meager \$4.8 million (1982 estimate), down 60% from 1980. Across the island at Kaanapali, Amfac has gone out of the development business, while Maui Land & Pineapple—laden with the glory days—lost money at Kapalua Bay for three years running.

For a long time, the profits from tourism helped pay for this cumbersome welfare state. In the end, however, the industry overbuilt. Through the 1970s land-rich companies cashed in on the Maui real estate

craze, almost quadrupling the tiny island's tourist plant with 8,000 new hotel rooms and condominium units. That might have hedged against growing agricultural losses. But Hawaii tourism went flat in 1980, holding for three years at about 4 million visitors. Worse, the mix changed: The beer-and-burger crowd, lured from the heartland by cheap air fares, preferred the tawdry charms of Waikiki to the unspoiled beauty of neighbor island resorts.

Add to that a backwash of existing condo owners. Resales depressed the market for new units, while private



Alexander & Baldwin's Robert Pfeiffer in the cane
Four to six years to approve a plant site.

course, but the state's high wage and cost structure have made its produce barely competitive with that of mainland growers, let alone those in countries like Thailand, where Castle & Cooke's Dole division now raises pineapples.

You can prevent businesses from making money but there is no way you can force them to produce indefinitely at a loss. This summer the Del Monte division of R.J. Reynolds Inc. will shut down its Molokai pineapple operation, the state's second-largest, leaving 3,300 acres of prime land idle.

On Hawaii, Amfac has announced

rentals drove down hotel occupancy rates. Says Amfac Chairman Henry Walker: "Saturation has been reached in condominiums. We've stopped building entirely now."

So what becomes of those vast sugarcane fields, once the pride of Hawaii's century-old "Big Five" landholding firms? They become scenery. Amfac, which lost an estimated \$5 million in sugar last year, now runs its Pioneer plantation as little more than an aesthetic backdrop to the Kaanapali resort. "I can't picture that land in anything but sugar," says fourth-generation Hawaiian Walker. "Think of standing in Kaanapali surrounded by condominiums and golf courses and hotels, with that sweep of cane land behind you going up to 1,700 feet. You can't let it go to

weeds. So sugar has value as ground cover if nothing else."

Unfortunately, you can't eat scenery. Hawaii's unemployment rate now stands at 7.7%, high by the state's traditional standards, and that rate could double as sugar and pineapple grow increasingly out of touch with world markets. The long-term prospects are dim. High-growth tourism is a thing of the past. State planners continue to focus on elusive schemes like tropical flower farms and freshwater prawn ranches. One government study lays out exacting specifications for sugar's ultimate replacement crop. Local wags point out that only marijuana, which thrives between the rows of cane on Maui, seems to fit the profile.

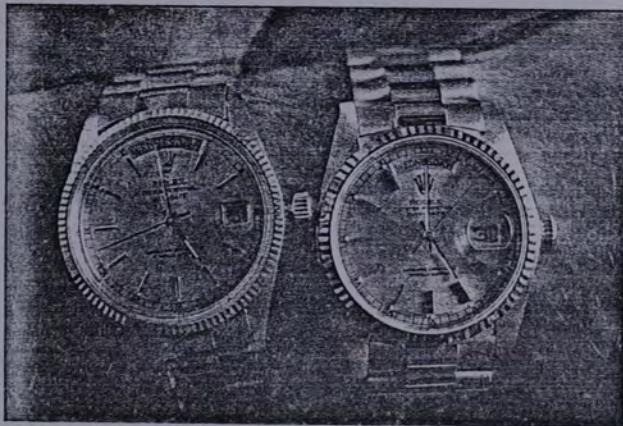
Perhaps a return to reality is in or-

der. A truth the planners seem to have overlooked is that the islands, beneath their veneer of beauty, are no land of plenty. They were made productive only through the efforts of those often-scorned Calvinist missionaries of yore whose families founded the Big Five.

Ominously, one of Hawaii's great latter-day boosters also has lost heart. Austrian-born Harry Weinberg, who prospered through cagey speculation in Hawaiian real estate and Big Five shares, is 74 now, still making his headquarters in a cracked, peeling Honolulu waterfront office. "If you were a young man coming here with dollars to invest," rasps Weinberg, "I'd tell you to get out. You can make more money someplace else." Out from Eden. ■

Why pay \$400 for a \$75 watch? Answer: So people will think that you're wearing a real gold \$8,000 watch.

Genuine phonies



Which one is the Rolex?

The one on the right. It costs \$7,950. The fake costs \$395.

By Allan Dodds Frank

WITH THE VOGUE for expensive watches (FORBES, Dec. 22, 1980), it was inevitable that counterfeiters would invade the market. When copies first appeared several years ago, they were crude and often advertised as real Rolexes, Cartiers, Concords, Piagets or Patek Philippes. Selling from under the counter—or under a coat—salesmen strongly implied the timepieces were bargains because they were "hot watches." But attorneys for watch companies and some prosecutors stopped that in most jewelry stores by prosecuting under tough fraud statutes. Only street corner and barroom salesmen remained.

But now there is a new wrinkle, evident in *Wall Street Journal* miscellaneous classified ads for several months before Christmas and in other respectable publications, including the *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Houston Chronicle* and *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*: watches advertised as genuine phonies—replicas of the \$7,950, 18-karat gold Rolex President or the \$12,900 Piaget Polo.

Some of these watches do have an expensive look about them, at least to the untrained eye. At least they do until they are placed side by side with the real article. They are ordered by phone, then paid for in cash when the United Parcel Service arrives two days later with the c.o.d. watch. What will you be buying? For \$200 to \$400 you will get a good \$75 watch. If you are lucky it will contain a Swiss, rather than Hong Kong, movement. It will also bear the phony signature of the alleged manufacturer. In a dark room or at a distance, your friends might

RIMBA ILMU
UNIVERSITI MALAYA
Kuala Lumpur Malaysia



9 Feb. 1983

Drs. O. & I. Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Otto and Isa,

Many thanks for your long and interesting recent letter. It was good to hear your news. Though it has been so long since I "resided" in Hawaii Nei, I still feel the pull of the islands, and still (somehow) feel that someday I may be able to come back, for good; at any rate, all and every news from there, botanically, still interests me very much. I have been to Berlin (1975) but not to the Azores, Canaries, or Madeira. Your explorations there (in road-cuts?) must have been suggestive, in that perhaps those places show what Hawaii might become. I hope Hawaii fares better.

We have had here one recent excellent outcome of an environmental problem. I may have mentioned the fact that there was a federal government plan to build a dam in the Taman Negara (the Malayan Peninsula's only National Park), which could have reduced its land area, with its plants and animals, by 20-25 percent. After about 18 months of being "on" this program is now officially "off," due I believe to the usual combination of forces-- by no means a pure success for the conservationists and their allies, but as always because some sinisterse politicians have tangled as well. At any rate the relief is tangible. Dam construction would have shattered the federal governments's responsible reputation in conservation, among other ruins. This has been a very good outcome. Let's hope it remains "final." (Eternal vigilance, etc.)

Very glad to hear of your new augmented version of Plants of Hawaii National Park. In this connection, I will try to answer your queries on the Hawaiian pandans: first, concerning *P. tectorius* (I'll leave the "authority" citation here to your imagination... no, I still think you aren't following the "norm" but, of course, I am not going to let that bother me!)... and "*P. odoratissimus*". Now, I can't (and won't) claim omniscience here, but will give you my interpretation, for what it is worth: viz. the following items:

(1) The type of *P. tectorius* is from Tahiti (Banks & Solander). It has been discussed, but not clarified, by St. John, in *Pacif. Sci.* 33(4): 395-401 (1979). St. John abandons the species by saying that it cannot be understood, since the type material consists of immature specimens and a few associated items (Banks & Solanders MS description, which (I agree) is not sufficient today to identify a species, as it omits fruit details), and some paintings of a male inflorescence (and these are certainly insufficient). However, because of St. John's rejection (rather than logical modern interpretation) of *P. tectorius*, he omits it from the Flora of Tahiti, as indeed from everywhere else. The reason for this, perhaps, is that he recognizes many (13!!) endemic species in Tahiti (*sensu stricto*). Therefore, he says, as *P. tectorius* could be any of these, or still another, he omits it!

(2) In the same paper, St. John discusses the type of *P. odoratissimus*. In fact, the type specimen is staminate, and all the vagueness of such a specimen is inherent but, in sharp difference of response, St. John actually interprets the species by (I believe correctly and properly) designating a Standard (Pistillate) specimen to represent the fruits: he illustrates this specimen (St. John 24212, from 25 mi. s. of Colombo, Ceylon). This action I completely agree with. However, St. John does not explain why the same kind of action cannot be done for *P. tectorius*. In the event, (as it manifestly can and indeed must be done), I am doing it at present. I have a paper in prep. now which will designate a standard (paratype, if you will) pistillate (fruiting) specimen of *P. tectorius*. It is one which was collected by me in 1981 in what is quite probably the exact type locality, i.e. Venus Point, Tahiti. I will send you a sketch of its fruit (encl.).

Now, the virtue of this action will be that (a) *P. tectorius* will at last be typified ("standardized" if you will) in such a way that varieties, based on fruit variation, can at last be meaningfully contrasted with the "typical" var., i.e. *P. tect. var. tectorius*. Although such varieties already exist (Martelli created many!) there was no way before of knowing how to distinguish them from the "invisible" var. *tectorius*!

(b) The other outcome is that *P. tectorius* and *P. odoratissimus* can be clearly contrasted with each other. This, one of your main questions, I can enlarge upon here.

Broadly speaking, *P. odoratissimus* and *P. tectorius* are the principal Indomalayan and Pacific (approx. Western and Eastern) divisions of what is basically a single, widespread complex. I have little doubt that these two species can and do hybridize in nature along their common boundary, which is, plausibly enough, approximately the same as "Wallace's Line." In other words, *P. tectorius* is principally a Pacific Island group, ranging westward from Eastern Polynesia to Queensland, New Guinea, and (I am not quite sure here) the eastern side of Mindanao and Luzon. It breaks down into some endemic forms, varieties, and poorly distinguished species in the Micronesian area (*P. kusaicola* in Kusaie; *P. fragrans* in the Marianas; perhaps one or two more in Yap and Palau) and another (close to *P. fragrans*) in the Bonin Islands (*P. boninensis*). Along the boundary line, there are some forms such as "*P. Linnaei* Gaudich." which look like *P. tectorius* probably hybrid with *P. odoratissimus*. In contrast, *P. odoratissimus* in its most clear form is prevalent all around the coasts of India, Sri Lanka, the Gulf of Bengal, the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra (at least in part), the Indo-Chinese coasts, western (and probably eastern) Borneo, Java (at least in the west), the Philippines (Palawan, and probably all or most of the western islands and coasts), Taiwan, HongKong, and the Ryukyu Islands. Again, however, where it meets on the boundary - the Moluccas, parts of the Philippines, possibly in East Java-- *P. odoratissimus* and *P. tectorius* very often occur, not so much in themselves, but in hybrid form.

To recognize the two species, each of which is quite variable, one needs an idea of their most "usual" configuration, uncomplicated by hybridization. By contrasting an ordinary *P. odoratissimus* plant of, say, Sri Lanka (in its "heartland"), with an ordinary *P. tectorius* of, say, Tahiti (its "heartland"), one can see the principal features. They are basically very similar (and I would not ridicule by any means the view that Martelli assumed later on, that really the two form one single very widespread species), but I think their differentiation, and the fact that they are clearly divided along a boundary which is virtually the same as "Wallace's Line" is a truly biologically significant fact, one meriting recognition. Indeed, I would not dispute the possibility that a plant from Sri Lanka could hybridize with one from Tahiti: but the fact is that they do not, and cannot, directly do so in nature. The broad geographical spread has given them some definite differences. Whether it includes partial or complete reproductive barriers in some plants or places no one knows. But the taxonomic distinction is a real one. (I could also agree to the recognition of these taxa as subspecies; they would certainly be "large" and would still contain "varieties" but this step might be advisable if interfertility was very free and broad.) At this stage in our knowledge, I recognize two species. (There is a third in this complex, *E. Kirkii* of the East African coast: it is about as weakly different from these two as they are from each other).

Now for the thumbnail characterizations:

(1) *Pandanus tectorius*: Phalanges, in completely ripe fruits, without, or with at most rather weakly developed, median shoulders (see sketches). Leaves generally longer, with marginal teeth mostly 1-3 (rarely -4.5) mm long, greenish or brownish, if pale still clearly greenish. Commonly somewhat robust trees. Bark of old trunks greyish or light brown.

(2) *P. odoratissimus*: Phalanges in completely ripe fruits almost always with very strongly developed median shoulders; these are often obscure in dry specimens (as the flesh may not only shrink strongly on drying, but is often nibbled off from phalanges that have been on the ground, by snails, etc.). Leaves shorter, generally, with the marginal teeth mostly 3-6 (or, rarely, to 10!) mm long, white or nearly so (usually with dark tips). Often rather slender or recumbent trees. Bark of old trunks usually grey when mature.

On the two accompanying sheets, I have sketched some phalanges and leaf segments (taken from adult leaves, about the place where the lowermost quarter of the leaf is succeeded by the next quarter; i.e. at about 25% of the length of the leaf up from the base). Note for *P. odoratissimus* that fully ripe (must be noted!) phalanges have well developed basal-medial shoulders. (These are pulpy, ephemeral, and function to push apart the ripe phalanges so that, as the receptacle decays or softens and the phalange base detaches from it, the phalange can fall off freely). Because the shoulders are basically soft pulp tissue, they seldom remain in dried (naturally or artificially) specimens, though a careful examination may reveal their former presence. Shoulders may also in occur in *P. tectorius*, but are seldom so big, abrupt, and well-developed; more important, their occurrence is not linked with the character of white teeth, on the leaf-margins... it is the linkage of these two characters which so well characterizes *P. odoratissimus* (probably 75-80 percent of the India-Malaya-Thai-Sri Lanka-W.Borneo specimens have both shoulders and white leaf marginal teeth).

Rock (and others) have identified the Hawaiian indigenous pandans as *P. odoratissimus*, but they are not, even if one wishes to combine both *P. odoratissimus* and *P. tectorius* into one vast species (in which case, the name *P. tectorius* takes precedence by priority, anyway). The Hawaiian pandans, apart from recent (European) introductions, belong to *P. tectorius* sensu Stone, in other words, they are closely related to the other Polynesian plants, and much less so (though of course also) to the Indo-Malaysian plants. This seems logical, I presume.

Warburg was happy to lump these two taxa and (correctly enough) used the name *P. tectorius* for this broad concept. He erred, however, in including *P. spiralis* in this and excluding *P. pedunculatus*. His "var. *sinensis*" is what St. John calls "*P. remotus*" and actually is *P. odoratissimus*.

Martelli at first discriminated the two taxa, then went for a combined concept, but opted for the name *P. odoratissimus* (making *tectorius* a synonym). This was nomenclaturally incorrect if nothing else.

I have already synonymized over two dozen St. Johnian taxa which are mere individuals of *P. odoratissimus*, and I am slowly working my way through a morass of more names which will become synonyms of *P. tectorius*, or at best varieties of it. In Hawaii, there are certainly several varieties of *P. tectorius*; I have already (but merely) made a couple of combinations of available names in my Waimea Arboretum note.

The cultivated pandans in Hawaii are of course another matter, but there again, I doubt if true *P. odoratissimus* is there (except for seeds of it which I recently sent to Pacific Trop. Bot. Gard.). However, everyone knows the variegated-leaved pandans. Most of these as horticultural variants with nursery names (*P. baptistii*, *P. sanderi*, *P. veitchii*, *P. variegatus*) are all positively merely mutant (cytoplasmic/chloroplast mutations) of basic *P. tectorius* stock. However, similar variegation can occur spontaneously in other species (I have seen it in *P. helicopus*, for example, in virgin vegetation here in Malaya), and can also spontaneously occur in otherwise "green" populations of *P. tectorius* (I have good examples in Queensland). Another mutation deletes the leaf-teeth; in *P. tectorius* this gives rise to *P. tect. var. laevis* Warb., which can of course also have the variegated mutation, leading to both unarmed and variegated leaves; these are the so-called "*P. baptistii*." The *var. laevis* is apparently what St. John calls CV "Putat" of *Pandanus spurius* Miq.

Although the illustrations in your book show both pistillate and staminate inflorescences, the figures of the phalanges (bottom of page, Pl. 13), seem to me to be less than fully ripe; however, I think it is not very important; your plants are certainly *Pandanus tectorius*. The only goal left to reach is specifying the variety, as there are, as noted above, more than one in Hawaii. But you can readily verify the lack of phalange shoulders and the greenness and comparatively small size of the leaf teeth in the Hawaiian plants (using my sketches as a comparison). Your Pl. 12 is undoubtedly *P. tectorius* as well, but the variety could not be determined of course from only a photograph.

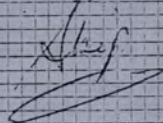
I will dig out the references you require from my reprint files and send all those still available later. I want to get the present information off to you soon.

Thanks very much for the items mailed, whatever they may be! Oh yes, I will supply Mr Charles Long of the NYBG with any items he needs.

It is now Chinese New Year, so a couple of days at home are in store. My son David (now 14) and daughter Sylvia (now 10) are thriving wonderfully and I enjoy getting the chance to be with them. My wife, Michiko, is as active and lovely as ever, and I am constantly amazed by her sheer enduringness! As for me, I am tolerably well but am a driven man: I have so much I want to do, and unfortunately a good deal of this is in conflict with the time-consuming activities that the University, in its wisdom, seems to think I exist for. (Like marking examinations). Otherwise K.L. agrees with me fine. I have about 5 MSS under way at the moment, have to continue 1-man curation of the herbarium (since my last assistant resigned, over a year ago, there has been no help, although theoretically I am supposed to have the service of a new-hired assistant in due course; due course seems to mean a very long time here). I have altogether too many commitments, mostly self-generated or foolishly agreed to, but... at bottom, I love it! I just hope to keep surviving!

Aloha to you both and let me know if the pandan-information included herein is either helpful or constructive or both (or ... I dare not say it).

Sincerely,



Pandanus tectorius

Tahiti: Venus Point.

Coll. B.C.Stone 14712, July 81



x1

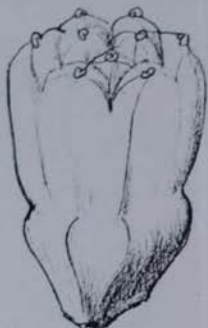
(dry spm.)

Phalanges of designated standard
pistillate specimen.

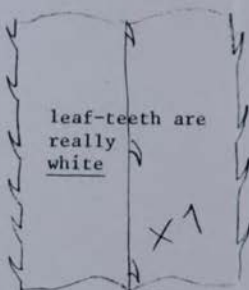


(fresh)

(in effect, this matches
Mentell's "*P. distinctus*"
(see name-giving sheet))



"*P. hendersonii*"
(Anambas Isls.)

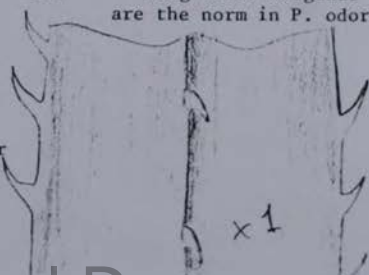


leaf-teeth are
really
white

x1



P. odoratissimus
var. *borucentis*



x1

all figs
natural size



rubricoloratus

Note abruptly expanded
basal "shoulders" of ripe
fruits.
Phalanges tend to be
bright vermilion-red.

Long white marginal leaf teeth
are the norm in *P. odoratissimus*.

shoulder

Pandanus tectorius Park. ex Z. - Pacific Islands and westward to eastern fringe of
Malesia.

Ripe phalanges
usually without
"shoulders" or
if present these
smallish, and not
necessarily associ-
ated with the white-
tooth character of the
leaves.



bothrius

dichorus



distinctus



drollet



ianus



prismaticus



partit



subbrachius



tahitensis



Marginal teeth
of leaf generally
small, green
or brownish.

*all figures
natural size*

Später

Feb. 5, 1983.

Segeehrten Dr. & Frau Sauer:

Isa & ich haben Ihren 12.12.82 Brief erhalten. Es war wunderbar nett von Ihnen Dr. Al Smith's Fl. Vitiensis Nov., Seite 77 zu schicken. Wir hatten es noch nicht gelesen. Ich hatte ihn "ausgeschimpft" dass er im ersten Vol., Unsinn über mich druckte, und mich, der auf der selben Insel wohnt wie er, nicht wenigstens per Telefon ausfragte ob was er drucken wollte richtig ist. Jetzt hat er alles gut gemacht, und ich habe ihm das geschrieben; auch dass Sie in Fiji sammelten. Er hat jetzt Ihre Adresse von uns. Wir wollten nicht eine "Review" vom ersten Buch drucken, und über den "Degener Paragraf" rezonieren. Er war zu nett Degeneriaceae zu machen.

Wir sind jetzt auf der Insel Oahu SEHR beschafftigt. Ich habe keine Stellung gewollt seit 1929 aber habe Untermieter und verkaufe meine Bücher. Zu oft bezahlen solche Leute nicht ihre Miete - es ist jetzt VIEL schlimmer als früher. Also waren wir am Gericht - viel Zeit verschwendet - und haben gewonnen. Es kostet so viel Arbeiter zu bekommen dass wir so viel wie möglich selber tun - malen, putzen, tischlerarbeit. Dann kam Hurricane Iwa der uns \$5,000 Schaden machte da unsere gefallenen Bäume unseren Zaun ruinierten. Glücklicherweise hat die Versicherung \$4,000 davon bezahlt. Dann vor Paar Wochen hat der Arzt mich für 9 Tage ins Hospital gesteckt da ich Phlebitis im linken Bein bekam - mein linker Fuss war ein bisschen geschwollen seit ich in Savu Savu, Vanua Levu vor über 40 Jahre war (Filaria?). Die Zeit im Hospital habe ich sehr bequem gebraucht Ms., zu korregieren während ich Pillen von ratengift (Koumarin), etc., bekam. Ich bin jetzt zu Hause ganz glücklich. Sobald wie ich darf, werden sa & ich, mit unseren 4 Hunden & NUR eine Katze nach unseren anderen Wohnung beim Kilaea Vulkan eine siedeln. Dort liegen die Pflanzen für die wir dann Etoquetten zur richtigen ? Gattung (wir haben keine Floren) schreiben werden und Ihnen & anderen schicken werden. Wir müssen so etwas weg kriegen vor dem wir an Alter oder Autounfall sterben. Eventuel werden Monographien - wie Sie - alles bestimmen und gebrauchen.

Wir danken Ihnen für Ihren interessanten Brief. Ich antworte ihn in perfekten Deutsch während ich meine Beine ausstrecke und arme Isa in einer Wohnung ein Fenster richtet'. Vier haben jetzt Untermieter, und nur das letzte ist noch leer. Wollen Sie es für \$370 per Monat mieten, und für immer in Haw. Inseln leben?

Aloha,

Otto Degener



THE OUTDOOR CIRCLE 200 No. Vineyard, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

February 7, 1983

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

Dear Drs. Degener:

Thank you for the most interesting information regarding Kahauale's Geothermal Project.

We are returning the information to you with the suggestion that you contact The Outdoor Circle in Kona who, perhaps, might like to hear from you concerning the above-mentioned project.

The address for The Outdoor Circle in Kona is as follows:

The Outdoor Circle
P.O. Box 98
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Sincerely,

Carlton Cloud

Carlton Cloud
Executive Secretary

BOTANISCHE STAATSSAMMLUNG
MÜNCHEN

Direktor: Prof. Dr. H. Merxmüller

Menzinger Strasse 67
Telefon 089/1792-1 -252-

D-8000 München 19, 10. II. 1983

Tgb. Nr.: 1024/q

Herrn & Frau
Drs. Otto & Isa E.M.DEGENER
P. O. Box 154
VOLCANO, HAWAII 96785
U. S. A.

Liebe Degeners!

Vor kurzem erreichte uns Ihre freundliche Zusendung von 14 Herbar-
dubletten und Sonderdrucken und Fotokopien.

Für alles dürfen wir Ihnen verbindlichst danken. Wir beglückwünschen Sie erneut zu all Ihren Aktivitäten zum Schutze der Flora und Bewohner von Hawaii, und es freut uns ganz besonders aus den beigegeführten Fotokopien zu ersehen, daß Ihre Bemühungen mittlerweile auch honoriert wurden!

Ihr Artikel "THE LATE THEODOR PHILIP HAAS" trifft hierzulande in eine Zeit der großen Rückblendung auf den "30. Januar 1933 und die katastrophalen Folgen". - Wir hatten zwar schon früher etwas gehört vom schweren Schicksal, das Dr. Haas, einen Mitarbeiter dieses Hauses, damals getroffen hat. Aus Ihrem Bericht geht nun aber leider auch eindeutig hervor, daß er den verheerenden Schlag gegen seine gesamte Existenz nie mehr hat verwinden können. Das alles bedauern wir zutiefst! - Wir werden Ihren Artikel in unsere Nekrologsammlung aufnehmen und dem Verstorbenen ein ehrendes Andenken bewahren!

Mit nochmaligem Dank für Ihre so schätzenswerten Pflanzensammlungen, Sonderdrucke etc., die wir nun schon seit vielen Jahren empfangen durften, und mit den allerbesten Wünschen für Ihr persönliches Wohlergehen, wie auch für Ihre Bemühungen um den Erhalt der Ursprünglichkeit der Hawaii-Inseln,
stets Ihr

H. Merxmüller
Prof. Dr. H. Merxmüller

Feb. 12, 1983.

Dear Miss Harada:

Mrs. Degener & I thank you for our Moanalua Gardens Foundation membership. I feel gloriously healthy, and am walking or with legs outstretched lying about in comfort. I am getting over a blood clot I developed in my Fiji (?) leg. I am NOT to stand about. For nine days I was medicated with "coumadin", a fancy name for the rat poison warfarin, in the Wahiawa Hospital. I was thus forced to read proof full time on a page proof to become a 500 page book by Mrs. D., & me.

We Degeners have published I guess about four hundred items which are scattered in libraries throughout the World. If wanted, I would think most could be xeroxed for a trivial sum by writing librarians.

On the contrary, what is not scattered, are letters and clippings pertaining to botanists or near-botanists and plants & their uses in Hawaii Nei. Of this conglomeration, we have about 100 three-ring notebooks starting a little before the year 1920. I guess more than half of the books ^{copies} of letter I am storing at Hunt in Pittsburgh or at New York Bot. Garden. Nothing of this except our xeroxes are in our islands!

In looking through a sample notebook I find dated 1927 letters as follows from: 1/2/27 R.E. Torrey, 1/3 Stephen Mather, 1/3 Mrs. N.Y. Britton, 1/18 Oswald Weigel, 1/21 Oswald Weigel again, 1/29 D. LeRoy Topping, 1/22 R. Pilger, 2/7 Torrey, 2/8 Otto Degener, 2/28 N.L. Britton, 4/18 O.D., 4/27 O.D., 5/3 O.D., 5/7 O.D., 5/8 O.D., 5/9 Photographer Senda, 5/17 Weigel, 5/20 E.D. Merrill, 5/24 O.D., 5/27 Topping, 5/29 O.D., 6/8 O.D., 6/17 L.E. Ford, 6/17 Topping, 6/20 Weigel, 6/24 H.H. Whetzel, 6/27 Merrill, 6/29 B.E. Livingston, 7/7 O.D., 7/19 Topping, 8/9 A.R. Davis, 8/22 Topping, 9/10 O.D., 9/13 F. K. Zane, 9/14 O.D., 9/22 O.D., 9/30 Merrill, 10/4 J.H. Miller, 10/5 A.R. Davis.

If Foundation members should be interested I herewith offer you xeroxes at 10 cents a page of good, bad & indifferent letters. Torrey was an outstanding Univ. of Mass., Botany professor, Britton was Director of the New York Bot. Garden of which Mrs. D., & I are staff members, Weigel was an herbarium merchant to whom I sold thousands of Haw., herbarium specimens for resale, Pilger was of the famed Berlin Bot. Garden, Topping was a famed amateur fern collector in the Philippines & later Hawaii, Merrill was Director in Philippines in Topping's time & later in New York, Whetzel was botanist at Cornell with whom I botanized in Bermuda in 1921, etc., etc. My many letters are of course my answers to these individuals.

Do you remember that Marin or Manini in the early days kept a diary about the plants he had introduced? People ever after regretted that this diary was neglected and finally lost forever. I was born in 1899, am in good health for my age, and have preserved the thoughts of botanists concerning Hawaiian plants and conditions. Will history repeat herself?

Aloha,

Otto Degener

Moanalua Gardens Foundation, Inc.

1352 PINEAPPLE PLACE • TELEPHONE 839-5334
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

February 3, 1983

Dr. and Mrs. Otto Degner
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialaua, Hawaii'i 96791

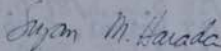
Dear Dr. and Mrs. Degner,

Mahalo for your gracious donation!! We will cherish this copy of Flora Hawaiiensis as it came from the authors themselves. It will be a notable addition to our library collection. We are glad to hear that you have been following the activities of the Foundation sans your travelling. Perhaps we will see you at our Annual Meeting on March 5, an invitation is forthcoming in the mail.

I am personally interested in purchasing copies of any publication(s) on Hawaiian biota you may want to offer for sale. Have you a list of publications or may I visit you to find out what is available?

Again, mahalo for your donation. We hope to hear from you in the future.

Sincerely,



Suzan M. Harada
Program Coordinator
Moanalua Gardens Foundation



THE
UNIVERSITY
OF UTAH

Hunt
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
201 BIOLOGY BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84112
801-581-6517

Feb. 13, 1983

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
68-617 Crozier Dr.
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.

Dear Drs. Degener,

We would be interested in obtaining the second editions of the Hawaiian flora to which you referred in your recent letter to Dr. Wiens. I have enclosed a personal check in the amount you specified. Please let me know if there is an extra charge for postage. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Lois Arnow

Lois Arnow
Curator
Garrett Herbarium

psd

*added Book 7 gratis furnished
through 2/1/84*

P. O. Box 29 Volcano, HI 96785

Feb. 16, 1983

Dear Jack & Otto,

A Horrible Curse on the House of Degener for sending such a fiendish puzzle to a poor old man. I woke up at 4:00 AM crying, "I have it!" and then find I've forgotten the answer in the morning. What, in the name of all the Gods has 8 S₂ or a S₂S₂? Eight seamen on a steam ship? Eight spacemen on a Space Shuttle? Well!

It is very dry here, 2500 acres burned in Kalapana, emergency water only. etc, etc. However, your tank is fine.

We've given your geothermal article as much publicity as possible. Mention of it was made on K. Pa news (7:15 AM), some discussion on peoples line.

The volcano is still smoking & degassing. I would not hurry home because fumes are rather bad because we have had light air & variable & smog (fog) hangs down as far as Hiranaka's

Love, Herb & Doris

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P. O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785, U.S.A.

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

Probably after March 1

Feb. 17, 1983

Dear Mr. Zuckerman:

I just received your Feb. 13 letter. Did mine cross yours in the mails?

Please forgive me if I am repeating myself: During the Hurricane Iwa my left leg starting swelling a little more every day, so after the fourth I visited my M.D. He diagnosed my trouble as thrombophlebitis & immediately stuck me into the hospital for nine days to guard against the clot breaking up into emboli perhaps plugging a blood vessel to lung, heart or brain. I am feeling well as always; but am still on coumarin pills, actually the rat poison warfarin.


We are overdue for moving back to our alternate home on the Island of Hawaii, and awaiting our physician's advice after blood tests toward the end of this month. We have purchased our flight tickets with tentative booking for March 1.

Please note you would be wasting, according to our opinion, precious time on Oahu. Why go to Honolulu when you know horrible Miami? Go to the Island of Hawaii to live preferably at the Volcano House, Haw. Volc. National Park, Hawaii (a short mile distant from us) and do your sightseeing of the outstanding volcano area. You may have an eruption, harmless, when you come. Are you not coming with others? If so, why not hire a U-Drive car at the Hilo Airport for your stay? The distance to the Volcano is about 30 miles.

Would it not be a horrible blunder were you to come to the Islands & not see at least ONE of our volcanoes? There is a 'plane company war on, so be sure your travel agent ~~XXXX~~ knows that many prices have dropped considerably.

Mrs. D., & I hope to see you on the brink of Halemauau in Kilauea Volcano next month. Of course any Cheng Ho conversation would be from perhaps dulled memory and not worth noting when precise information on xeroxes can be at your fingertips.

Aloha to Dr. Popenoe - he knows our Oahu home - and to you,





The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220 8700

WILLIAM C. STEERE

*President Emeritus
and Senior Scientist*

February 27, 1983

Dear Otto and Isa:

Thank you for the splendid specimen of *Polytrichum commune* Hedw., which we are delighted to have for the NYBG herbarium. Somehow, I had always thought of the Azores as being rather dry islands with a mediterranean-type climate, so I didn't realize that there are *Sphagnum* bogs!

Thank you also for the memo on your publications. I am circulating it also to Pat Holmgren and Iain Prance, not knowing whether they were already on your list.

I would think that someone would borrow an armored helicopter and take appropriate action against the illicit *Cannabis* farmers who take pot shots at innocent botanists. Hawaii can afford to lose a few tourists, but not botanists!

With warm regards,

Bill

2/28/83

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

I did receive your letter in December regarding the fence which I was contemplating putting up. However because of the surgery I had and that I had to work on the wind damage of the December storms I put off inquiring at the City office on the building codes.

I did inquire today because I noticed this weekend that the new tenant of yours in your back cottage has erected a new structure on your property which is very close to the boundary line and the trunk of your mango tree. It had one chicken in it this past week end. I also noticed that there seemed to be a lot of stumps and leaves from the mango tree accumulating in a large heap over my fence. I talked to him about it and he said he would clean it up in the afternoon. But he did not reply to my inquiry about the chicken.

I therefore inquired today about the fence question and set-back for the chicken coop. The only limitation about the fence between properties is that the footing must be entirely in the property lines of whoever is erecting the fence. A chicken coop for two or less chickens is allowable in residential property but all set-back regulations must be observed. The chicken coop rests between the mango tree stump and the property line and most likely has minimal set-back, if any. Rather than report it now and have the citation go to the owner of the property I thought you as landlord should talk to them about the situation first.

Sorry to have to bother you again but it had best to handle this early and via you as the property owner. A week should be adequate time for him to correct the situation.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Ching
Nathaniel Ching
2225 University Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96822

March 1, 1983

Dear Dr. Ching:

Mrs. D., & I got your Feb. 28 letter, and are glad that your surgery is now pau and you are off (?) crutches. My wife years ago was on them after spraining her ankle, and as a result suffered from arthritis in both shoulders.

I used to have a pet chicken "Peepsie" by name in New York City. It accepted me as its mother hen or perhaps father rooster. It was equivalent in dirt to about 3 canaries.

I am glad you wrote ~~about~~ about the coop. Because of fire danger, it should be on the mauka side of the rental unit, in which he is living. I am writing him about it. Our two rental units are really a bit too close anyway, especially with a gas-filled car so near. Mine was built in the early part of this Century when such laws did not exist, but yours much later. So we two should really be alert.

In the '20s, your lot previous owners, the Cattons, kept dozens of chickens where your rental unit now stands. I was used to it, but did not like the crowing of the rooster. But I, in turn, kept ducks, free in my yard; and always had duckeggs for breakfast. As they quacked too much for the Cattons, I simply put an elastic band around the bill. They opened it for eating, but seldom for quacking.

It would certainly be nice if you constructed a fence - were we to live there, we would certainly approve. But we are scared if we should sell, and the new owner would consider our lot reduced in width. We are confused as to the survey pegs. Some one seems to have moved them ten or more years ago.

Do you know how to solve all your problems? Buy the Degener property.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

P.S. Should you bother getting an inspector to look over our properties, please ask him about the situation of parking a car with a gas., tank so closely squeezed between two dwellings. Don't scare our tenants.

Keukenhof, Holland
Photograph/Stephen Hender ©
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95 - C606



Leiden 3-5-84

Our congratulations for
your 85th birthday!

J. Dink
H. Kummer

Kallman
C. Kummer

[Answered]

Merrill
H.M.J. v. Balgoy

March 5, 1983.

Dear Dr. Price:

The amateur Herbert Dole collected ferns on the Island of Kauai about 100 years ago, and distributed them among a few friends. A set is at NY. Has Michigan some of his material?

I met Dole in the '30s when he was a civil engineer specializing on construction of Manhattan's subway stations. He wrote me a number of letters which I just had xeroxed. The holographs are in the archives at New York, and a xerox copy I just gave to one of our tenants who happens to be distantly related to the Dole family. Remember, S.B. Dole was President of the Provisional Government of Hawaii. I had another xerox run off at the same time. Does Mich., want it?

Aloha,

D. Otto Segener

7 March 1983

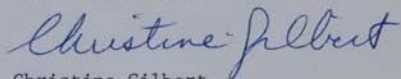
Dr. Otto Degener
Waialua, Oahu, HI 96785

Dear Dr. Degener:

I regret that we were not able to publish your letter of late January.

We receive many more communications than we have space for and can print only a small number of them.

Yours sincerely,



Christine Gilbert
Letters Editor

CG:bhs

After March 20

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P. O. Box 154
Volcano, Hawaii 96785, U.S.A.

96791

March 10, 1983.

Editor, Newsletter
Haw. Bot. Soc.
Bot. Dept., U. of H.

Dear Sir:

Mrs. Degener & I were certainly interested in Mr. Paul Kores' article about "A Review of the Literature on Haw. Orchids. We are glad he may have corrected errors in binomials, including those proposed by ourselves. But we are disturbed that a publication presumably printed in 1979 as all readers in the future will believe was not drawn to our attention until 1983! For us not correcting our mistakes or explaining the reason for presumed mistakes is not particularly beneficial for us nor to the sale of our books. The Bishop Museum, of which Mr. Kores is evidently a staff member, hardly handles them in their curio shop.

Anyway, we mailed a copy of our first draft discussing orchids and our opinions with an explanatory letter to the New York Bot. Garden of which institution both of us are staff members. Their library probably got the Kores issue.

Enclosed is a second copy of our hurried first draft. We are working on the final one now, which we estimate will be quite a bit longer. Logically to us, its publication should be in the Newsletter of the Haw. Bot. Society of which we both are members. If you accept our ms., without editing, how soon would our Society be able to publish it? We are very much against a delay because in part we try to explain away some of Mr. Kores' mildly critical statements. Do let us know soon.

We want to mail the orchid discussion to 100 or so institutions which own our books and have duplicate herbarium specimens of material given to NY, my alma mater the Univ. of Mass., and Bishop Museum and elsewhere since about 1922 to the present.

In a batch of 100 copies, how much does our Society charge per page? I have found a concern in Honolulu which can furnish me with two pages on a single xerox sheet for 5 cents. That would be a tremendous bargain - 2½ cents for one of the Newsletter pages.

Should there be any delay by the Society AFTER we are ready to go to press, we would simply xerox copies for quick mailing to scattered institutions not connected with the Society. The readers would be entirely different: They would be in Anhus, Auckland, Berlin, Brussels, Calcutta, Christchurch, Edinburgh, Göteborg, Hiroshima, Kew, Leiden, Leningrad, Montreal, Moscow, Peking, Sapporo, Stockholm, Sydney, Vienna, Zurich etc., etc. Who knows, some of such a collection of 100 institutions may become members of our Society.

We certainly like the format of the Newsletter, BUT it seems a disaster not to print precise date of publication. In our Fl. Haw., sheets we do not

specify date of printing at the bottom, but the precise day we shall drop
pages into a US mailbox. That we judge to be the proper date.

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener

Hunt

Literature and Other Matters Regarding Orchids in Hawaii Nei
and

The Lax Use of "EX" and "IN"

Kane Otto Degener and Wahine Isa Degener

We discovered a pamphlet in our R.F.D., mailbox on the isolated northern shore of Oahu a few days ago. It consisted of our Hawaiian Botanical Society Newsletter Vol. 18(3/5)¹1-58, dated May/December 1979 firmly stapled with a copy of Vol. 19:1-63, dated January/December 1980. What confusion regarding the precise priority date of the articles may be does not concern us at this time excepting for the very interesting "A Review of the Literature of Hawaiian Orchids" authored by Paul Kores of the Department of Botany of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum. Though dated "May/December 1979" we are assuming date of publication is approximately February 15, 1983. Study of the postal cancellation of 121 pages won't help future readers of our copy as it is illegibly smeared. It would be annoying if botanists mentioned in 1979 are not alerted until 1983 to correct remarks concerning them.

As we are treated mostly correctly by Mr. Kores, we started checking a few questionable statements. Once begun, it was difficult to desist reviewing some local orchid matters. As a result, we herewith submit something of a review, an addendum of additional references and remarks varying from serious import according to our opinion to trivial piffle.

The kane writer since 1922 and the wahine since 1953 have studied Hawaiian plants with little interruption by teaching and other duties respectively for a total of about 90 years. Over 35,000 numbers of herbarium specimens have been distributed with ample duplicates to such Almae ~~XXXXX~~ Matres as the University of Massachusetts; the New York Botanical Garden, associated with Columbia University; and the Berlin Botanical Garden and Museum associated with the near-by University. Furthermore, the most interesting duplicates have been deposited at the local Bishop Museum but,

as we do not intend to "ship coals to Newcastle", we have scattered probably upward of half a million chiefly Spermatophyta to over 100 botanists and/or botanical institutions throughout the World. Names, addresses and desires of many of them we gleaned from Holmgren & Keuper's 1966 edition of their "Index Herbariorum". Because of its usefulness, we have just ordered their newest edition. We might add the piffle that Degener Hawaiian collections ^{were} mailed first to Berlin in the '20s in exchange for sets of "Engler-Prantl" publications; and sold to the wholesale herbarium specimen ^{dealer} Oswald Weigel of Leipzig for \$7.50 to \$10 per Century for resale. Where they ultimately found asylum, we don't know. The large collection of Degener Gymnospermae and especially Angiospermae, except for Lobeliaceae at the time on loan to Vienna; and Filicinae, secreted in a salt mine, were destroyed during World War II bombings by the British halfheartedly [^] aided by us monkey-see monkey-do Americans.

Because of Mr. Kores' important spadework, a bit annoying by poor proof-reading, Misspelling of orchid names and the custom of citing in his Bibliography the entire multipaged article rather than the pertinent paragraph or so which interests the reader, we hope he will complete a project bravely begun. We hope he will not only critically study Hawaiian orchids by botanizing in the field, but shall "botanize" in herbaria of the World for historical material that has been collected by Degeners and others often in regions now despoiled of native vegetation. The beginning, we believe, would be to mail postals to Curators of about 150 institutions asking for information regarding Hawaiian orchids reposing in their cabinets. He should mention the generic names used by "lumpers" as well as those used by "splitters". Their answers, perhaps from Australia to Zurich, may well even unearth authentic Wilhelm Hillebrand material sent out in exchange over a hundred years ago. With such information at hand and requested xeroxes of sheets, Mr. Kores we are convinced would forge quickly ahead to produce an outstanding illustrated orchid Flora that we should like to adapt for our own pet Flora Hawaiiensis.

Personally we are primarily interested in our "Plants Haw. National Park(s)" and "Flora Hawaiensis and Flora Hawaiiana". Mr. Kores cites both in his Bibliography on page 47, adding a little mistery to the citation by modifying the spelling of the kane author's name. He evidently perused the first edition, in boards, of 1930; but no somewhat changed /recopyrighted editions of 1945 and 1973. Why Kores does not mention that the book was "Privately published" as he does for the "Flora Hawaiensis" is strange. According to piffle, the kane, Naturalist of the National Park in 1929, finished the manuscript of what he considered a bulk tin slanted for tourists and not scientists, ~~XXXXXXXX~~ while living at the former Volcano House. It was delightful despite the paucity of water for a tub bath and the printed dinner menus for every day of the week offering a fish with a fascinatingly different Hawaiian name. This may be proper for a "lumper" who emphasizes likeness; but for the kane, a "splitter" who emphasizes differences, it was an error as all fillets were cut from the same hunk in the kitchen. Moreover, after completing the manuscript for his intended pamphlet, the kane writer returned to his home next to the University of Hawaii campus in "green Manoa Valley". Taking his manuscript to the Honolulu Star-Bulletin newspaper office on Merchant Street, he consulted with Salesman Joseph R. Farrington (later U.S. Senator), a man of about his own age. The latter explained the manuscript submitted was too bulky for a pamphlet, and convinced the amazed author it must become a book. What else could the kane do after getting details, but write out a cheque to the order of the newspaper company for \$7,000 to complete his project. The newspaper, hence, was merely the printer of the hard cover first edition, and Otto Degner the publisher and owner of the copyright. Similar confusion in the past may account for instances of pirating repeatedly copyrighted text and illustrations to the authors' financial loss. Farrington later expressed surprise to associates and friends that a local botanist would nonchalantly write out a cheque without a whimper for such a sum. What ~~what~~ else could the latter do?

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

March 13, 1983.

Editor Morin, 'Elepaio
Haw. Audubon Society
1415 Victoria St., Hon.

Dear Miss Morin:

The June-July 1982 'Elepaio number on pages 110 & 111 gives Mae E. Mull's article about "Papayas and Tree Farms VS. Remnant Lowland Forest." Mrs. Mull here wisely warns against deforestation by turning a diversified native forest into a farm of sequential monocultures, first of papayas and then eucalyptus."

During the International Botanical Congress in Sydney we visited often with expert guides various parts of Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania, in some cases a repeat of visits made a decade or so before. We are no experts, yet we wish to warn against the vicious local plan of developing eucalypt forests in Hawaii Nei. We wrote against it before, and now do so again, hoping readers of "Aussie forests under control" appearing in the Honolulu Advertiser for Feb. 18, 1983 visualize what could happen here.

Eucalypts, so common in Australia, New Zealand and especially Tasmania, in a fire do not burn like the trees we know so well. The starting fire volatilizes the eucalyptus oil, and the entire area becomes an inferno cloud of flaming gas. Except for large logs which keep on smoldering for hours, the eucalypt forest fire burns itself out even as quickly as THREE MINUTES! It is like an explosion. In Tasmania the flaming cloud may even jump the ocean to engulf offshore islands and set them a fire.

To grow stands of eucalypts in Hawaii Nei - ^{we} ~~we~~ are already doing it - is an inexcusable hazard. In a fire, if the wind blows mauka, native forests with irreplaceable International Treasures in animals and plants are endangered; if makai, villages and the replaceable people living in them.

If interested, read the Honolulu Advertiser for Feb. 18, 1983 and be forewarned. It's a horrible death for plants and animals including ourselves.

Aloha,

3/13/83
DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.

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Aloha,



Hunt 100-23

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Department of Botany

Plant Science Building • 3190 Maile Way • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Cooperative National Park
Resources Studies Unit

Pacific Environmental Research
and Training Programs

21 March 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Thank you for your letter of March 10, 1983. I apologize for not responding earlier but I was away on the mainland.

I am sorry to inform you that we cannot accept your proposed article entitled "Literature and Other Matters Regarding Orchids in Hawaii Nei" for the following reasons.

1. The Newsletter does not accept articles without submitting them to referees. We also reserve the right to edit where appropriate. This policy does not apply to Letters to the Editor, etc.
2. Your article, as submitted, is incomplete.
3. The article covers a wide range of topics. Only the last few sentences relate to the title.

With regards to the precise date of publication, we have never worried about this matter. None of the articles we publish have any direct bearing on taxonomic questions so precedence is of no consequence.

Thank you for considering the Newsletter for your comments. We would be interested in a concise critique of Mr. Kore article.

My best wishes to you and your wife.

Sincerely yours,

C. W. Smith
Associate Professor of Botany
Editor, Hawaiian Botanical Society
Newsletter

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Sincerely yours,

C. W. Smith
Associate Professor of Botany
Editor, Hawaiian Botanical Society
Newsletter



Scientific Publications Office

The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458 USA

(212) 220-8721

March 21, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

This is in response to your inquiry regarding the possible distribution of your publication on the plants of the Hawaiian National Parks through our office.

We are most grateful to you for your offer, however, must decline it at present. We find ourselves extremely busy with our monographic series and special publications, thus are unable to take additional responsibilities. We thank you for your generous offer and wish you continued success with all your publications.

Sincerely,

Maria L. Lebron-Luteyn, Ph.D.

MLL:sp

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Distributors of the BULLETIN OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.
March 22, 1985.

Dear Colleagues Holmgren:

Isa & I have two important questions:

1. Being without a bot., library excepting for our very limited one in our beach home on Oahu, we are stuck in printing an article about our naturalized orchid P. tankervilleae. Please rush us information as to whether the correct spelling for the genus is Phaius or Phajus for the lady's namesake in the plant world. Has one or the other spelling ever been conserved and, if so, where & when. Would not consultation of genus cover in the cabinet answer my question?

I misbehaved during Hurricane Iwa, which cost us about ten coconut palms & our fences on Oahu. The damage was about \$5,000, but mostly covered by insurance. Whether my cleaning up in the yard is a coincidence or not, I don't know. My left Piji leg (the foot has been a bit swollen since 1941 from a few "vinegar eels"), began to feel tired from overwork. But when the leg started swelling a bit more each day, I visited my M.D., who immediately stuck me in the hospital for nine days to prevent a blood clot from breaking up into emboli that might reach lung, heart or brain. Do you know the method? I was fed coumarin (from a Florida plant) euphroniously given the trade name "counadin" when used by physicians and "warfarin" when used by rat exterminators.

I am alright now, but must not stand too long lest the blood stagnate in my legs. I am to walk about or lie on a couch with my legs a bit elevated. I can do this well while typing, as you see.

What I am getting at slowly is that Isa & I have not been at our alternate home at Volcano for five months! Our absence is usually two or at most three. Now the plot thickens! I mailed Dr. Maria Le Bron cheque No. 1462 Dec. 24, 1982 for your Index bariorum for the kind bargain price of \$56.25. It was cashed at the Fordham Road Branch of the Chemical Bank Feb. 24, 1983. The volume did not arrive at our beach place at Waialua, Oahu, so we had assumed it was waiting at the Volcano, Hawaii Post Office for us to pick up. But when we called for our huge box of mail at Volcano - only first class is forwarded from island to island to us - the Index was not there. Of course, parcels don't reach our State as quickly as first class letters, but anyway Isa & I thought we should let you know. Here at Volcano is where we write our plant labels and mail out dups., to 100 or so institutions of the World. We have been using the addresses in your 1966 edition, and do want to use the ones in your new edition.

I have written books since 1930, and have never had a publisher. I or Isa & I are officially publishers who hire a printer to do the dirty work. Printers mail books via "Printed Matter" at an annoying high postage rate. But Isa & I, the publishers, mail at the flattering, low, Low, LOW "Library Rate." We are so often amazed how scientific societies have such high mailing costs for their publications: why don't they use "Library Rate" instead of "Printed Matter"?

We live uphill from the lava flow - had 4 1/2 Richter scale quake yesterday P.M. - and are perfectly safe, But we depend on rainfall from our roof flowing into our two large wooden watertanks. If we are too clean with baths & showers, and do our laundry at home, we may go dry and return to Oahu prematurely. We can't bother hauling water from near sea level or pay to have it done.

While in the hospital I corrected page proof for our tourist paperback.

Aloha to Isa & me to all,

Otto Degener

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

March 24, 1983.

Dear Skip:

Isa & I thank you most sincerely for your 100% solution to our past hala problem. Your explanation and drawings in the letter constitute a scientific paper, with references to us omitted, worth publication. We have changed our previous text to embody your findings, but in a very simply way because "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks" is slanted for the average tourist visiting Haw. Volc. Nat. Parks and the Haleakala one.

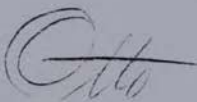
Are you aware/~~we~~ are shocked - that the last Int. Bot. Congress held in Sydney is flitting with the idea of tampering with our Code to perhaps allow nom. cons., for SPECIES names?! It is bad enough to have it for genera, discouraging botanists from digging into the past & perhaps learning the wide thoughts of predecessors. So should our pet "(J.P. du Roi) Deg. & Deg." be frowned upon by strict adherence to our present Code ruling, it might become a nom. cons., after all. You can hardly blame us for playfully or proudly comping the du Roi name with that of the Degener one when Mrs. du Roi's maiden name WAS "Degener"! It is such a coincidence.

Now we have gotten so far as the Orchidaceae in our page-proof correcting. Without a good bot., library at hand, we cannot help but flounder a bit.

Isa & I are terribly busy with nonbot. matters: Isa yesterday finally completed getting our last of five rental units ready for the next occupant. Four have tenants that don't bother us. Secondly, we have four workmen for \$1,500 repairing our Mokuleia fish pond that you and family may remember. We can't leave for oleana for months & have our koi die of thirst.

We are grateful to you for your most efficient answer to our S.O.S. Aloha to you and Mrs. Stone. Do your youngsters show unusual interest in Biology, or are they still too young to have elected some special interest?

Isa joins in aloha,



63 mailed N.Y., March
1983; others to Moldenke
etc., O.D.

- Clerodendron philippinum* Schau. 80002
Leucaena glauca (L.) Benth. 80008
Rauvolfia vomitoria Afg. ex Spreng. 80021
Micromelum integerim Roem. var. *mollissimum* Tanaka 80022
Rubus multibracteatus Lévl. et Vent. 80024
Melastoma polyanthum Blume 80025
Tetrastigma cruciatum Craib. et Gagn. 80026
Leea aequata L. 80030
Pilea falsenotata C. J. Chen 80034
Clausena lenia Drake 80037
Oreocnide frutescens (Thunb.) Miq. 80038
Marsdenia tinctoria R.Br. 80039
Albizzia meyeri Richer. 80040
Celastrus paniculatus Willd. 80047
Cayratia japonica (Thunb.) Gagn. var. *canescens* W.T. Wang 80049
Sumbaviopsis albicans (Bl.) J. J. Sm. 80050
Cleidion spiciflorum (Burm.) Merr. 80052
Macaranga denticulata (Bl.) Muell.-Arg. 80054
Maesa indica (Roxb.) A. DC. 80056
Leea indica Merr. 80058
Ficus subulata Bl. 80062
Mallotus barbatus (Wall.) Muell.-Arg. 80064
Callicarpa arborea Roxb. 80065
Vitex quinata (Lour.) Williams var. *puberula* (Lam.) Moldenke 80068
Teucrium viscidum Bl. 80069
Solanum verbacifolium L. 80070
Sapium baccatum Roxb. 80071

Schefflera venulosa (Wight & Arn.) Herms 80075
Albizzia meyeri Richer. 80077
Albizzia odoratissima (L.f.) Benth. 80078
Millettia leptobotrya 80081
Tetrastigma lenticellatum C. Y. Wu 80084
Euphorbia hirta L. 80086
Premna fulva Craib 80087
Tamarindus indica L. 80090
Oreocnide rubescens (Bl.) Miq. 80091
Ficus subulata Bl. 80092
Clerodendron japonicum (Thunb.) Sweet 80093
Sapindus rarak DC. 80094
Oxalis corniculata L. 80095
Cassia siamea Lamark 80096
Cocculus mollis Wall. 80098
Phoebe lanceolata Nees 80099
Pottsia laxiflora (Bl.) O. Ktze. 80100
Amelocalyx yunnanensis Tsiang 80101
Clusena excavata Burm. f. 80103
Croton kongensis Gagn. 80105
Ficus altissima Bl. 80106
Scoparia dulcis L. 80108
Sapium discolor (Champ.) Muell.-Arg. 80109
Adenanthera pavonina L. 80110
Aleurites moluccana (L.) Willd. 80111

Zanthoxylum dissitoides Huang 80117
Aporosa yunnanensis (Pax et Hoffm.) Metc. 80118
Ficus hirta Vahl. 80119
Choerspondias axillaris (Roxb.) Burt et Hill 80123
Euodia simplicifolia Rodley 80125
Ficus hirta Vahl. 80127
Ficus langkokensis Drake 80128
Cratoxylon cochinchinensis (Lour.) Bl. 80130
Stixis saubeolens (Roxb.) Pierre 80132
Dalbergia stipulacea Roxb. 80133
Hevea brasiliensis (H.B.K.) Muell.-Arg. 80135
Pittosporopsis kerrii Craib 80136
Kopsia lancibracteola Merr. 80138
Litsea glutinosa (Lour.) C. E. Rob. 80139
Rorippa montana (Wall.) Smalle 80144
Alternanthera sessilis (L.) DC. 80146
Melia toosendan Sieb. et Zucc. 80147
Breynia patens (M.-A.) HK.f. 80148
Lycianthes biflora (Lour.) Bitt. 80151
Flaccourtia ramontchii L. Herit. 80152
Ardisia solanacea Roxb. 80155
Cissus adnata (Wall.) Roxb. 80156
Chaydaia rubinervia (Levl) C. Y. Wu 80157
Cassia tora L. 80162
Stachytarpheta jamaicensis (L.) Vahl 80167
Garuga pinnata Roxb. 80172

Rauvolfia verticillata (Lour.) Baill. 80173
Rauvolfia verticillata (Lour.) Baill. 80174
Ervatamia flabelliformis Tsiang 80175
Ervatamia divaricata (L.) Burk. 80176
Verbena officinalis L. 80181
Urena lobata L. *Var. chinensis* (Osbeck) S.Y. Hu 80183
Ludwigia octovalvis (Jacq.) Raven 80185
Duranta repes L. 80187
Mangifera siamensis Warbg. ex Craib 80189
Toddalia asiatica (L.) Lam. 80190
Cinnamomum cassia Bl. 80192
Moringa oleifera Lam. 80197
Castanopsis mekongensis A. Camus 80198
Torenia glabra Osbeck 80201
Gmelina villosa Roxb. 80202
Thevetia peruviana (Pers.) K. Schum. 80206
Euphorbia humifusa Willd. 80207
Hibiscus schizopetalus (Masters) HK.f. 80211
Cipadessa baccifera Miq. 80102

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER

P.O. Box 134

Volcano, Hawaii

96785 U.S.A.

April 1, 1983

Dear Mrs. Holmgren:

Your 1981 "Index" just arrived. It is splended! Isa & I have been using the 1966 edition continuously, we having it as a vade mecum whenever we switch from one home to the other. I have it on my desk, as it lists the 100 plus institutions to which we are distributing our excess duplicate herbarium specimens.

Comparing the 1966 edition with the new one is rather sad for me. The new one is crammed with new names, emphasizing the disappearance of my contemporaries and friends, and indicating ~~again~~ I am something of a living fossil. This truth stimulates us more & more to clear our homes of accumulated material that should be safely housed in museums; also, we are completing the 500 page edition of our paperback tourist book. It is now in page proof.

P
Regarding me on page 329, you refer to "BHSC". Is this not a misprint? We have never heard of "Spearfish", listed on page 360. Do you not mean "B" for Berlin, "BH" for "Ithaca" or even for both? I have been mailing herbarium specimens since earliest days to Ilger of Berlin in exchange for "Engler-Prantl" publications. In fact, when last Isa & I were in Berlin, we checked our native Psilotum with their collection. I was so pleased to discover my Specimen there which I had collected during the summer of 1921 in Paget Marsh, Bermuda. I collected that summer with H.H. Whetzel of Cornell. I specialized on Fl. Plants and he on their fungi. By the way, I guess that is about the time I shipped my first dups., to Ithaca. My set is also at NY, the best of course.

My mother had died of cancer in our home at 316 W. 89 Street (in sight of the Soldiers & Sailors Monument), and my sister & I just wanted to run away from NY. Hence we dashed off to Bermuda. My catch I then worked up at the Garden under Drs. Britton, Barnhart & Rydberg, getting credit for an advanced degree from Columbia. In fact, I "subwayed" once a week to Schermerhorn Hall to attend Dr. Harper's Seminar. Of course my taste for the subtropics started with Bermuda, and influenced my settling in Honolulu in 1922.

Have you perused my "Naturalist's South Pacific Expedition: Fiji"? It is in the Garden Library. I botanized there for eight months, essentially on my own cash with paid assistants. A preliminary determination list, thanks to A.C. Smith, I give in smallish print on pages 286-296 of my book. Since 1941 Isa & I have been back to Fiji, we collecting a few additional numbers.

Just by chance, I came across a memorandum of my 1940-41 Fiji collection & where I sent the specimens. This I mailed Mr. Long a few weeks ago. Do please glance at it. I collected thousands. My personal collection is of course at NY, with major duplicate sets at AA and my Alma Mater Univ. of Mass. Mr. Long will mail me a copy for my own files. The collection is one of the largest made (counting duplicates) on Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. I believe your next edition might note the fact.

We note you have abandoned your 1966 indication of titles. Not knowing any better, I used to address letters & packages to Bo Peterson of Göteborg as "Prof.", and got a strong letter from him objecting to the habit. Nowadays we are especially perplexed in our mailing whether we should use Mr, Mrs, Ms., or Miss.

I am mailing you a package of Chinese plants, and shall try to credit our tax bill with \$125. It is true some of the specimens are skimpy, but when I consider that our yardboy gets \$15 per hour to mow our lawn, these plants represent as ex-

material for Haw., plants many, many hours of our work (worth more than that of a laborer), not to mention use of car. etc.

Our Volcano now has fountains 450 feet high, but these are in the jungle out of sight. The only way for us to see them is to fly by helicopter at about \$50 a person for half an hour's flight. This is beyond our means. Anyway, we have seen similar ones nearer home - in fact, been awakened at night by their roar.

This letter is so long, would you believe it, for relaxation in my old age. We were delighted with the visit ~~xxxxx~~ of our Munich friends Drs. & Mrs. Hubert Ziegler. We have been seeing each other at several International Bot. Congresses, and even shared a U-Drive car for an excursion. Today we showed them our Volcano region. Too tired to work, I am typing this letter; while Isa, too tired also, is solving a crossword puzzle! We plan to show the Zieglers additional sights during this week. No! No! don't fear. I won't write a similar letter again.

Isa joins me in aloha to all,

Otto Spegner



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220-8700

5 April 1983

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

Dear Drs. Degener,

Thank you for your letter of 1 April with the news that you received the Index. You need not apologize for your letters. I always enjoy reading them.

You are correct about the misprint on page 329 of the Index. The type-setter (from the Netherlands) was the worst I have ever seen, and we had trouble getting the typos caught in proof corrected. Nevertheless, as you say, the book is useful for all of us involved in systematics.

I have enclosed a copy of the Garden Newsletter with the note about B. A. Krukoff's death. Perhaps you already get the Newsletter.

Thanks in advance for the Chinese plants. We're glad to have specimens from that part of the world.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Pat

PKH/bw
enc.

PATRICIA K. HOLMGREN
Director of the Herbarium

Hand
DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
68-617 Crozier Drive
Waiolua, Oahu, Hawaii
96791 U.S.A.

April 7, 1983.

Editor, The Maui News.

Dear Sir:

q.c.
We were delighted in the article appearing recently in the Maui News about the Botanical Garden on Maui's Isthmus and the success of Mr. René Sylva, a truly modern Alii in his conscientious and expert handling of the acreage in his charge. We both are staff members, locally resident as agents, of the New York Botanical Garden, one of us before marriage having been on the staff of the Berlin Botanical Garden. We have visited many Gardens in foreign lands while attending International Botanical Congresses, not to mention some smaller ones in the Canaries, in Madeira and in the Azores. We are not gullible. Any one reading the newspaper article between the lines will realize that a success the Maui Garden has already become. We flew expressly to Maui last year to visit it, and to be guided by Mr. Sylva and his volunteer assistant Mrs. Toms. Being impressed, we mailed cuttings of Giffard's Mibiscadelphus, the kuaiwi, from a tree under our control. The species, a true International Treasure, is extinct in the wild state due to the action of man and beast.

Though the report at first appears unfavorable - remember it was published by the News on April Fool's Day - do realize that any important undertaking cannot please every individual in a large population. Some minority member usually unwittingly tries to assassinate the outstanding leader with printer's ink, while others try bullets; remember what happened to two Kennedys, to Pres. Reagan and to the Pope.

We hope the Visitors' Bureau, the Alii Like, our Councillors and Legislators and others interested in the wondrous Creations of the Islands will help Mr. Sylva and his able colleagues financially to forge ahead even faster than they are doing it now. A Garden can be expensive, even in small items such as the replacement of plant labels that are prized as souvenirs by some tourists and children alike. One of the greatest bargains now is the reasonable price of land adjacent to the Botanical Garden and the Zoo. Be wise, and buy it! Now that Mr. "Rick" Medina and Mr. Charles Ota have efficiently brought the Botanical and Zoological Gardens into the news via some of the best read newspapers in the Islands, I would suggest they get in step and each ~~buy~~ chase privately a deep and wide strip of adjoining land, tax free because donated to an eleemosynary State institution. The one should be called "The Medina Grove" and the other "The Ota Grove". These, expertly planted, will honor their memories for years to come better than any monument in a Cemetery.

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener

O. & I.

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

April 7. :1983.

Editor, The Advertiser.

Dear Sir:

Very appropriately on April Fools' Day you published a "Criticism over zoo's grass stage," on Maui's Isthmus. We were delighted by the expert and conscientious handling by Mr. René S/ylva, a truly modern alii, of acreage in his charge at a bargain rate for the taxpayer. It constitutes the Maui Botanical Garden adjacent to the Zoological one. We both are critical, being staff members resident in Hawaii nei of the New York Botanical Garden. In fact, before marriage, one of us was on the staff of the Berlin Botanical Garden. We have visited many Gardens in foreign lands while attending International Botanical Congresses, not to mention some smaller ones in the Canaries, in Madeira, in the Azores and in far distant Tasmania. We flew expressly to Maui last year to visit and study its Garden critically, and to renew our acquaintance with Mr. S/ylva and volunteer assistant Mrs. Tom. Being greatly impressed, we mailed cuttings of Giffard's hibiscadelphus, the kuaiwi, from a tree under our control. The species, a true International Treasure, is extinct in the wild state due to the action of man and beast. Our action is proof of our inspection rating.

Though the article by Reporter Edwin Tanji is favorable, he explains that two Maui ~~Wild~~ Park Councillors are critical of a grass stage. This/ we former University teachers of Botany/ feel is particularly valuable for relaxation and educational lectures for residents and for bus loads of tourists and school children. The criticism is a blessing in disguise as it focusses the general public's attention to the excellence of a Garden within easy access^E when once on Maui no ka oi.

We hope the Visitors' Bureau, the Alu Like, our Councillors and Legislators and others interested in the wondrous creations of the Islands will help Mr. S/ylva and i his able colleagues financially to forge ahead even faster than they are doing it now. A Garden can be expensive, even in small items such as the replacement of plant labels that are prized as souvenirs by some tourists and children alike. One of the greatest bargains now is the reasonable price of land adjacent to the Botanical Garden and the Zoo. Be wise and buy it! Now that Mr. "Rick" Medina and Mr. Charles Ota have efficiently brought the Botanical and Zoological Gardens into the news via some of the best read newspapers in the Islands, it would suggest they get in step and each purchase privately a deep and wide strip of adjoining land, tax free because donated to an eleemosynary State institution. The one should be called "The Medina Grove" and the other ~~the~~ "The Ota Grove". These, expertly planted to endemics, will not only wipe out memories of a passing blunder but do honor to their memories for many years into the future.

Aloha, Drs. Otto & Isa Degener

Botanizing

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

April 7, 1983.

Editor, The Advertiser,
605 Kapiolani Blvd.,
Honolulu.

Dear Sir:

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Aloha,

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener

O. & I.

MRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER

Box 154

Volcano, Hawaii

96785 U.S.A.

April 10, 1968

Dear Mrs. Cerum:

My wife and I have your April 5 letter about the new variety of mao. We have been difficult to reach for some time as my mother-in-law had terminal cancer. Instead of returning in a bee-line from Germany, we made a wide ~~side~~ detour flight over Spain & Portugal with lengthy stopovers on two Canary Islands, on Madeira (a true garbage dump ~~dune~~ from below low tide level to its mountain tops) and on five Azore Islands. We ~~we~~ of course botanized everywhere. We were able to pick up some seeds of the dragon tree for Mr. Woolliams, but recently realized their modest value after seeing a healthy plant growing opposite the Flamingo Restaurant on the way to Honolulu. That plant was producing abundant seed.

Having seen destruction of the most important herbaria by crazed World War bombers, we lack confidence that valuable plant treasures may survive in many botanical gardens and museums. With Pearl Harbor so near, H.M., might go up in smoke. In fact, the Japanese in WW II flew over my house next to the Univ. of Haw., where a second Haw. herbarium is housed. The flyer dropped a bomb on Round Top. So we like to scatter our finds in about 10 different institutions at least, like New York Bot. Garden, Bishop Museum, Texas, Kew, Berlin, Vienna, Stockholm, Leningrad, Peking, Tokyo, and for a change also to at least ten others picked from a list of 125 we keep. In other words, what is the good of describing a plant unless smarter botanists with better instruments in the future can examine a dried specimen as proof that what we printed is actually true? So much that Hillebrand had discovered before he left the Islands over a 100 years ago is confusing to us without at least a fragment to look at. The proof has largely disappeared.

In the case of real rarities we don't harm the plant but press leaves & fls., that have fallen on the ground. I did that way back in the '20s for *Hibiscadelphus giffardianus*, going to the single wild plant continuously for two years when living at Volcano. Only once did I rob the tree of one flowering branch to make a drawing for my "Plants Haw. Nat. Park" book published in 1930. While we were away from Volcano a Park scientist (?), fortunately now retired, without noting my authentic drawing in my Park book, erred in characters of floral bracts in three 30-35 foot tall Kipuka Ki trees! These International Treasures were therefore chopped and sawed down, trees we considered so scared that we visited them to pick up their fallen fruits for herbarium specimens. After these trees produced vigorous sprouts from the trunks, any evidence as to correctness or error in judgement was obliterated by spraying the last life out of the species with weed spraying.

Would you believe it? Since my book was published in 1930, not a single reader has corrected me that I show the flower upside down. It sticks up to the sky. The picture will be so in our new edition.

We are in control of a beautiful tree of this species, & herewith send you cuttings for Mr. Woolliams to propagate. Its flowers are like those shown by me in my book from the last wild specimen.

Regarding the new var., of cotton - it is from Molekai is it not? - it would be nice if we had at least 10 pressed flowers and 20 leaves (one right side up and one upside down on the herbarium sheet) for 10 herbarium sheets for botanists of the World to admire far into the future. You are on the spot. Don't you want to compare this new variety with presumably the species itself growing next to it? You are the expert then. We plan to be at our Volcano home for the next 2-3 months, writing labels and mailing away the plants we collected on those Atlantic islands last year. They are crowding us out of our house, and they might get buggy. At Mokuleia we have all our books, pamphlets and plant notes. In fact, we have an original copy where Parlatoire described our species in Italian way back in 1866. It was sent us as a gift from Florence for a package of Haw., plants we mailed their museum for safety.

When back at Mokuleia we would want to compare your notes with the Italian's, study the ten or so specimens, get a photo for publication from Waimea, write the legal Latin diagnosis. Why can't we then bust into print in Waimea Arboretum's cotton-flower-colored yellow pages?

While I am at it, I might add that so-called "civilized man" has been in those Atlantic islands we visited for about 500 years. The endemics are largely replaced by introduced weeds. The civilized Degeners, Gerums and their ilk have been in the Haw., Islands about 200 years. We know that ^{that} our islands will be in another 300 years. It may interest you to know we discovered during our U-Driving where the ki-pukas are with a few endemic survivors. They are modernly bulldozed roadcuts. These are too steep for domesticated to climb & browse clean; and too frightening with cars, carriages and donkey riders for feral goats to approach.

By the way, do you wish to buy copies of our Pl. Haw., Books 1-4 (shopworn) for \$15 outright? Book 5 is out of print, but Book 6 is available in excellent condition for \$15, and the paperback "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks" for \$5.00. These are the wholesale prices presently for cash. Consignment is a bookkeeping nuisance. YOUR retail price can be whatever you wish to ask. The Waimea shop used to sell them, but has not order anything for some time. There are so very many curio shops all over, in hotels & elsewhere that can handle this material. I bet the kukui lei outfit near Haleiwa has tourist customers.

Please look up Family 221: Gossypium; Tomentosum. Recent research seems to show we Degeners should reprint the specific name as sandvicensis. The book is looseleaf so that obsolete sheets can be displaced with better ones.

Mrs. D., joins me in wishing the Woolliams family and you aloha,

Dr. Otto Degener



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32611

THE VASCULAR PLANT HERBARIUM

209 ROLFS HALL

12 April 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

We very much appreciate your gift of 17 pressed vascular plants and miscellaneous Xeroxes and reprints, which we received today. These are very nicely pressed specimens and will make wonderful accessions into FLAS. Thank you very much for your unfailing generosity. Let us know if there is anything we can collect for you in Florida.

The article concerning Eucalyptus tree farms is particularly interesting since these trees are being investigated as a possible tree crop in Florida. I believe our frequent summer lightning storms might increase the likelihood of fire.

I take this opportunity to wish you and your wife the best of regards from all of us at the University of Florida Herbarium.

Sincerely,

Kent D. Perkins
Registrar of the Collections (FLAS)

Vascular Plant Herbarium
209 Rolfs Hall
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

KDP:kdp

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

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Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

DAS. OTTO & ISA DEGEN
P.O. Box 134
Velewa, Hawaii
86783 U.S.A.

April 14, 1983

Dear Dr. Sohmer:

Have not yet tackled herbs., from Australia etc., nor from Canaries etc., as too busy with getting out new edition of paperback, changing of two tenant families, fixing up property including lawnmower and two balking cars, answering accumulated letters and enjoying Plant Physiologist and Zoologist wife from Germany. We have known them ever since the Int. Bot. Congress in Montreal.

Our Island of Haw., visitors came with other leading Europeans and Downunderers (Australia, etc.) to attend a "Seminar on Stomata" scheduled at Waikiki. He was amazed (and I bet the other scientists also) that no local physiologist was prominent at the meeting. Nor were these guests from afar wine & dined at least once in our State.

Before coming to the Island of Hawaii from Honolulu - we showed them around every second day about Kilauea and as far as Pohakuloa - they tried to buy our books but failed. I had sent a parcel of an unusually good assortment to your gift shop on consignment. It was returned for lack of "storage space". So we sent the books to the Orient where they are appreciated & bring in cash in a round about way. Please ask your New York colleague to mail us a receipt for accompanying package of plants. We shall credit ourselves ^Wtaxes for a \$100 gift to an eleemosynary institution.

New Yorkers seem to be doing wonders at B.M., but our State is still a pioneer lacking enough social intelligence to attract lucrative bequests. How many has B.M., actually? You lost mine, which was "in the works" (safe deposit box) from 1925 until Francis offended Isa with a chummy letter of false information to Dr. Crenits. He seemed to believe it all and did not realize that our Fl., "Books" are not volumes but merely a collection of mostly single sheets officially published in an edition of 1,500 copies months & even years before by us & often with collaborators.

Aloha,

C.D.

Letters

THE MAUI NEWS — Wednesday, April 13, 1983 — A7

Garden appreciated

We were delighted in the article appearing recently in The Maui News about the Botanical Garden on Maui's Isthmus and the success of Mr. Rene Sylva, a truly modern Alii in his conscientious and expert handling of the acreage in his charge. We both are staff members, locally resident as agents, of the New York Botanical Garden, one of us before marriage having been on the staff of the Berlin Botanical Garden. We have visited many Gardens in foreign lands while attending International Botanical Congresses, not to mention some smaller ones in the Canaries, in Madeira and in the Azores. We are not gullible. Any one reading the newspaper article between the lines will realize what a success the Maui Garden has already become. We flew expressly to Maui last year to visit it, and to be guided by Mr. Sylva and his volunteer assistant Mrs. Toms. Being impressed, we mailed cuttings of Giffard's Hibiscadelphus, the kuaiwi, from a tree under our control. The species, a true International Treasure, is extinct in the wild state due to the action of man and beast.

Though the report at first appears unfavorable — remember it was published by the News on April Fool's Day — do realize that any important undertaking cannot please every individual in a large population. Some minority member usually unwittingly tries to assassinate the outstanding leader with printer's ink, while others try bullets; remember what happened to two Kennedys, to Pres. Reagan and to the Pope.

We hope the Visitors' Bureau, the Alu Like, our Councillors and Legislators and others interested in the wondrous Creations of the Islands will help Mr. Sylva and his able colleagues financially to forge ahead even faster than they are doing it now. A garden can be expensive, even in small items such as the replacement of plant labels that are prized as souvenirs by some tourists and children alike. One of the greatest bargains NOW is the reasonable price of land adjacent to the Botanical Garden and the Zoo. Be wise, and buy it! Now that Mr. Rick Medina and Mr. Charles Ota have efficiently brought the Botanical and Zoological Gardens into the news via some of the best read newspapers in the Islands, I would suggest they get in step and each purchase privately a deep and wide strip of adjoining land, tax free because donated to an eleemosynary State institution. The one should be called "The Medina Grove" and the other "The Ota Grove". These, expertly planted,

will honor their memories for years to come better than any monument in a Cemetery.

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener
Waiialua, Oahu

APRIL 14th

Dear Isa and Otto,
I am enclosing the page of the Maui News on which your article appeared. We think it very good and thank you for doing this. There have been several letters published on this subject.

Also, George Ota and some others visited the Gardens and talked with Rene (Medina didn't come) in amazement at what he had done — why not have visited before said one ???
aloha to you both. Helen

Dedicated employee

As unpleasant as it has been, all the squabbling and nitpicking on the issue of the Botanical Garden have perhaps served a purpose, in making the public more aware of the work there of Rene Sylva. His efforts, and those of the volunteers inspired by his dedication and belief in the importance of preserving native Hawaiian plants, have resulted in a beautiful and unique facility, to be appreciated by all.

Perhaps when they settle all the other issues among themselves, the council and administration will get around to some fitting recognition of

this valuable employee. It would certainly do more to inspire other public servants to extra efforts than the initial reaction!

Beverly Bartlett
Haiku

VOLCANO — Hawaii Volcanoes National Park has been especially honored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Union for Conservation of Natural Resources — an international conservationist group made up mostly of scientists — by being designated as a park with a unique environment of plants and

animals (mostly plants). These prestigious organizations, by giving this park such international status, has made it very special and important. It will give the park international recognition, making it known throughout the world as a place that is involved with outstanding programs for the study of man in the biosphere. It will attract even more top scientists to come here to study and research this unique ecosystem. A ceremony to formally recognize the designation is being planned.

Being so recognized gives much added importance to the upcoming conference on park management of the forest pig. This program is international in scope and an attendance of over 100 is expected. This is an open conference, all those interested are welcome to attend. There is no registration fee, although there is a \$2.50 fee for refreshments. It will be an all day session, 8:45 a.m. - 5 p.m. Aug. 7 at Maunaloa House in the Research Center in the national park.

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

April 19, 1983

Dear Dr. Stone:

Please renew our permit
for the National Park area.
Actually, we hardly ever
collect there as I got a re-
presentative set of the
ferns & flowering plants
while I lived in the old
Volcano House in 1929-
31 for the New York
Botanical Garden of
which Mrs. D. & I have
been staff members
for years.

A permit is handy
should we see some-
thing off the beaten

path that we may have
missed

We had the pleasure
of meeting Mr. Trison
this P. M., at K. M. C.,

Aloha

D. O. Degener

EDWIN A. MENNINGER, D.Sc.

"THE FLOWERING TREE MAN"

P.O. BOX 107

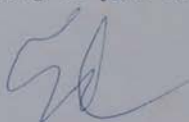
STUART, FLORIDA 33495

PHONE 305-287-1091

4 28 83

Dear Mr Degener

Thanks for your note. I'm 87 so you'll have to hurry
if you are going to catch me. Keep a song in your heart.



The 1968 Reesner Award
FLORIDA NURSERY & GROWERS
ASSOCIATION



Given to Edwin A. Menninger, D.Sc.
"for outstanding contributions to
the Florida horticultural industry"

When Napoleon was overrunning
Europe, King John of Portugal
was powerless to resist, so he
moved his government to Rio de
Janeiro. While there he estab-
lished the Botanic Garden.



This 150th anniversary medal was
awarded to 12 institutions and 3
individuals in the U.S.A.

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL GARDEN
Miami, Florida



The Thomas Barbour medal 1958

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SOCIETY'S
1971 Thomas Roland Medal



Awarded to Edwin A. Menninger, D.Sc.
"for skill in horticulture"

FLORIDA NURSERY & GRC
ASSOCIATION 1976



For "Service, Know
Integrity, Quali

April 28, 1983

Aloha to the Degeners,

Your packet, Otto, is here, and I've just 'phoned Bob Keller.

All the directions seem to be clear enough with one exception*, and when I discuss the matter with Keller tomorrow, he may be able to figure out what you want in the way of copies for all items.

Keller tells me over the 'phone that

----- he will mail packet to you library rate
and

***----- he will bill you -- probably under separate cover.

The Don Smith you mentioned meeting I think at one time lived on the No. Shore and --- was a candlemaker(?) We used to get 'phone calls for him. The only correspondence from you, Otto, since your departure from Mokuleia earlier this year has been the acknowledgment of the packet I mailed to you. I can't recall anything being redirected to me (from the Laupahoehoe Smith) from either the Big Island or from Haleiwa.

Aloha, 

*OK now, for your direction in the Haw. Bot. Soc. newsletter was on the front cover --- which you had then folded over to conceal -- while exposing pgs. 12&13 with the Finley name. But DHS, knowing how O.D. operates at times, ferreted out the " 100 ccs on single sheet of course --" (emphasis yours!)

D.

April 26, 1983

Dear Otto and Isa,

The 99-year-old Ms Hemenway is still writing her weekly column, and I send along over just to let you know that they had coughs&colds in the 19th century -- but no virus flu (?) ----- at least by that name. I must have told you that Ruby went to school with Doc T. and that we correspond ----- c-c-c^a-s-i-o-nally.

This note is a somewhat belated acknowledgment and thank-you for your check which I found enclosed with your March 25 letter.

I was glad to read that things go along in a normal fashion with the Degeners at Volcano and that you seem to have enough water to raise a head or two of lettuce if need be. I didn't know that you were bothered mit the flu --- and that you are using scuba-diving "equipment."

Keller is ready for you, again, if you wish. And I continue to go to the City on Fridays.

My travels to the west have not taken me beyond the Kellys on Crozier Loop. If the Krayniks have not checked your place, and you have not heard from your tenants; well, let me know, and I'll look over your fishpond, etc.

We roll along much as usual. Lyn has an app't to see her doctor early in May, and I take the usual preventive-antitodal medicine of a nap nearly every afternoon.

The new Waiialua postoffice is going up and up. The walls are standing, the roof beams on hand, and all seems to be moving along OK; Akagi doesn't know, however, when they will be moving into their new quarters.

Aloha from Kahaione Loop.

I remember when. . . Gold Recorder p. 5 2/5/83

. . . we made our own cough medicine

By RUBY HEMENWAY
Recorder Columnist

Have you got out mother's or grandmother's recipe book (she called it her receipt book) and looked up that old cough remedy she used to make. And, can you remember being dosed with it?

A friend, who grew up in Moores Corner, said this was her mother's directions:



COUGH REMEDY

Pine needles (ends) (must have been green)

Sugar, 1 quart

¼ teaspoon red pepper

½ teaspoon skunk cabbage root

Grated nutmeg

Makes 1½ quarts cough syrup when cooked.

The quantity of pine needles is not given, but Tilly said it was a lot. Other herbs and shrubs were used too, boiled in water to make a strong tea, then added to a sugar syrup — elm bark that made "slippery elm lozenges," horehound drops, candied sweet flag root, camomile flower tea which is used as a sedative to help cold sufferers, catnip tea which made a soothing hot drink, ginger tea made so hot your throat smarted, but was supposed to induce a sweat and to break up a fever.

Plasters and poultices were used also, especially the mustard plaster on the chest or back, but put enough flour with the powdered mustard when mixing it, so it won't blister the skin. One woman told me lately that her mother always put them on her children, and she remembered how warm and good it felt at first, and soothing so she fell asleep, but if the nap was too long, it began to burn. I never had had one on, as a very high fever was my trouble rather than a cough or congestion.

When doctors were later available, not 10

or 12 miles away, and cough syrups and remedies for about every ailment could be bought at the grocer's or the drugstore, the old-home remedies fell into disrepute and were even said to be just some horrid bitter teas.

The enactment of the pure food laws made a big clearing out of medicines that were based principally on drugs and alcohol. Many a pious little old lady was very shocked to find that the "tonic" she had depended on for so many years to start the day right was actually a shot of liquor. I remember a neighbor child, who always seemed to have an aching tooth, held a whole clove in the cavity. One man on a farm always went to the horse barn and smeared a good lot of axle grease on even a small cut, immediately, and he lived to be 92.

Poultices were used for boils or an infection to bring it to a head, so it could be lanced. Some of you older readers can remember seeing women of my mother's age, born 1860 to 1870, with very bad irregular scars as large as a silver dollar on their necks below the jaw bone. They told us they

were from infected glands that gathered on the surface of the neck and were not lanced, but just broke of themselves after very severe pain over quite a long period. Often a doctor was too far away to call, so they just "gritted their teeth" and bore the pain, or did a crude job of lancing themselves.

Medicine and surgery have taken wonderful strides for the better in the last hundred years, but don't scorn those old doses for the base of those teas and salves are just the same as you are taking now when you get a prescription from a physician at the drugstore.

To be sure, there were some strange superstitions, like various cures for warts — rub it with something, then throw it away and the wart will go, too, and never return. I remember a boy of my age saying he cured his very sore throat by wearing a dirty sock around his neck all night.

You mustn't handle a toad for it will give you warts.

What a pleasant and comfortable life the old people of today are having compared to 100 or more years ago. I keep on saying this, for it's always fresh in my mind.

Helen Toms

P. O. BOX 476
KIHUI, HAWAII 96753

26th April

TELEPHONE
879-1055

Dear Otto and Isa,

I have just come from a nearby condo where I met Richard W. Degenet and his wife Eileen!

Dick comes from Michigan. However, his grandfather was August Degenet from Minden, Germany. His father was also named August.

At one time, Dick was the greatest diver in the U.S.A. over a 5 year period (1932-1937) along with Buster Crabbe who just died a few

days ago and was a very dear
friend of mine in high school.

These Degeneres have a condo in
~~Kameole Hale~~ - are leaving here
this week - just by chance I met
them tonight. He was more
interested in the fact that I
also knew a Degener!

Your article was well accepted
and we thank you. I think
the council is very ashamed
of its criticism.

Best to you both -

Helene,

May Day is lei Day in Hawayaaaah, 1983.

Dear Helen:

My letters are always longer when I type to good music on tapes or on Sunday's KIPA concert. Isa, now preparing lunch to good music upstairs, says she saw the Castles at the Postoffice some days ago, so we both have hopes to see a Maui friend at Volcano at any time. Do you need more Hibiscadelphus cuttings at that time? The tree is FLOWERING!!!

We wonder whether our version regarding Bot. Garden appeared in The Honolulu Advertiser. We have the Maui News copy. We don't get the former delivered to the house, so pick it up occasionally at the grocery store. I wrote my letter April 7.

Rereading the Advertiser version - I have a carbon - I can see now that we may have been too self centered, filling too much space about the Degeners, an easy habit to get into when you try to sell your own books. But, really, we tried to show that we know bot. gardens professionally and that our judgment of René's wise planning is a truly wise one. The amphitheatre, for one thing, is ideal for instructive lecturing!!!

There are number of "Degeners" in the US., as 'phone books will show, but few "Degeners". Besides my uncle and my father, one other of our blood line immigrated to the US, and one of his sons was executed out West for being a patriot, and a statue stands of him in some city. It may have involved the War about Texas. My father was born in Brunswick, Hannover in 1844. My Uncle "Hans" (John) D., was ten years older. He preceded my father, who came as a business man after three years in Singapore, Nagasaki etc., to New York City shortly after the Civil War.. Cotton mills and plantations had been largely destroyed by the Northerners, so they engaged in a lucrative wholesale textile importing business. One of John D., sons was "August Degener", who represented the concern in Chicago. Though married, there were no children. SOOOOOO the August Degener you met evidently was not named for my cousin, long deceased.

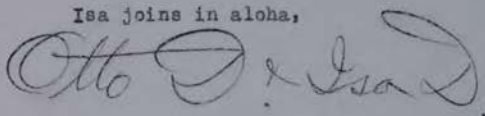
As I understand it from what my father related, the early ante Degener ancestors were simple German cowherders in Germany in the Thirteenth or Fourteen Century. One of them was a freak or sport in that he for a cowherder was superambitious and pushed his sons to become eddicated. One of these sons became a judge. In that capacity he condemned a criminal to death. Disgusted that the Executioner did not arrive at the proper time for the execution, the judge donned the man's black clothes and hood, and with his own dagger or "Degen" did the bloody work. This act was unusual, even for those times. Remember that a man with a cart may earn the name "Carter"; a man who acts, "actor"; who hunts, "Hunter"; and a man who went on the Crusades and returned home to Europe with a palm fragment souvenir, as "Palmer". Thus the judge, for his unusually ~~effici-~~ ^{ally} efficient act, earned the name "Degener" as did his offspring ever after. Did your friend have this judge as ancestor?

A Heinrich Degener, Postfach 1451, 4830 Gutersloh 1, (W.) Germany is a geneologist. I have never met him, but dash off letters about Degener births & deaths. Perhaps your friend might like to contact him.

Oh, yes, my late brother Arm's son living in New York City is William Glenn Degener. One of his sons, whom I have never met, is Richard Degener, 585 John Tate Road, Acworth, Ga. 30101.

Isa and I suspect the earliest Judd may have been a judge, the varied spelling being some dialect. Was he accustomed to "poke-knife"?

Isa joins in aloha,



PHYTOLOGIA
An International Botanical Journal
303 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20045
Return to: 303 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20045



Old Post Office, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Otto Degener

Crozier Drive

Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

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April 30, 1983

Dear Otto,

Thank you so much for the parcel of unmounted verbs. I am happy to have them. I think I told you that C. L. Lundell has bought my entire herbarium, but is allowing me to retain my Study Herbarium of Verbs and eriocauls here at home under insurance by him. All dups I get go to him and will doubtless eventually go into the U. of Texas herbarium either at Austin or at Dallas. As to your question: *Verbena officinalis* is very variable, being a "weed" it occupies all manner of habitats and varies edaphically accordingly. There have been some infraspecific taxa published (some by HNM) but I am not sure how good they are, and, anyhow, for those not publ. by me I have not seen the types and even Kew cannot tell me where the types might be. There is lots of room here for a young student to get his PH.D. on. Hope all is well with you. The volcanic eruptions in your state have been worrying us. Hope you not in any way effected; also we have heard that the Oahu beaches were badly hit with tidal waves and winds again.

All our best to you both, as always,

Handwritten signature



4/26/83

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Degener,

Thankyou for the interesting
letter in response to my letter
concerning Fiji and the Trematolabelia.

I will be on Oahu for a few
days in approx. 2 weeks. While
there I would like to visit you
if possible. I will also be on the
big Island (for at least a month)
and could visit you in Volcano if
you prefer. I will call once I'm
on Oahu to work out details. Talk to
you then.

Aloha,

Indian Paintbrush and Bluebells in the San Juan Range of
Western Colorado

© David Muench Photography

Petley



M.F. Doyle
P.O. Box 239
Phoenix, AZ
81428

USA 13c



POST CARD

Drs. Otto & Ilsa Degener

P.O. Box 154

Volcano, HI

96785

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4051 E. Van Buren, Phoenix, AZ 85008



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
HAWAII 96718

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A9015(HAVO)

May 2, 1983

Drs Otto and Isa Degener
Volcano, Hawaii 96785

Dear Drs Degener:

Thank you for the article you sent me recently about your careers and philosophy. Also enclosed was an expired collecting permit. Should you wish to renew this, please fill out the enclosed form and send it back to me. Dave Ames and I will sign it and return a copy to you. Please be as specific as you can. Permits are now issued annually.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Stone
Research Scientist

enclosure

cc: Superintendent, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

May 1, 1983.

Dear Supt. Huntzinger:

Mrs. D., & I are revising our book "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks."

About twenty years ago, after reading an article in which your name was spelled with an "s", we made the blunder of copying the error on next to the last page of our book. The copies were printed in Michigan. After this spelling blunder, my wife and I want to make absolutely certain that our last two pages of the new edition will be up to date and correctly so.

Please help us get the enclosed two pages correct for the printer. As you can see, our last date is 1973.

When I taught at the University of Hawaii I had a Linds-y in the 1926 class, the brother of the lively, wonderfully Jimmie L. I learned he is now in a wheel chair! Is his name spelled "Lindsay" or "Lindsey". I have forgotten

Aloha,

Dr. Otto Seeger

Ranger-Naturalist, 1929

3rd May, 1983

Dear Otto

Some people just won't write letters - one is Rene! He makes me do all of his.

He received your letter of 26th April and his answer as well as mine is we don't think the Honolulu Advertiser printed your letter. I have a friend who reads this paper and I had told her to look out for it. I just phoned her and she tells me she never saw it published.

I sent you the one from Maui News. Several people mentioned it to me and thought it very good, especially at the end about George Ota etc.

Tomorrow we meet at the Gardens - three of us who are officers and directors of the "Friends of the Botanic Gardens".

George Ota came down to the Gardens after the lecture (there were several) that people send in - from what Rene says he praised the outdoor stage and weighed in didn't know what he was talking about! He brought several society personnel with him, none having been there before except one.

Norikazu Casale phoned last week asking me up later at the present time - from this weekend then the next one - I am tied up with friends from California, one of them being an outstanding landscape person who does a lot of the landscaping of Stanford's gardening etc. Maybe a bit later if the Castles don't get off too soon for their mainland trips. I'll be able to go I hope.

Best to you and Isa - (Would Rene have written this much ???) He joins in sending his Aloha.

Heleen,

my best to Isa too

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
HAWAII 96718 -0052

IN REPLY REFER TO:

K1815(HAVO)

May 4, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degner:

Enclosed is your page you sent us for up-dating.

We hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Harry N. Wills
Chief Park Naturalist

Enclosure



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST • BOSTON • WORCESTER

THE ALUMNI FUND
MEMORIAL HALL
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01003
(413) 545-2543

May 12, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

I have a most important reason for writing you personally this afternoon.

In fact, because you are so important to us all right now, I've arranged for a member of our University family to telephone next week and discuss your critical role in this year's Annual Fund program.

The truth is, this is an exciting time for the University -- but it is also a time of great concern for each of us who holds a University of Massachusetts degree.

You see, over the past few years, the University has emerged among the first tier of America's universities -- and in the top one percent of public institutions overall.

Our business, humanities and social science programs have never been stronger. Our linguistics and sociology departments, for example, now rank among the top ten in the country.

The Computer Science department is a new center of excellence -- especially in artificial intelligence and computer design; the Physics and Astronomy departments are already international in reputation; and in Engineering, Massachusetts -- along with Harvard and MIT -- was honored this year with a special Exxon Foundation teaching grant.

The faculty continues to accumulate academic awards; sponsored research support has more than doubled since 1977; and applications for admission are up 40% just this year!

Yet all this good news from the campus is foreshadowed by a widening competition for public funds -- creating a financial squeeze that has seen the University's share of state revenues drop 31% since 1975.

On the Amherst campus alone, this year's budget fell nearly \$1 million short of the University's minimum need for student aid, program development and faculty support.

So unless we, as alumni, are committed to helping bridge this critical budget gap now, the University will be hard-pressed to compete for the best of tomorrow's students -- or retain the best of today's faculty.

The University's growing distinction would be brought to a halt, perhaps even reversed. And I must tell you, neither your diploma nor mine would long escape a devaluation in the University's prestige.

Yet there's a second reason -- beyond concern for our own diplomas -- why you are so important now, as the University campaigns for \$750,000 in Annual Fund gifts this year.

You see, by supporting the University you are strengthening a major economic resource of the state and region, helping provide needed scholars, researchers and technicians as the state shifts from manufacturing to services -- from smokestacks to semi-conductors. In fact, the University is a major resource for all of us even today.

This is why I urge you to be especially generous when you are called next week for your gift to the 1983 Annual Fund.

Perhaps, if you can, join the Chancellor's Council where your \$1,000 gift will make you a member of the University's premier group of benefactors.

Consider, too, the leadership support you can provide as a member of the Commonwealth Club, through your gift of \$500 or more this year; or as a University Associate, with a gift of at least \$250 annually.

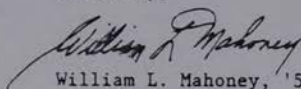
Or you might wish to join with the many Amherst campus alumni who will become 1982-83 members of the Second Century Club through their gifts of \$100 or more. In fact, with the new tax law, your Second Century membership could actually cost you as little as \$50 this year.

But whether you are able to give \$500, \$250, \$100 -- or whatever you can reasonably contribute now -- you will be helping to secure the University's future at a most important time.

And if you're like most of us, you will remember the role the University of Massachusetts played at a critical time in your own life -- a time when you looked to this University to help develop your potential and widen your horizons.

I know you will want to do your best; and for all of us who are committed to the growth of excellence at the University, I thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



William L. Mahoney, '57
President, Associate Alumni

July 5, 1983

Dear Mr. Mahoney:

Mrs. Degener & I have been working on the Island of Hawaii - I was Naturalist of the National Park years ago - for the last few months. Now back on the Island of Oahu, I have your May 12 letter before me.

The native plants of the Hawaiian Archipelago are mostly endemic, in other words found no other place on earth. They are not National but are actually International Treasures exposed to extermination due to the present human population explosion.

Since 1922 I have been adding to the value of my Alma Mater's herbarium wealth my gift of plants, many of greater true value than the Mona Lisa! Mrs. Degener & I are continuing this project. Should you be unfamiliar with the subject, please just 'phone Dr. E.L. Davis for verification. We are uniquely equipped to contribute this way, and never bother with monetary gifts any alumnus can contribute without working in distant Hawaii.

Being an old-fashioned Class of '22 Alumnus of M.A.C., under Pres. Butterfield, I am accustomed that the Faculty act like Faculty with freedom of conscience like so many New Englanders of my College days. I, and I fear I am not alone, am disturbed and feeling a bit estranged from the University of Mass., upon hearing the rumor that a man who should have the ideals of Pres. Butterfield seems to be trying to coerce the Faculty to become Labor Union Members. I pray for a speedy change to the old-fashioned ways for which New England has been famous.

Aloha,

Dr. E.L. Davis

Volcano, Hawaii, June 15, 1983. 6/15/83

Though unusually healthy for our age (I am 84), Mr. & Mrs. D. C. Mearns & I judge it prudent to limit our cases of accumulated herbarium specimens. Our identifying ones have been studied with care often with great means. Our identifying ones have been studied with care often with great means. Our identifying ones have been studied with care often with great means. Our identifying ones have been studied with care often with great means. Our identifying ones have been studied with care often with great means.

Our most important ones already, of which we are still members. Their diff-
less it has furnished ones already, of which we are still members. Their diff-
cates and other material are distributed among over 100 leading World bot-
anical institutions with the conviction that if World War III etc. should
destroy some World centers in some crazy Dictator's investigation hol-
ocaust, some Degeuer collections will survive somewhere for wiser
Humans to admire and study. Many taxa we have already distributed
are on the verge of extinction due to domesticated & feral herbivores;
purposely and accidentally introduced weed bushes, herbs, weed
bushes and weed trees like Jamunalia eucalypts; exotic insects,
and fungus and viral diseases. The bulldozer is so helpful when
used to wipe out, for example, endemic, fascinating night blooming
Capparis to replace it with exotic Tournefortia to "beautify" tour-
ist hotel grounds!

ist, not on ground:
Of all the professional botanists about whom we know, only one individual, armed with a razor, blade, pilched specimen parts (some of O.D.s., collected) from herbaceous sheets and actually chopped down the magnificent, flag pole-like type specimen of an endangered tobacco for laboratory study. Many municians and artists, for instance, we must occasionally spare of genius to be accompanied with a spark of insanity. Black individuals may arise among European moulds as well as among Western American high horn types and must not be confused with the prevalent same white ones that further the Science of Botany by judicious collecting to enrich museums for the benefit of future generations. Remember to collect, collect, collect before it is too late. In the case of unique trees, true international treasures, like *Hispidodendron* and *Gordianus* of G. W. Rock, we gather ~~it~~ over the years fallen leaves & flowers, not living ones, for museums of the World, and scatter available seeds in the neighbor-

I should our unidentified taxa be a nuisance in your herbarium, please do not discard them; but mail them to me for substitution as gifts or exchange.

But the way have you our "paperback and our 'Books'?"

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
| 1. Plants of Haw. Nat Parks | 1 - per rack in our | 1905.00 |
| 2. Flora Haw. Co. 2 has "Books" 1-4 in a single box | World War II | 5.00 |
| emergency cover, 1 on 1000 pages | 192 ill. (photo pages) | 22.50 |
| 3. Flora Haw. "Book 5" | 1 - (all photos present, probably unavailable) | |
| 4. Flora Haw. "Book 6" | 1 - (all cover pages) | 22.50 |
| 5. Flora Haw. "Book 7" | 1 - (Almost complete, no cover) | 22.50 |

each sheet (edition is 1,500 copies) of the flora is usually a selfstart publication with date of publication (not of printing) and author or author as recorded on first page. The above seven are "books", are not volumes. "Books" are merely for convenience of handling & sale sheets, being loose leaf, their plates can be shown easily on the screen, illustrate lectures. Remove all screws, and reshuffle all sheets according to printer instructions to facilitate using the flora conveniently.

My two daughters, having lived among the Haw. flora and having collected & studied it a total of about 90 years without much teaching interruption, are amazed how little we, our late predecessors and our contemporaries actually know or know about it. A loose leaf flora, prepared so that obsolete sheets can be replaced by more modern ones from time to time, avoids the dead weight of typically bound books which cannot keep up with the advances of modern collecting and research.

O. A. G.

Austin, Auckland, Basel
 Berkeley, Berlin, Bloomington, Bochum
 Brisbane, Bremen, Calcutta, Cambridge, Canberra, Caracas,
 Bern, Budapest, Calcutta, Cambridge, Canberra, Caracas,
 Carbonate, Chiba, Christchurch, College Station, Coimbra,
 Copenhagen, Dallas, Dublin, Edinb., Florence, Frankfurt, Fujiyama
 Gainesville, Geneva, Göteborg, Guay, Halle, Hamburg, Helsinki
 Hiroshima, Hobart, Hon. Istanbul, Ithaca, Jena, Kagoshima,
 Kanagawa, Karlsruhe, Ken. Kien, Krasov, Kyoto, Kyushu
 Lausanne, Leiden, Leipzig, Los Angeles, Lucknow
 Lund, Madison, Madras, Manchester, Melbourne, Milwaukee
 Montpellier, Montreal, Moscow, Munich, Nagoya, Nagasaki
 Nara, N.Y., Oshkosh, Osh, Ottawa, Oulu, Paris, Telsing, Praha
 San Francisco, Seattle, Stamford, St. L., St. P., Stockholm, Sydney
 Taipei, Tokyo, U.S.A., Smiths., Wellington, Wien, Zurich
 Pyatigorsk, Rio

Foster, Geden.

Pittsburg

Helen Tomp
P.O. Box 46
Honi, HI 96753
USA



To Dr. Otto Degener

P.O. Box 184

Volcano, Hawaii

96785

Helen Toms



MORE I WILL LIVE
THE MORE YOU GIVE

Dear Oio - Please wish me
of Hualalaen this, giftareanau
and Hibiscadelphus.

I shall be coming to the Volcano
to visit with the Rattles on
Friday for a few days - do
hope to see you -

With aloha! Helen

1026 Nuuanu Avenue, Suite 201
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

THE
NATURE
CONSERVATION
OF HAWAII



miss. "Gpo" Nihipali (nee Robert as
Dowson) is the daughter of my
former protégé
factotum Joseph
Dowson, who became
locally famous as the
"Policeman Artist". He is
now a retired ~~not~~ doing
landscapes of Hawaii
shacks the central motif.
He, independently, conducted
art classes at Schofield Bar-
acks and at his Waikawa
home. I, of course, believe he was
influenced by the living with me
and my 2, 3 schoolboy &
older artists.
and that this influence
rubbed off on his
daughters.
It is of course
just coin-
cidence
that you
had this
not anyone realizing it)
when I took him
over from his uncle
(my former Univ. of Hawai,
Botany student) into his
antagonistic Caucasian
aunt.

P.O. Box 151
Hono
96765

Its Otto & Isa
DECENER



C.D.



Opening Celebration
Tuesday, May 10, 1983
5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Blessing and chant by Frank Kawaitapu Hewitt
Entertainment by Steve & Theresa
and Bobby Kanuha Hawaiians

'UHANE NOA FOUNDATION, Native Hawaiian Artists,
cordially invites you to view a special exhibition

Endangered Native Birds of Hawai'i

Paintings by Ipō Nihipali

Also Showing:
CONTEMPORARY FEATHER ARTS
by Iwalani and Kealoha Peltier

Ululani Jabulka Pavilion Gallery
Bishop Museum
May 10 - August 10, 1983



The New York Botanical Garden

Bronx, New York 10458

(212) 220-8700

May 26, 1983

Dr. Otto Degener
68617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, HI 96791

Dear Dr. Degener:

We have received two (2) packets from your today:

1. insured packet V065-640-194 letters and packet for Dr. Prance;
2. packet sent library rate

The sealed envelope for Dr. Prance has been given to Mrs. Maroncelli, Dr. Prance's assistant. He will return from Brazil this weekend. The item for Dr. Holmgren has been passed to her. Copies of the archival material will follow.

Sincerely yours,

Charles R. Long
Assistant Vice President
and Director of the Library

CRL/d



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST • BOSTON • WORCESTER

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01003

May 25, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Thank you so much for the article about Orlando Lyman and your recollection of him at M.A.C. The annual reports indicate that he was enrolled in 1924/25 and 1925/26, both years as a member of the Class of 1927, but they contain no record that he was enrolled during what should have been his senior year, nor that he was graduated. (We still count him as a member of '27, as does the Alumni Directory.)

What a wonderful contribution he has made in the development of this museum! You M.A.C. men in Hawaii have really done great things, and I much appreciate your keeping the Archives here informed.

Sincerely,

Katherine Emerson

Katherine Emerson
University Archivist

KE/dm

Jan. 4, 1983.

Dear Mrs. Emerson:

Our correspondence crossed in the mails! I just mailed to the Alumni Office a poor news-paper photograph of W. O. Smith, an early graduate of M.A.C.

During my early '70s in Honolulu I would see this alert, white haired, thin-nosed man rush about the street near the Federal Building in Honolulu. Whether he was simply going for his mail at the post office or had an office of his own in the building, I don't know. I never had the pleasure of meeting him.

I suspect Smith was one of the Greeks during the time Queen Kiliuokalani was deposed by American settlers, contrary to Pres. Cleveland's wishes changed the Government to a Provisional one. Then McKinley annexed the Islands as a Territory during the Spanish War for fear of having Spain take over & came it all closer to the U. S. Mainland.

Perhaps the Hawaiian State Library, 478 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii would give you proper information about Smith & at a nominal cost, xeroxes. How about the Archives of Hawaii, also Hon.?

P.S. About 1910 I went Aloha, Dr. Att. Deane '21 to a summer camp at Lake Auwahi, or name such name. Who were the two active Emerson brothers who helped run it. A Boarding School and a hotel were close to it. Were they your uncles? One was liked; the other, less so.

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO COLLECT
PLANTS, ANIMALS, AND GEOLOGICAL SPECIMENS

United States Department of the Interior
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener June 1, 1983

Name of Applicant

Date

Mostly writers:

Mostly summers:

Address *DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER*

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER

68-617 Crozier Drive

phone 6379798

P.O. Box 154

phone 9677-409

Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Volcano, Hawaii

Representing (Name of Institution)

96785 U.S.A. Address

Self, New York Bot. Garden, Bronx, N.Y. City 10458

Specimens to be collected (Type and Quantity of each) *Nature introduced. Kind & quantity would be similar to what I did about three years before during a trip to the Pacific Islands in 1979. I visited in Volcano, Hawaii. He collected plants for Ferns & flowering plants, & new not duplicate past work. Voucher specimens were soon deposited at New York Bot. Garden, Bishop Museum, University of Mass. (Alma Mater), Smithsonian and to specialists scattered elsewhere. After a year in 1982 in California, Alaska & Oregon we are interested in time permits, in good sets of specimens, plus Agency will take and printing the permit No. of the local people to be used.*

Applicable State Permits

Agency will take and printing the permit No.

Expiration Date

Applicable Federal Permits

Agency will take and printing the permit No.

Expiration Date

Purpose of study and reason for collection in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Elonga Hawaiensis and Plauds H. Nat. Parks, to be kept up-to-date

Expected Dates (month and year) and expected location in Park of collection

June 1, 1983 - June 1, 1984

Location for eventual deposit of specimens (name and address)

I, the applicant, agree that, if the permit is granted, I will comply with all conditions stated herein and on the reverse side of this form.

Signed

O. Degener, Dr. Raymond Degener

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Recommendation

Reviewed

Chas. F. Doe

Date

5/25/83

Research Scientist

Approved

W. D. Sk

Date

5/27/83

THIS PERMIT MUST BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES WHILE COLLECTING. SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

PERMIT STIPULATIONS AND CONDITIONS

1. Endangered and threatened species will not be taken, disturbed, or harrassed without appropriate state and federal permits.
2. No archaeological and paleontological materials may be collected under this permit.
3. The collected materials shall be used for scientific or educational purposes only, and shall not be used for personal or commercial profit.
4. All collecting must be done away from roads, trails, and developed areas unless such locations are specified in the permit. Collecting shall be done so as not to attract attention unduly, or cause environmental damage.
5. The National Park Service reserves the right to designate kinds, numbers, and sizes of specimens, and other restrictions as necessary. The Service also reserves the right to designate the appropriate museums or collections for some specimens after necessary studies by the investigator.
6. Collected specimens shall be deposited in a permanent public museum, exhibit, or collection of scientific or educational institutions. They must be suitably recorded in a permanent file and available to the public.
7. A copy of any publication resulting entirely or in part from collection activities will be furnished to the Superintendent of the issuing Park.

Expiration Date: _____

License No.: _____

PARKER RANCH
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

KAPAPALA DIVISION
P. O. Box 438
Naalehu, Hawaii 96772

HUNTING AND ACCESS PERMIT TO ENTER THE KAPAPALA SECTION OF PARKER RANCH TO PAKAO.

This permit hereby authorizes Dr. & Mrs. Douglas access through the Kapapala Section of Parker Ranch to Pakao and the upper section of the Kapapala Forest Reserve.

They will be collecting botanical specimens

PERMIT CONDITIONS:

1. Each individual person desiring entry on to this land must first obtain this permit and must carry this permit on his person while travelling on this land.
2. This permit shall be good for one year from July to June of the following year.
3. This permit shall be obtained by contacting Parker Ranch at Kapapala, phone 928-8444. Permits shall be issued from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Mondays through Thursdays.
4. The holder of this permit must also call Parker Ranch at Kapapala, phone 928-8444, before entering the land giving his NAMES, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND VEHICLE NUMBER. This is to be done Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on the week that access is desired.
5. This permit is valid for Saturdays and Sundays only.
6. Entry to Pakao shall be from the main highway gate which will be open at 5:30 AM and closed at 5:30 PM of each day that this permit is valid for. Permit holders are required not to enter this land before 5:30 AM and are required to be out by 5:30 PM.
7. All persons are required to close all gates that they open while using roads on this land.
8. Any person abusing or destroying ranch property or who does not comply to the conditions of this permit shall have his permit suspended indefinitely.
9. The permit holder shall indemnify and hold harmless Parker Ranch, its agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from any cause whatsoever while on Parker Ranch property under authority of this permit.

Acknowledged: _____

(Signed by Permit Holder)

(Address)

Charles Kimura

Charles Kimura
Kapapala Division Manager
Parker Ranch

Conservatoire
et
Jardin
botaniques



Ville
de
Genève

Directeur:
Prof. Gilbert Bocquet

Chemin de l'Impératrice 1
Case postale 60
CH-1292 Chambésy/GE
Tél. (022) 32 69 69

Genève, le 2 juin 1983.

Drs. Otto & Isa DEGENER
P.O. Box 154
VOLCANO
Hawaii 96785
USA.

Monsieur / Sir.

L'envoi mentionné ci-dessous m'est bien parvenu / We have received the material listed below:

14 spécimens d'Hawaii.

Je vous prie d'agréer l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs / Please accept our most grateful thanks.

Le Conservateur des Herbiers
Herbarium

KILAUEA MILITARY CAMP

Kilauea Military Camp

Kilauea Military Camp nestles on the slopes of majestic Mauna Loa at an elevation of 4,000 feet. Kilauea Crater, one of the most continually active volcanoes in the world, is directly in front of the camp. Actually KMC is located within this crater, for the old rim of the crater serves as its rear boundary.

Construction of KMC began in 1916 when a group of citizens of Hawaii donated \$24,000 for a campsite to be used as an encampment for the National Guard of Hawaii and as a resort for regular army personnel of the Hawaiian Department.

The land upon which KMC is located was secured originally from the Bishop Estate. When Hawaii Volcanoes National Park was founded, KMC came within the confines of the park. The land now comes within the jurisdiction of the Department of Interior but is leased to the Department of the Army.

Originally KMC was open to personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine, Submarine Corps, and many of the non-military governmental departments. In 1934 the Navy turned over all of its interests to the Army and from then until March 6, 1947 it was used exclusively by the Army. Since March 6, 1947 KMC has been made available to all the Services: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard.

On December 7, 1941 military personnel stationed at KMC (this includes guest and post complement) went to the defense of the "Big Island," Hawaii, and KMC was abandoned as a resort. From December 7, 1941 to March 10, 1942, Japanese internees were housed at KMC. From March 10 to September 1, 1943, KMC was used to quarter tactical troops. On July 8, 1943 the camp became a rest and recreation camp for combat personnel.

Since 1943, KMC has been constantly improved until its present physical plant can house and meet over 350 guests in the several cabins and hotels.

On September 15, 1950, KMC was placed in a stand-by status until May 29, 1951 when by direction of the Commanding General USARPAC, KMC was again opened as a joint command with all services represented in the operation of the resort.



Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Volcanic Wonderland

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park was established by an act of congress on August 1, 1916, to preserve for posterity one of the most active volcanic areas in the world.

Its craters, both active and dormant, may be approached with reasonable safety.

The park area is approximately 300 square miles, the greater part of which is the Kilauea-Mauna Loa section. Within the collapsed summit of Kilauea is the vast fire pit Mokuaweewe, which is the most active vent of that volcano.

During most of the 150 years that man has watched this volcano, Mokuaweewe has contained a boiling lake of active lava which at some times rises and overflows onto the adjacent crater floor and at other times sinks to depths over as much as 1300 feet. The most violent explosion occurred in Mokuaweewe in 1790, one that is well remembered by Hawaiians because the hot blast killed part of an army on the march past the volcano. Prints of bare feet made in the layer of wet volcanic ash from this explosion are preserved and may be seen today in the desert 6 miles southwest of the crater of the volcano.

Coming eruptions often give advance warning in form of a swelling of the mountain and a series of earthquakes starting at great depth and rising nearer to the surface as the lava wells up through deep cracks in the volcano.

Mokuaweewe, the fire pit at the summit of Mauna Loa was last active in 1950, pouring tons of hot molten lava down its steep slopes in three large fingers, destroying many acres of valuable forest and pasture land. These flows, still hot, may be seen as one travels the road to the Kona district. This spectacular sight drew thousands of people from all over the territory to witness the terror of mother nature.

The wonders of nature never cease in the volcano area; you may have the rare opportunity of witnessing one of these amazing sights during your stay at Kilauea Military Camp.

HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK, HAWAII

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Read on, read on: We print with Brown-Brown-
field, Inc., on Shaller Road. Don't you as collectors
print there also. They are very satisfactory. But
now that we have enlarged our Tourist-land
300 paperbacks to 500 pages, we feel a bit scared.
This last edition has been paid in full so far as the
work has progressed. As a result we have had the
page proof on our desks for well over a year. We are
not against the contract price submitted, but a-
gainst what could be a dangerous loop hole
in our small print. This permits them to add extra
charges for probable work which we do not
understand - not even a retired firm & Co.
that two salesmen friend is confused. A retired
Police Sgt., and other friends would be hesitant
to sign the contract.

How do you Ann Arborers solve the
problem? We are ready to sign if BB can
specify a reasonable ceiling beyond which
extra charges cannot go. I suggested that.
This suggestion of lack of 100% trust may
have been offensive. At any rate, we have
not heard from BB for some time.
What do you or your Business Office
suggest? That is the Big Question.

Aloha,

Dr. Ott Degener

T.B. After this intermission I must
go back to writing labels. This
AM., I was able to get four packages
of my labor into the mail.

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.
June 6, 1983

Miss Mary K. Finley
Hawaii Tribune-Herald
Hilo, Hawaii

Dear Miss Finley:

We were delighted with your timely June 5 article warning us about the danger of "A faya jungle".

One of us having been Naturalist of Hawaii National Park in 1929, and both of us being local, professional botanists; we consider the introduction of the faya tree a major ecological disaster. According to rumors we heard years ago, a sugar worker on his return to the Hawaiian Islands from a visit to his childhood home on an Atlantic Island off Africa introduced the seed. We, however, never did hear precisely from which island these seeds had come.

After a brief stay in Germany, we did not fly a bee-line practically nonstop to Hilo. Instead we flew over Spain and Portugal for a grand educational detour with numerous stopovers in the Canaries, on Madeira, and in the Azores. In fact, we botanized industriously for Flowering Plants chiefly to augment the collections of the New York Botanical Garden of which we are staff members. Duplicates desired go to the Bishop Museum and elsewhere. From May 22 to June 2 we sampled the vegetation of two Canary Islands (including Haleakala-like Tenerife), and then until June 10 that of Madeira. Thereupon we collected on five or six Azore Islands (one was small), until our final flight from Terceira to New York June 28.

The remarkable part of our collecting vegetation samples for a little more than a month is that we saw numerous trees in numerous places of the genus Myrica growing native, but we would hardly identify them as the same variety as the naturalized Myrica that threatens to devastate our own countryside!

Perplexed, we noted in our annual application for a collecting permit in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park that, time available, we should like to collect a large quantity of twigs of flowering staminate ("male") trees, of flowering pistillate ("female") trees and of fruiting trees. We would then swamo especially Spanish and Portuguese botanical gardens and universities with these three kinds of specimens WITH THE REQUEST for their learned opinion as to where our exotic plant pest has its closest relative.

With its native home finally known, we recommend a man, preferably with a smattering of Portuguese and/or Spanish at his command, be sent to the place of origin to go into the expert routine of studying the native plant and its native fungus and insect pests. We noticed them on some of the Myrica varieties we collected; but the proper kind on the proper kind of tree now on Hawaii might insure better success. Our Myrica tree weed should then be especially well adapted for a quick, happy death via biological control.

Incidentally we may add that the terrain in which Myrica thrives in Hawaii often seems rather nitrogen poor. This unusual ability to thrive anyway may be associated with a nitrogen-fixing bacterium, as in most legumes, or a mycorrhiza. Moreover, the hopeful human Myrica exterminator would live under ideal conditions thanks to the value of our Dollar in the Portuguese and Spanish colonies. We lived in the very best hotels - waiters wearing white gloves while serving meals - for \$15 to \$25 per day, including Continental breakfast. No, don't misunderstand us. The price was per couple, not for a single person!

Aloha,

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener



Volcano Views

Mary Miho Finley

A faya jungle

6/5/83
Haw. Tribune-Herald

VOLCANO—In the Canary Islands, Myrica faya is the only tree. And the people there love it. At Volcano, the cry is "kill faya" for the vigorously-growing, introduced tree is transforming thousands of acres of ohia forest into a faya jungle.

"It's happened before in other parts of the island," lamented Kate English, recalling faya growing in Paaulo when she was a child. "I remember looking up at these huge trees and wondering what they were. All the ohia and every plant underneath them had been killed by their shade. They were faya trees."

From seedlings to large flowering trees, the faya is so numerous in large parts of the National Park, the golf course subdivision, Mauna Loa Estates and along the Volcano highway that visitors and unacquainted kamaainas alike think that it must be a native. When I first moved here nine years ago I almost transplanted some to my yard to make a fast-growing hedge.

Faya has dark green, tapering leaves and is usually found growing at the base of ohia trees as a very healthy bush. From seeds dropped by birds or the wind, faya sprouts in the protection of ohia which it eventually outgrows, ultimately killing the native ohia tree and all vegetation beneath. When ohia is gone, it will mean the end for the few remaining species of native honeycreepers who feed on ohia's lehua nectar.

Right now faya is flowering. In December there will have sprouted a whole new crop of seedling fayas. If we don't do something substantial soon to check faya, our grandchildren will have lost the Volcano experience of the tremendous majesty and variety of ohia forest.

"It's out of hand in all but a few small areas of the park," said Dan Taylor, head of resources management in the Kilauea Volcanoes National Park, "but we have learned a lot in the last year about how to go about controlling it. You delineate a small area to tackle at a time and get out the large flowering trees first. You do this by cutting off two large branches and inserting a section of surgical tubing into the cut ends. The tubings are filled with straight "Round-Up" herbicide which soaks into the tree

again. With unity we can be effective in one area at a time. The National Park is willing to help instruct in the best methods of removal they've found. And 4-Hers and the Volcano Community Association have pledged their support, as have the Volcano Golf Course and golf course subdivision residents.

If you, your ohana or club would like to add your efforts to this cause, call me at 967-7230. An organizational meeting to set up times and strategies will be happening soon.

Besides saving the native forest, removing faya from Volcano has the added benefits of being an activity everyone in Volcano can do. Faya overlaps all boundaries in Volcano and if we don't do something about it soon, all of Volcano will belong to faya in a fairly quickly, eventually killing the faya. Once the source of more seedlings is gone, you can go to work on pulling up the seedlings and cutting off and killing smaller bushes that aren't flowering yet."

Virginia MacDonald, Russ Sherman, Pete Goss and the folks at the golf course subdivision set to work last summer with the help of Ellen Kai and Laila Ulrich's Sunday School kids. A start was made fighting faya. "Kill the invaders!" the kids shouted as they pulled up faya seedlings. But faya doesn't rest.

"The way it's got a hold now, within 50 years faya will have supplanted ohia in the areas where it now grows," says Cliff Davies, Volcano resident and retired Department of Agriculture official.

Homeowners, community members and lovers of the native forest, this summer will organize to attack faya

apparently had covered some houses and was threatening some resorts in Sicily. Some of their barrier techniques were successful in diverting the flow, she added. "But you should really talk to Jack." Now, if we could just fly along with the helicopters to interview him "in the field."

Lockwood and National Park personnel were busy setting up a fire prevention plan in Kalapana to be put into action should the steadily moving lava flow once again threaten residences in the area. On Wednesday evening a bright red glow could be seen from Wahaula but lava had not come over the pali.

Drs. Otto and Isa Degener on a recent tour of the Canaries, Azores and Madeira Island found the genus Myrica growing native in numerous places, "but we would hardly identify them as the same variety... that threatens to devastate our own countryside," they said. The Degeners,

former Volcanoes National Park naturalists and long-time Volcano residents, are planning to send samples of Hawaii's particular Myrica (faya) species, an introduced tree that is taking over vast areas of the National Park, to botanists in Spain and Portugal in an effort to establish exactly where our faya comes from. Once that's known, a biologist would then be able to determine what the natural enemies of that faya are, and a biological control could be introduced to bring faya under control.

This sounds promising for the ultimate solution. In the meantime Volcano property owners could help alleviate the problem by removing faya from their land. Faya without seeds can be left to compost, but those with seeds need to be burned or hauled to the dump to prevent birds from eating the seeds and planting more faya trees far and wide. Unfortunately the faya-eating birds seem to favor sitting in ohia trees at the base of which faya sprouts up and aggressively outgrows our beautiful native ohia with its red, yellow or orange blossoms.

6/19/83
VOLCANO—Dr. John Lockwood, itinerant U.S. Geologic Survey volcanologist and Volcano resident, was recently in Sicily to study lava diversion techniques used by the Italians. Lockwood returned late Sunday evening June 12 just in time for the present eruption which began early Monday morning. Possibly he can put to use some of what he learned at the Mount Etna eruption to help the folks in Kalapana.

The Italians had tried to use explosives, but were unsuccessful, said Marti Lockwood, commenting that the Etna eruption

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HERBARIUM

NORTH UNIVERSITY BUILDING
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109, U. S. A.

6 June 1983

Dear Drs Degener,

Many thanks for your long and as usual interesting letter of 3 June which came through quickly, and also for the banana chip and place mat. Sadleria is a difficult genus; the world authority seems to be V.J.Krajina, a Czech expatriate now living in Canada. At the same time as I wrote to you last, I sent a letter to him in Vancouver, but have elicited no response so far. What do you know about him?

Yes, I would love to sip Kona coffee with you and learn some Hawaiian pidgin, and spend hours examining glades of Sadleria and Deparia with you, and maybe someday I will. I have been in Hawaii only for an airport stopover of one hour in 1968 on one of my trips to the Philippines, where I have lived for a total of nine years.

Braun-Brumfield in Ann Arbor prints for us the "Contributions from the University of Michigan Herbarium" and we are very pleased with their work. I enclose a sample of their printing. I have just called them to speak with the person handling your account and am awaiting her return call. Before closing this letter I will report to you on my conversation with her.

Reverting to Sadleria, a Prof. T. C. Chambers of Australia (have you made his acquaintance when in Sydney?) is supposed to have completed a new revision of the world's Blechnaceae, some time ago in fact, but he is a poor correspondent, and no publications have appeared to my knowledge. Whether he has any new information about Sadleria is very doubtful, and he may really have limited his original research to the genus Blechnum, possibly also Doodia. He certainly has never attempted to see any of our Michigan materials of Blechnaceae, not even Copeland's types of Blechnum or Woodwardia, and as you may know, Copeland described two species of Sadleria of which we have the holotypes here.

Certainly a new revision of Sadleria would demand considerable field work, and could not be done effectively from herbarium specimens only. From my experience with Cyathea and Angiopteris in the Philippines, I am convinced that only after the whole organisms are understood on the basis of field characters and ecology, can one define taxa meaningfully from the mummified scraps of these great plants in herbaria.

7 June 1983: I have just spoken at length with Laura Kett of Braun-Brumfield (although your account will continue to be handled by Emily Mosher). She said there will be no need for you to sign any contract since they always must be paid in advance a prespecified amount. She said they will give you an exact quote as soon as you supply them with camera ready copy in final form, specifying as much as possible precisely what you want. Also she said that the missing illustrations must be either replaced or omitted by you since they do not have them now, whether or not they are responsible for the loss. Finally, they seemed to be genuinely appreciative of your talents, even though various changes in your MS have tested their patience a little, and they hoped you would quickly finalize as best as you can on this book, without being at all a perfectionist.

Warm regards,

Aloha,

Michael Price
(M. G. Price)

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96785 U.S.A.
June 12, 1983

Dear Harold & Alma:

Last month's Yorkville newspaper clipping was interesting, BUT hardly applies to me: After the stork deposited me May 1899 at the house on High Street, East Orange, we seven Degeners moved back to Manhattan, this time to 316 West 89th Street in sight of the Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument. This monument had been built by my chum Tom Dwyer's father. The Degeners' living in East Orange was during a Degener Depression caused by my father's debacle with the Unicorn Silk Mill in Chaetaqua. I remember his telling me he had marched, with other partners and loyal workers, in a parade to bolster favorable propaganda for the Mill. When the strikers, lining part of the street, on seeing my father and other partners approaching, yelled: "Here they come! sling them win mad." Conditions were pretty bad in even in those times, and my cousin told me he would admonish the woman mill workers in winter against walking to and from the mill in the snow barefoot!!!!

In those early days I attended Trinity School (where my brother's son W. Glenn Degener now teaches Latin and some Greek). When I got to be too old to have a nurse fetch me back and forth between 89th Street and Trinity School at 91st Street across dangerous automobile "crowded" Broadway, my parents enrolled me in Collegiate School. Between home and school I rollerskated safely along West End Ave. Later, it was by bicycle. In those days before the '20s at least anything east of Broadway (Aven Trinity School) was a No Man's Land, occupied largely with tenements and stables for horses and carriages. These were later modified into garages. After my mother's death - your uncle officiated at her funeral at 89th Street - we survivors sold our home and two adjoining houses for the construction of a monster apartment building of the imposing height of eight stories!

After living with my brother's family at Fieldston - with my two artists Tony Aglian and Kwan Kee Park housed above the garage - I at times shared apartments with my sister at Pickwick Arms and at 24 East 82 Street. From the latter I reached the Garden by Third Ave., El. I never realized until I read your newspaper clipping that THIS was actually famed Yorkville!

Considering insurance company statistics I feel, no matter how healthy I seem to be, a man over 84 years of age should consider himself terminally ill. As I don't wish labelling our back log of duplicate specimens on Isa - anyway, her scrip is something of a hybrid between American & German - I am performing this task the entire day except NOW. For a change, I am typing this letter to you with two hours of real classical radio music bathing me instead of a background of percussion instruments competing with the mating calls of hippies. Furchtbar. I jst finished labelling Antidesma collected Aug. 30, 1968. After lunch, I shall tackle other remaining euphorbs. If the taxon is not already at NY, it and its duplicates get scattered by us to over 100 bot., institutions throughout the World. Should NY & the Bishop Museum succumb to a holocaust similar to the one that devastated Berlin-Dahlem when Isa worked there, some representative Haw., endemics may survive for future generations to admire & study in Oslo, Madison, Dublin, Guam, Graz, Calcutta, Sapporo, next to yours in Calif., und so weiter. We selected the institutions out of Pat Holagren's vademecum Index.

Isa is unusually suspicious and careful, having had a stepfather who was Director of the largest holding prison in Berlin until he was condemned to death (but reprieved) for being "too kind" to NonNazis who had not even been convicted of a crime! He was replaced by a brute. Anyway Isa, to train her to be careful, had access to reading the Berlin Police Blotter lying about the house. Now I am approaching her in carefulness. It really started with my experience last year with the nursing home where my mother-in-law survived until her horrible death from cancer. The business officer, presumably took the proper psychological time when a distressed daughter is next the bedside of her terminally ill mother. She was to sign in a hurry the contact without

reading the voluminous small print on the overleaf page. It specified that the Home could increase charges at any time WITHOUT informing patient or guardian. In this Home was an Austrian widow friend (since deceased) of ours without children and an elderly sister in Vienna Just about the entire estate (real property had to be sold) went to the Home. Even without knowing this, as our friend had not yet died, Isa insisted on reading the contract carefully at home with me. Knowing its real content, we simply refused to sign and reduced the pressure on us & improved the care of her mother by simply buying \$200 worth of shares in the Home on the open stock market. Casually, we informed the Business Office that from now on we were part owners. We get quarterly notices and dividends, and are trying to have the Home replace wooden beds for steel ones that can be raised & lowered properly by pushing a button. Her mother's care improved greatly.

Being such sticklers for avoiding any possible "skulldigger" by some shyster, we read about a year ago the contract for printing our enlarged edition of our paperback, tourist slanted "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks". The small print allows BB of the city of AA to charge us extra for various work that we do not understand ABOVE the contract figure. Even our friend, a retired Cinn & Co., employee does not know the meaning of the technical wording. We feel we cannot sign a contract unless colorful BB specifies a ceiling above which they cannot charge us. It is ancient history, but we have had a few mild disagreements regarding costs, and they gave us a rebate. With such complicated work, honest mistakes must be expected. What hurt a bit financially was their not following my instruction how to mail me a heavy lot of books the cheapest way and, instead, selecting a more expensive one. I absorbed the loss.

Our National Park paperback in page proof now is 500 pages instead of 300. Without my knowing it, they botched quite a few illustrations (even plates), and returned the originals to me as no longer wanted. Instead of storing them in one of our two houses, we sent them off as gifts with herbarium specimens mostly I guess to the Garden, but to anyone of over 100 institutions that get packages of duplicate specimens. NOW that all this is out of our hands, they want them again to redo. I don't know where they are, or even if they still exist.

For the last couple of years we have been printing by xerox and otherwise pseudo-bot. articles to retard local extermination of endemics. Since we are personally involved, newspaper readers tend to take us seriously. The danger is the project by some concerns to drill 90 wells down to the magma for heat for energy. The wells would be between the boundary of the National park down toward Hilo. Part of this drilling is practically next to our property!!! This would change a magnificent forest to an industrial area. This Paradise of the Pacific would change into a Pittsburgh of the Pacific. Even though life is short for us, we do feel for the future

Oh, yes, the Classical music has ended, so I shall scribble some more euphoric labels.

Aloha,,

Otto

P.S. You have an author - from India - who is so refreshingly original.

Isa is an Oahu trying to bring
herbarium cases to Volcano. I will
empty a garage which we can then
turn over to a tenant for a slightly
higher rent.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HERBARIUM
NORTH UNIVERSITY BUILDING
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109, U. S. A.

13 July 1983

Dear Drs Degener,

Very many thanks for your unusually long and as usual interesting letter of 15 June, postmarked however 24 June. By now you will also have received a note from Braun-Brumfield dated 1 July of which they sent me a copy.

Yes, I did know of your subtle revenge by publishing *Schiedea gregoriana* without a Latin diagnosis just one day after Latin was required by the Code. The whole story, in minute detail, was related to me about 15 years ago by Prof. Juan V. Pancho of the Botany Dept., U. P. Los Banos, Philippines.

I am quite certain that Dr Krajina is alive. Three years ago he was seen at the University of British Columbia, and his demise would have resulted in obituary notices in many botanical journals. When you get your photocopy machine, if you go ahead with the purchase, do you think you might eventually be able to make copies for me of all of Krajina's papers you have? Needless to say I will reimburse your expenses, or compensate you in some other way as you may suggest.

Michigan does have a good representation of the Hawaiian ferns collected by J. F. Rock, including the holotypes of several that were described by Copeland in 1916 (Philip. J. Sci. 11C: 171-173). Rock's Asiatic pteridophyta were identified and described by Christensen, Cont. U. S. Natl. Herb. 26: 265-335. 1931, with numerous critical comments. Rock's most complete suite of specimens is at the Smithsonian.

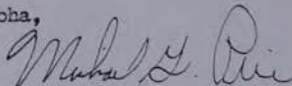
Michigan has very few of Hillebrand's specimens but as you know, fragments (kleptotypes?) of all of his new taxa and of many others of interest are at NY, detached from the originals by Underwood when he visited Berlin. In most cases, these are sufficient to fix the meaning of Hillebrand's names (and misidentifications).

I know of P. S. Green, your recent visitor, especially through his fine work on the Jasmines. *Jasminum samboc*, national flower of the Philippines and Indonesia, is native to the area around present day Iran, and it is this species which is also the usual telling ingredient of jasmine tea. I also recall he was an editor of Kew Bulletin.

Finally let me say that I am very glad to have so many details of your story about Rock, Gregory, Crawford et al., and it makes such fascinating reading, that I wonder if you can consider making a little booklet of botanists you have known, with capsule biographies, evaluations of them botanically and personally, and with episodes, anecdotes, and interactions. It will be a botanical bestseller, and must be completely unexpurgated. No one must be spared, dead or alive, from your candid scrutiny. Such a work would also be a device to publish, in part, your own memoirs.

Warm regards as always,

Aloha,



M. E. Price

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER
P.O. Box 134
Volcano, Hawaii
96786 U.S.A.

June 13, 1983.

Dear Miss Kett & Miss Mosher:

Not knowing whether you, Miss Mosher, were on vacation or whether your answer to my S.O.S., letter was lingering in the post office on the wrong island - we are presently on the Island of Hawaii - we contacted in desperation your distant neighbor Dr. Price of the U. He, as expected, efficiently gave me some of the most necessary information thanks to you, Miss Kett. Incidentally, he mailed me a copy of the Univ. of Mich. Herb. Contributions of 1982, proving your printing at BB is just as excellent as before. BUT the paper showed not illustrations. I likewise wrote our colleague a few days later, the ^{Plant} Biogia publisher Dr. Moldenke at New York.

Having seen how a Nursing Home, by the use of small print, had received in payment practically the entire, average valuable estate of an Austrian widow friend of ours with no children and only an elderly sister in Vienna, we are allergic to small print in a contract, allowing for additional expenses unless a reasonable ceiling is specified beyond which the cost cannot soar. For most of our tenants we change the approved Real Estate Agreement to meet new circumstances. No attorney is needed; but simply a statement in ink initialed by the writer, with date, on margin. If we can do it in Hawaii, your business office can do it in Mich. THAT IS WHAT WE NEED FROM BB FOR OD.

Secondly, it is quite UNimportant whether BB is responsible for 25 % of the debacle and OD for 75%, or vice versa.. The fact is we have spent a heap of cash thus far on the new edition without and returned income from it. Every day of delay in completing the book means BB is gaining bank interest or stock dividends in Ann Arbor which OD should be getting in Volcano or Waialua! It actually makes BB expensive without need.

When BB returned original drawings, plates, photos etc., as no longer needed, we got them out of our home at the beach vulnerable to tidal waves and out of our home on the top of a volcano sooner or later vulnerable to an eruption (I just got today's newspaper - see enclosed clipping).

We mail dry plant specimens to over 100 museums throughout the World. Many are described and depicted in our books. That is where we scattered the illustrations ⁱⁿ error informed us were NO LONGER NEEDED.

I have marked, Miss Mosher, in the page proof which I mailed you just which illustrations are hopeless. ^{Please} We have your expert draughtman check once again whether any can be improved after all to make the acceptable. next RUSH me the information ~~precisely~~ precisely which must be replaced by a new copy. We can't wait any longer as continuously other botanists can publish new plant names, making ours obsolete, antiquating the NEW (!?) edition without changing the text all over again.

Mrs. Degener & I have discovered that xerox has perfected a new copier about the size of a typewriter. Thanks to the fact that the new machine will be used in our business, we shall have a partial tax deduction if we buy it. We plan getting a copy, and shall duplicate two copies of our page proof and mail them to the Copyright Office in Washington so that our new names shall belong to us and not be changed by any other botanist. Next we shall run off about 100 copies IF NEEDED of copyrighted copies, mailing them as gifts to the recipients of our plants. We shall ask them for the return of the originals of any of the damaged ones in the page proof so we can again lend them to our printer (unnamed) for the making of new plates. We should get at least some back. For the missing ones we may ask Dr. Price and/or Dr. Moldenke to hire for us some artist at their institutions to redraw the missing plants. Presumably they have dried specimens of them at their institutions from us. It will be difficult and expensive to make them look alive; but there is nothing else we can do. At the same time we shall ask if they will purchase the bound, properly printed copy copy for \$25 in a year or two.

Volcano, Hawaii, June 15, 1983.

Though unusually healthy for our ages (I am 84), Mrs. Deemer & I judge it prudent to empty our cases of accumulated herbarium specimens. Our unidentified ones have been studied with care of the Floras available to us in New York, Honolulu, Berlin and a few other institutions. Other material, even if we guess we know the taxa by names, we are now never distributing often unidentified as we lack the time and the needed literature both in our Mokuleia Beach winter home and our Volcano Village summer one on Hawaii. Monographs eventually should get out of present claps. Watch for botanical papers regarding Hawaii Archipelago plants, and hope the authors have cited collectors and collection dates on herbarium sheets. Dates, ignored by many modern authors, fail to inform us when a local taxon has been exterminated by man and other destructive beasts.

Our most important taxa go to the New York Botanical Garden (unless it has similar ones already), of which we are staff members. Their duplicates and other material are distributed among over 100 leading World botanical institutions with the conviction that if World War III etc. should destroy some World centers in some crazy Dictator instigated holocaust, some Degeuer collections will survive somewhere for wiser humans to admire and study. Many taxa we have already distributed are on the verge of extinction due to domesticated & feral herbivores; purposely and accidentally introduced weed bushes, herbs, weed bushes and weed trees like flammable eucalypts; exotic insects; and fungus and viral diseases. The bulldozer is so helpful when used to wipe out, for example, endemic, fascinating night blooming *Capparis* to replace it with exotic *Bougainvillea* to "beautify" tourist hotel grounds!

Of all the professional botanists about whom we know, only one individual, armed with a razor blade, pilched specimen parts from O.D.s., collecting from herbarium sheets and actually chopped down the magnificent flag pole-like type specimen of an endangered lobelioid for laboratory study. Many musicians and artists, for instance, we must occasionally spare of genius to be accompanied with a spark of insanity. Black individuals may arise among European moulders as well as among Western American big horn sheep and must not be confused with the prevalent same white ones that further the Science of Botany by judicious collecting to enrich museums for the benefit of future botanists. Remember to collect, collect, collect before it is too late. In the case of unique trees, true international treasures, like *Hibiscadelphus* & *gleditsias* of J. F. Rock, we gather them over the years fallen leaves & flowers, not living ones, for museums of the World, and scatter available seeds in the neighborhood.

Should our unidentified taxa be a nuisance in your herbarium, please do not discard them; but mail them to another institution as gifts or exchange.

By the way, have you our paperback and our "Books"?

1. "Plants of Hawaii Nat Parks" - - - - - \$5.00
2. Flora Hawaii, 2 has "Books" 1-4 in a single poor World War II emergency cover, on poor paper. 1192 illustrated pages - - - - - \$22.50
3. Flora Hawaii, "Book" 5 - - - - - (Called sheets presently unavailable)
4. Flora Hawaii, "Book" 6 - - - - - (Good cover, paper) - - - - - \$22.50
5. Flora Hawaii, "Book" 7 - - - - - (Almost complete; no cover - - - - - \$22.50

Each sheet (edition is 1,500 copies) of the Flora is usually a separate publication with date of publication (not of printing) and author of authors recorded on first page. The above seven are "Books", and not volumes. "Books" are merely for convenience of handling & sale, sheets being loose leaf, their plates can be shown easily on the screen to illustrate lectures. Remove all screws, and reshuffle all sheets according to printed instructions to facilitate using the Flora conveniently.

We two Degeuers, having lived among the Hawaii flora and having collected & studied it a total of about 90 years without much teaching interruption, are amazed how little we, our late predecessors and our contemporaries actually knew or know about it. A loose leaf Flora, prepared so that obsolete sheets can be replaced by more modern ones from time to time, avoids the dead weight of typically bound books which cannot keep up with the advances of modern collecting and research.

O. & J.