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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.

Botanischer Garten und Museum Berlin-Dahlem -Rikibbahak -

Mit verbindlichem Dank bestätigen wir Ihnen den Eingang folgender Sendung:

2 Sendungen mit Herbarmaterial

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Brigi Mar defen a Botimis der Mozeum

Techn. Assistentin de Stelle 6-8

## Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



To r. Ctto legener P. O. Box 154

Volcano, Hawaii 95785

## Shipping Notice

SIUC Herbarium Department of Botany Southern Illinois University at Carbondale Carbondale, Illinois 62901

......This copy to be endorsed and returned as soon as shipment received. ......This copy for your files to be returned only \_\_\_when returning a loan.

Date \_\_\_\_\_21 July 1933

No. of Packages \_\_\_

Shipped by \( \begin{array}{ll} \ldots \ Parcel Post \ \ldots \ Express \ \ldots \ Preight \ \ldots \ collect \ \end{array}

The Southern Illinois University Herbarium is sending you herbarium specimens as indicated below. Upon the arrival of the shipment, kindly verify its contents and acknowledge by signing the GREEN sheet and returning it to the Curator. 1.....Gift. 2.....Exchange. 3.....For identification. 4.....Return of before ...... Extension of this period may be granted on request to the Curator. The Southern Illinois Herbarium will appreciate having every sheet of the loan annoted, and will be glad to receive a copy of the publication in which these specimens are mentioned. All material included in this loan must be returned at one time. Packing should be carefully done to avoid breakage of specimens. The PINK duplicate sheet is to be retained by the borrower as a record of the loan and is to be mailed under separate cover when specimens are returned. The PINK duplicate will be remailed to the borrower when the returned loan when specimens are returned. The FINA duplicate with the loan, has been received and checked, indicating cancellation of the loan.

#### DESCRIPTION OF SPECIMENS

Motification of the receipt of 17 unmounted herbarium specimens and 13 copies of printed material. Donated as a gift to SIU-C

Notes:

Exchange statement: Including this shipment our exchange records show a balance of ...... specimens in your/our favor. Please notify us if the above figure is incorrect.

All correspondence concerning the herbarium should be addressed to the Curator.

Received the above in good order

Signed

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

July 12, 1983.

War Miss Mosher:

with delay and probably some loss of letters between the States of Hawaii & Michigan so frequent, Mrs. Degener & I simply went into Action. It was also prompted by my recent hospitalization for ten days for a blood elot that at ht frament and cause serious malfunction of heart, lungs and brain; and my Laving still ANO Her birthday! So last week, with the help of our friend, the retired dinn & Co., employee (old you know that 's Kerox Co., absorbed it recently?) Mrs. D., & I are scattering our copyrighted page-proof arong an as yet unknown number of 100 major botanical institutions throw hout the world, he enclosed, old, early draft of the figst page is more or less selfexplanatory. We omit all reference to BB.

when we have stock in a company, we feel we are part owners of that company. After we have donated hundreds to thousands of Hawaiian, Fijiang etc., herbarium specimens over the past 60 years to 100 or so betanical institu-tions (like U. of Mich.) we, without the Director or President being aware of it, feel we have a vested interest in such an institutions. Sc. copies or betanical latters, actually business, and the ori inal drawin s & photos we mailed you for the present edition, were sent to such institutions for embalming in their herbaria or archives. Since BB has not even now answeret whether they can improve the looks of the inferior reproductions mailed me, we are mailing the page proof copies for sale, for barter or as outright gifts to "our vested" institutions with the query whether they happen to have the criginal drawings or plates. If they have, we want to borrow them for mailing to BB for a second try of making good reproductions for the aroperly printed Edition 3. I paid for this work once, and see no reason for being char ed a second time.

This distribution of COPYRIGHTED copies of the page proof has a more important PERSONAL aspect. Mrs. D., & I were local cloneers explaining the oetc. Also, we have decided that the scientific names of certain local plants need changing. Others are winning the "glor," that we, without years of de-lay, would have gotten. Moreover, our dried specimens in museums will be en-hanced in value and usefulness with a legible page proof description available until the proper book appears on the scene. Including plants collected outside the Haw. Islands, I wass we have distributed between 350,000 and 500,000 since 1922. For two years at the New York Bot. Garden, I would write the master label, and two WPA secretaries would write the duplicates; and for years in the islands I hired two boys for all her day and keep to do similar work. It was good pay, considering their fathers worked on the su ar plan-

tations as laborers for he same sum.

Your July 1 letter mailed to volume and forwarded to me at Waialua (we must be here for a tenant purpover) has officient su estions, but first Mrs. le enar & I want o see how woll your en pavers can repair defective illustrations. You will expedite matters if I know for which you need my originals so that institutions can hunt how up amon my gifts to them.

For additional meeded pages, a charge of 118 is quite satisfactory, but to "discuss print and bind costs at the completion of the composition" would hardly meet with approval of the BBB office in downtown benefulu. We need more facts before simin a con ract and some kind of ceiling beyond which BB charges cannot skyrocket. You cannot expect to please 100% of your customers. I don't seem to be alone.

Alona, Dr. Oth Degener

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER and I am the product of groups and selling and dig on a time under a P.O. Box 154 carattle national a same of thebre oldereller old for resta terrary Volcono, Howaii next calls win benefit on a large warf to the circles one of the 96785 and U. S. A. June 15, 1983.

Dear Prof. Price: Blow T Jakk moon boy a feet fearly ales Mrs. D., & I have your June 6 letter. You have no idea what a lucky man you are! Were I a Frenchman in Ann Arbor, I would kiss you on both cheeks in gratitude. I notice in newspaper photos that even French Generals follow this prac-

Your information is precisely what we needed, and I just wrote Miss Laura Kett our "tentative plans: Being exposed to tsunamis at Waialua - I turned over my entire per-. sonal herbarium over to NY after World War II Japanese bombers flew over my home and even shot at my protege while he bicycled to the postoffice to fetch the mail - and being exposed to volcanic fireworks at our Voldano Village home. Mrs. D., & I try to get rid, via museums, are no longer useful valuables.

Taking BB at their word a couple of years or so ago that they no longer needed the drawings & photos they returned, we mailed them away in herbarium package gifts to 100 or so institutions throughout the World. Most probably went to NY and Hunt at Pitsburgh. We plan buying a duplicator from Xerox when in Honolulu in two weeks (rental wturnover -) . The machines are about the size of a typewriter. Therewith we shall first make two copies of our present page proof as it is. When we have depyrighted these two, we plan running off about 100 more to distribute to the 100 institutions which MAY have the needed originals. These we want to return to BB for a second try. We by this method get our few new binomial combinations legally fixed, and need not continuously revise the page proof to keep it up to date. It is silly for me, who died of heart arrest about ten years ago at the KMC mess with the highest degree of eupkoria (without the b) until my wife and mother-in-law brutally slapped me alive. should not publish. Why not antenumously improperly and then perhaps posthumously properly. A man of my age, no matter how well he feels, may topple over any day. in view of the fact that my German father, on a visit from America to an Austrian relative married a distant cousin have I not the right to be silly? In that fein I got amused with resurrecting the name of a distant ancestor of mine BY MARRIAGE with the "new combination"

Pandanus tectorius (du Roi) Deg. & Deg.
I amused myself similarly describing plants can be so monotonous - in naming a new Schiedea for a Bishop Museum Director who cost me my position at the University h 1928 (bless his Soul if he has one). Publishing no Latin diagnosis for S. gregoriana, the binomial is as worthless as the man I dishonored. The joke about it is that the Code printed a paragraph in error about my action as an error on my part. Have you no-

ticed my nastiness?

I knew Krajina very well a half Century or more ago. I shall explain the situation, starting with the Cambrian or Ordovician: In the Geology Dept., at Yale Dr. Herbert E. Gregory was a keen expert I imagine, but in spite of that just a grown up juvenile delinquent. His colleagues could not stand him. In fact, bad boy Gregory noticed lecture notes on a fellow geologist's desk, filched them, and used them to give the public lecture as his own! I, as student, was on a field trip with gentle Dr, Charles Schuchert of Yale. Finding a contorted trilobite I showed him, he explained to me "it had died of a Palaeozoic cramp." Gregory & Schuchert were at opposite extremes in personality.

In the predicament of removing from the Campus troublesome Gregory, who was a bosom friend of the Harvester King Mc Corm McCormik (spelling?) who had endowed Yale with millions, the President of Yale brilliantly offered to pay a Director's salary at the impoverished Bishop Museum if Herbert Gregory were accepted. Purthermore, he would es-'tablish valuable "Yale Fellowships" paid by Yale for the Bishop Museum. I GOT TO KNOW

"Vladi" Krajina as one of these Yale Fellows!

Dr. Krajina is an outstanding, somewhat exuberant, fearless individual who had been something of a Freedon Fighter and, I guess, might have been "liquidated" had he not emigrated to the US. He properly opposed the flagrant "lumping" of taxa by locals in his Sadleria monograph of which we have a copy or Oshu. With more collecting and field observation, still more "splitting" is in order. We have the brutes wild in our Volcano treefern patch with hybrids.. That we should reduce a taxon simply because a hybrid

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occurs IN THE WILD (they don't do it for cultivated cases) is illogical to us. I believe Krajina to survive, after the Yale Fellowship ended, became a Canadian citizen more or less involved in the scientific part of Forestry. I considered him older than I, so don't be surprised if he is now collecting asclepiads along the Milky Way. I may

follow him atany time.

Where have you been all this time? Don't you know that I paid no attention to Director Gregory because of his questionable reputation and particularly because of his treatment of the genius predecessor of mine, J.F. Rock, at the College (University) of Hawaii? Rock is the son of house servants and, he told me, Austrian-Hungarian by birth. Because of the peak he reached from his humble beginning, he deserves the very highest praise. In school in Austria, I presume it was a Catholic one, he studied Chinese!, no biology. Perhaps he intended becoming a missionary. Early, he contracted "consumption" and, expecting to die from it, decided to see something of the World first. In some University town in France he notice people walking the streets with name plate and their destination "New York" pinned on their coats and dresses. He got information from one of these emigrants and, practically on the spur of the moment, decided he could die of TB just as well in the 'US and in France. So he joined the group on the vessel. Arriving in New York, he started splitting blood from a lung haemorrhage. Going to an M.D.,, this sensible man told him he was not deathly sick at all, and that the best place for him to live woild be in a warm climate. Thus Rock finally landed in Honolu-

To cure himself Rock would lie in the sun at Waikiki. (I believe modern chysicians consider this the worst thing to do for TB.). He confided in another genius (Alexander Hume Ford (whom I also knew well & gave some lectures free at his Pan-Pacific Assn.) how deadly momotonous lying on the beach was becoming. So Ford gave him a glass bottom box and told him to go out on the reef and study the "seaweeds". From algae & study, Rock got a position with the Territorial Forestry Dept. (Do you know his book Indig. Trees - --?) and finally the first Botanist at the College of Hawaii where, aftervit had become a University I got my M.Sc., for two Lyconium S.L., papers in 23,

and taught in '25-'27.

Rock during institution time & during his own time amassed a herbarium. Going to - Berlin, he made it particularly valuable by getting (I believe from Engler) fragments from Hillebrand's herbarium bequeathed to them. I saw the ghastly remains in 1923 at the Bishop Museum after the Zoologist Ball as Curator had sealed the herbarium cases with putty before killing the cigaret beetles within! By the way, has Ann Arbor any of Hillebrand's and Rock's plants? Didn't "Uncle" Bartlett ever ages any?

No matter what the legal ownership might be,,, all specimens were of course arrang-& properly in sequence in the wooden, well made herbarium cases. I don't know what the trouble wa, but Gregory and Rock disagreed about something. Th conchologist Montagu Cooke at the Museum had a brother (Clarence?) in the Legislature. Gregory thus got the Territorial Legislature to pass a bill that bishop Museum be the legal depository for the College of Hawaii herbarium. Frantic Rock saw a moving van come to the College and haul the herbarium, including his personal plants, to the BM1 Whenever Rock wanted To 60 study his own plants, he would be obliged to cross Honolulu by trolley and then walk to the Museum. Lest Rock "steal" any of his plants, Gregory stationed a janitor

beside him during his stay. With these nasty tricks, Gregory forced Rock out of the Islands, luckily finally to Tibet. You must know of his splendid record there from Nat. Geographic Magazine article and from a Rock biography (which I have not yet been able to get to read). Knowing this beast Gregory, I feared having anything to do with him.

Coming to the Hawaiian Islands from NY with my sister as a tourist in 1922, I collected greedily. In fact, on my return to my Alma Mater (Mass. Agr. College, later U.), I actually won the honorable Hill's Prige and the \$15 reward for the best herbarium submitted. Such plants are of course now in their herbarium. In the Islands for the School year 1922-23 under the U. of Mich., Exchange Professor DR. JAMES B. POLLOCK. He had a tiff withh Gregory too. I got my M. Sc., through him in 1923 for two published articles about Lycopodium s.l., appearing in the Bot. Gaz.

Having licked blood, I craved to return to the Islands - the vegetation on fire escapes & window sills of the Island of Manhattan did not interest me - and so wrote Pres. Dean of the University of Hawaii: I wished to teach Botany half time beginning 1925 for pay, and to work on a Flora of Hawaii on my own time without pay. On arrival in Honolulu, Pres. Dean informed me that the Regular Botanist Dr. Herbert Bergman 61 (feared & unpopular in student eyes) had gone on leave of absence to Mass. As the

enrollment had increased tremendously, he asked me to teach full time with full pay of \$180 per month - this was reasonable in those days. What could I do but acquiesce?

My Freshman blass had about 75 students and Plant Physiology about a dozen.

I of course bumped into Gregory. In fact, he arranged a meeting with me at the museum where he had the nerve to dictate what I should do even though not in his emply! I was politely noncommittal, and continued according to my former routine. In 1926-27 we got a new President David Crawford, a former entomologist and son of mission-aries years before in Mexico. He surprisingly (I was considered the second best (KC. Leebrick) on the small Campus) informed me in writing that "the Director of the Bishop Museum does not approve of your reappointment", or words to that effect. Such letters are salted away in Archives in NY or Pittsburgh. The Museum, remember, is a private institution and the University of Terr. of Haw., one - no official connection between them at all. Though I never seem excited consciouslym subconsciously I get upset. I suffered heart pains, and have not driven a car since 1928 - never had a driver's license, because of chronic tachycardia. The cure might be a change in environment, and so I became the first Naturalist of Hawaii National Park, inleuding Haleakala and Kilauea areas. I perked up and published during my spare time ny tourist book, and returnafter a couple of years to Oahu where I had bought a home - cross my palms with silver & gold and it is yours - in 1926.

Being nasty in addition to feeling insulted by having been dumped from the U., by Ores. David Crawford, I just could not help playing a joke on him. Even though I was unemplyed (selfemployed?), he would 'phone me for the correct binomials for local plants of economic interest. Next he published his "Haw. Crop Parade", ignoring my labor in the introduvtion and ascribing it in with the help he got from my replacement at the Bot. Dept. I wrote an honest book review for the University newspaper Ka Leo O Haw. Because of the President's unpopularity, it passed the Faculty censor, and produced for a little while a furor. I also had the article in the newspaper. As a result, which I never expected, sales slumped. As licensed book dealer I bought all the unsold copies at a great bargain, corrected them with red ink as I would s Freshman notebook and effered them for sale at a profit. My best customers were Faculty members who, however, usually avoiding having their copies visible on their library shelves. Have you guessed

what isbuzzing in my mind?

Oh, yes, after & Crawford was impertinent to Dr. Rock then in retirement in Honolulu and known well to us by that time - we named a Hibiscus in his honor - the newspapers had articles about his probably retirement from the U., three of us helped to dislodge him. Dec. 5 me sailed for California, and Dec 7 the Japahese bombarded Pearl

Harbor. He thereafter became a farm machinery salesman in Mexico.

If you will read between the lines you will realize that even with a tape of Chop-in on the radio, I am sick & tired of scribbling plant labels - at times 100! - Also, that besides tachycardia I still suffer from a mental scar from a fight that occurred over fifty years ago. It seems so silly as I realize that the Gregory-Crawford imbrog-lio was a blessing for me (and Rock), forcing me to be self employed, living of of investments, fee simple real estate & book sales. We get no pension, no salary, nor anything else.

This letter is so long delayed as Mrs. D., evidently with a touch of 'flu without realizing it, went swimming and then had to be hospitalized for two days after the M.D.'s pills dehydrated her excessively. She is just about well now. Then we enjoyed the visit

of the P.S. Greens) was at the Volcano House. He is retired from Kew.

What helps us tick is that we feel we are part owners of a company of which we own shares of stock. Similarly, with a third to half a million herbarium specimens scattere in 100 different institutions to help the advance of Science, we feel we have a vested interest in those institutions which not even the Directors can deprive us without destroying our specimens. Checks with his lyrammed at lyhisely had a similar idea.

We have many more Topping cards for you to xerox After we have copied the reverse

notes about my own collecting.

Thanks again, & aloha,

thongener

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

June 22, 1983.

Dear Dr. Rogerson:

Mrs. D., & I in 1981 spent considerable time in Tasmania, southern Australia and the North Island of New Zealand. Then in 1982 we botanized in the Canaries, Madeira and the Azores. Our strictly 100% botanical publications we mailed as samples to the Garden for Mr. Long's archives.

Desides botanizing in these foreign regions with pleasure, we have been greatly upset for a number of years from an environmental standpoint and have received from the State of Hawaii Legislature a signal honor as overleaf shows. This announcement was later published in the Newsletter of the Haw. Bot. Soc., actually about Feb. 15.

1975 and IN ERROR given as May-Dec. 1979. We and others have protested the dating error, and received the editor's lame excuse (now in our archives) that as no new combination in nomenclature had been made, dates were irrelevant!

Haw. Volc. Nat. Park, besides its volcances Mauna Loa and Kilauea, is also outstanding for its wealth of endemic plants in deserts to rainforest and up to the alpine elevation of above 13,000 feet. During the last few years practical individuals and their powerful companies have begun the project of "mining" the area from the Park boundary southeastward about 25 miles to the ocean! The proposal is to sink about 90 wells to the white hot molten magma to tap geothermal energy. Mrs. D., & I are strenuously opposing this danger to our environment by writing protests to the local newspapers and other publications. We then send such articles xeroxed usually in 100 copy lots. We distribute to local and other Legislators, to Biologists and Environmentalists, and to any other groups that may prevent or at least retard this desecration & extermination of our biota. I having been Naturalist at the National Park and with a book prominently on sale, and Isa & I being residents in the neighborhood for over 15 years tend to be followed a bit more seriously than the average citizen. What is happening now thanks to a few test wells is frightening with the clouds of SO2 and other poisonous liberated gases, Our group is not fighting the vandalism as one-sided naturalists, but have chipped in to retain an attorney to protect our rights legally. Isa & I are not so much interested what happens to our acre property but to the Island as a whole whether we are still living or not. This fascinating can so easily be changed from a Paradise of the Pacific to a Pittsburgh of the Pacific with a concentration of heavy industry.

Regarding our bibliography we contacted Dr. Prance May 20 as he knows something about local conditions as does of course Dr. Hester, a former schoolboy on Oahu! Dr. Prance in his June 16 answer wrote that we "are wondering how much detail to put into the bibliography list that Dr. Rogerson completes each year. My inclination on this would be to tend towards all inclusive. I think the more comprehensive these are the more useful they are for the historical record - - . Dr. Rogerson may eventually weed out some of it as he does for all of us - - ."

The trouble is that 1. See are presently living at our mountain home on the Island of Mawaii where only a couple of such articles remain, 2.) at our beach home on the Island of Oahu we have only a few others stashed away, and 3.) of many, we have distributed all 100 or so copies. They are in the public domain where we hope they will help our cause. WE HAVE, MOWEVER, INVARIABLY SENT SAMPLES of such material to Mr. Long for the Garden archives from time to time. Could you easily leaf through the material probably filed under "Degener" to select the proper bibliographic material? Should it be time consuming, could you hire some student to do it for us at our expense? (We shall take the cost off our taxes as a business expense.) To print as respectable bibliography should to readers that the Degeners have not yet succumbed to old age but are still useful as well as ornamental.

Aloha.

DANIEL K. AKAKA SECOND DISTRICT, HAWAII

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

June 24, 1983

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

Dear Drs. Degener:

This is in response to your correspondence to the editor of the Advertiser concerning the Maui Botanical and Zoological Gardens.

I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention. I will do whatever I can to assure that these gardens can be enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you for your correspondence. Please do not hesitate to contact me whenever I may be of service.

Aloha pumehana,

DANIEL K. AKAKA Member of Congress



7 July 1983

Dear Doctors Degener,

I thank you most kindly for the lovely packet of plant specimens which arrived in perfect condition today. Like all the others you've sent over the past few years, they are treasured and valuable additions to the herbarium here, and I will mount them up and curate them lovingly.

I regret to say that your #35,800 (perhaps a kind of <u>Sophora?</u>) arrived without a label. Do you suppose I might trouble you for a label for it? I hate to ask the favor, since you've been so terribly generous all along.

I have 3 very competent assistants (work-study students) this summer in the herbarium, and we are plugging right along. We now have 66,300 and growing. It may not be a terribly large collection, but I flatter myself it is a quality collection, helped more than you can know by the additions from the Degeners.

There have been stories intermittently the past several months about the volcano spewing lava not far from your home. I gather that your home is away from the lava flows, since the news reports we see here always stress that the threatened homes are "natives who often have no plumbing." It seems a curious way to describe people's situations, but that's what we read, and see on the television.

My thanks again for the most welcome additions to the herbarium. And my every best wish for your continued collecting vigor:

Biology Department UW-Oshkosh Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901 Most cordially,

Neil A. Harriman

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER 68-617 Crozier Drive Waislua, Oahu, Hawaii 95/91 U. S.-A.

July 13, 1983.

Dear Prof. & Mrs. Harriman:

Mrs. D., & I wish to thank you for your July 7 letter. But, really, you are doing us a favor by preserving our botanical pets so that more advanced humans of the Future can get a better idea as to what a fascinating Archipelago the Hawaiian Islands had been before the Polynesians came 1,000 years ago, and other races since about 1778 to devastate it. They did so with fire; introduction of herbivores; aggressive weed herbs, weed shrubs & weed trees like the explosive eucalypts, and rather recently with the bulldozer. Accidentally introduced fungi, viruses and insects are major problems.

When we own stock in a company, Mrs. D., & I consider we actually are part owners of that company. We are perhaps a bit eccentric in feeling that if we can got our specimens into herbaria in institutions from NY, Berlin, Vienna, Kew, Peking, Leningrad, Oshkosh and about 75 others scattered throughout the World, we actually have a væsted interest in those fine institutions whether their Presidents or Faculty believe it or not. It makes us feel useful as

well as ornamental even into the Future.

Mrs. D., connected with Berlin-Dahlem before I "kidnapped" her to Hawaii by marriage in 1953, saw the herbarium destroyed in World War II by British bombers halfheartedly helped by our own. In WW III, IV, etc., etc., crazed politicians vry likely may destroy major cities, but hardly waste bombs on communities like Coimbra, Dublin, Göteborg, Hobart, Ithaca or Oshkosh. S00000 let's scatter prizes there for long survival. Why not do that for your Wisconsin endemics? If potential political enemies yet unborn can wipe out much of the US and perhaps "conquer" the World, it may be wise to fill museums in Leningrad, Moscow, & Peking. A few mincompoop leaders - remember I am not responsible for a Mixon - may be the enemies; hardly Botanists, as we have noted after attending Int. Bot. Congresses.

We live on the Island of Oahu at the warm beach preferably winters and on the Island of Hawaii in the 3,800 foot rainforest preferably summers. BUT we maty switch without notice at any time due to the vagaries of tenant turn-overs. So, now, we are under protest sweating at Mokuleia Beach. We shall be back at cool Volcano in about two months. Your letter is going there with us, so that we can shuffle through our herb., specimens there for the missing label of (?) Sophora 35,800 which we probably collected at Punaluu, Kau. Is

the legume torulose?

Though unusually well for our ages, we want to empty our two homes of all herb. specimens lest some lawyer executive through everything into the garbage as worthless. Thereafter, we shall publish again as usual. You must realize that since about the Viet Nam War efficient botanizing for us has ended, and we are ready to sell our jeep as isolated roads leading to interesting regions are too dangerous. We just pick up odds & ends along main high

## Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

which we botanized decades ago. The wild areas are honeycombed with illicit. plantings often boobytrapped and guarded with armeed criminals. A few years ago, while botanizing and probably wandering to closely to a patch of Cannabis, Mrs. D., & I were shot at. On our acre of treefern-Metrosideros forest, farthest from our house, someone even was grewing Cannabis seedlings! I had the urge to press them and mail theo out as specimens, but of course did not

do so. It would have been a Federal offence.

The lava threaten mostly shacks of illicit growers, and we are rather pleased. Our property is Mauks (uphill) from the presently active rift. Of course something will eventually happen to our property, but that may be a month or more like 204,000 to 50,000 years hence. At the Beach, We have had the ocean three feet deep in our diningroom. This has happened thrice sinc I bought the place in 1936; and after the Japanese bombers flew over the house to attack Pearl Harbor & esp. Schofield Barracks, we have kept no personal herbarium. Should we ever want to monograph a genus, we can always borrow specimens from institutions in which we feel we have a vested interest such as NY, Ann Arbor or Oshkosh.

On Otto Segurer

What's new in the spiderweb?

Mrs. D., joins in aloha.



Dear Drs. Degener,

I have your kind letter of 13 July; it arrived yesterday. The specimen I asked you about is indeed <u>Sophora tomentosa</u>, your #35,800, and the pods are strongly torulose. I thank you in advance for carrying my letter along to your other home, to dig out more label data. I checked through my holdings of <u>Sophora</u>, and I do have other specimens of this species, but not from Hawaii. Had it been something you'd sent me a dozen times before, I wouldn't want to bother you any further.

I shall take to heart your further comments on the vagaries of war and politics and instruments of mass destruction in human hands. I regret sincerely the bitter tone that comes through in your letter, but I think I can understand why you write as you do. There is scarcely a monograph in my herbarium library that is without a mention of the destruction of one or more types at the Berlin herbarium in the infamous bombing raid of 1943. Without meaning to excuse anyone's behavior, I would add that the German authorities forbade the botanists there to evacuate the herbarium to a safe locality, but the Willdenow Herbarium was hidden away here and there outside the city in private houses, despite the orders from the authorities. Hence, it survives intact. Just out of curiosity, do you know whether this tale is true? I have no wish to dredge up horrible memories, but I would treasure some personal history that I know you, Mrs. Degener, could supply me with.

My thanks again for the lovely specimens, and your letter. I used your tale about marijuana growing in isolated places in the islands in my Biology class just this morning -- the students were open-mouthed. I think it made quite an impression.

Biology Department U. of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901 Most fondly, Neil A. Harriman

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY • COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH • OSHKOSH WISCONSIN 54901 • (414) 424-1102

## INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Department of Biology
JORDAN HALL 138
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47401

TEL. NO. 812-337-

18 July 1983

Dear Ore. Degener,

Jhank you very much for your gift

of 21 herbarium specimens for Indiana triving

(received 18 July '83). As always, the specimens

are greatly appreciated, as is the printed matter

that accompanied them.

Sincerely, Lewis Johnson Herbarium Carator



## HERBARIA OF THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM AND GRAY HERBARIUM HARVARD UNIVERSITY

20 July 1983

Dr. Otto Degener Box 154 Volcano, Hawaii 96785

Dear Dr. Degener:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of the 27 miscellaneous Hawaiian plants which we have recently received from you. The material will be mounted and added to our collection.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

michael Canon

Michael Canoso Manager, Systematic Collections

HARVARD UNIVERSITY HERBARIA BUILDING 22 DIVINITY AVENUE : CAMBRIDGE : MASSACHUSETTS : 02138 : U.S.A. PHONE: (617) 495-2365

Hust



## B I S H O P M U S E U M

1525 BERNICE STREET • P.O. BOX 19000-A • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96819 • (808) 847-3511

20 July 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener,

Please accept my apologies for not writing sooner. I would like to acknowledge and thank you for two recent gifts to Herbarium Pacificum:

Accession 1983.205; 21 dried plant specimens, Hawaii

Accession 1983.247, 31 dried plant specimens, Hawaii.

I enjoyed very much your reminiscent letter about NYC and NYBG. My time there was full of interesting experiences which I will try to gather into a letter to you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Peter J. O'Connor

Collections Manager, Botany

ats



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts University of Massachusetts Amherst 01003

Telephone 413/545-2234

July 22, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Many thanks for your contribution of published material and 23 specimens of plants. We have always appreciated your generous contribution of valuable plants to this University. Your collections are of great value and it is exceedingly kind of you to continue your gifts to our herbarium.

Sincerely,

Zd Oon, Edward L. Davis Department Head

ELDdlr



WAIALUA, OAHU, HAWAII

JUly 24, 1983

Dear Dr. Price:

I have your July 3 letter, and thank you two Arborists for your help with BB. But so far as Mrs. D., & I understand, we are not ready to continue with EB until this concern answers - I asked the same question about a year age - my query ag to WHICE illustrations were botched in the Ann Arbor shop so that I can hunt up the originals or try to get substite tutes. Many originals may be in the archives of N.Y.B.G., Carnegie-Mellon U., or perhaps even in Arm Arbor. To have me pay them \$500 end TREMEAFTER be told how much the job is to cost is hardly what the BBB (Better Business Bureau) or an attorney would advise us to sign. Without a specified ceiling sum, theoretically we could be bankrupted We noticed something like that happening to dis raught relatives who failed to note the fine print of the contract in the Honolulu nursing home where Isa's mother died. After the past experience andunsatisfied printing customer's frigaly remark, we are unusually careful. Our plan, as I probably mentioned before, is to have the present page proof copyrighted without more years of delay. This move will date our publication of some of our new name combinations and put some of our ideas into the public domain.

We are now at our Molnuleia Beach home due to tenant turnovers until at least the middle of Sept. and to dental work (root canal; it's a tap root). Here we have our private ibrary of 2,200 books a pamphlets dealing with Haw., plants. Also, here we have our collection of holographs and meromes of holographs Many of such holographs have been denosited in the archives of the NTBS, Munt Library of Carnegie-Mellon U., in Pittsburgh and (?) in

Ann Arbor and elsewhere AFTER we had had them meroxed.

We NEVER list authors of books, pamphlets, holographs and xeroxes on filing cards. Instead, we list any genera of interest from Haw., standboint mentioned in such collections, When Mrs. D., & I worklon some genus, we then haul out for us to see whar athers have thought about them. Regarding Cibotium our filing card lists 71 books and pamphlets, and 55 holographs & xeroxes of holographs. Regarding S dieria, we have 66 of the former, and 24 of the latter Moreover, we are not quite up to date, some boxes of pamphlets are still liging about our library waiting for us to list them on our cards and puting them on our library shelves. Letters & xeroxes are in 3-ring binders.

I shall watch out for Krajina's publications, but I hardly have they time

to hunt thorough all our namphlets, at least NOW.

Here is something for you to ponder with your bot. Colleagues: People die today who never died before! Over 84 years old, even though moderately healthy, according to life insurance statistics I consider myself terminally ill I have lived with a pacemaker for nearly a decade, carry nitroglycerin pills in a tiny vial in my trouser pocket, do feel bit dizzy at RARE times, was hospitalized for ten days a couple of months are for a blood clot, have a-

## Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

long with Mrs. D. been shot at while botanizing by illicit Cannabis growers, and travel with Mrs. D by auto & 'plane. Here is the chance for a Bot. Hert., to accuire a xerox collection of correspondence with me and mostly botanists starting in the early '30s. A friend and distant neighbor is a retired tinn & Co., employee. The company has been taken over by Kerox Co. Frind Ion Smith visits us every Saturday, and kindly takes any material we want duplicated to a shop in Honolulu, returning it to us the following Saturday. Does U. of Mich., want a xerox copy, good & bad as they appear in our notebooks at 10 cents per copy? The writers represented in our first notebook are: H.H. Whatzel of Cornell 12/29/21, Irma begener, O'to Feyner, Alma G. Stokey (Lyc.), O.K. Courtney, A. Mincent Osmun, W.H. Davis (My..), devis Norton, Ray E. Forrey, Kenyon L. Butterfield 7/3/23.

When I left New Mork City with my sister Irma to tour the Hawaiian Istal lands in 1922, she returned home that Fall while I registered at the University of Hawaii for a Master's. By luck your own Univ. of Mich., Dr. James B. Pollock, a physical sist, was the Exchange Professor of Estany; and Wendell Brown, son of an Ahn Arbor minister, was student and lab. assistant. On returning to Ni I stopped off in Ann Arbor to visit my friends once again.

Brown gave up Botany, I believe, for Law; & I lost track of him.

A year hobmobbing with Ann Arborites stimulated my mailing material to your institution - how many numbers thus far? - with a hieden feeling that I had a "vested interest" in it. Hence I prefer having a set of my xeroxes in Ann Arbor, an erea of relatively little military importance during future World wars in comparison to Nr. Homolulu next to Peopl Harbor, and other coastal areas. Many of my later letters are more or less repetitive as I am trying to advertise the hornor of our altering a Paradise of the Pacific into a Fittsburgh of the Pacific, the recipients of such letters are different and the idea may be new to them. At least their answers are often interesting.

As an experiment, coes your pept., want xeroxes of my first 100 pages for \$10/ So long as my friend sees to the xeroxing for us, it would be silly for Mrs. D., & me to invest in a machine for such work. We save so much lab-

or thanks to his kindness.

We are unusually busy, offering our home Wear the University for sale Aug. 1. The "profit" of being a lindlord is offset by the nuisance of dealing with occasionally herritle tenants and lith rising taxes. We landlords are de enerating into unpaid tax collector.

Aloha,



## UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST • BOSTON • WORCESTER

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

July 25, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Mr. Mahoney has asked me to respond to your nice letter of July 5. One of the benefits of this job is that I can correspond with alumni from all over the world. Your part is one of my favorites.

I have spoken with Dr. Davis of the Botany Department and he did indeed confirm yours and Mrs. Degener's generosity to your alma mater. And I asked him to please keep this office informed of your gifts so that we could keep some record of these "gifts in kind".

You are correct that there is a faculty union on campus now. However, much of the blame for this happening resides with the state legislature. There were too many years when our state allocations were cut and no faculty or staff salary increases were given. Unfortunately, one answer was and is a union. However, there are some stalwart faculty members who have refused to join and have taken the option to make a charitable contribution instead.

Again, thank you for your letter. We have removed your name from our telephone solicitation file.

Sincerely,

Lois a. Calson

Lois A. Carlson Director of Individual Giving

LAC:mld cc: Dr. Edward Davis DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

#### CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

HONOLULU BOTANIC GARDENS 50 N. VINEYARD BOULEVARD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

EILEEN R. ANDERSON



July 26, 1983

EMIKO I. KUDO

PAUL R. WEISSICH

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

Dear Isa and Otto:

Again my thanks for your thoughtfulness in sending your packet of xerox copies of letters and botanical reprints received on July 11. Of special interest to me was your letter of April 7 to the Advertiser relative to Rene Sylva's extraordinary work on Maui.

In my view this so-called amateur is one of the best professionals in the islands and deserves enormous support from everyone who has the energy and decency to recognize the marvelous job he is doing. Thank you for your letter in his behalf.

My very best personal and warmest regards to you both.

Sincerely,

PAUL R. WEISSICH, Director Honolulu Botanic Gardens

PRW:tm



#### SECTION OF BOTANY

SWEDISH MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY S-104 05 STOCKHOLM 50 - SWEDEN

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

Stockholm 1983-07-29

Dear Drs Degener,

We have today received the 10 Hawaiian specimens you sent us as a gift. They are all in good order and we wish to thank you for your generosity.

Yours sincerely,

man Fredal o

Susan Pyddoke

Curatorial assistant

July 29, 1983

Dear Otto - Ika. you and learn about your write futory, why don't you write your memoirs? I appreciate your Comment about Isa reading the book. Comments from quelegests + actors who book are not so useful. It is time we got together again. We spend Dec! to Man I in Honolalu. We see Netta often and his wife. They load us with fruit + orchids. remained at Wesleyan, I would have been a botanist instead of a geologist. He was a captivating individual, Clindsledge is just as umderful as ever. We are in good health because of our deep love for each other. aloha minter Harold + Claudia

P.S. Thanks for endoused.

Harold T. Stearns Box 158 Hope, ID 83836 Dr. Otto Degener

68-617 Croziew Drive

P.O.Box 154

Waialua, Oahu/ Hawaii 96791 Vokano, Hawaii

96785

U.S.A.

Lieber Herr Degener.

Es freut mich, daß der "Index Collectorum" gut angekommen ist und Ihr Interesse gefunden hat. Für die Übersendung des "Flora Hawaiiensis"-Bandes danke ich sehr. Ich hoffe, wir finden die Zeit, die Tafeln - Ihrem Rat folgend - in das Herbar zu inserieren.

Es ist bewundernswert, daß Sie trotz aller Schwierigkeiten immer noch ins Gelände gehen.

> Ihnen beiden herzliche Grüße von Ihrem

> > Gotherd Wogung

PS. Soeben erhielten wir eine Sendung mit 20 Herbarbelegen und einigen Separaten, für die ich mich herzlich bedanken möchte.

## NATURHISTORISCHES MUSEUM WIEN BOTANISCHE ABTEILUNG

BURGRING 7, ÖSTERREICH A-1014 WIEN AUSTRIA

	REICH	AUSTRIA		Empfänger / addressee: O.Degener
Botanischen Abtei	Sie unpersönlich: An de ung The Director, Botanica			Waialua Oahu/Hawaii
Wir senden Ihnen	/ We are sending you			<u>USA</u>
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Bestätigung

Wien, 10.8.1983

Journal Nr.

Phanerogamen:

21 Bogen

BURGELL POSTACH 417

## Bestidisen Sid blite der Empling der Sending derch Unterzeighnen und Ricksendon dieser Fermules S Please sign and return tins form after having received the material madioned above.

In gutem Zustand erhalten / received in good order:

Stempel / stamp:

Datum / date:

Unterschrift / signature:

TASMANIAN HERBARIUM
C/o University of Tasmania
P.O. Box 252C, Hobart.
Tasmania, AUSTRALIA 7001
12th Aug. 1983

Drs. O. & I. Degener 68-617 Crozier Drive Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791 U.S.A.

Dear Drs. Degener,

Today we received another parcel from you this time of 23 plants and a number of papers and clippings. As usual the literature made interesting reading, and the plant specimens will be a useful addition to our collection.

I thank you for thinking of us again in this way and assure you of our appreciation of the work you are doing.

Yours sincerely,

All Orchard

A.E. Orchard.

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER 68-617 Crozier Drive Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791 18 U. S. A. 1983.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We, Drs. Otto & Isa Degener, as landowners and resident tax payers of 68615-68619 Crozier Drive, Waialua, Oahu, Hi. 96791 (Tax Map Key 68 004 005) herewith go on record opposing the petition requesting the abandonment by the City and County of Honolulu of plans to pave the remaining unpaved ten foot width of Crozier Drive. We protest strongly any action taken against our vital interests, safety and well-being. We oppose also any gate closing off our access to Crozier Drive and plantings on the unpaved strip suggested by the Hello Easy Street Corporation (See copy attached). We own vested rights and easements such as underground electric line to the electric pole.

Crozier Drive has been in the Public Domain for many years, longer than the 48 years we have owned our home here, and we wish it to remain so. The City & County of Honolulu has always provided road maintenance and other public services like refuse pickup, protection by cruising police, fire protection, school bus pickup & delivery, ready access for am-

bulance visit; and for USA mail service, etc.

Our desired paving of the remaining width of Crozier Drive will make driving less hazardous, enabling ordinary cars and bulky trucks coming from opposite directions to pass each other safely, ease access and egress to and from our property, parking, etc. During natural disasters like tsu-

to and from our property, parking, etc. During natural disasters like tsunamis, aurricanes and high storm waves it is vital for us to be able to evacuate to higher ground via a properly widened paved street which is not impeded by plantings and locked gates. We would be in jeopardy with them. The railroad right-of-way, which was granted by King Kalakaua to Oahu Railroad & Land Company (B.F. Dillingham) for railroad use only between Honolulu and at length Kahuku reverted to the Territory of Hawaii and later to the State of Hawaii after railroading was abandoned. To our great surprise this narrow strip parallel to Crozier Drive is claimed to be owned privately by Hello Easy Street Corp. We protest any such sale as probably faulty or spurious of St ate Land and our easements thereon to any private party without any public hearing or notification to us property holders and the public in general.

We were told by an officer of the corporation that the area in question

We were told by an officer of the corporation that the area in question would be landscaped with palms, other trees and shrubbery by some elderly yardman at the rate of \$25 per month for each abutting lot. After experiencing many precautionary evacuations, two tsunamis flooding our home to the height of 2-4 feet and crossing Crozier Entant also experiencing Hurricanes Dot and Iwa since 1935, I know such plantings even if only one tree falls across the Drive would prevent our escape to higher ground with our valuables by can. In her many house during the day and the day of the state of the stat valuables by car. In how many hours during the day or night could we residents remove a fallen tree from across the only road of escape to safety? Anyway, for two Senior Citizens (likem me, O.D., born in 1899 and without pension nor any welfare benefits) to join such a plan is simply unaffordable.

Furthermore, a right-of-way of venerable age exists between Crozier Drive and Sandy Mokuleia Beach. It is a few lots wast of the Degener one. With a gate across Crozier Drive "to enhance the integrity and exclusivity of our neighborhood by increasing its privacy and exclusivity of our sedtion of Crozier Drive" how could the good, average kamaaina citizen of the democratic USA reach the beach right-of-way?

In summary: We residents have more faith in our State and City & County In summary: We residents have more faith in our State and City & Count of Honolulu than in private individuals with to us somewhat impracticable ideas. The only change we residents wish is the widening of C.ozier Drive to increase its safety for us in times of threatened disaster like tsunamis, hurricanes and ocean storms On the average they hit is about every ten years.

Aloha, The County C

Copies to: Hon. Michael Chun, Dept. Public Works, City & County Hon.; & elsewhere Director, Dept. Land Utilization, C. & C. Hon.; Office Information & Complaint; City Councilman H. Matsumoto; Dept. Gen. Planning, C. & C. H.; Mr. Richard Rand, Hello Easy St. Corp.; Mr. Max Moody; State Ombudsman, Dept. Land & Nat. Resources; etc.

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by Muriel Tuairau

There seems to be a bit of controversy brewing over on Crozier Drive, leaving us with the question "gateways on the road" or "free and easy access?"

The first suggestions is to contruct two ranch style gateways at each end of Crozier Drive between Olohi'o Street and Mahi-na'ai Street in Mokuleia. It is also proposed that a landscape program be introduced along the 10 foot "unpaved" balance of the 20 foot wide road. The landscaping might well include coconut trees along the roadway as well as various other plants. A hired gardener/security person, in a relaxed manner, friendly manner, would then be assigned to keeping track of people driving through the neighborhood. The concept here is to beautify the road plus increase the value of the resident's investments and increase the privacy and safety of the community. The estimated cost per landowner would be \$25 per month. Sound good, so far? Read on.

and resident tax payers of 68-615—68-619 Crozier Drive, Waialius, lawaii, Oahu 96791 (Tax Map Key 68 004 005) herewith go on the remaining with of record opposing the petition requesting the abandonment by the City pandon of plans to pave the remaining unpaved the top pass each other safely, foot width of Crozier ase access and egress to Drive. We protest strongly any action taken parking etc. During against our vital interests, safety and well-being. We oppose also and high storm waves it any gate closing off our access to Crozier Drive will on the lelle Easy Street Corporation. We own plantings on the ground via a properly unpaved strip suggested widened paved street by the Hello Easy Street Corporation. We own plantings and locked vested rights and ease-gates. We would be iments such as underground electric pole.

Crozier Drive has been in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad & Land Commany years, longer than pany (B.F. Dillingham) in private individuals with to us somewhat in the Public Domain for Railroad with the development of the decent prive in the planting of the remaining width of crozi

pickup, protection by surprise this narrow

somewhat frustrated. A spurious of the few residents contend that and our easements it would be unwise to theron to any private landscape the area with party without any public coconut trees or to install hearing or notification to gates on each end thus a property helders and gates on each end thus us property holders and hampering access to the the public in general. residents. There is a We were told by analysis that this might

and we wish it to remain length Kahuku reverted tsunamis, hurricanes

strip parallel to Crozerry
Drive is claimed to be
wred privately by Hello
surroundings and the
entire affair has left them probably faulty or
somewhat frustrated. A spurious of State Land
few residents contend that

hampering access to the the public are sidents. There is a We were told by an possibility that this might officer of the corporation are such as a hurricane, with palms, other trees tsunami etc. Some of the and shrubbery by some residents appreciate the and sh It would seem that both flooding our home to the sides have valid reasons height of 2-4 feet and for their individual height of 2-4 feet and greeners, but who will experiencing Hurrison preferences, but who will crossing Crozier also decide on the answer or compromise? Well.

According to the Director of Transportation. Bill Bonnet, Crozier Drive is private property and at the city's discretion, they would do emergency repairs on the road only otherwise, the residents make the final decision on other matters, but it must

landowner would be \$25 per month. Sound good, so far? Read on.

There are those resident/ landowners who are quite content with their present

Dear Editor.

We. Drs. Otto & Isa
Degener, as landowners and resident tax payers of 68-615 Cro-zier Drive, Waialua, Hawaii, Oahu 96791 (Tax Map, Key 68 004)

merens, ing of our devoted alumble yet highly r a half-century, t y sensitive natura

evolved become cvation n of our par amount oceanic e n in ntury, toward a natural enviro the recent over t years ationist, a better ironment, many

> ansmitted to Dr. Dr 2

BE IT RE Hawaii, Regu contribution Logislature ades T RESOLVED by the Regular Session ETTO particular of Senate f 1979, that 8 fitting Tenth Leg 8 Otto r egislature of Dr. Otto Deg ment of Hawai extol five by he State State for wildl stering worthy

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Dr.

Degener

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Jocumentation



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts University of Massachusetts Amhers (1902

August 22, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in sending us the photograph of Orlando Lyman and his wife. It is a lovely view of them and one that enhances our material on alumni in the Archives.

Sincerely,

Katherine Emerson

Katherine Emerson University Archivist

## Mount Holyoke College

Williston Memorial Library South Hadley, Massachusett 01075-1493 Telephone 413/538-2225

April 26, 1983

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

Dear Dr. Degener:

How wonderful to have two Hawaiian homes although the address "Volcano" sounds rather ominous.

I shall await with interest whatever materials, or further anecdotes, you can provide us.

Sincerely yours,

Anne C. Edmonds College Librarian

ACE:jc

## 96791, USA

Dear Prof. Makinen:

Mrs. Degener & I just received your interesting Aug.18 letter, and wish to congratulate your University for having you as leader of the Herbarium. Living in two homes, one next to the National Park where we a are occasionally awakened with interest at night by the noise of lava fountains in a raspberry red sky; and the other on the beach where our ground floor has been flooded 2-3 feet by tsunamis with algae, fish & crabs everywhere, we have never been 100% sure that our personal herbarium may not be destroyed. So when the Japanese bombers flew over me and my home along the north shore of Oahu to bomb Fort Schafter, I mailed an estimated 50,0000 herbarium specimens, not all Hawaiian, to the New York Botanical Garden. I have not kept a personal herbarium since the beginning of the War, merely retaining specimens until I take the time to label them and send them off to 100 bot., institutions of the World listed in Holmgren's Index Herbariorum.

Mrs. D., & I get satisfaction that our plants get properly housed, and a help to further knowledge. We even feel, just as though we own a part of a business in which we have bought shares of stock, that we are part owners of the University of Aarhus and the remaining 99 other institutions. You never realized we conceited two feel we have a vested interest in your Department?

Though our ages (I was born in 1899) would not hinder us much from collecting choice endemics for Turku and elsewhere, we simply cannot get them anymore. When we collect now, it is mostly mestly unimportant endemics growing along main highways which we probably collected many years before, AND mostly near-worthless exotic weeds! We are ready to sell, our jeep which took us to botanically fascinating areas over almost impassable roads. You, having known the Islands years ago, will be surprised to learn that one exotic is preventing our further botanizing. IT IS CANNABIS!

The sugarcane and pineapple industries are almost failing due to striking

The sugarcane and pineapple industries are almost failing due to striking laborers and foreign competition. Since about the VietNam War people are growing more & more hemp for local consumption & especially for export to the Continental US. In fact, this illicit industry in the hands of crimin's is more lucrative than that of sugar and pineapple combined.

a live alternately on both Oghu and Hawaii. We would not dare botanize; as before. It is deadly dangerous. These usually youngish criminals in plots of marijuana within sugarcane fields. Should the cane wor them, the criminals out of revenge may set fire to the cane at aps \$20,000 to the plantation.

nants, a military man, told us that while maneuvering in several men in different places with rifles warned the hat they are owners (a lie) aff the land and would alled hey were of course protecting their illegal plantings

While botanizing with our jeep perhaps half a mile from our home near the Volcano three years ago each of us was shot at. I guess we approached too close to an illicit planting. While we were living away from their on Oahu for three months, some one had planted a row of Cannabis on our acre of private land. I really wanted to make herbarium specimens, but of course would have risked going to jail by the Federal Government were I to mail the herbarium specimens was mail. The Volcano village has one general grocery store which sells an unusual number of spring rat traps. They sell most to dope growers who put a rifle cartridge where the cheese belongs, and attach a long blackish string to it. When a botanist or hunter unknowingly sets off this booby trap, he may be shot dead. Some hunters simply disappear, presumably murdered in the jungle. As Mrs. D., & I hate to die of gunshot wounds, our real botanizing days are over.

The police often with the aid of helicopters discover hidden plantings &

uproot them. But the judges seldom jail or imprison the criminals because our

jails & prisons are already overflowing.

Mrs. D., & I are getting disgusted with a high percentage of Mankind. Would it not be wonderful if a Cannabis strain were developed that would kill or at least sterilze these creatures and prevent them from procreating ther

(on the average) evil kind?

We hope you will have success with botanizing in South America - we are beginning to mail some duplicates to Caracas & Rio \* so that future botanists will realize how wonderful the Earth once was. Don't neglect collecting plenty of duplicates. Should Turku be destroyed, some of your specimens may survive in Canada, China, Japan, USA, etc.

Mrs. Degener joins me in aloha, Mrs. Degener joins me in atona,

Otto Selected

as the manufacture of the control of

complete a law with the court of the party and average of a con-



#### Royal Botanic Gardens Kew Richmond Surrey TW9 3AB

Telegrams Kewgar Richmond Surrey Telephone 01-940 1171

DRS DEGENER

WAIALUA

HAWAII

96791

Your reference

Our reference QL75

Date 1 Sep 1983

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your presentation of ......

FLORA HAWAIIENSIS BOOK

to the Royal Botanic Gardens. Your gift is very much appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Clerrillips

Miss S M D FitzGerald Chief Librarian & Archivist

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

Sept. 6, 1983

Fear Mr. Merwin:

100

The of the thing Track, were Trackled

Mrs. D., & I are emptying the attic of our former Honolulu house, discovering a wealth of "shopworn" books: After that is done, we shall concentrate on labeling & distributing the remaining couple of bulky herbarium specimens and publishing an enlarged edition of our 200 300-page Plants Haw. Nat. Park tourist book to about 500 pages. It is now in page proof. We want to do such house "cleaning" before we get too decrepit (I was born in 1899).

I am mailing you to your Maul address Fl. Haw., Books 1-4 for \$22.50. "his is the second edition printed on poor World War II emergency paper and bound in a SINGLE poor cover.

Pock 5, which I just unearthed, is in too bad a condition, so -lease accept it gratis. In good condition, it would be \$22.50.

Book 6 sells for \$22.50

Book 7, without cover, is complete through Sept. 1, 1983. It also sells for \$22.50. Your bill to me consequently comes to \$67.50 plus \$ postage, or a total of \$

Mrs. Degener & I are our own publishers, and colleate our Fl. Haw., sheets ourselves. Presently, our Volcano basement shelves are proming under sheets of Book 7. We have lots of packages from the printer of sheets of Book 5, but simply lack the time to clear the ceck to colleate them. Hence I am mailing you the waterlogged copy free.

Should we live long enough, Mrs. D., and I, after getting rid of bulky, duplicate plant specimens, publishing a 500-page edition to replace the 300-page "Plants Haw. Nat. Parks", etc., hope to get all collating completed.

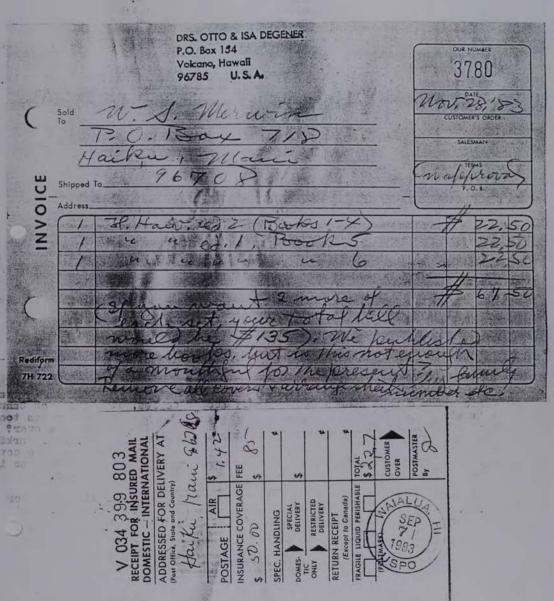
Your letter of Aug. 29 states you are a writer. Does that perhaps indicate that you are publisher as well who distributes his own products by mail & otherwise? Some years back, when botanding on Mail, we tried distributing our touristmentanted Nat. Park book especially about Lahaina, curio shops & book stores would gladly accent cooles. But living on Oahu & Hawaii, delivering copies, book keeping & collecting our bills was too much of a muisance. You being on the spot, would you wish to take over? You can have at wholesale, until further notice, Polnars Eaw. Mat. Parks at 5 each, Fl. Haw. Ed. 2 (1192 pages as it's Books 1-4 in a single cover) for \$15, Books 5 (almost sold out presently), Book 6 and Book \$\frac{1}{2}\$ (as is where is) for \$15 each. You would sell at a price you judge cast.

I presently sell the Nat. Park book wholesals for \$5, am retail for \$7.50. Haw. Volc. Nat. Park sells at \$30, and I may follow suit. that Haleakala asks we don't know.

Mrs. D., & I are interested in your reaction.

Please mail the cheque to our Dahu address.

21. Otto Degener



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

#### CERTIFICATE OF COPYRIGHT REGISTRATION

FORM

UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT OFFIC

This certificate, issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with the provisions of section 410(a) of title 17, United States Code, attests that copyright registration has been made for the work identified below. The information in this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.

REGISTRATION NUMBER TX11 146-223

Dania

REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS United States of America EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGISTRATION SEPTEMBER 29

				(Month)	(Day) (Year)		
	DO N	OT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE. IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE,	USE CONTINUATION S	HEET (FOR	M TX/CON)		
1 Title	Page Proof of Plants of Hawaii National Parks				PREVIOUS OR ALTERNATIVE TITLES:		
	PUB the o	modical or senal give: Vol. No Issue Date  LICATION AS A CONTRIBUTION: (If this work was published as a  ollective work in which the contribution appeared.)  If Collective Work:	contribution to a periodical,				
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Author(s)	1	NAME OF AUTHOR: Dr. Otto Degener  Was this author's contribution to the work a "work made for hire"? Y	es. No. X		Born 1899 Died (Year)		
		AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY OR DOMICILE:  Citizen of USA or Domiciled in Domi	THE WORK: Anonyme	AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTION TO			
		AUTHOR OF: Briefly describe nature of this author's contribution is assed on o.D. s copyrighted edital! the size (Both O. & I.D. author of AUTHOR: Dr. Isa Irmgard Dego	thored Fl. Haw ener (Mrs. 0.1	jes, see de	or to either of these questions tailed instructions attached.  DATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH Born Died		
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Drs. Otto & Isa Irmgard Degener 68617 Crozier Drive, Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791

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Has registration for this work, or for an earlier version of this work, alre If your answer is "Yes," why is another registration being sought? (Che This is the first published edition of a work previously registered in This is the first application submitted by this author as copyright cl This is a changed version of the work, as shown by line 6 of this ap	to appropriate box) a unpublished form yeaby to alman Destroyeaby to polication. 1930, 194	ropical termites long : 5, 1973	Previous Registration
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My wife, Isa I. Degener and	I. Otto Degener.	reworked the 1930 tex	Work
& added much geology & histo	ory so that pres	ent book has almost tw	ice
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posit Account established in the Copyright Office, give name a mber of Account.)  me:  count Number:  RTIFICATION:   I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am the author of exclusive right(s) author the work identified in this application and that the statements made of the copyright desired in the copyright	Address: Dri Hawaii (Cky)  E: (Check one) orized agent of: (Name of such	ve, Wai alua, Oahu 96791 (State) (ZIP) or or other copyright claimant, or owner of exclusive right(s)) ect to the best of my knowledge.	10 Certificati
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DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER 68-617 Crozier Drive Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791 U.S.A.

Oct. 4, 1983

Dear Mr. von Hamm:

We have your recent letter regarding Mrs. Hildegard Rasch Pietsch's request to work in horticulture or landscaping for a few months in cour Islands, We are botanists, and not connected with her two disciplines. Off hand, with Haw. Hei troubled with unemployment, I doubt the lady would find opportunity to employ her evidently expert talents.

But even so, why should she not at least consact the following two men about her desire:

1. Dr. K Woolliams, Waimea Arboretum, 59864 Kam. Highway, Haleiwa, Oahu, Hawsii 96712, USA

Dr. Wholliams got his training at Kew. The arboretum is a private institution, I believe owned by the Realtor Pietsch. He may be a distant relative by marriage of your correspondent!

2. Mr. Paul Weissich, Foster Gardens, 50 North Vine yard Rivd, Honolulu. I would not be surprised if he speaks Cerman.

We fear we are not of much help/

Dr. Aloha, Degener



**Botanisches Institut** und Botanischer Garten der Universität Wien

AUSTRIA, EUROPE

Oct. 6th 1983

Rennweg 14 A-1030 Wien

Dear Madam! Dear Sir!

Herewith our library orders one example of "Flora Hawaiiensis" Ed.1, Book 6 together with a cover, and also one extra cover for Book 7.



Yours sincerely

Dr. L. NIKLAS Librarian

& J. Willes

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENE P.O. Box 154 Volcano, Hawaii 96785 \_ U.S.A. 31 Jan. 1984

Sehr Geehrte Frau Dr. Wiklas: Meine Frau (vor unserer Heirat in Berlin in 1953 Botanikerin in Dahlem) und ich haben so viel ungewöhnliches erlebt (Hurrican mit Verlus von 10 Kokos. Palmen die ich von Samen in 1936 pflanzte), dass Ihre Bestellung bis kürzlich verloren war. Wir schicken sie jetzt ab. Ich weis nicht wie viel die Post im Dorf chargiren wird, abich glaube mehr als \$1. Ich möchte also Ihnen für das Paket \$22.50 + \$1.-- chargieren; also \$23.50 KANN DIESER BRIEF IHRE.

"Much" 7 ist noch nicht fertig und wir haben noch keinen Einband defür. Bitte bemerken Sie dass "Buch" nichts bliotheki isch oder botanisch meint. Jedes Blatt Faper ist eigentlich ein separater Artikel mit Aufor & Publikation angegeben unten. Alles muss auseinander genommen werden & assortiert werden wie wir es in der Fl. Haw., beschrieben haben. So wird die Flora i immer THEORETISCH nüher fertig. Natümlich da ich in 1899 getern bin -- -- Nachdem der Letzte von uns zwei Degeners stirbt soll ein "Degeners! Fl. Haw. Trust" dieses Project witer führen natürlich mit mehreren Miseen wie in MY, Honolulu Jahren gutes Land gekauft \* mit \$23.50 Wiener Geld, sollten die Umkostet übernehmen können.

MY hat unsere besten Sammlungen, viel hat Honolulu, und mehr Material ist in Graz (nach Kranichsfeld) und Burgring 7, wien, etc. Wir werden Ihnen auch Material schicken gratis, aber nur wenig & schlecht. Unsere Schwierigkeit ist nicht Alter, aber Kriminale die in den besten endemischen Pistzen Cannabis versteckt wacheen. Wir wollen im Bett saft an Herzfehlium Arten, auch wenn sie neu sind. Wir beide sind in 1979 angeschossen.!

Unsere Fl. Haw., kann eigentlich Mwachsen" wenn irgend ein Monograph Haw., Pflanzen so beschreibt wie wir in Format & dan"im selben Format druckt (1,500 Kopien). Solche Blätter, mit den 3 Löchern, kann dann in die Fl. Haw., passen. Alles nicht "De ener & Degener" bleiben hauptsächlich wenn die nicht mehr existieren.

Aloha an einen "Tasmanier", und an Sie,

DRS. OTTO & ISA DEGENER

3 617 Crozier Drive

4 idiua, Odhu, Hawaii

96791 U. S. A.

Oct. 6, 1983.

Dear Dr. Rogerson:

We not your Sept. 21 Memorandum a few days ago.

A resident of 89th Street in view of the Soldiers' & Sailors' Monuments on Riverside Drive, I visited the Lawaiian Island as a tourist in 1922. After getting my Master's at the University of Haw., in 1923, I lived with my sister at Pickwick Arms, Mosholu Hichway, to work up my collections at the Garden with the aid of A.A. Heller's beautifully pressed Hawaiian plants and other pertinent collections, while studying for an advanced degree from Colubia U., under Drs. Britton, Earnhart, Marper & Rydberg, I made a little pin money by giving lantern lectures to various garden clubs in the Fronx suburbs (even as far as Greenwich) for \$15-30. As History is apt to repeat itself, is there not some student at the tarden who would Dor modest pay in Degener books or cash, look through a bulky handful of envelopes in our Archives for publications by Otto & Isa Degener during July 1, 1982 through June 30, 1983? They are within easy reach, having been cutifully mailed to Mr. Log's Archives.

dutifully mailed to Mr. Log's Archives.

The crucial question is which Degener items should be included in your list. Because of emergencies, Isa & I have been concentrating heavily, not on plant descriptions; but on Conservation of our endemics. Long term success measured by hundreds of years - is hopeless. But our efforts are eminently successful in helping RETARD extermination of endemics. Our chief elforts are by letters to local conservationists, periodicals, newspapers, bot. garden directors, local politicians, etc. Newspaper articles sined by reporters more or less queting us, even newspaper articles written a signed by us may not be considered publications according to Int. Bot. Rules. But when we perhaps edited a bit further 50 to 100 or even 250 xerox copies (at 5 cents cost per page) to that many interested (?) individuals & Index Herbariorum World Bot. Institutions, our ideas and complaints are certainly in the public domain. In other words, Isa & I hope you will engage at a reasonable cost clerical help to list our production of the fiscal year desired so you can check which deserve recognition in our Printed Armuel Re-

port

Please note our continued activity has already "made local Waves", otherwise the Hawaiian Legislature would not have passed Senate Resolution No. 294. The Senate erred in not recognizing the fact that Isa & I are a team, and she rightfully should have been included.

Nonimportant gossip not connected with the above:

1. Our real estate is taking much of our time. We had to evict a tenant in our Honolulu home for illegally wiout our knowledge changing the place into a rooming house. We are now offering the lot with two house on two abutting streets for sale at the impracticable sum of \$355,000, or the one large house for \$1,000 per month rent. The small gets us \$150. Wanna buy it?? The cash eventually should continue production of our FI. Hawaiiensis. We are now pracefully helping a divorces on a KNAK second story unit here at the beach vacate. She lacks sufficient funds, has a two year old son, and is best ting a baby next month! She hopes to return to her parents. Friends of other tenants want the place, even buying some of the furniture.

This beach place of ours is a potential goldmine for hotel development a la Waikild - income to continue Fl. Haw., for years to come - and so a slick realtor seems to want to prove that we and neighbors have no right-of-way to cur property over his strip - an old Railroad easement - to reach it. So he he is to bluff us into selling at a loss. We are spending much time studying old documents in Honolulu. He even threatened to prosecute us for clander. Just a bluff.

slander. Just a bluff.

2. our 500 page edition of our old 300 page tourist potboiler is still unpublished; fraun-lrumifeld the Moldenke's know them - of Ann Arbor has

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

mailednaikat us an unsatisfactory pageproof - we always pay as we go alongwith request we pay \$500 now (we don't quibble here) and that when the work has been completed that they will mail us a bill for addition unspecin expenses. Have avoided si ming a similar con ract with a local nursing home where Isa's mother existed durin; her terminal cancer - other realtives of patients there have been bankrupted - we had to refuse TIESS they specify a ceiling above which thier bill cannot rise. As BB seems to be stalling and a man my age, according to statistics han drop dead any day, we mailed two weeks ago with farm two identical pageproof copies to Washinton to have our work - modern geologic ideas & new bot combinations to the patent office. Should Isa or I die before the proper book is produced, we at least get the posthumus credit we deserve. Xerox copies - e-ventually almost priceless collectors' volumes - we shall legally offer for sale at about \$50. A xerox copy costs about half.
3. Our main "exercise" now is entropped our Honolulu a tic of World War II Flora Haw., sheets often carefully read by industrious termites. These we are shipping offto "Holmgren addresses" with 21 Septembert 1983 a collection of 1192 pages of a second edition is available for \$22.50. Also, we must write labels for our catch in Queensland, Tasmania, New Zealand, Canaries, Madeira, & Azores. Now that I have had a change from standing to wrap old books: by NON-RESIDENT STAFFIN N. YELSC letter to you, I shall resume my standing & wramping routine.
[FROM: [CLARKST.] ROGERSONGOS enlies sound to but it is scooo vectory interesting.

Aloha.

SUBJECT: Staff Publications

Dr. Prance has asked me to compile the list of staff bublications for the period July 1, 1982 through June 30, 1983. Please send me a list of all papers published by you and your department during this period, including abstracts and reviews. A complete list will be prepared for the Archives of the NYBG. From this the major papers will be selected for inclusion in the printed Annual Report.

The deadline is NOW!

CTR/bw



Oct. 11, 1983

Dear Miss Skinsnes:

Mrs. Degener, who taught Pharmacognosy in Berlin until we got merried in 1953, and I were greatly interested Ma your "Leprosy" article

in the Oct. 2, 1983 issue of the Honolulu Advertiser.

Allow me to mention a little gossip we cleaned in our personal library: I carned my Master's at the University of Hawaii in 1923 and tak int How my there under the excellent Pres. Arthur L. Dean in 1925, and part of 1927 until bis replacement by the medicers Pres. David Crawford who later was removed by the Regents from office. Dr Dean was a good chamist and with Dr. Hollmen and later with Prof. Dr. Trenshall of the Chemistry Dept., would get some thing like \$10,000 per year from the Legislauro to propare and administer esters from chaulmoogra oil derived from Hydnocappus largii (King) Warburg. The species had been introduced to Odiu by one of my predecessors at the then Gollege of Haw. (in my time already the Univ.) Dr. Josef P. Rock from urma. I believe it was by seed.

the late Charles Judd was Chief Forester of the Territory. He was the only MEAL one, having been trained at the Porestry School at Tale. He grow a tangled grove of the trees on the Judd property not far from Coconut Island (Waishole Valley to be more exactly. I visited it years ago with Charlie and his brother James. I imagine were you to so to the spot, you might find some

ancient survivors.

hough the effecti eness of the Hydnocarpus ester as a specific become more & more suspect, Frs. Dean & Wrenshall continued for a few years to be granted funds for its preparation in spite of some criticism regarding waste

of taxpayors cash.

In 1925 I had a Freshman student Eichi Masunaga who proved so industrious that I selected him to make microscope slides for me for use in Freshman Botany. He not only followed my instructions, but independently browsed through better local libraries to collect texts & study the techniques during his spere time. I lost track of him for some years, and then suddenly discovered he had become the technician for the Leprosy Receiving Station in Kalibi, At that time he told me that he could not distinguish the leprosy bacillus from the TB one under the microscope, but instead by their physiological requirements.

I lost track again of Dr. Masunaga for some years. Mrs. D., & I botanizing in thr '50s mainly about Kokee, happened to learn that Dr. M., had become a general practitioner, living with his wife at (I believe it was Kekaha). Looking up his ad ress in the phone book, we decided to live him a surprise visit when near his home to purchase greceries for our Kokee stay. When we finally stopped by his home, we were rather surprised that Mrs. Masunaga seem ed to rebuil us! A week or so later, we read in the newspaper that Dr. Masumaga had died a few days before! No wonder his wife at ted so upset. Should you write about the early techician Dr. Mesunaga in your forthcoming book?

# Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

by the physician aric remnel and his southern wife Rancy, slightly part-Amerindian with Pocabontas as one of her 15 Century ancestors. Bric's father owned a crustore I believe it was in Cincinnati, and Fric as a twentle was actually a cowboy! The Fennels and hery Arnolds (Sr.) had come to the Island as Army physicians during World war E. Fethel became techician and Harry general practitioner of the Straub Cfinic in Honolulu. Your slater, by the way, I illustrated Harry Arnold's "Cischous Plants of Hawaii". Do you know the book? The two families owned the Monuleia Place jointly for week-end use, Arnold eventually selling his ownership in it. Fennel becare head (?) at least prominent on the Lerrosy Board. He men-

tioned the occasionally he would recomize Fili inc laborers in the Waialua village store with sims of early leprosy. I remember his telling me that c

cheulmoo ra oil was no more effective than olive nor many other oils.

I might god that my good friend, the late Frie Fennel was unjustly cheated out of the credit he deserves/ Remember, we were nei hbors & had a handy gate between our properties, and passed back a forth from house to house. I had my house built in 1936. A COUPER OF YEARS LATER, WHEN WANDERING IN O his MA LEN , I noticed cannel working on his bed of prized roses. I asked him what he was coing with a frothy, dark red, thick liquid in large maltedmilk-like, glass jars. He reglied it was old human blood from hiz Straub Clinic Mood

Bank. He was wont to use it as fortliner for his roses! r. ric Pennel was the very first person to start the Boof Benk in the Hawaii on Islands, yet "Pinky" Pinkerton wrongfully gots the credit for it! I home you wish your M.D., cented a will help try to correct local medical history.
Now finished with mosaip, here are a few notes I have come across in my

accumulation concerning Rotamists and Flants that are of interest for us in producing an illustrated Haw. Flora. We are presently working on "Lock" 7, interrupted by getting rid of bulky ressessions nefers we die of old age. In our private library, we have a shelf about 15 feet long with 3-wring inders recording the thoughts of leading and (misloadine) betamists conserming Haw. , plants dating from about 1922 when I first came here.

Mrs. D., & I are preparing to soil zerox copies of good, bad & indifferent letters and or articles from this collection at 15 cents each to some local

institution that will not censor nor try to white-wah the writers.

Hydnocarpus kurzii is an interesting species for our Flora Haw. Will you not show a plate of it similar to those of our Flora? The original drawing . I took Art courses . should be twice the size for the finishes plate. Ty artists used India ink. Should you get an authentic drawing made iron the Rock introduction in the Waishole region, may Mrs. D., & I reproduce it in our Fl Eaw., "Book" 7, giving you due credit?



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Here is a picture of me holding a lopey of my own fascinating book.

Since I cannot produce entre

copies after the beheduled publishing date, remember to place your order today.

Regards,

Sharon

# Halbert's, Inc. 6

Dear Friend,

As you may already know, we have been doing some work relating to people who have the same last name as you do. Finally, after months of work, my new book, THE AMAZING STORY OF THE DEGENERS IN AMERICA, is ready for printing and you are in it!

The Degener name is very rare and our research has shown that less than one one-thousandth of one percent of the people in America share the Degener name. We have spent a great deal of effort and thousands of dollars to research through 70 million American names and we have located almost every Degener family in the United States. My new book features this valuable and extensive directory of Degeners living in America.

In addition to the Degener Directory, my book has informative chapters on the origin and meaning of names, heraldry and genealogy.

It covers such topics as:

- 1. How the Degener family got its name and what your name means.
- Important but little known facts about the Degener population in the United States.
- Where we discovered an unusual Coat of Arms granted to an early Degener, with its original heraldic description.
- An expert interpretation and drawing of this Degener Coat of Arms which ancient archives reveal is over 600 years old.
- How you can search for your ancestry and trace your Degener family tree using the fully documented Degener Directory.

This collection of historical and current information is available only in THE AMAZING STORY OF THE DEGENERS IN AMERICA. Due to the uniqueness of the Degener name and the small Degener population in the U.S., it is economically impossible to produce extra copies after our scheduled publishing date. This is the first edition of the book and it is certain to be quite a rare and valuable acquisition.

I believe this is the only book of its kind in the entire world and you will want to have your own copy for you and for your children. Each book is virtually handmade to order and will be serially numbered, registered in the owner's name and accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity.

The book is hard bound with a beautiful burgundy grained finish and is also richly gold embossed. It is 11-1/4" by 8-3/4" in size and will be an attractive addition to your living room or library.

To reserve your own limited edition copy, you must order right away. The number of Degener books in this first edition will be strictly established by the number of qualified orders postmarked prior to October 26, 1983.

Sincerely,

Charon Vaylor

Sharon Taylor

P.S. Even though the book is printed for you alone and I believe you'll be pleased with it, if you are dissatisfied for any reason I guarantee a full and prompt refund. Please see Approval Order Form for details.

Cudered & copy 10/15783

Hunt Institute for Botanical Becumentation

# DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

To: Drs.Otto and Isa Degener, P.O. Box 154, Volcano, Hawaii 96785, U.S.A. Cromwell Road London SW7 5BD, G.B.

Date:

26th October 1983

We are acknowledging receipt of specimens as indicated below:

The material contained in one parcel

WAS:

X (a) a Gift

(b) in Exchange

(c) a Loan at your request

(d) for examination at your request(e) return of material sent for identification

(f) return of material borrowed

In the case of a Loan the Keeper will appreciate:

(1) the annotation of every sheet of the loan

(2) the receipt of a copy of any publication in which those specimens are mentioned

(3) the offer of material to supplement our collection.

SPECIMENS

14 Pteridophytes from Hawaii.

Loan No(s):- Our / Presentation.
Your/

Received the above in good order 27th July 1983

Mgned:

Date: 26th October 1983

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



November 2,1983 your Hara Hawaiining. We had a partial copy, and we are pleased to have what you went. I wan a graduate struct at the Ny Bot. Haven, and I met you on occasion them. Line them I have been lave, writing on Lovering, and on the Flore of the treat Plains (which is now in Press). But ugant to you! you fineway. Hubarium, Kaman Loute Univ. moulatten, KS 66506

La State M. Oct. 29, 1983 Dear Miss Chalaron: I have your Oct. 26 letter, and perhaps it crossed our

gift package of more or less termite-damaged sheets of our Fl. Haw. Here is the story:

Mrs. Degener & I are getting elderly - I was born May 1899. So we decided to sell our old Honolulu city home and concentrate in living winters at our warm beach home at Waialus, Island of Oshu; and survers at our cool mt..

home at Volcano on the Island of Hawaii.

When the Japanese bomers flew over me Dec. 7, 1941 to plunge us into World war II, I stored all my unsold books & parts of books in thr attic of my Honolulu house. I mailed my entire herbarium, estimated at 50,000 tentative sheets, to the NY Bot. Garden. Then a month or two later i followed them to NY (my original home). I then worked up my Haw., plants at the Bot. Garden for a couple of years. I then published a second edition of everything I had published since 1932. This was printed on poor quality war emergency paper tockeund in a poor cover. It was a bargain & I sold most of this cheap edition successfully by this time. Hence I ignoree the old first editions in my attic for about half a Century

Wanting to sell our Ronolulu bouse NOW, we are mailing to bot. institutions throughout the World all these first edition, damaged copi es. Of course as each sheet is a separate publications, there is lets to salvage. Why waste them? One of these assemblages evidently came to your desk a few days

Since WW II we have published "Books" 5, 6 and ALMOST complete "Book"
7. Do you want "Book" 7 without cover for \$22.50 so far as it is published
be approval? Remember, it comprises a miscellaneous collection of first edition, single page publications each with author & date cited. Of the edition of 1,500, about 100 have been scattered among 150 bot, centers to effect actual publication. I have been selling such a lot for the last 10 or so years "as is, where is" for \$22.50. The carliest purchasers of course received a thinner assemblage of sheets than later purchasers. Anyway, consid-

ering expenses, it is worth the price.

Because of our ages, we have loafed in publishing more pages of Book 7 and, instead, are trying to get our backlog of bocaused possessions into safe hands. This means scribbling labels for plants we casually collected last year in the Canaries, Madeira and the Azores; and during the Int. Bot. Congress the year before in Australia, New Zeeland & Tasmania. We lack time and Floras to identify them. But if properlyyhoused in herbaria, monographers will eventually make use of them & be delighted. We scatter such questionable CIFTS among about 100 bot. Institutions of the world, Does your in stitution want to be included? We must clear our shelves before we continue publishing fresh 2-page ar' cles for our Fl. Haw. Were we to die - people do so who never died before - an executor would most likely dump all such bot., treasures into the garbage! We want to avoid that.

If you wish to buy the missing sheets, give Mts. D., a me a few weeks time to well (or rent)our city home, return to Volcano, and collate the co lection laid out on shelves there.

Did you know that Senior Citizens ten to be agrrulous?

Aloha.

Walalua, Oahu, Hawall 68-617 Crozier Drive

unt Institute for Botanical Documentation



Nov, 7, 1983

Dear Mr. Manhaim:

Mrs. Degener & I have your Oct. 27 letter & and disturbed that, trying to be frankly honest, we are such kill+joys in our enswer:

I have concentrated on the Haw., flora since 1922 after having botanized a previous summer in subtropical Bermuda. Mrs. D., with a summa cum laude, has been collaborator since I "kidnapped" her by marriage from the Berlin Museum & Bot. Garden in 1953. With less than three years partial interruption by teaching Bot., we have specialized full time about 90 years publishing our Fl. Haw., now in its seventh "BOOK".

After this concentration in the field & lab., we are convinced that the his torical "Red Book" and equivalents are a blessing for the Mainland States wher the Ferns & Fl. Plants usually extend over large areas and have been under intimate study continuously by thousands of outstanding botanists. T is they are doing so far as the present knowledge of Botany allows. What will happer in the future with chemical studies, electrical, sound waves. stc., Wa don't

know. I bet there will be unheard of advances.

On the contrary to the Mainland, the Haw. Islands, began essentially at the ever present Madam Pele Hot Spot near Kilauea Volcano. The various erupted islands drifted more or less at the great speed of 2-4 inches per year (at leas: during such modern durations of time as 100,000 - 500,000 years) northee stward. Their emigrant plants (and animals) had mlenty of time (a few 100,000. 000? years) to evolve even into endemic genera. I can give you a (intelligently) guessed list of them. This change was stimulated by isolation on distinct islands encouraging inbreeding and in changes in the environment as when the high islands like Midway, Lisianski, etc., with rainforest floras eroded flown toward arid sea level. Those that could not manage to survive or be washe , blown or bird transported to a more favorable island not yet m eroded, kept up the novel genus. Now, as exemplified in the case of Cyrtandra, monographed by Dr. St. John, even each gulch or gulch system harbors on a single islands endemic variety & forms. Furthermore, as the enclosed paper we wrote indicates, we local botanists are far too few, ill trained or too busy to properly identiff the 25,000 (?) local ferns & Flowering plants. Practically nothing has been done with the other groups! Just a little with XXXXXXXX mosses & algae (seaweeds).

In other words, we Degeners in about 90 years of continuous work have described about 2,000 species of the presently existing 25,000 endemic forms & Fl. Plants. Our few local colleagues have done less. The Red Book and more modern publications select an handful of species deserving extra care to retard extermination. By doing so we full the average decent person into the belief that the remaining 25,000 or so can be browsed by A rm mimals or bulldozed to extinction with impunity. As a plant is not on the "sacred" list, the average person thinks it is okay to "chop it."

It is gratifying that more a more humans are easer to keep endemics - in a

Sacred Creations of the interaction of the Laws of Nature - from externing sacred Creations of the Mawaiian Archipelago we want a more wholesale method: For pt the Red Look idea, Imbrace a HLUE BOOK instead that is based on consider ing AVARITHING endemic SACRED except some few listed species which are with out any doubt so ubiquitous for the present at least that they can be harve. ed or destroyed in certain areas without any danger whatsoever of exterminal tion. I am thinking of such species as the beach morningglory, beach scaevo. some kinds of Metrosideros, some kinds of treeferns, etc.

I have botangied years ago in and about Diamond Mead, observing & usuall collecting endemics for my alma mater, the University of Mass., and other scientific institutions. I remember the endemic Eddens so closely related to the one peculiar to the Isthmus of Maui,; and the Schiedea, both of mauka ledges; and the Santalum makai (oceanward) of the coastal Road. All three deserve extra care to insure preservation. But, don't forgot other rare tax needing help; and, contrarywise, some species such as the algaroba (Prosopia preferably charged to reduce competition. The last belongs in the Blue Book. Isn't it a ghastly paradox that the most efficient conservationists of X plents and enimals are the most vile dictators? Lacking humane human birth

control, they are reducing human population pressure which directly and indirectly causes the hologaust of wonderful Creations in the Haw, Archivelage

Erazil's rainforest, etc., etc.?

he average population of the world is essentially the same - rather deci & often delightful paople. Then some Dictator stirs up the vicious mob spir: latent in most of us, and some Nations in World War L became our most intimate enemies and others, not poisoned by rhetoric, remain our bogsom friends. The in World War II our most hated enemies of WW I become our most admired friends, and vice versa. What WW III, IV, V atc, will be like concerning enmity and friendship? Mrs. D., was employed at the INTERNATIONALLY VALUABLE Berlin Museum when Eritish & US hombers set fire to it from the air during WW II. My Haw., herb. specimens given them for Engler Prantl bookswent up in flemes. When attending the Int. Bot. Congress in Leningrad, Moscow & the Car casus, even by the average pupulace on the street, went out of their way to please us because we were admired Americans. Then our Pres. Carter, by his Olympic Games fiasco, slapped them in the face and turned them against us to ward their not too popular maffioso-like Rulers. The average Russian is no more responsible for such creatures as Mrs. D., & I was for having a Mixon . President, With the crazy - the word is appropriate - switching of friends i enemies in successive World Wars, we have been concentrating since the Congress a good collection of Haw., endemics in potential enemy countries like Russia & China. Should one annihilate our finds denosited in the Honolulu Museum near an unwanted Pearl Harbor Naval Station, or arribilate the Bronx Park Parden because of the wish to destroy Manhattan, botanist of the US & elsewhere can visit former Karki enemy Territory to study & admire Degeners Still existing Haw., and other Plants.

We should like to register one criticism against the the forbidding of w collecting for study by wiser offspring of us contemporaries of the rarest species. In 1929plus I collected a large series of invaluable museum specim from the Type specimen, the only tree alive, of Hibiscadekphus giffardianus I did take one live twig for an illustration for my "Plents Haw, Nat, Park" book, the rest, as the end of petioles and pedicels show, on scattered herb. sheets, were gathered FALLEN leaves and pedicels lying below the tree. I vi it repeatedly to harvest these treasures. Also, when gathering rare idens species, for example, one can "pay" for robbing some twigs for museum prese vation by kicking the earth loose in the neighborhood in several places and stemping some achenes or seeds into the spots. Tremped down, they will quic absorb moisture, and hopefully germinate, "o carefully forbid reasonably ca ful collecting material for later generations promotes the coming of snothe Dark Age of Ignorance. Too often, I have seen a great rarety in the Haw. Is lands, and on a second visit find it has been destroyed by feral goat or ni As a clincher that we need a ELUE BOOK to retard extermination of the endemic Hawaiian flora, mull over our statistics in "Notes from Waimea Arboretum 2(1):3-4. 1975" based on Dr. Harold St. John's excellent study of the genus Cyrtandra. This is an example of our present lack of knowledge of many thousands of Haw., Ferns & Flowering Plants and of probably a million more species of Fungi & Mosses down to Bacteria! A MUE BOOK is needed for their protection.

Now that I have disgusted you amough, it is high time for wishing you

Dr. Otto Degene

Aloha,

## NAGOYA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

CHIKUSA, NAGOYA, 464, JAPAN Tel (052) 781-5111 Nov. 18th, 1983

Drs Otto and Isa Degener Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii 96791, U.S.A.

Dear Drs Degener

How are you getting on in these days? I month ago a volcano in Miyake Isl. of our country errupted much amount of lava and the stream burried a whole village. Fortunately no resident was injured. How is now in Oahu?

Apart from this, a specimen ( No. 35,670 ) a kind of Fores, which you kindly sent me previously, was identified by Dr. K. Aoshima as " Earliella scabrosa ( Pers ) Aoshima ". Dr. K. Aoshima is an eminent mycologist working at National Forestry Research Station of Japan. He told me that the speies occurs widely in tropical Far East Asia, Africa and South America.

Hoping your good health and good luck,

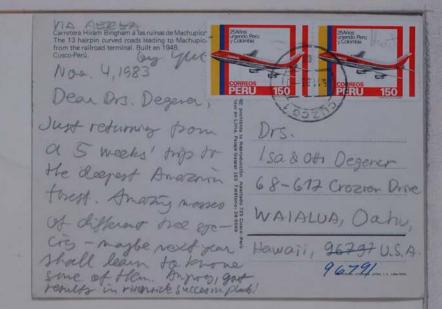
Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Malegan-

M. Yatazawa



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation





# JARDINS ET COLLECTIONS BOTANIQUES

TERRASSE DU JARDIN PUBLIC
Place Bardineau
33000 BORDEAUX FRANCE

Dear Si

to time receive in our Botanic Garden of Bordeaux, sheets of the Flora Hawaiensis by youself. This time we have received a lot we already had. This seems to be the first lot you rend us. We are wondering if this can be a mistake and was intended for another garden. could either rend them back to you or to someone else

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

this letter to the smithsonian

P.S. we send also a copy of this letter to the smithsonian Institution not knowing who we were supposed to write to. Dear Monsier:

Mrs. Degener & I live alternately on the Island of Hawaii and on the Island of Oahu. Hence we did not receive your kind letter of Nov. 15 until a short while ago.

I am sorry I was such a nuisance. As I was born in 1899, Mrs. Degener & I have decided to distribute excess sheets of our work that are lying about. That is why we carelessly mailed you duplicates. Should you have anything you do not want, please simply give it to a horticulturist or botanist who may be interested Are none coming to islands in the Pacific? Each sheet usually is a separate article with author and date of publication at the bottom.

The Polynesians who settled the Hawaiian Islands (from Tahiti? Marquesas?) 1,000 - 2,000 years ago to intermarry here and become the Hawaiian race had no metal nor clay to make containers. Sp, with stone tools they made containers out of certain kinds of wood like that of the acacia. As this was much work, they used usually gourds to store their belongings and for carrying water, eye. A few months ago we saw such a plant growing in the garden of a Hawaiian family and took some seeds. The plant is some aboriginal form of <u>Lagenaria siceraria</u> (Molina) Standl. We are growing it now on three clothes lines in our garden for the fun of it.

The gourd becomes about 6 dm. long:

Here are some of the seeds if you want to try them. The flowers are nocturnal, closing the next afternoon. I am afraid it is perennial & would die during Bordeaux's cold weather. Have you room in your conservatory, or would it be a nuisance.?

Many thanks again for your efficient kindness.

Aloha.

Your reference:

Our reference:

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS Kew, RICHMOND, Surrey, TW9 3AB, England Telegrams: Kewgar, Richmond, Surrey Telephone: 01-940 1171

Dr O Degener P 0 Box 154 Vekano HAWAII USA

15 November 1983

Dear Dr Reginer

Thank you for another batch of Hawaiian specimens. It's little enough we ever do for you in return, what with our reduced staff, etc. - besides you know your own flora that much better than we can ever do. But we did notice some weeds unnamed and can offer the following suggestions:

Euphorbia hypericifolia L. sensu lato det. A.R-Smith

35692

Arenaria serpyllifolia L. det. B. Mathew Korthalsella complanata (Tieghem) Engler det. R.M. Polhill 35701

35722 Hyptis pectinata (L.) Poit. det. R.M. Harley

36577 Crotalaria retusa L. det. R.M. Polhill

Yours sincerely

- gree Inco

22

G LL Lucas Acting Keeper of the Herbarium

# Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8 D-1000 Berlin 33 (Postfach oder Straße und Hausnummer) (Postfach oder Straße und Hausnummer) (Postfach oder Straße und Hausnummer)

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

® (030) 8314041

Mit verbindlichem Dank bestätigen wir den Eingang von:

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of:

Nous sommes reconnaissants de l'envoi de:

Degener, Otto : Flora Hawaiiensis.

Dehr Slind 12 November 1983

Hant

DRS, OTTO & ISA DEGENER P. O. Box 154 Volcano, Hawaii 96785, U.S. A Nov. 27, 1983

Dear Mr Merwin:

My wife & I received your kind letter and your interesting gift about ""Opening the Hand" a month ago during a most hectic time that has not yet quite ended, attending chiefly to emergency real estate problems. Our Manoa property problem was dislodging a tenant who illegally without our knowledge altered our old home into a boarding or rooming house. To get the place empty, cleaned, repaired and this time decently rented took almost three months. Thereafter, we had difficulty with roof repair at Yolcano, but no earthquake disaster like that of some distant neighbors.

Mrs. D., & I read your word pictures and portraits. "Ali" feminds us of ourselves, and the four "poi" dogs of unknown ancestry & age we adopted after finding them feed about our garbage pails. Though we are not poetically inclined, we were interested in

your field.

We have dipped into the selected poems (1923-1967) of J.L. Borges and find it strange that you with your background in Romance languages, automatically seem to use short, Anglo-Saxon rather than long English words of Latin and rarely Greek origin. Does that not "touch" the feelings better of Americans and trulty Americanized readers?

Our notes & carbons of letters are on Oahu, cluttering my desk until Mrs. D., & Irely from volcano at some unspecified date. So I really do not remember what I had written you about the books and articles I and later she & I have written. I believe I waited with mailing you additional material, a bit confused as to which of your two addresses was the correct one.

Regarding your letter: We do not know about the Cousteau Almanac. Due to our advanced ages and accumulation of botanical riches lying about our homes, we are concentrating on their deposition in safe museums a bot. institutions throughout the world. By the way our Oahu neighbor is on contact with oceanographer C., concerning the "Calypso"!

It may find Haleiwa as It's home port. I lack details thus far.

Until Univ. of Mass., days, my home was 89th Street in view of the Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument on the Island of Manhattan. I attended Trinity & later Collegiate Schools.

Operhaps you heard of them or even attended one of them. As a high school student I
took private lessons in oil painting, and later attended the Art Students' League more
or less opposite Camegie Hall. Then one summer, when my mother was terminally ill, the
family got me out of sad surroundings by having me enroll at the Art Colony at Woodstock
along the upper Hudson. My instructor was Max Rosen. Of course I learned a little something.

A chum of my sister, 18 years my Senior, was Mabel Johnson (Johnsoton?), daughter of the famed newsboy NATHER painter Brown. When she happened to be at our house, she expressed in seeing my Woodstock masterpieces. I proudly displayed them. She studied them carefully and then hesitatingly and one studied in the carefully and then hesitatingly and one studied them.

go into Art as a profession. I wisely took her advice.

I and I can draw better than the average, but to get really good excellent illustrations for my books and to save me drudgery, I would ask Hon. school Art Teachers for the names and addresses of their truly born artist pupils. I then usually paid my pick \$1 per day plus keep (they lived in the servants' quarters of my Manoa home). I criticized constructively; "Avoid tangents", etc., etc. When this wage was above my means after losing my Botany teaching position at the U. of H., I hired one normal boy at that price - it was laving in the '20s - and a boy on parole or otherwise handicapped (TB) at 50 cents perd day. They enjoyed botanizing week ends, and even accompanying me to other islands. Thanks to my training, I at least was successful in amassing a goodly supplyof illustrations. They young artists were inspire, because they signed their work.

I received my Master's from the UUniversity of Haw., in 1923, and taught first under excellent Pres. Arthur L. Dean in 1925, and the following year under the execrable Pres. Crawford. Being a competitor in Potany with the Bishop Museum, the delinquent-type

שב

Grawford refused to reappointment me to my position on the senest of the superdelinquent-type pirector Gregory as Gravinos frankly, in his letter to me. The Chemist couple Gilger, Regent S.N. Castle and I for our own good reasons helped Crawford's ouster from the U. He & Mrs. Crawford left the Islands by boat of course at that time on Dec. 5. just two days before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor! My life greatly influenced by Crawford & Gregory, I have the informational newspaper clippings, etc., in our private and personal library on Oahu. It is of course a blessing in disguise that these two induced me to foresake employment with the Territory of Hawaii in favor of the Federal Government, namely the National Park Service in 1929. Later, I became, like Mrs. D., still later, staff members of the NY Bot. Garden in the Bronx, but representing this famed institution in the Hawaiian Islands. It nauseates me, an alumnus and ex-Faculty Member, to read historical accounts of the College & later Univ. of Haw., including such a black sheep Crawford in glowing terms with such outstanding Presidents as Dean and Sinclair! Such whitewashing certainly is anjust to the truly great.

We had no serious offers for the Manoa property and so are renting the two houses again, this time to two desirable couples. That does not mean, however, that we would not be able to have our tenants simple change from a Degener landlord to an Aitkin or other one. Our \$355,000 price we figured because we are no longer residents and thus lose something like 40% of the sale price to taxes. Furthermore, the realtor expects 6% for really little paperwork. That leaves little for us. Eventually, some wealthy family from Hong Kong may buy it to avoid living under Chinese communist rule when the British leaseholed expires. We are in no hurry to sell. Of course we can reduce the 6% cost by having an escrow company take over at a reasonable price. Our reasonable rent on both places togather is \$1,300 per month. Did you ever hear of a Worth Aitken or of two early Aitkens who were archaeologists in the Terr. of Haw.?

Should you found an Arboretum, please remember one danger! Try to limit yourself to endemics of Maui. Don't mix closely related plants from several islands. After seeing authentic Mauna Loa and Haleakala silverswords years ago cultivated in a flowerbed & blooming next to one another, we are convinced the two are distinct species. As the Mauna Loa one is exceedingly rare in the National Park (& elsewhere), some well meaning individuals resolved to increase their numbers for the pleasure of residents and tourists alike. So by seed & seedlings many Haleakalas were introduced among the Mauna Loas near & mauka of the upper end of the Mauna Loa Strip Road. The Mauna Loa silversword is being exterminated by overwhelming crosspollination by the Haleakala species. .clorn We no longer bother studying the present plants in that area as we suspect them to be counterfeits. The same thing is happening to the authentic Polynesians in Haw., 'Nei. How many real, 100% Hawaiians actually exist since the coming of Capt. Cooke probably Spaniards"a few hundred years earlier? Description as le the en sea villagi The Degener couple would enjoy meeting the Merwins, BUT the former is presently at

Kilauea & Liwi Streets, Volcano, 'phone 9677409. When on Oahu depends largely on the uncertain plans of tenants. leday as a reined un erasy of , messia ye to augo A

Not knowing what you want, we are mailing you herewith a couple of books ON APPRO-AL for \$22.50 each. The editions are 1,500; and copies are getting to be collector's items. They are too technical for local consumption, but over the years we have sold most of the copies to Universities and bot linstitutions throughout the World othere are lots of them. They, or at least 100 of them get our Haw., herbarium specimens free or for exchange. We got nice lots from Peking !!!!!, which we then mail to Bronz Park for proper care in their museum. We really don't work with live plants; just with n sensy the lo say than Mummies.

Do you realize we have no Maui agent. Should you be interested in selling our post books on Maui at the same time with your own, you can have our books, for the present at least at the wholesale price of \$15 each in quantities of three of a kind. Due to my advanced age and no children, we wish to get them into good hands, even at a losa. If we get into such a deal, WE DECENERS should charge you the Library Rate postage, which must be tacked on by you to the retail sales price. .

Remember, I have forgotten details of my previous letter to you, and that I may be

repeating myself. Senior Citizens tend to have that failing.

We were long impressed with R.S.'s abilityb& energy, and had our opinion published in the newspapers. We can't well repeat this. His failing is, in a competitive society. unusual decency and modesty. Thanks again for the gift. Mrs. D., joins in aloha,

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aucured with: "To Whan - - "

Dear Scientists.

I hope you've had an opportunity to examine the material we recently sent to you. Reducing the threat of nuclear war requires organized grassroots lobbying pressure on those elected officials who help shape this nation's defense policy. If you have already completed and mailed the questionnaire you received, thank you. If not, please do so immediately, so that we may include you in our efforts to control the arms race.

Sincerely;

Darlene Sinch

Darlene Finch Coordinator Scientists' Education Project

Der. 1, 1983

Couran

No matter how well one is according to physiciands on both Dahu & Hawaii. I take stock in life insurance statistics. With this in mind, I consider any person over 80 terminally ill. So Isa & I are presently presently concentrating on putting our three homes in order, all stuffed with good, bad and indifferent books, separate one-sheet articles ( Hawaiiensis & Fl. Hawaiiana) and herb., specimens representing mostly duplicates of taxa mailed MY., DC., Mon., & elsewhere.

Fls. Haw., Bools 1-4 articles (in editions of 1,500 copies) were pretty well sold out by the time I evacuated to the M.Y. Bot. Garden at the beginning of World War II. Unbound copies, in good and in termite-tasted condition, have been long stored in the attic of our Manoa home. With editions 2 in a single cover, we can dispose editions 1. Edition 2 we sell for \$22.50 retail (\$15 wholesale). We probable have 300 conjes re-

As we are putting the Manoa property up for sale for \$355,000 via realtor who demand of commission or for less by us alone, we are taking advantage of your Mr. Estes' Enchange Service to clear our house of such books & articles. We are not in any tremendous hurry, but expect to sell to some oil-dripping East\*gest Arab, to some Hong Kong Chinese capitalist wishing to rapatriate before the Communist take-over, or to some wise Resingtonian who may become Director of the Bishop Museum.

The recipients of our printed words of botanical wisdom are World Bot. institutions conveniently listed with addresses by Mrs. Holmgren et al., in the Index Merbar-

he have been publishing our 500 page National Bark paperback for many years via a Michigan printer, paying him as the work is being done. For a year or more we have had a 500 edition in gal., already paid for by us. Being so slow in Michigan - another customer in M complained to us about his job - some pages of gal., as in the case of any roxiohium, became obsolete, requiring changes. How we have the page proof before us & ALSO REVORE YOU, a sloopy copy, which will take months to correct as we are as usual busy with some matters such as rental units & attending to our Yolsano house roof.

Not sure when we two may healthily drop dead of old age, we have had the page proof congrighted last month and are offering it free andor for sale "as is, where is" for \$50. Please rail us a note that you received the copy so we can get \$50 tax credit on our eleemosynary gift. All this should stabilize the date officially of thoughts & "splitty" binomial changes. At least this 500 page "masterpiece" should be useful for some of the hundred or so institutions who get our herb. specimens as gifts.

We are scared by the printer's proffered contract by which he expexts us to sign rather blindly. He wants us to pay \$500 outright, which is piffle & perfectly agreeable to us. BUT we are to agree also to pay an unspecified sum for additional work. This we cannot do unless he discloses his reasonable estimate of what the extra cost would be AND specifies a ceiling above which the bill cannot rise. So far he has done

nothing, and this is the stalemate.

Having dealt with temants since 1926, we are just about experts avoiding off color contracts. A recent attempt for seemin poor faith occurred about a year ago in the case of Isa's mother in a Hon., private nursing home during her terminal illness. The busiofficer tried to rush Isa, while next to her perfectly lucid mother, to sign the contract for care without reading the fins print in which the Home could increase charges WITHOUT consulting with patient, relatives or the attorney of a mentally disturbed one. In that way, relatives upset by samess can be induced to sign the contract & end nearly bankrupt. A sentle, well-to-do, sentle widow friend thus lost for her estate practically her Waipahu real property, etc. This was the Bome in which we were involved. We refused to sime before studying the contrast overplant at home. We were shocked

( mursing

s, the indirect, remains to sin, to and rit to so a rice for a pather-in-law via one to that the Mospital, this had selected this Home. So instead of signific, the real bound 20 charge of atom for a couple of our red called a the open market at the Mose. Then the Business Office a cin a relief to sin the same contract we surprised them in silence by samin that we were stocknowlers and part-owners of the s. are in Ease! Our final bill was reasonable.

If the lend an printer can't change the national Park contract to out the small print that seems risky to us, we may try printing i Taiwan. At any rate, we have useful codies for lifts or sale for the 100 recipients of mis herbarium specimens, or for codicators who reliab printings. This 500-page measter is a legal publications!!!!

Isa joins me in wishin the Cowans a Merry Christmas in 1988, and nonsersion for a cash cale of 2234 University ave in 1984. The lot faces two atreets and has two houses on it. It is apposite the Park and within 3-cicutes walk of the U., unque. Both University & Bishop Suseum are respectively hunting for a new President and for a new of gotor;

### 21 December 1983

With the shortest daylight hours on hand, Otto,
I'm going to type this out, and it may arrive the day of Isa's
return. I talked with Isa on Monday PM and may hear from her again
before she leaves.

Thanks for the sundry Degener missives that have appeared in Box 518, and the latest, the 18th, helps me understand why Stearns may not have answered my letter. He did the first one. He may, or may not, have assumed that --knowing vou-- that I have knowledge of his first marriage, etc., and it is rather obvious, as you say, he (nor his present wife?) - - is likely to encourage \*\*MAT/\* talk of matters dealing with that period of his life.

I think you showed Crozier Drive "street-smarts" in not writing a review of Stearn's book. The "ad" appeared in the Sunday paper as I recall. I'm still mystified as to why his book has not been reviewed by one of the local papers. Geo. Chaplin, Adv. editor, 'phoned me yesterday about another matter, and later I may ask Chaplin why the neglect. There is an "ol' boy" hui in this town as you well know, and it may be that the Hiram Fong tribe (that were not treated with kid gloves in the Memoirs) took it upon themselves to put a damper on that geological tome.

Here's a tic-tac-toe'ing with Holiday Cheer,

d hs Isa

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LEHR THE FUR BOTANIK

DER TECHNISCHEN UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN
Prof.Dr.H.Ziegler

TIOI.DI.H.BICGICI

Drs. Otto & Isa Degener P.O. Box 154

V o 1 c a n o , Hawaii 96785 U.S.A.

D-8 MUNCHEN 2, 29.12.1933

Arcisstraße 21, Tel. (089) 21.05.2631 Briefpostfach 20.24.20 Telex 522854 tumue d

### Liebe Degeners:

Zunächst die besten Wünsche für das Neue Jahr, vor allem beständige Gesundheit! Es freut mich, daß "after all" der STRASBURGER doch an die richtigen Empfänger gekommen ist und daß Sie Spaß daran haben.

Wir denken oftund gerne an unseren Hawaii-Besuch zurück, vor allem auch an Ihre Gastfreundschaft und die gemeinsamen Untersuchungen. Vielleicht ist doch einmal ein Gegenbesuch möglich.

Machen Sie sich keine Mühe wegen der Korthalsella und der Orchideen. Es handelt sich nicht um ein weltbewegendes Problem.

Wir sind reichlich mit Arbeit, meist überflüssiger, eingedeckt, doch ist dies nichts Neues.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen und allen guten Wünschen

Alabert n Imm gard

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

Dear Sir:

This is the report on the chain letter movement to stop the nuclear arms race and abandon all the nuclear weapons from the earth; I initiated this just before the SSD<sub>2</sub> of the United Nation. By the end of October, 1983, 809 scientists of 50 countries informed me that they supported the movement. In addition, I received five letters appealing the nuclear disarmanent signed by 113 scientists. I believe that more than 10,000 ltters should circulated among the scientific community. I express my sincere thanks to your support. Being stimulated by your actions, four Japanese ecologists (including myself) published an appeal in July, 1983 and this was signed by 80 members of the Ecological Society of Japan.

But I must apologize you for a fault in my side. I missed to set the time limit and the way to publish our request. Now the movement has grown to a level I cannot control it. I overlooked the great depth of scientists' concern about the nuclear holocaust! I am afraid that the endlessness of the movement should lead mannerism. I am now inclining to consider that we should finish this first step action at present and wait the next chance to expand our movement, which must have a clear objective to ask our wishes. If you would kindly tell me your opinions on this point and/or introduce the aim and results of our movement to your colleagues by your newspapers, journals and notice-boards of your laboratories, I would be most grateful to you. Although the political situations around the nuclear disarmanent are not so good at present, I hope our movement could encourage peoples' movements for this goal, which are rapidly growing in many countries.

Anyway, I hope you to keep your concern about this problem till the day of complete abandonment of the nuclear weapons.

NO MORE HIROSHIMAS!

Sincerely yours,

You'ak' VV Yosiaki Itô Laboratory of Applied

1 3185

Entomology and Nematology

### AN APPEAL

As Japanese ecologists, who know terrible consequences of nuclear disasters of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Fukuryu-maru (name of a ship that sufferred deadly radioactive fallout from an H-bomb test "Bravo" at the Bikini Atolls in 1954), we express our strong support to the following appeal signed by 111 Nobel laureates in 1982.

WE NOW APPEAL:

To our colleagues of the world's scientific community: accept responsibility and become directly involved in actions to avert nuclear war.

To the governments of the world: seek a comprehensive international agreement aimed at eliminating the risk of nuclear war, and the danger to civilization involved in any use of nuclear weapons.

To all peoples: support measures to remove the nuclear

menace that threatens the survivals of mankind.

. Initiators: Kinji Hogetsu (Tokyo) Syuzo Itow (Nagasaki) Yosiaki Itô (Nagoya) Syuiti Mori (Kyoto) Makoto Numata (Chiba) Fumiki Takahashi (Hiroshima)

Hisashi Abe Minoru Asahi Masahiro Fujioka Yasushi Harada Yukio Higuchi Yoshiaki Isobe Masayuki Kakehashi Kohkichi Kawasaki Tatuo Kira Igor Leiler Kazuo Morikawa Hasako Nakamura M. Nishio Hideyuki Ohsawa Michio Sakurai Masae Shiyomi Tsukasa Sunose Tadayoshi Tazaki Tetsuyuki Uéda Youko Yamaguchi

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August 1983

WEAPON CHAIN LETTER MOVEMENT AND, IN MOST CASES, SENT TEN LETTERS TO HIS HERI

WHO DID'T WRITE ME WHAT HE (SHE) DID, AS I DIDN'T REQUEST THE REPORT

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M. K. Macphail (Sydney)

S. E. Wayte (Glass Camcod)

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(Rid Clare) C. A. de Houralkin de

A.Divino Houra (Sač José rion Campost

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K.M. Weiss (Nouston)

Algaka)

villel

John Vandermeer (Ann Arbor)

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mtte.[N]

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P. M. Rafew (Moncou)

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V. A. Ratner (Novosibirok)

L. Misko (Moscow)

Estonial

Armental

Latvia)

Addenda

Julchi Vanagita (Ditto)

Motcharu KobatHagmyal

Milaje Krunic (Heograd)

T. Novak [Murska Sobotal

Dragoslav Marinkovic

(Beograd)

Following letters signed by colleagues to express their supports to the global movement to abandon the

nuclear weapons were arrived during the course of our sovement.

(1) Pour colleagues of the Laboratorius voor Decologie der Dieren Zongeografie en Natuurbehoud, (Gent, Belgium).

(2) Dr. S. F. Kulkarni of the Department of Physics, University of Poons, India, and 53 colleagues who are members of the Indian Physics Association (Poons Chapter).

(3) Professors Kinji Hogetsu, Shuzo Itow, Yoslaki Ito, Syuti Morl, Makoto Numata and Fumiki Takahashi called the attendants of the 30th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of Japan (Aug., 1981) to support the anti-NW appeal of 111 Nobel laureates and their letter was signed by 80 members

(4) Prof. E. H. Rapoport of the Instituto de Ecologia Sede Musco de Historia Natural de la Ciudad de Mexico, Nuevo Bosque de Chapultepec, and 32 colleagues of his institute.

(5) Eleven colleagues of the Department of Biomorphics, National Defence Medical Center, Taipei.

telprof. Y. Kovačević of the Laboratory of Applied Entomology, Zagrab University (Zagrab. Yugoslavia) and 10 colleagues of the laboratory.

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