



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

1942?
Marcelus to know that you have your previous
dog with you all the way for Thursday. Be sure to
I hope to be recovered for his end. Be "HILLDALE"
TELEPHONE 528-0000. 3905 RESERVOIR ROAD
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Dear Otto - Let me know

It is really marvelous how
you wrote me, by Sunday letter
this morning. I took the ship
did not catch the Holy Man.
I am the last group of 90 days
in our boat has been written of
in the Blue Book. I liked Jack
his gun caught. I'm able to think of
John Dingle as a doctor - he is a
sympathetic case as far as I can
judge. The indeed are all the
John I have of the Figs.
If you write to Dr. Cantor -
3715 N. St. - Washington I am sure to
let you have his negatives.

The book comes out soon now
The are almost all 7 yrs - If
you telephone by Dec. Mr. Wulffland
Room 5436 - 30 Rockefeller Plaza
he will give you the name of the
man who makes all our photo work
cheap & good - I am beginning
the important life in Washington
the days are so way off away
& Hassan just after Xmas
last we could have our other talk
before I go. If I come to New York
again I will let you know
your letter arrived we were there
of them for a long time. Hope
all are well with you.
Love
Lester Quibbler

12/28/42

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND
INTRODUCTION

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY STATION
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

December 28, 1942

Dr. Otto Degener
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park (Fordham P. O.)
New York, New York

Dear Doctor Degener:

Material has come in as indicated in your letter of November 30.
I asked Mr. Erlanson, of our Division, to go over the material, and
he submits the following statement.

It consists as follows:

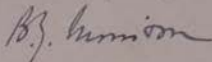
Hawaii	177 unmounted collections
	<u>59 mounted collections</u>
	236 total
Other sources	9 collections acceptable
	<u>12 collections not acceptable</u>
Grand total	257

You will notice that Mr. Erlanson stresses that 12 sheets of this material are not acceptable, and I hope you will find his opinion agreeable.

As I wrote you in the former letter, our authorizations for the purchase of herbarium material are still in a condition which is not agreeable to me, but I am not in a position to over-rule the opinion as yet. I am therefore sending you my personal check for \$24.50, which I am most happy to do.

Whatever material you may want to send on presently under your former basis for purchase if and when or for storage at such time as we have to return it to you, may now come.

Very cordially yours,



B. Y. Morrison
Principal Horticulturist in Charge

BYM:BTG

12/21/42

EARL EDWARD SHERFF

Chicago Teachers College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

Chicago, Illinois, Dec. 21st, 1942

Mr. Otto Degener,
New York Botanical Garden,
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Degener:-

Your several letters and post card came to hand and I shall try to catch up with them somewhat. I have sorted out the main batch of folders for accessioning at Field Museum and turned them over for mounting. They were to be accredited directly to you so I cannot take credit for them on any tax accounting. In fact the thought never entered my head. But thanks for the idea. I noted the Fiji plants on which you wanted an opinion,--the ones allied with Lipochaeta. Off-hand I would associate them at once with Wedelia, one of the two or three near-by genera that are difficultly separable from Lipochaeta (you may remember that in the preface or introduction to my Lipochaeta monograph I referred to your letter from Dr. Blake in which his matured opinion was that Lipochaeta was a valid genus). Our literature and specimens here however are so scanty for Wedelia that unless some very serious matter is at stake it would seem hardly worth my time to go deeply into the matter. The angulation of the achenes seemed distinctive in some of the material, so far as our very few specimens showed. Perhaps if you have some particular point at issue I might be of service, but you know I have no monographic knowledge of Wedelia and my opinion would not be as good probably as your own. (My experience in monographing has convinced me that not until the real monographing of a genus is undertaken does one get a really authoritative conception of the species.)

I shall enclose my determinations that I made for three collections of your plants along the Anahulu Trail, Mar. 23, 1939. Evidently I had never seen any of these before. The first and third were especially interesting as being of rare forms.

I have run through your ~~822222~~ Schiedea material, all told I believe only twelve or fourteen collections. I believe that surely you must have collected much more than that, but I certainly did not discover more in your shipments. Do you not have more yet to ship? Schiedea is so utterly simple compared with the mean genera like Pittosporum and Labordia that it seems but child's play to work on it.---But now I must ascertain directly from you before I proceed much further, just who among Hawaiian specialists may have contemplated doing the genus. Did Fosberg or St. John that you know of? Or in fact do you even suspect that anybody allied with Bishop Museum has had it in mind? If so I had better know it at once so as to avoid showing my hand to Buck until later on. If he has no entanglements, it will be safe to ask now for the Bishop specimens and this would of course be much better. I fear that so far as a regular monograph of the genus is concerned I shall perforce have to await the war's end, but meanwhile I plan to have the various American institutions lend me what they can and I can do a fairly good job for the time being.

As to Pelea and Cyrtandra much will depend on the war's outcome of course. I would certainly have to go to Europe and also be assured of Bishop Museum's lending its huge collections. Perhaps

(OVER)

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Merrill can have enough influence later on to get Bishop Museum's cooperation with me on these two large genera, in which case I would probably be glad to go ahead. But anything I might do now would be so unsatisfactory that I would not think of attempting it.

I noted your request for extra copies of my Pittosporum article. I have now sent you five all together, one of them on special paper. I trust that they reach you safely. The Museum gives me fifty regular copies for free distribution and if you need more just say so.

I thank you for the two separates regarding Fiji plants. I feel somewhat flattered to think that I have walked and talked with a botanist who has had a family named after him. You have had an honor come to you that will come to but few people in future history. As I glanced at the many Degeneri's I came to realize at least in small part how tremendously profitable your Fijian trip had proved to be.

I have certain pigeon-holes full of folders belonging to you and marked "return to Degener." Shall I send any such plants from now on to you at the N.Y. Bot. Gard.? If so please so advise and I will begin to clean them out.

Do you happen to know if Bishop Museum is lending anything out these days? Another thing I would like to know, if you would be so kind as to do it. Would you please sit down at the N.Y. Bot. Gard. cover or covers of Schiedea and list the few sheets that might be there as to collector and number? I expect to have these lent us soon but meanwhile would like to steal a march by getting this information in advance.

If you believe that nobody seriously has Schiedea in mind back in the Hawaiian Islands, then I would appreciate it if you could, whenever you chance to write to some of your botanical correspondents back there, get them to send me any specimens of the genus that they might collect. As you know, I am a great believer in a huge number of exsiccatae as a proper basis for a revision.

To add to your lore regarding Hillebrand's plants, I may say that we have at Field Museum a fine specimen of a variety of ~~Podonaea~~ Schiedea pubescens that Hillebrand collected and which had come to us from the old Elihu Hall herbarium (Hall lived on a farm near Athens, Ill., and was a correspondent of Asa Gray's, so probably had been given the plant by Gray as an exchange).

I have pondered the matter of an expedition alluded to by you. Of course I mentioned it to nobody else. I cannot warm up to the idea of a western Canada trip, as I feel that a trip into Guatemala or elsewhere in Central America would be more productive. As to bringing out specimens, Steyermark seems to get them out easily enough. This last trip he collected I believe nearly twenty thousand folders. He and Standley have found many new genera as well as many more new species. I do not think a collector there would have much trouble at all. ~~W~~ Yuncker had marvellous success in Central America and so did someone from Dartmouth College (I believe he was more of a zoologist).

Now then, what spare time I have this winter I plan to put upon Schiedea and the Hawaiian forms of Podonaea. So as fast as any of your plants turn up in these groups I shall be glad to have them sent along for study.

Remember us to Roy and be assured of our best Christmas wishes.

Yours very truly,

...*Earl E. Shreve*...

Washington - Dec 207

Dear Mrs. Seymour - I am more
than glad to have your letter &
know that Otto is intact -
as always - I hear the
detonators had been destroyed
by the explosion of the Jap
planes did not a year -
great care here. I hope
the new ones will prove

12/20/42?

more efficient - I have
learned for Hassan
Balaina I should do but
we know of you for the
Honduran News. In the
Jap we must see
West. Thanks for letter

And, best
L. B. Hubbell



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. Otto Degener -
2995. Botanical Square -
Bronx - New York City
N.Y.

12/19/45
Dear Dr. Degener 12
19
42
Thank you for the package
of plants - they arrived yesterday =
I counted 143 sheets - of which
55 were mounted.

The score stands as follows, to date:
you have sent me 547 sheets.

I made a list of *Carex* and
Panicum that I sent you - why I
did not list the rest of them, I do
not know - the boxes were in the
warehouse when I finally thought of it.
If the Garden would care to list all
my plants except the two genera
above, I could send from time to
time additions to the rest.

I wish I were able to work out
some of the new material, but that
is definitely out. Will write label for
the *Cyperus* & return - Will also send you
that lacked a label. Don't eat too
much turkey on Christmas day. I might
not agree with you. I wish you the best
of everything! W. W. Witt.

12/17/42

THE PANAMA CANAL
CANAL ZONE
SUPPLY DEPARTMENT
Canal Zone Experiment Gardens

IN REPLY REFER TO FILE

Summit, Canal Zone,
December 17th, 1942.

Mr. Otto Degener,
Wailua, Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener,-

Your postal card dated September 25th, 1941, reached us just as the war news "broke" and due to increased activities here at the Gardens it has been sidetracked until now.

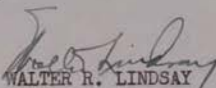
We have already been working for sometime on a non-technical publication of commonly grown plants of this region. When completed it will be similar in make-up to "In Honolulu Gardens". Due to other more pressing work, however, we have had to discontinue our efforts for the present.

As you probably know, Dr. Paul Standley has written a rather complete and scientific treatise - "Flora of the Canal Zone", published by the Smithsonian Institution.

I am enclosing a booklet - "Edible, Poisonous and Medicinal Fruits of Central America", which we prepared in conjunction with the Army for distribution to their personnel. These are not for sale so we have not been able to supply our friends with copies. However, we have just received a very limited number and are pleased to send you one at this time.

With best regards, I am

Cordially,


WALTER R. LINDSAY
Director.

WRL-k

P.S.- We regret to advise that Mr. Paul Allen was persona non grata around here and we had to dispense with his services a little over a year ago.

12/16/47
Dr. Otto Degener.
New York City.

12
16
42

Dear Dr. Degener:—

In answer to your last letter—Dec 8:—
I agree with you as to the number of sheets
I sent you = within 3 or 4 sheets of 600. I did
not count the extra sheets. So, as you suggest,
lets call it 600. But—included in your lot
to me, to date, were 148 mounted plants, mostly
Old World, New World and a few Hawaiian.
The entire ^{count} of plants sent to me = 404.

Considering the value of the Hawaiian material, I ~~feel~~
feel our exchange is more than equal—and
on this basis, please make an adjustment,
and we will begin anew, provided you will
be kind enough to continue sending me what
you do not need. I cannot tell you how much
Dr. Chrysler (Rutgers) and myself value these
fine and very interesting ^{plants} you have sent.

An even exchange for the material I sent would
not be fair to you. When I moved here (our
old homestead) in 1937, I brought with me
15 corrugated cardboard, knocked-down, boxes,
to hold a package of mounted plants 6" high—
these I have taped and put to gather, and now
have room for more plants.

I forgot to mention - regarding the states
of our exchange - you also included 6
Cotypes - These should be considered in the
adjustment. I was so pleased to find some
specimens of Schizae robusta.

In the last shipment to me, I found a fern
almost the exact duplicate of Elaphoglossum
reticulatum - illustrated in your "Hawaiian Flora"
except, that the leaves in the plant you sent me,
continue to the root to form winged stems.
This plant had no label. The note on edge of
the folder = "Cathcart. 3/2/36". Shall I
send it to you for labelling? It is a very
fine plant. I am sure you would know it
instantly. I do not wish you a "Merry Christmas"
but a hopeful and encouraging one! It is
too bad this world of ours is in such a horrible
state. With all good wishes, Yours
very sincerely
W. W. W. W.

12/11/42

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

December 11, 1942

Mr. Otto Degener
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx Park
New York

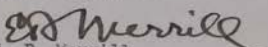
Dear Degener:

Responding to your post card of December 7, I suppose that it will be possible for you to secure tax exemption on your actual gifts of publications and botanical specimens to various institutions, but were I attempting to do this I think that I would consult some expert on the income tax regulations.

I enclose herewith a tabulation appertaining to the sets of botanical specimens prepared by Dr. Smith from the material you forwarded from Fiji. While in this tabulation he placed the actual valuation at a nominal figure (10¢ per specimen), we both feel that you would be justified in making your estimate of value 15¢ per specimen, because 15¢ is what we more frequently pay for material coming from remote parts of the world.

I would suspect that the procedure would be for you to secure a signed statement from the proper individual or individuals covering the amount of material in each set as received by the institution concerned; presumably this would mean only the Arnold Arboretum and the New York Botanical Garden. You cannot deduct the value of gifts to individuals. As far as the records are concerned, this is immaterial, because the statement could be dated for whatever fiscal year you desired to cover; that is, either 1942 or 1943, or the distributions might be divided between these two years, thus permitting you to take off a part in one year and a part in another year. You can only deduct in the form of gifts up to 15% of your total income. ! Therefore, you may desire to split these gifts between two years or even perhaps over a longer period.

Very truly yours


E. D. Merrill
Administrator

EDM:CG

Dr. Otto S. Wiegand
New York.

12
3
42.

Dear Dr. Squire:-

It is a cold morning. My herbarium room is not yet heated, but I have a good wood fire going and it will soon be warm. The third package arrived safely - and I can't tell you how pleased I am with the material. I have your postcard of the 29th before me. As I wrote you, I will repeat: My herbarium is no longer a private one - it goes to Rutgers Univ. at New Brunswick, N.J. I feel grateful to you that you were not obliged to recall the several cotypes you sent me. I value them very highly, and I assure you they will not go to a private herbarium.

I have finished writing labels. I am now assembling them (the plants) in a more or less geographical order. They will be in packages much as follows: ① Pine Barren Cape May Co., N.J. ② Camden Rail Road Freight Yard New Jersey (other than Pine Barren) ③ A few Penna.

Plants - ⑥ Gromes ⑦ Panicum. ⑧ Carex -
⑨ Other Cyperaceae than Carex. All this will
will amount to 400-500 sheets.

I would think that the most valuable of
these sets would be those from Cape May
Co. - for this reason, I am informed that
Army-Navy and Air operations throughout
the Co. have destroyed many valuable
plant localities - perhaps never to return.
The flowering plants from the Pine Barrens are
in two bundles, and marked "P. B." they
total 86 sheets. The grasses and sedges from the
P. B. are not with the flowering plants - but
they would total 150-200 sheets. The folks
into the Bot. Garden would recognize them,
however, as P. B. material.

There are no doubt duplicates in this entire
lot of species now in N.Y. Bot. G. Herb., but
in most cases not from the same locality - at
any rate, the duplicates would be exchangeable
material for your Museum. Please let me
know if all of the 9 groups would be acceptable to
you. I sent you the Fiji Ethno-bot. collection to
N.Y. Bot. Garden - with my compliments. After I have
sent you all that I have for exchange, could we
arrange a buying basis?

2

I find, that, following the donation of my herb.
to Putgers, my interest in adding to it
has greatly increased, and I am most
anxious to continue to do so - I hope that
we may be able to arrange a purchaser
deal - It is about time for the rural
carrier - so will stop - We have
only one mail a day.

Emily Smith + her husband have
had another transfer - this time
to Port Deposit Md. - Much
better than that very cold spot
Northern Idaho. Will see them
today and pass to them your
best wishes - and my very best
to you!

Will Little.

Will send all mail to your house -

12/1/42

F. G. Krauss Director

"RURALNOOK"
2437 PARKER PLACE
HONOLULU, HAWAII
U. S. A.

Dec. 1. 1942.

Dear Degener: I am not sure whether any of us have written you since the receipt of the copy of Sargautia containing the botanical results of your trip to & studies in Fiji. Needless to say that Beatrice & I have gone over their valuable contributions with rather more interest than we have time for the multitude of papers that come to hand. We are sure these records will add to your reputation as a botanist in the Pacific Area.

We trust that you & your sister have kept well & of course you have been very busy. This is true of all of us here, including Arthur whose family are in Palo Alto making the best of our trying times. Let us hear from you when you have time. With kindest regards, Sincerely Krauss.

11/12/42

BERNICE P. BISHOP MUSEUM
HONOLULU, HAWAII

THE LIBRARY

November 12, 1942

Mr. Otto Degener,
Botanical Garden Arms,
2995 Botanic Garden Square,
Bronx, New York City.

Dear Mr. Degener,

Thank you for sending the two separates.
I am returning to you, or sending you in return, the Bulletin No. 141, which you request. We have both papers in the series in which they occur, and so I shall let Mr. Bryan have them if he wants them, otherwise keep them as separates. Mr. Bryan is now Captain Bryan and is very busy, as usual, in another sphere. He got out a set of Maps of the Pacific, which Tongg published and which is now in its 2000th edition or thereabouts. Also a new edition of American Polynesia. No grass growing.

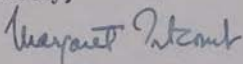
Please accept my congratulations on becoming the head of a family. Does that give you a paternal feeling? Miss Neal tells me it is a great honor to have a family named for you, and I can believe it. Splendid.

My little sister is a botanist,- plant genetics. She worked at Geneva for a while, then at Cold Spring Harbor Biol. Station which is in the next town from our home, Huntington, Long Island. If times were different I should be charmed to have you know her. But now she is off botany for the duration, is making some small part of a gun, or something, in an airplane factory, and works such long hours that there is no time for anything else. But if you should chance to be in Long Island on a Sunday, and in Huntington, do look her up. We are the only Titcombs in the phone book.

Hosaka is OK. He's very busy, hence his neglect of correspondence. I'll tell him you asked about him.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,



Margaret Titcomb
Librarian



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr. Otto Degener
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, New York, N.Y.

THE NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY
AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
SYRACUSE, N. Y.

Nov. 9, 1942

Dear Otto,

11/9/42
- Aloha. Glad indeed to hear that you are back. Working in Syracuse - with a bronchitis that I probably will not get rid of until I get back to British Honduras. Will leave Syr. before December first for a long stay in CA, and will spend a few days in N Y city first. Will certainly see you then.

Best wishes,

Frank Egler

10/30/42

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Oct. 30, 1942

Dear Degener,

I have your letter of Oct. 27 and a few minutes to answer. Now I have finished sorting the Fijian collection into sets, and these will be ready for shipment as soon as I finish the book-keeping and total up the number in each set. However, I won't send anything out until you have verified your NY set to make sure that nothing is lacking. I think that I numbered the packages, so you can tell if it is complete merely by arranging them in order. Our typist is now making a list of determinations for you and this should be ready in a week or two, although of course she has to work on it intermittently. I can send you the first few hundred names when you want them. Let me know if you would like to begin now, or if I shall wait until the list is complete. It's too bad you have this extra work to do, for if we had waited, you could now receive a set with the labels completed. But of course last year you were planning to do a different sort of job in Honolulu.

The collection is sorted into 16 sets (actually 14, the first being mounted here and the second in your possession). Whenever there was extra material (pretty often) I put it aside and will send all of these extra duplicates to you. You can use them for smaller exchanges of gifts and they may prove quite useful.

I stretched the material of Degeneria into all 16 sets, but the last few duplicates were sterile and pretty slender. However, better a few leaves of a new family than nothing. Bartram has finished the mosses and the names will be included on the list I am going to send you. The duplicate specimens will be sorted by Linder at the Farlow Herbarium, and before he sends out sets we will agree upon the places. Of course set 2 will go to NY, if you are willing. Linder expects to publish Bartram's paper in the new Farlow publication next year, and he says that he will be sure Mrs. A. is properly mentioned.

Your trip across country sounds interesting, but I should think the collecting wasn't very exciting after your Pacific work. There are very few new genera to be picked up in Kansas. It sounds as though your health were poor enough to discourage the draft board. I'm sure they don't want rookies who have to have a pillow under their feet. So far they are not closely on my trail, but eventually I may wish that I enjoyed poor health myself.

Sincerely,

ACS. [with]



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Otto Degener,

2995 Botanical Garden Square,

New York City

Civilian Public Service Camp No. 23, Coshocton, Ohio. Oct. 29, '42

Dear Otto:

10/29/42
Your card of the 27th has been received. Many thanks. If you will notify my wife that the plants are ready, she will call for them in her car. She is anxious to meet you, too. My transfer to Philadelphia was not approved by Gen. Hershey, but Dr. Pennell is applying again. If it does not go through, I'll try some other place nearer home. Can't promise when I'll get at your plants, but will do them as soon as I can manage it. All your wishes regarding them will be scrupulously followed. — Don't know if I'll be allowed to come to New York over the holidays or not. Fifty men have applied for furloughs at that time, including myself, and only 24 are allowed to be absent from camp at any one time. I fear I may be one of those not allowed to go. We shall see. Best wishes to you! As ever,

your sincere friend,

Harold

10/21/42



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State College
Agricultural Experiment Station

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Amherst

Oct. 31, 1942

Dear Otto D.

I saw Dr. Alexander a few days ago and he tells me that you are at the N.Y. Bot. Garden. And last Friday what did I do but send you a long letter addressed to Hawaii. Well, perhaps you may receive it next spring. I should have realized by the annotation on "Sargentia" and the reprint, that you must be in America.

Most hearty congratulations on your new "family". You perplexed Dr. Alexander no end. He stopped me on Campus to ask: "Is Degener married?" "What is this about his family"? So, of course, I explained to him the good news and he was properly impressed. Then I sat down and wrote a short note to the Alumni Bulletin about it so that our graduates may also bask in your reflected glory.

The College is, of course, between the devil and the deep sea. The boys find it difficult to be both students and soldiers at the same time. As one fine fellow said to me yesterday: "One can't do a good job in either field and I think it should be all out for one or the other". Lowering the draft age to 18 is likely also to play havoc with us. This season for the first time in our history we have more women than men, and it looks as though we might soon have only women.

My angiosperm taxonomy course is down to three and I hear that Fernald at Harvard has only five. We have a new man in plant pathology from Cornell and he has ten enrolled in that subject. Of course it is to be expected. Non-economic subjects will have to sit on the back seat for a long time to come.

One of our women graduates, Bernice Schubert, now working at the Gray Herbarium, called yesterday. ~~called yesterday~~ She had just come from Washington and tells me that the National Herbarium is being moved and that everything is in confusion. There are but two graduate students in botany at the Gray Herbarium - both French Canadians. She has been doing Desmodium for some South American flora or other and wants to go there permanently.

Do you think that this is really "Der Untergang des Abendlandes"? It seems more and more to be headed that way. I can see only a long, long struggle ahead with a gradual wearing out of economic and military strength. It is Greece and Rome all over again: materialism, selfishness and corruption everywhere, with an attempt to build a stable civilization on rotten foundations. Well my job is to try to keep a feeble flicker of higher education going, so that some possibly far-distant Renaissance may once more be able to light its fires. The monasteries did it before; possibly a few colleges may be found worthy this time.

Sincerely yours

P. E. Torrey

10/21/42



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts State College

Amherst

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY AND ZOOLOGY

October 21, 1942

Dr. Otto Degener
2995 Webster Avenue, Bronx
New York City

My dear Otto:

Very many thanks for your letter of September 15th, which came to hand shortly after you reached New York City and had become located there.

I was much interested in your letter and very especially to know about your "Degener Family." This had me puzzled, as undoubtedly you realized it would, until I had the opportunity to talk to Dr. Torrey, who explained to me your discovery of the family Degeneriaceae in Fiji. My sincere congratulations on the signal honor of having an entire family of plants named after you. You have now reached the exalted position attained by Gesalpino, Gesner, L'Obel, and others who have such families of plants dedicated to them. Certainly, from your vastly important work on the Hawaiian flora and your explorations in others of the Pacific Islands, no one is more deserving of such a high honor than you, and, again, my very sincere congratulations.

We are trying to get caught up on the accumulation of summer correspondence and, in my own case, the mounting of specimens accumulated during the summer. In this conjunction I have gone over the various lots that you sent from time to time, and although many of these were badly crushed in the mail and scarcely determinable, nevertheless I have found some very interesting records of distribution, especially of species that you found in Colorado. These will be reported upon from time to time as I continue my survey of the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast crane-flies. Unfortunately for us all, I do not think that such a study can progress very rapidly until the conclusion of the present conflict which, as we all know, may be prolonged for an indefinite period; but I

can assure you that the specimens in question will be very valuable indeed for the purposes of such a study in the future. As far as I can make out, there are no new species included in such materials, but, as indicated, some very interesting records.

We hope that you will be able to come to Amherst some time during the coming year and renew acquaintance with Torrey, Crampton, and all others of your friends here on the campus.

With all very best wishes,

As ever yours,

Alex.

C. P. Alexander
CPA/D

10/20/42

OFFICE MOVED TO
BRIDGE ST. INTO B. MAIN ST.

P. O. SCHALLERT
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
OFFICE 20-4 CHANLON BUILDING
PHONE 354 WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

Oct. 20, 1942.

Dr. Otto Degener,
New York City.

Dear Fellow Botanist,-

Your two bulletins were duly received and I have studied them carefully. I greatly appreciate these bulletins as a worthy addition to my botanical library and please accept my many thanks for them.

We are having lovely fall weather here with no frosts thus far. We drove to the nearby mts. last Sunday and I did some late collections, finding *Aconitum uncina-* *tum* in full bloom and *Epifagus virginiana* also still fit to be collected. If you do not have these I will be glad to send them to you.

I wonder if it will be possible for you to make the trip to Florida with us next spring-say about Apr. 15th? That is providing we can get the gas, etc. by that time.

You could meet us here and we would drive through the country and ofcourse collect all the way down and back. That would be a glorious time for us I know and I am sure it would also be interesting to you.

Let us hope that somehow someway this will become a possibility.

Again thanking you
I am yours very truly

P. O. Schallert

P. O. Schallert, M.D.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Otto Degener,
c/o New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park, Fordham Br., P. O.,
New York, N. Y.

218743
The Catholic University of America

Washington, D. C. Feb. 16, 1943

Dear Dr. Gegeuer:

In this mail we are returning a box full of determined Hawaiian Cyperus. Many thanks for the opportunity of having seen these specimens and for the privilege of keeping one out of each set of duplicates. I will determine next your Cyperaceae from the United States and return them as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

Hugh M. Hall

CURATOR OF THE LANGLOIS HERBARIUM

10/20/42
Dear Otto -

Oct. 20-42

Before I had chance to mail the other letter I received yours yesterday which was written in New York? I thank heavens for your safe arrival in New York! I was worried stiff when I heard that you had foot trouble. I sort of stretched the only imagination to a negative possibility & it kept me worrying until I heard from ^{your} a positive news. I am glad that you got a place ~~so~~ near the garden. It will save you lots of trouble during cold seasons.

The Jenkins Roofing & Paint Co. did not do anything since you left, & I don't know exactly what sort of contract you made with them. Tell me if it is all right for me to call on them & remind them of it.

As for Hosaka's Bishop's onionism - he never showed up, so I regarded him as lost. If you need some drawings let me know & I may be able to make some in the evenings, since I have a very good lock out room, but don't expect too many drawings in a short time. Do you know the yard work keeps me busy every week end. I am watering the fruit lawn practically every afternoon - I am doing ~~so~~ & get good results - ~~they~~ the grass ^{looks} very green ~~and thick~~.

I planted several young plants in the front, they
~~paralleling~~ the two are in straight line with the
two shower trees.

By the way, ^{house} our number 2220 - has been
officially changed to 2234. This change was made
to make things easier for military authorities, so
from now on - address me the above new number.
Miss Cottons number is 2226 - which is at present
the next door to cottons - the Mr Bilger's number.
There is a bit of confusion now - but it may clear up soon.

Say, what ~~you~~ do you want me to do with the
Plants that are in Prakuleia house? Leave them there
or take them out little by little & sent them to you -
You see, I have to have a military permission -
according to that troph sergeant I met down
there. First of all I must get your official
permission to remove any article from that
house.

Not so long ago Mr. Bilger & I went
around hunting for holes for the gypsy -
we got couple of them to be re-adeled - I offered
I offered him to do my share for the work.
Mrs Bilger too did not have much confidence
in my ability as a carpenter so I took the
hint & said I did not have proper tools to
work - & etc - At that time they were having
a carpenter from the University & do some
fixing in their kitchen - Mr. Bilger told me
about some argument I with his wife as to
as to how the kitchen should work or how

- 2 -

things arranged. Now gypsey is on his way
to New York & I hope he gets there safely.

About a month after you left Bush
dropped in for a while - Some time ago
Northwood dropped in while I was out.

Since then, I have had no visitors
except Mrs Jones & came with two years
to see the body. It too, happened while I was out.

So, Glenn is interested in aviation,
well - I guess he knows what he is doing.
Is he still interested in Baseball as he used to be?
He may have completely out grown it & taken in new
interest. There is a good future in aviation: it is still
in the making - as I remember he was good in
math. & it will help him a lot in his study in aviation - Do
you know what branch in aviation he is interested in?

He must be a giant now! as you say he is taller you are -
How Mrs Glenn is going? Was Glenn's Aunt still with her?
(I saw other Mrs Wiggins with two nice boys? I imagine they
are big now - all high school ages yet? (How Miss Emma
Wiggins? Is she still keeping her youthful air?)

New York must have changed a great deal -
I saw in New York Times - a picture of a salvaging
crew cutting down girders of 2nd St. ave L. - I guess
all the old landmarks of New York are fast disappearing.
How did the people at the garden receive you? I
guess many are new faces & it will some time before
you get to know them all -

I am enclosing a news clipping which I got out of one of the local papers - It's about your great contribution to the botanical world - It is a great honor & you deserved it, to have plant family name - named after you - It's about time you harvest your rewards.

My friend Mr. Tanber is living at the servant quarters - He is still having trouble in getting a decent job -

My brother is still with my parents & he is single. He is tax business but so well for he get only 3 gallons of gas per day - so he works only half day - Not so long ago he bought a second hand Encyclopedic set of 36 volumes for \$10. - now I am making a good use of them - He also bought a microscope to fool around - Yesterday he told me that he sent for an expensive camera, somewhere in the East coast - just to try out how he can photograph microscopic pictures through the microscope. - He buys things which he hardly make use of.

I guess I am running out of things to write about so I am ending here. Give my aloha to Ray & tell him that his father & the rest of the family are well & happy.

Aloha

K. K. Park

[Kwan Kee Park, Korean
assistant of Degener]

10/16/42



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts State College

Agricultural Experiment Station

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Amherst

Oct. 16, 1942

Dear Otto:

Your last card to me was written on Christmas Day, 1941 and thereon you told me of your experience (or rather lack of it) in the Pearl Harbor affair, and also that Smith and Bailey might have to set up a new magnolioid family. Well, the latter is now a fait accompli and I am in receipt of a reprint, with your annotation, telling me about the Degeneriaceae. Congratulations multiplied. It doesn't happen once in a blue-moon and will stand as your monument so long as taxonomy stands. I also received the "Sargentia" with all the new "Degeneri" species. So I promptly sat down and wrote a short account for the Alumni Bulletin; thus your rise to fame will soon be properly spread among our graduates.

Of course the major theme of all our American life is now the war. One never knows when one's promising students may be snatched away, or how the proposed lowering of the draft age to 18 may affect the college. I try to keep up a correspondence with a considerable number of our boys because I know that many of them are homesick and lonely. The mores of an army camp is a considerable shock to some of these youngsters who have been brought up by decent parents and have lived in a college atmosphere. Military and Physical Educ. are now "majors" in college, and the non-vocational courses have notably declined. Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics are to the fore, bacteriology, applied entomology and plant pathology are doing well, but taxonomy and anatomy have declined, so that I have only three this season in the angiosperm course, where we formerly had twenty. Of course it is to be expected; the philosophical and cultural work must take its place with classics and literature on the back seat "for the duration". Zoology holds up better than botany because of its premedical importance. Still I hope we can have a few students to keep the torch of higher education alight during this dark period.

All the plants you have sent us are mounted and poisoned, but long ago we ran out of cabinet space so they are tied up in packages and stored in the attic "waiting for the dawn",

The faculty continues to age, though the student body is continually young. None of us whom you knew is a spring chicken any longer. Waugh and Sears are both retired and tottering toward the end; Dr. Gordon has left his zoology to younger men and, retiring to the basement of Fernald, has only a small class in geology. Dr. Crampton is badly used up. Last year he had an operation for prostatitis, and, during the Christmas holiday, must have another for gallstones. As he said to me lately: It is one damn thing after another" with him. "Crampy" and I have never seen eye to eye philosophically, but he has my respect for his sincere devotion to his work through all these years. "Dinty" Moore is gray-haired;

his wife is dead and his boy, Francis, is married. Chamberlain (Chemistry) retired some years ago and lives in Baltimore. But Dr. Gage is still going strong and talks faster than ever. A few months ago Mrs. Hicks gave a party for Mrs. Davenport and invited in all the old Davenport gang. I begged off but heard about it. Paul Thissell and Margery (Silcox) were there, Dr. Gage, Miss Pinnick, Mrs. Fearing, the Feltons, the Petits. I guess you recall most of them. I hear that Bill Davenport has been having mental trouble again; do you recall that he had to leave Dartmouth years ago on that account, and that he married a young widow. He now lives in South Amherst and has several children. It is hereditary, I fear.

Prof. Ashley called recently; he left here years ago to go into commercial work handling objets d'art. I guess the depression and war hit him hard, but recently he has been selling to middle western museums and his finances have improved. He seems much the same fellow though quite cynical about the present outlook.

It is a sad outlook which confronts us and may be the beginning of what we have thought of as Western Civilization. America has been bogged down in materialism and pipe-dreams about a coming economic Utopia. In fact it seems to me that the "four freedoms" are part of the same dream. It is all materialism and sensuality. The river of science, too, seems to be trickling off into the sands. Isolated groups of scientists piddle about, amassing mountains of details about less and less, but permanent gains seem very small. For example, the Oct. number of the "Botanical Review" is just in with an article by W.B. Turrill of Kew, entitled: "Taxonomy and Phylogeny". Naturally I read it eagerly but after 50 pages of blather I didn't learn a thing: - just half-baked speculations and opinions from Tom, Dick and Harry. I suppose these modern bright children would reply that my generation was too dogmatic and sure of itself. But if they would show us anything positive instead of this continual attempt to tear down, we might have more faith in them. Not one of them has the grasp of a Darwin, a Bower, or Scott; they only gather around the big lions of the past and snap at him. Their extreme mechanism leads them to prefer long-winded silly hypotheses to a simpler view that there is intelligence behind nature. Oh it is all "wanity and vexation" and they can go soak their heads in a bucket. Look, too, at the state of contemporary painting, music, politics, or what you will. All human interests that rest upon originality and creative genius are coming into the world stillborn.

But a few of us still stick to our guns and don't hesitate to open up when the silly world gives us the chance. "Practically everything that modern Americans believe, is false, and will have to be changed." One can only hope that we may emerge from the present baptism of fire with a saner and cleaner philosophy. It is possibly an opportunity sent us by the gods to show us the way back to the ancient ideals of integrity and a wholesome national life.

We still run our Friday Evening meetings in Clark Hall. The boys this season asked that we might study the New Testament. I don't know too much about it and it has meant considerable study.

I cannot picture you as engaged in violent warfare, and hope that you have been left in comparative peace to go on with your work. By the way we had a boy from Hawaii here a year ago - name of Englemann - who knew

10/13/42

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN
MASS.

Oct. 13, 1942

Dear Degener,

I am starting to sort your collection into sets today and it seems to go pretty quickly. Probably it will take about 3 weeks. I note from your card that O'Neill doesn't want a set - which I had already assumed because of previous correspondence with him about other tropical material. Personally I don't feel like wasting even a scrap of Degeneria on the revd. gentleman; sometime we may discuss him verbally, but my opinion should not pass through the mails. I have sent him a set of your sedges, and in return received determinations of a few Cyperus. I got tired of waiting and determined the others myself, as they offered no trouble. In the future I don't intend to disturb his seclusion even with sedges for determination.

Sorry I neglected to mention Mrs. A. in the new family description. I'll keep in mind to rectify this when we have occasion to discuss the family again. Bailey and I plan a future revision of all the families of that relationship, but probably this won't be for some years, as first we want to discuss them one by one. At present we are engaged on the Winteraceae - Drimys and its relatives.

Fosberg was here Saturday and we had a little time together. Sounds like an interesting trip to Colombia he is planning.

Best regards,

A C Smith



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Otto Degener,
Botanical Garden Arms,
2995 Botanical Garden Square,
New York City

Civilian Public Service Camp No. 23, Coshocton, Ohio

October 12, 1942

Dear Otto:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of the 10th. If you do not mind, I will wait till I hear definitely if I am to get my transfer to the Phila. Acad. before I ask my wife to send the plants to me. I could do them so much better there. I will be glad IF I get to Phila. I imagine it would be courteous for me to give the first set of your plants to that herbarium. Would that be O.K. with you? I keep no herbarium myself and here we keep only Ohio specimens. All the rest, including unicats, I'll return to you as per your request and you can distribute them as you will. If there are any verbs I imagine you will, however, let me keep them and distribute them myself. Thanks for your good wishes. I had hoped to honeymoon in Hawaii with you, but the fates willed it otherwise. I recently sent Steere 2 boxes of mosses to name - no answer yet. Has he not yet for Colombia? I hope not! I am MOST anxious to get those mosses identified before he goes. Best wishes! *Hard*

SMITH COLLEGE
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Barrett Place
Oct. 2, 1942

10/2/42

Dear Mr. Degener:-

Thank you for the article which has just come to me in your hand. Writing. What must it be to have so many plants named for one!! I think from the address in the corner you may be in New York so I am going to send this there. Why not drift up to Amherst and make a side trip to Smith? When I was in Honolulu in spring of 1941 you were in Fiji so I could not present you with this check and ask if you would replace it with one to me for I had paid the book or whatever it was

with my money, not the College's.

How different things must be in Honolulu?
I had a note from Mrs. Hemmings the
other day, sending me a cutting from the
paper about the University. Something is
distinctly wrong there if I wonder!

I wrote along a note at a time in
Gillian anatomy & Dietox plumes, but have
neither paper ready for publication and
Dec. with its cold is approaching when I
hasten to depart for a warmer country
would it could be Honolulu.

Many thanks with my Aloha
Frances Grace Smith

7/29/42

C.F.S. Camp No. 25,
Coshocton, Ohio
Sept. 29, 1942

Dear Otto,

Thank you so much for your lovely long letter of the 22nd, and also for the gift of those two valuable reprints: (1) Fijian Plant Studies, II and (2) Degereriaceae, a new family of flowering plants from Fiji. These will form most valued additions to my library. Please accept my congratulations on the new species, genus, and FAMILY which now bear your name! It is very fitting and appropriate recognition of your self-sacrificing labors on Pacific Island botany.

I did not feel at all badly at not having an answer to my June 18th letter until now, for I realized that your mail would probably not be forwarded, for you would not have any permanent addresses to which it could be forwarded, and Wittrock told me in his letters that you had not yet arrived at the Garden. In fact, he had just written me that you had finally arrived at the Garden, and, lo, the next day came your long and so very friendly letter. Thank you so much. It certainly did cheer me up. I had just had a very scathing one from Dr. Merrill in which he hinted strongly that the Board (of which he is a member) would not re-hire me after the war and that my career as a botanist is ended. He stated that if he were in my position and felt unable to take up arms and fight for America, he would renounce his citizenship and get out of the country for good - if any other country would have him! So, you see, I think he feels rather strongly on the subject. However, I am happy to see that the current JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN has my name back on the list of staff - which relieves my mind a bit.

It is a matter of deep regret to me to learn of your trouble with your foot. I hope it clears up soon. Perhaps it will make you ineligible for the army -- let us hope so. A career as valuable and important as yours to Science and Human Culture should not be interrupted even for the slightest period! By all means, use all the time that you have remaining to get your Pacific Islands material in shape. As for the U.S.A. collections, I would be happy to identify them as best I can for you, although I do not think I will be able to do them here since I have so few books here and no herbarium material for comparison (unless you have many Ohio specimens). However, I am still hoping to get a transfer to the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences (please keep this under your hat; please do not tell anyone of it, for I would not put it past some to try to "queer" my chances there for me) to work under Dr. Pennell's supervision. If so, then I'll be able to handle all your material almost as soon as I get my transfer. Would you be willing to let me hold them that long? If so, you could send them to my wife - Mrs. Harold N. Moldenke, 651 East 226th Street, Bronx - and she will bring them out to me just as soon as I get the Philadelphia transfer (IF I get it). If I do not get it and have to stay here, I will have books sent out to me and will see how many I can identify for you here. Can you tell me about how

many there are, by states? Will you want me to report the names to you by number, or would you care to give me all the duplicates, too, and rely on my distributing the material for you in accordance to any directions you may give me? I would be very willing to do this for you, if you are not in a hurry, for, as you see, the speed with which I can do it will depend on if I get a transfer or not.

The places you mention as having visited - in California, Utah, Wyoming, the Dakotas - I also visited, in more carefree days, and I remember my thrills at seeing those western plants in situ! It is a grand country that we are living in. I wish I could travel around in it all the time! And to Hawaii and Alaska, too, of course! I, too, did much of my cross-country travelling by Grayhound bus - riding only during the day when I could see the countryside. My trip to the Black Hills, Wind Cave, etc., however, was done in private car.

It certainly was most generous of you to give away so many of your books and to give so much to the Garden outright and in your will. I do not know exactly why you do it, for I think you could command and get a good price for much of your valuable material. However, that is your affair, and you certainly are to be commended for your great generosity and self-sacrificing goodwill. Innumerable botanists and botanical institutions should be deeply indebted to you.

The Station's herbarium here is now over the 2,000 mark! My list of the flora of the area now has over 1300 different species and varieties on it! I hope to publish it in mimeographed form for the Station shortly and follow this by a complete annotated list of all the material in the herbarium in some botanical journal which will still accept articles from the likes of me. Some 25 specialists in various groups are cooperating with me in the identification of my specimens and so I think I have pretty accurate identifications on most of them. There are some quite rare ones among them and many new records for this part of the state, - in fact, a number of new records for the state. I have also discovered 5 or 6 forms which I regard worthy of description as new forms or varieties.

Well, Otto, good friend, I must sign off now and write my wife. You know, I suppose, that I was married on September 2nd at Havre-de-Grace, Md. I had ten days' furlough (Sept. 1 to 10) and we took our honeymoon in driving through Del., Md., Penna., N.J., and N.Y. We collected over 500 specimens during that time, including several I had never collected before in my life. My wife teaches biology, zoology, and first aid at Evander Childs High School, is Sec. of the Hunter College Alumnae Association, and director of a summer camp in the Berkshires for underprivileged city children.

Take care of yourself and write me when you get the time. As ever,

your sincere friend,

Harold [Moldenke] H. M.

9/24/42

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Sept. 24, 1942

Dear Degener,

I was glad to get your letter of Sept. 21. I hope you are now well settled in New York and find it pleasant there. I don't recall exactly where you are living, but is it the big apartment right across the tracks from the Garden? That should be very convenient.

I have made a few brief notes for the distribution of your specimens, as enclosed, but of course this can be revised any way you suggest. Do you think that sets 2, 7, 8, and 9 (totalling probably about 4000 specimens) is sufficient recompense to the N.Y. B.G. for the amount they financed your trip? I don't know what this was, but the specimens are certainly worth 15 cents each for the first set and between 5 - 10 cents for the duplicates. As to the remaining sets, we are willing to try to sell these for you (but no herbaria have money for specimens right now), or give them away in your name - as a gift from you, not ~~from~~ from the Arboretum, or send them in exchange from the Arboretum. As a matter of fact, this "exchange" business is just another way of sending gifts, because every institution is in debt to us. Of course, it is a good way to build up good will, and this is what we have in mind - also putting the sets where they will be most consulted.

Unless you have some good reasons, such as obligations, to send material elsewhere, I think the order listed is pretty good, as it will put the biggest sets where they will be most often consulted. If you really want to send a set to the Dept. Agriculture, we had better not send one to Smithsonian (Nat. Herb.), for it seems silly to have two sets in Washington. Personally, I think it should go to Smithsonian, which is after all the National Herbarium, unless you definitely want it to go to the D. A. We have sent thousands of sheets lately to the latter place, as they want to build up a general herbarium for comparison of recently collected material. But ~~there~~ interest in such a remote spot as Fiji (except for Fosberg) is distinctly limited.

In regard to the distribution, let me know: (1) Are you satisfied that we are proposing to send enough to N.Y.? (2) Is the proposed order o.k.? (3) To which institutions shall we offer the material as your personal gift? (4) Shall we try to sell some? In the latter case, we would have to offer sets to the first bidder, and consequently the order would be entirely different, unless we hold some out for definite purposes. I expect to start sorting in a couple of weeks.

I turned over all the cryptogams to the Farlow herbarium, with the understanding that they will be made up into sets and distributed as we suggest. The mosses are already named by Bartram, and a set will be sent to N. Y. (set 2) and whatever other institutions we decide upon.

Probably you have the reprints now. I hope they reached you o.k. Yes, I think you may be the only living botanist to have a family named for him. At least I can't recall any other. You certainly picked up a remarkable plant, and only a very brave man will try to reduce it, unless some dimwit decides that all the Ranales are one family.

We sent a copy of Sargentia to Mrs. A. but it may have missed her. If so, maybe you will send one, or let me know, as we certainly want her to see it (and to note the dedication). The second number is now in page proof - a treatment of the Chinese Araliaceae by one of our students.

There are probably other things to be discussed, and I hope you will still find time to come up, perhaps after you get your work outlined you will find a few days. Tell me if your set arrived o.k. If not, we will hold set 3 and shift the others down. Too bad I sent it to Honolulu, as handling doesn't help the material, and now you will have the bother of adding names to the labels.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

ACS. [Smith]

Proposed distribution of Degener Fijian collection

Set

1. Arnold Arboretum

2. N. Y. Bot. Gard. (this is the set already sent to Degener; labeled but not named. List of names will be sent for addition to labels).
3. Kew [good idea to hold best available set for them, although we probably will receive no exchange for it. Certainly has the best collection from the region and is the most consulted herbarium for Fijian plants].
4. Bishop [doubtless next most extensive collection from Fiji, and your plants would be most useful here; they have been sending us duplicates lately. Suggest holding set, at least until after war, and using as a club].
5. California [already has best Fijian material in U. S. and should be kept up in this field. They are likely to have good exchanges in future and are cooperative].
6. U. S. Nat. Herb. [I think only one set should go to Washington; no use of duplication in U. S. N. H. and U. S. D. A. Nobody in latter inst. except Fosberg is interested, and he would have to consult Nat. Herb. continually when working on Fiji].
- 7, 8, 9. Sets for New York, to dispose of as they wish.
10. St. Louis.
11. Field.
12. Berlin.
13. Paris.
14. Geneva.
15. Michigan.
16. Stockholm.

9/22/42



BOTANIC MUSEUM AND HERBARIUM,

BOTANIC GARDENS

BRISBANE. 22nd September, 1942.

Dear Mr. Degener,

I am writing to you at New York as in your last letter to me you said that you had booked reservations on the Clipper from Hawaii so I presume by this time you have settled down at the Botanic Gardens. You mention Mrs. Clemens in your letter. The old lady came safely out of New Guinea about nine months ago. I had a ring from the Tourist Bureau last New Year's Eve to say there was a lady from New Guinea and that the only person she knew anything of in Australia was myself. I took her home for a few days and she now has accommodation at the Salvation Army Home at Brisbane. She has enough money and I think should get into better quarters, but as you know she has a very religious turn and I think rather likes the atmosphere though the place she is staying at is really a temporary home for destitutes. A couple of days after her arrival I took her up to the American Consul but he would not recognise her American Citizenship as her husband, though a U.S. Army Chaplain, had been born in England. He had gone to the States as a baby and always regarded himself as an American. However, as the law stood she was regarded as an English woman. I wrote over to Merrill and he got in touch through friends of his with the Department of State, with the consequence that her citizenship has now been cleared up. The Consul here, who is a very fine man, said he would arrange for her to have a passage back on one of the American transports, travelling I understand under the same conditions as she used to travel under when her husband was alive. She told him she thought she would remain till the end of the war; goodness knows how long that will be.

I have given her a room at the back of the Herbarium building to continue her botanical work. She did quite a lot for a time but latterly seems to spend much of her time in religious studies and contents herself with collecting a few rusts. She seems perfectly happy and has plenty of money for her meagre needs.

I think you are wise to have turned over your collections to the New York Botanical Gardens. Are any duplicates being kept in Hawaii?

You seem to feel very strongly on the colour question and I think a lot of Americans, and Australians too for that matter, feel with you. I was interested in the photograph of Mrs. Roosevelt going up the lift and discussing things with negroes and negresses. Judging by the attitude of Americans here in Australia, however, I certainly should not say they treated coloured people as equals.

You say that Mr. Meebold was well and living in the Young Hotel. Where is the Young Hotel, in America or Hawaii? The old chap certainly had a very charming disposition and I have very pleasant recollections of him. I took him out botanising in several places in south east Queensland and named a number of specimens for him. On his return to Munich he sent me a very fine rucksack. This was about ten years ago or little more. It has been in constant use ever since and still has plenty of life left in it. Would he be interned if living in America or an American country? I take it he would not have become naturalised.

With kind regards,

Yours truly,

G. T. White

G. T. WHITE.

Mr. Otto Degener,
New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park,
NEW YORK. N.Y.
U.S.A.

9/21/42

P. O. SCHALLERT
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
OFFICE: 267-4 O'HANLON BUILDING
PHONE 8544 WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

Sept. 21, 1942.

Dr. Otto Degener, -
New York, N.Y.

Dear Friend Degener, - Your very welcome letter was duly received and I am glad to note that you have finally arrived in N.Y. to carry on your cherished work in Botany. You are to be congratulated for the very fine and important work that you have done in this great field, and I am glad that you are getting the well-deserved recognition for you have spent many years in this service.

I am sending to your present address a package containing 868 specimens, coming mostly from N.C., to Fla. Thus far I have sent to you 1249 specimens and you have sent me 705, leaving 544 still coming to me. However you can send me any duplicates that you may have available from time to time, as for instance those that you suggested. I have none from the Fiji at all and these would be very interesting to me. Likewise any exotics are always acceptable. It seems that no matter how busy I am at my profession I always find time to do something about my herbarium and my plants. Then too often people come to me with all kinds of growths and expect me to identify them, which I usually succeed in doing by sending the specimens to some specialist if I can't identify it; thus I learn too. You mention the plants that you collected going from the West coast to N.Y.; no doubt you can get these identified there in N.Y. for surely they must have duplicates of about every such plant collected.

This is one trip that I surely will make via auto when once this war has been won; taking the southern trip in March, and coming back by the northern route.

OFFICE MOVED TO
RESIDENCE 1820 S. MAIN ST.

P. O. SCHALLERT
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
OFFICE: 207-4 O'HANLON BUILDING
PHONE 2544 WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

I have about a dozen packages of duplicates of from 300 to 400 specimens which I would like to exchange with others, so that if you know of any institution or person who is interested please let me know and I will send them one of these packages.

I do not know just when I will come to N.Y. as I am trying to get into some of the various medical defense forces. Thus far I have always been turned down on account of my age, although I surely do not look nor feel any older than when I was 45 years of age. So I must try and try again. We have no defense industry here of any kind and this is forcing workers away from this place every week to find good jobs elsewhere. This gives us too many M.D.'s here although 10 doctors have left for the armed forces and several more will soon follow.

Just this morning I received a letter from my brother in California and he is trying to get me located out there in some of the defense industrial centers. This I am trying to do. If such a thing materializes, then I would come to N.Y. to do some post graduate work.

However I fear that if I leave here that I will have to sell my large herbarium as it is getting even too large to house properly in this very large house of ours. My 50,000 specimens are all mounted on sheets mostly 12 by 18 inches, except that the lower orders are in envelopes, etc.

I hope that you will receive the specimens I am sending you by exp. prepaid and that they will prove interesting to you. Yours very truly
P.O. Schallert.

P.O. Schallert

8-1

7/7/42? Nassau, Bahamas Aug. 17. Dear Otto
I had a post card for you for Sam
Francis Co. with a picture of you and
an assistant one in your pocket &
the post & press your last of August
the botanical friend - but I shall
there - I plan to arrive in Washington
Aug. 18: I wish you could come there
some time soon, they at my house.
My son John, his little girl are
living there now, he is working in the
office of Intn. American Affairs - you
should see my garden there some
150 palms, trees for the Dutch West
Indies, etc. - I am having great
fun with it - but the rains are making
further work difficult - until November
I remain Sincerely
yours
Archibald

8/31/42

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Aug. 31, 1942

Dear Degener,

Dr. Merrill showed me your letter of Aug. 25 from St. Louis, from which we gather that you will soon be in New York. You have been having quite a jaunt through the States, and I hope it has been a pleasant visit. I am looking forward to seeing you up here sometime after you get settled at N. Y. We have packed up 100 copies of Sargentia and also 100 reprints of the new family, and this package is ready to send when you want it. I shall wait to hear that you want me to send it to N. Y. If you are going to send these copies to people who might already have received a copy, either by subscription or as a reprint from me, perhaps we had better get together on this and avoid duplication. Probably, however, you will send your copies to people who are not my correspondents. In Fiji, I sent copies of Sargentia only to Parham, Reay, and Greenwood. Also sent to Parham the mounted specimens indicated by you (about 30 sheets which you had requested us to mount and send).

I have been awaiting your arrival in the east to get to work on the sorting of your stuff into sets, as there are several points to be cleared up. Now I have the time to do this and want to start in a few weeks. So far all your duplicate material is arranged in numerical order, and it won't be much work to throw it into sets, except that all the newspaper will have to be replaced (you remember that you weren't using exactly Grade AA paper toward the end?). The duplicate labels are all written. In sorting such collections I always make a record of what each set contains and will do so in this case. We will have to decide which sets are going to be offered for sale, which we can use for exchange, and which NY is to use for exchange. What about the set I sent to you in Honolulu? The original idea was for you to turn this over to Bishop (eventually), but perhaps you have now decided to deposit it at NY. Another thing I would like to know is: are you indebted to the Bureau of Plant Industry for a set? I know that they won't be able to buy a set, but if you want to send them one in exchange (or as a gift) I should like to know, in order to hold out of that set the numerous numbers which I have already sent Fosberg (for identification).

Please get in touch with me when you reach NY. I am keeping your plants out of the herbarium for the time being, so you can look through them when you come up here.

Sincerely,

A. C. Smith

received
9/21/42

7/30/42



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts State College

Amherst

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY AND ZOOLOGY

July 30, 1942

Dr. Otto Degener
New York Botanical Gardens
Bronx Park, New York City

My dear Otto:

I have just returned from an extended vacation spent in the western United States, and upon my return found the various packages of crane-flies that you had sent from the Sequoia National Park and other places in the West. I have not had the chance to examine all this material as yet but can assure you that it will be of great value. I believe that I had mentioned in earlier letters that beginning in 1934 we had begun an intensive survey of the insects in general, and the crane-flies in particular, of the entire Rocky Mountain system. My present trip investigated the mountains of the various states closest to the Mexican Border. Unfortunately the present disturbed conditions of the country would seem to make it impossible to continue this survey for some years to come.

I surely hope that you will be able to visit Amherst sometime while you are in the East, and all of us will be more than delighted to renew our acquaintance of the past.

I have not been able to do much on the extended paper concerning the Fiji crane-flies but hope that during the coming winter I shall be able to continue this.

With all best wishes and regards,

As ever yours,

Charles [P. Alexander]

C. P. Alexander
CPA/K

answered
9/15/42

6/18/42

TELEPHONE BGDWICK 3-3200

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK (FORDHAM BRANCH P. O.)
NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRESIDENT
JOSEPH R. SWAN

VICE-PRESIDENTS
HENRY DEK. BALDWIN
JOHN L. MERRILL

TREASURER
ARTHUR M. ANDERSON

DIRECTOR
WILLIAM J. ROBBINS

Civilian Public Service Camp No. 23,
Fresno, Ohio
June 18, 1942

Dear Otto,

Thank you so much for your card of June 8th, which was forwarded to me by my fiancée.

I am so very, very relieved to learn that you are safe and back in the U.S.A. again, and apparently well and happy. I have been so worried about you. It is good to know that you succeeded in getting an assistant back with you, too.

The draft took me from my work on March 19th and sent me to this camp for Conscientious Objectors, where I have been ever since and probably will remain for the duration. When you get to the Garden you will find quite some ill-feeling toward me because of my stand on this and other matters. I have been given "leave of absence" but notice that my name has been dropped from the staff. One of my "colleagues" on the Garden staff pointedly insulted me when I said good-bye; another has written me a very caustic letter and intimated that he wants nothing further to do with me and refuses to examine or identify any specimens that I send him or his group for determination. Three other Staff members refuse even to acknowledge my letters or answer me. One, I hear indirectly, is spreading all manner of vile lies about me, including that I regularly steal information from other staff members and publish it as my own! One of the staff members at the Garden has said that all C.O.s (including me, I suppose) ought to be taken out and shot, as traitors.

I am, as you can see, not at all sure that I will or will want to come back to the Garden after the war. I may then be out looking for a new job, who knows?

We have 175 men here — all fine, upstanding, intelligent, deeply sincere and religious, and loyally American. There are about a dozen naturalists, including 4 botanists, a nurseryman, and a forester. We have 4 Ph.D.s and scores of college graduates. We work mostly at a U.S. Dept. Agr. soil conservation station, where I am in charge of the herbarium (have built it up from 224 sheets to 965 already) and the ecologic plant-counts. We also do a pile of physical work, tree-planting, running a stone quarry, etc. I will write you more after I know you are back at the Garden and you give me a home address. I'd rather write you to your home address than to the Garden.

Please write me, for it is terrible being away from all my friends and loved ones and from my beloved work.

As ever,
your sincere friend,

Harold

6/16/42

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN
MASS.

June 16, 1942

Dear Degener:

I have just received a very nice letter from Dr. Buck on the botanical exchanges in which he accepts my proposition in toto. Bryan is away, active service with the army; they are short handed of course, but Miss Neal has been directed to spend a part of each day segregating duplicates for us. So it has worked out very well indeed and I hope that I can report further progress in the not distant future in the form of actual receipts of specimens !

Hastily

E.D. Merrill
E.D. Merrill

ch.
g

575/42

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

June 5, 1942

Dear Degener:

^{later} (May 24) Your letter of May 6 just arrived, but I had read a previous one stating that you were at last "on your way" and that you would be in New York shortly. I am to be in N.Y. for a few days following June 22, for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Torrey Botanical Club. Have let myself get hooked for a paper to be presented at the program at the N.Y. Bot. Garden on 25th I think. Hope you will get to N.Y. by then for I doubt if I get to town again until the fall.

Passed your request on to Smith who will take care of the 100 reprints, both of the Sargentia number and the one on the new family Degeneriaceae; you ought to puff up like a toad to have a brand new family named in your honor! Smith finished the proofs on the rather large Fiji paper today and they go back to the printer; so in the not distant future the thing should be off the press. Will be about 150 pages. Am dedicating this first number to Anne Archbold in the hopes that she may be interested enough to help us publish an additional number or so; have sufficient data in hand for two more numbers finished with other stuff coming up. Can print one more, possibly two with what I have.

No response from the B. shon Museum on the "exchange" matter. Thanks for the extra information in that the specimens were all mounted. This makes quite a difference, and I will follow the matter up in a us time.

Do they serve salamakundi at the "Mother Goose Kindergarten"?

Very truly yours

E. D. Merrill

572/42
7. H. W. H.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
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Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

May 2, 1942

Dear Degener:

On my return from Philadelphia and Washington I find your letter of April 3, with enclosure. I have sent the check for \$100.00 to the treasurer's office requesting that this be added to our special publication fund and that an official receipt be sent to you in care of the New York Botanical Garden; when you connect with this receipt keep it as it will enable you to deduct the \$100.00 on your Federal Income Tax returns! My personal thanks. Have told Smith to raise the edition of the Fiji paper by 100 and that 100 copies are to be placed at your disposal in spite of the fact that you will be "in competition" with the AA on sales. However, they are yours to do as you please with them. The paper in in press and we have had the first two galleys to check as to form etc. It should be out by the end of June I suppose. Might be a good idea to sort of pepper Fiji with copies from your stock, i.e., if the Japs or Nips don't beat us to it!

Your material forms the basis of No. 1 of SARGENTIA which replaces our old series "Contributions from the Arnold Arboretum". In a week or so I am going to send out a series of letters to likely prospects to see if I cannot build up a modest fund to be expended for future issues of Sargentia. I have more than enough to cover the cost of the first number already and in spite of the unfavorable times will certainly receive some contributions from AA supporters. I think we now have enough material in sight for four or five additional numbers in the form of papers too large for Journal items, including my screed on Hainan (partly joint with Metcalf), Li's thesis (Araliaceae of China) Chen's thesis (Sabiaceae, if she ever finishes it), Merrill-Chen Ormosia of eastern Asia; Howard's thesis on the Icacinaceae, etc. Now if you do feel the urge to contribute more, all well and good, but please keep in mind that the "market" for sets of duplicate plants is thoroughly shot both at home and abroad, and that there will be no improvement "for the duration" whether the war be long or short. Smith will do the very best he can with the duplicate sets, but we cannot be too optimistic on sales of sets just now! So I am a "shylock" instead of being God's (botanical) representative on earth! I'll admit that the return's on an expenditure of three cents was high, but this increment will be used in the good cause and not to support any wild parties. Smith, who hasn't too strongly developed sense of humor comments "Considering the \$100.00 is not a gift but is sent to purchase reprints, I think his accusation of you is unjustified" Ho hum. Now after this exposition if you really do wish to take a chance on sending more, please feel free to do so.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

All institutions and organizations interested in technical publication are thoroughly up against it under existing conditions, and the AA is no exception, although I did have enough free funds to start off Sargentia with a large paper based on your collections and hope to publish several more in the near future. My technique in writing begging letters is to make an initial contribution from my own salary --really a bona fide one and not a gesture-- with the hope of impressing individuals with much larger incomes that I have that I am really convinced that the project is worthy of support ! I did this on the Chen Fellowship and on the special fund I raised to take care of Verdoorn of Chronica Botanica fame.

Smith says last lot from Fiji 20 numbers, perhaps 150 specimens came from Aloisio Tabuelewa; so far we have received nothing from Timoci Bebe. He is inclined to think that you pay too much for this service, but with the money in Miss "eay's hands she will probably see that you get value received. She knows what should be done and probably knows the promising localities in which further collecting should be done.

I can "unload" funds for collecting through the AA if it be provided for this purpose and if conditions continue favorable. All gifts for immediate expenditure are extra-budgetary with us and balances carry over from year to year until a fund is exhausted.

I wrote to Dr. Buck some time ago regarding our botanical assets now deposited in the Bishop Museum, and for which we hold the receipts. Gave him the totals in our holdings (i.e. total number of sheets) and suggested an exchange in kind from various parts of Polynesia, named or unnamed, but have had no answer as yet.

The original of this letter goes to you in New York. I'm to be in N.Y. on 18th, and probably again late in May or early in June

Very truly yours

E.D. Merrill

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.

LANGLOIS HERBARIUM

March 30, 1942

Mr. Otto Degener,
Wailua, Oahu,
Hawaii

Dear Mr. Degener:

Many thanks for your post card and the bundle of plants which arrived a few days ago. I must thank you for the gift of so many interesting specimens. I had planned to send you a few of my own specimens in appreciation and would like to know whether I should send those to the New York Botanical Garden to be added to your collection. I was glad to hear that you had met some acquaintances of mine on the Samoan Islands. The Marists who have 30 missionaries ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ on the Samoan Islands, have their house of studies here. I often see your friend Dr. Fosberg.

On account of lack of space and war conditions we are discontinuing all purchase of specimens except Cyperaceae. Please send us no more plants except they are Cyperaceae.

I have ready to send you two boxes of ^{year} Cyperaceae which I have determined. Shall I send these to the N. Y. Botanical Garden in care of your name?

Sincerely yours,

Hugh B. Hall

Note !!!

Answer
5/8/42

3/30/42

3/14/42

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN
MASS.

March 14, 1942

Dear Degener:

Just before I left for Florida I told Smith to assemble all of the data appertaining to Fiji and prepare it for a single large paper to start off "Sargentia" which is planned to replace the "Contributions from the Arnold Arboretum" and I have an idea that the MS will be ready to send to the printer within a couple of months or so. Rough estimate is somewhere between 166 and 150 pages, with the new descriptions, new records, keys to species in certain critical groups, notes on nomenclature etc. This I can publish as I started a special publication fund recently to which I have received two voluntary donations amounting to \$ 250.00, and will probably write to a selected list of individuals (if I can get permission to do so) with view to building this up to at least \$ 1000.00. The psychology of such appeals in these uncertain times is that I kick in a fairly liberal donation as a salaried individual to prove that I have confidence in the cause! I still have another extra-budgetary account to draw upon in the form of profits from the sale of duplicate books, for a couple of years ago I purchased, unseen a private library (botanical-horticultural) for the magnificent sum of \$ 225.00, and the profits on this transaction have been scandalous---- I don't feel so badly about it because my offer was \$ 100.00 more than that of a Boston dealer, so everybody but the dealer is satisfied, and he doesn't know just what kind of a gold mine he missed. I put a number of items on our shelves, one of which is now offered by dealers at more than I paid for the entire library. A, m I a shylock? No, because when I listed the items I placed the individual prices at somewhere between what a dealer would pay and what he would sell for, so the "profits"

were all velvet for the AA. Eventually this wind-fall, that I may use for any purpose, will exceed \$1000.00 but I am earmarking it for special publication purposes, with four of five papers in various stages of completion to go into the new series.

Smith and Bailey are working on one very anomalous specimen representing a species that Smith collected in fruit, and which you got in flower and it looks now as if this would come out as an entirely new family, in the Magnoliaceae complex. As you know new families are scarcer than hens teeth except by "splitting" previously defined groups; but this isn't a "split" because nothing like it has been included in any previous work.

I wrote to Mrs. Archbold, sending her a partial list of the novelties and explaining briefly what I proposed to do re. publication, and this pleased her very much. As you know you made a very good impression on her anyway, and this special publication to come out, with various new species dedicated to her, may be about the only published results of the famous expedition!

A couple of packages came in from your collector in Fiji yesterday and these have been turned over to Smith for identification etc. I'm busy making preliminary identifications of the Clemens New Guinea material coming to me through Bartlett at Ann Arbor. Incidentally C.T. White writes from Brisbane that she was evacuated from New Guinea and is at present in Brisbane with her duffle stored in White's office at the Botanical Garden. Just what the future has in store for her no lo se but I got quite a kick out of White's statement that she "considers Elmer D. Merrill to be God's representative on earth"---so you see what I have to live up to!

Very truly yours

E.D. Merrill

210

3/2/42

Service Lot No. 2874
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

March 2, 1942

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua
Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Degener:

Thank you very much for the sending of Compositae, which will be turned in to the National Arboretum herbarium. *S.F.B.*

Your No. 12633 is Elephantopus mollis H.B.K. (not "E. scaber").
No. 12416 is Ambrosia artemisiifolia L., which I regard as identical with A. elatior and a valid name for the species.

I suspect that conditions in Hawaii have put an end to botanical exploration. We all hope that the War will be finished soon.

Very sincerely yours,

S. F. Blake

S. F. Blake
Senior Botanist

SFB:BWG

12/9/41

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
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Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Peterham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

Dec. 9, 1941

Dear Degener:

"War in the Pacific" to say nothing of the bombing of Honolulu reminds me that I have not answered your letter of Nov. 28! Looks from here as though Pacific botany would rest on its laurels for a time, for with everything now pointing to a real war, we can hardly expect that botanical exploration and the shipment of botanical material will follow normal lines! Anyway, Hawaii, like Manila, must be a somewhat exciting place in which to live.

I note what you write about your trials and troubles re. your Fijian protegee, but imagine that difficulties placed in your path, in your efforts to get his "release" will be increased through the efforts of the petty bureaucrats, and apparently in Fiji they are developed to the nth degree! Also note your statement regarding Dr. Buck, the Bishop Museum, his egg laying, your receipts etc. etc. Those should be a real club on occasion, but from the sad experiences I have had with the petty bureaucrats in the B.M. I have an idea that a real club will be needed to move them in the distribution of duplicates. I never had experiences with a more "dog in the manger" attitude than that characteristic of the subordinates of the Bishop Museum! Well, *paciencia*, even if one doesn't expect to live forever! To assemble reference collections, to mount material, digest identifications and to get the material distributed so that specimens may be consulted takes time, and when one waits for fifteen years or more and gets little or nothing on what is presumably a bona fide exchange, one has his doubts.

Smith is concentrating on the Fiji material and I rather think that he is finding plenty of interest as he takes up various groups. Incidentally Williams recently published two new species of orchids, with excellent illustrations, based on your Fiji material. I have asked him to send you copies for your edification and information. Set of your ferns was sent to Copeland but he is in Chico just now and will name the material only if and when he visits Berkeley. I ~~may~~ may make him a modest grant to cover living expenses while he does this job.

Just now I am trying to revise the nomenclature on a lot of botanical "jewelry" just acquired from the Boston Museum of Natural History in the form of 1200 specimens of the old historical Zollinger collection (Java and Japan, circa 1840) and 400 of the Wight collections from India! Also trying to get the large Malayan collection received from Buitenzorg some months ago straightened out and mounted---about 8500 numbers in the lot! Other large task is to get the 2800-number Indo-China collection arranged for study; and of this we have from 4 to 15 duplicates of each number---some bulk. It will probably be a long time before we receive additional material from that country or from China for that matter; certainly not until after the Japs are licked, and this may take some time as the present war is developing.

Very truly

W. H. Sargent

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

11/25/41

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Nov. 25, 1941

Dear Degener,

Your letter of Nov. 8 reached us; thanks for trying to find out from Miss Reay about the Suva Pumping Station. I expect that it is in Rewa Province, if it is within a few miles of Suva - if farther, it may be in Naitasiri.

I hope you will soon get some favorable results in your attempts to bring the Fijian boy to Honolulu. It is hard to get local collectors to work by "remote control," but anything they send will be of interest. Whatever comes in during the next few months I'll just add to your collections and distribute when those are ready. At the rate I am getting on now, the collection should be finished and ready to sort into sets by about March.

It has proved a very interesting task, and I am now working around the Flacourts., E. & P. order, so you can see what progress I am making - probably something like halfway. There were two or three groups which I passed up temporarily, as I shall have to work over your material in connection with the older ones, and probably will publish small revisions. Such groups are the Urticaceae, Melastomes, Phaleria, Hoya, and one or two others. I am borrowing material in order to straighten out these messes properly.

Among the most interesting of your things were: a n. sp. of *Tri-locularia* (first coll. of Balanopsidaceae from Fiji), a couple of new *Pipers*, two new *Annonas*, incl. a species of *Desmos* (genus new to Fiji), three new *Aglaias*, a new *Salacia*, a new *Guioa* (sapind.), a new *Cayratia* (vit.), and two new *Jasminums*. Copeland reports about 4 new ferns. In addition to these, you got several more or less weedy species which hadn't been obtained in Fiji before. I should like to mention these briefly, and you can elaborate on them in your paper. It seems a good idea to get each plant new to the group into the literature.

The very most interesting thing was your no. 14537, which turns out to be a very remarkable new genus. Curiously, I collected the same thing in fruit on Vanua Levu and it remained the only one of my plants which I couldn't place in a family. Various wood specialists didn't know anything like it. Now that we have flowers, fruits, wood, etc., I am getting Prof. I.W. Bailey to work on it with me. We have decided that it goes near the Magnoliaceae (never reported from anywhere near Fiji), but the exact place is still uncertain. It may even turn out to be a new family. Bailey is very excited about it. We are considering the name *Degeneria* for this genus. Have you any objections if we use it? I can assure you that the genus will stand as long as any, as we seldom get anything so distinct. I am not entirely sure that the name hasn't been used before, perhaps too recently to get into the indexes. Please let me know soon whether we have your permission to use *Degeneria*. Probably this will go into a special joint publication, as it will need a long discussion and some illustration.

Well, I guess this is a long enough progress report for the time being. I am naming a couple of "Archboldianas" and "Degeneris" and a species for each of your boys, as you suggested. By January I'll send you a fairly complete list of determinations for your set. I should like to wait until the specialists with big groups, like rubs. and ferns, report.

It is getting to be winter here and I would like to be in Honolulu.

Mbula vinaka, etc.

A. C. Smith

11/19/41

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

CITRUS EXPERIMENT STATION
DIVISION OF ORCHARD MANAGEMENT
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

November 19, 1941

Professor Otto Degener
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Professor Degener:

I have had the opportunity and the pleasure of consulting from time to time your work, "The Botany of Hawaii." I am especially interested in the introduced species of the genus *Ficus*. I do not know how much work has been done on this subject with the exception of that done by Dr. Lyons when the species was introduced for reforestation purposes.

I am trying to straighten out the nomenclature of the different species of *Ficus* which are found here and there in southern California, both out of doors and as specimen plants in pots. I also spent some time in Florida last year studying the collection at the Plant Introduction Gardens near Miami. Any key which is used here would probably have to be largely based on vegetative characters. Some species, of course, develop fruit freely but these all drop before maturing. I visited a nurseryman near Los Angeles last week and found that he was growing a species labeled *Ficus nitida*, which he claims he had grown from seed collected in Hawaii about three years previously. These plants are similar to *Ficus nitida* in foliage but the leaves are larger and the plants have a graceful drooping habit which is very ornamental. Ordinarily I believe trees of *Ficus nitida* are upright in habit of growth, although I presume there are many variations in habit.

There are three species which are somewhat similar in foliage and which apparently are rather difficult to distinguish one from the other except possibly in habit of growth. These three are *Ficus nitida*, *F. eugenioides*, and *F. benjamina*. Are all three of these commonly grown in Honolulu? If so could you suggest any method to distinguish

Professor Otto Degener
November 19, 1941
Page 2

them by vegetative characteristics? What other species are commonly grown for ornamental purposes in and around Honolulu? I spent three weeks on the islands in 1934 but was not at that time in position to make any careful study of the species of Ficus.

I shall appreciate hearing from you and getting some suggestions regarding methods of distinguishing the different forms.

Very truly yours,

Ira J. Condit

Ira J. Condit
Associate Professor
Subtropical Horticulture

IJC:a

P. S. L. W. Bryan, Forester, Hilo, has been kind enough to send me several species he has propagated. Dr. Lyons sent me several some few years ago.

10/7/42

Skyways

PUBLISHED BY HENRY PUBLISHING COMPANY
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA - NEW YORK, N. Y.
TELEPHONE COLUMBUS 5-1904

255 Pleasant Street,
Pasadena, California,
October 7, 1942.

Dear Otto Degener
Of Degeneriaceae fam. nov.,
Degeneria gen. nov.,
Astronidium Degeneri sp. nov.,
Cinnamomum Degeneri,
Cleidion Degeneri,
Cryptocarya Degeneri,
Dolicholobium oblongifolium var. Degeneri Fosberg, var. nov.,
Flacourtia Degeneri,
Freycinetia Degeneri,
Jasminium Degeneri Kobuski sp. nov.,
Odontochilus Degeneri,
Piper Degeneri,
Psychotria Degeneri Fosberg sp. nov.,
Tectaria Degeneri:

Many thanks for the two brochures--DEGENERIACEAE, A NEW FAMILY OF FLOWERING PLANTS FROM FIJI; SARGENTIA I FIJIAN PLANT STUDIES II.

Mrs. Slaten and I appreciate deeply your thoughtfulness in sending them and also your inscribing them as you did. We join in congratulating you on your well-earned honors. Surely they must be a satisfaction to even your own unassuming self. We are very happy and proud. More power to you, and may your shadow never grow less!

I see that in my squib sent to Mr. Allen I unpardonably misspelled the name of your new family, leaving out the "i". Must have had a blind spot--don't know any other explanation for the blunder. Still, the "i" wouldn't seem to be required--it isn't in Piperaceae--but maybe there's a rule that the inserted "i" shows that the family is named after a person, as Piperaceae, of course, is not. I'm sending a correction to Mr. Allen, but it may not get there in time, should he be using the editorial.

The first issue--Volume I, Number 1, of SKYWAYS is out. Hope you see a copy.

Mrs. Slaten and I join in felicitations and affectionate greetings. All good luck in every way, say we.

Faithfully yours,

M. Matfield Slaten

WEST COAST OFFICE • 2601 CENTURY BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

11/3/41



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts State College

Agricultural Experiment Station

Amherst

Nov. 3, 1941.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Dear Otto D.

For weeks I have had you on my conscience as one to whom I owed a letter in reply to the fine ones which you sent me from Fiji and from Hawaii after you returned there. But work presses and my health is not what it was twenty years ago. Doctor Crampton remarked recently that the body machinery was beginning to creak. He, too, has not been well. Perhaps the two of us should go out and "get well oiled". I bet if we rolled into Amherst in the middle of the night singing "Sweet Adeline" it would stir these sluggish burghers!

Presumably you are turning out new species so fast that the presses of Hawaii get overheated publishing them. Well, if fame is any consolation to the tired worker, you have it, because you are certainly the best-known botanist on the Islands: your books have done that for you.

All the specimens you gave us in the past, along with the German exchanges and Mr. Topping's ferns, are safely poisoned and mounted, though unfortunately, most of the recent ones have to be wrapped up and stored in the attic waiting for the day when we can get cases for them. As matters look now, and particularly with steel almost unobtainable, it isn't likely to be in my day, though we might use boxes and stack them in their correct family sequence. However they are safe, barring floods, fires and bombs, and a new day may come. Still I wonder if it will. Perhaps I have read too many convincing books like Spengler, Berdyaev and Cassel which all set forth the thesis that we are facing an "Untergang des Abendlandes". The opposing proposition, that science and democracy are going upward and onward forevermore, till "albaster cities shine undimmed by human tears", seems to me sheer bunk. Anyone who reads or who listens to radio addresses, must realize that our American democratic structure is already riddled with cracks and fissures. Capital and labor are in a death grip; labor is split into two ugly camps; New Deal Professors are out to wreck private business; pressure groups are rail-roading their pet projects through Congress; Fifth Columnists are playing havoc with morale, and all the crack-pot reformers are having an open season. Wherever one looks—to state, church, or school, it is just one God-awful muddle and mess. Practically everything that Americans believe in is wrong and will have to be changed. A good deal of it can be laid at the door of agnostic science with its teaching of our beast-origin, its stimuli to soft, sensual living, and its mockery of man's spiritual aspirations. I fear that another dark ages will be our fate. Perhaps a good leader could save us—a man possessed of insight, intelligence and the power to destroy evil, as well as to dominate the scientific and sociological dope-dreamers. Hitler may yet prove a blessing in disguise: men will soon be forced to choose whether they prefer to serve God or Satan.

Mrs. Fearing keeps in touch with your old friend, Mrs. Taki who, by the way, is now Mrs. Bridge. Takihashi is no name to be flying in America now, and so her boys had it changed to the English equivalent "Bridge". Fritz is in the army, but Leo is married and is doing social work in New York. I hear that he is expecting an addition to his family, so it appears that the F₁ generation is fertile. You might like to send a card to Mrs. Taki and so here is her address:

Mrs. Erna Bridge
Morris Ave.,
Country Club Park,
Lutherville, Md.

The College goes on much as of old with a great deal that is futile and wrongheaded, and a little that seems to be worth while. There is always a small percent of students with whom one is glad to work, and the others serve as background. Several new dormitories have been added since you day and the number of girls has greatly increased. The prospect of war has not affected us much. Most of the students are too young to be called by the draft or else they are deferred. Of course our younger alumni are in it and most of the letters I get from them are not happy ones. They are bored and seem to have to put up with numerous low-down skunks for companions. The nicer the boy, the harder it is for him.

We are wondering just how long Japan intends to stay teetering on the fence before she jumps into a war. I have no love for official Japan; her policies are those of a braggart and a bully. Had she played fair I think she would have been given a chance with others in the Eastern Hemisphere but she prefers to grab like the dirty little bully she is. My hope is that she gets well beaten up.

I'm enclosing a set of Louisa Alcott stamps which were on one of your last packages. By the way, in a can you sent us from Fiji there was an unlabeled plant with an inflated base full of chambers (myrmecophilous probably) which I thought might be a *Hydnophytum* (Rubiaceae). Is that right? Miss Miner has just asked me to see if you will send us the cover for Vol. ~~IX~~ I of you Flora. She has the covers for the other two parts. Now don't give it to us: I already feel guilty when I think what you have done without recompense. Let us know what it costs and we will remit stamps.

Dr. Stone is gone; his last months were spent in a hospital for the insane. Most of the men who were heads in your day are now "tails" of their Departments. Dr. Chamberlain has retired to Baltimore; Waugh is in a hospital for prostate operation; Prof. Sears and Mr. Kenny are old, white-haired men. A sad tragedy happened to Dr. Gordon. His son who had reached High School age, developed epilepsy and finally committed suicide.

Too bad you couldn't bring your "son" back to Hawaii to comfort your declining years, but young sons are a great responsibility and Fiji might not mix well with Hawaii and American cocktail parties.

Very best wishes to you

H. E. Terry

P.S. Another shock. News has just come that Herbert Emery died yesterday at the R.I. State College. I hear there was a haemorrhage of the throat. I'm sure you knew him. He had taught geology there.

15 Bellwood Circle

Shonyville

part of Hawaii

Dear Mrs. Degener,

privilege

Mrs. Robbins and I hope
you and Roy will come out
sometime this Saturday
afternoon and stay for supper
with us.

Robbins

We'll hope to have run for
you to back in or can supply
manual labor if you prefer.

Sincerely,

Christine Robbins

[Mrs. Wm J. Robbins]

10/26/41

TELEPHONE SEDGWICK 3-3200

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

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WILLIAM J. ROBBINS

November 26, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Otto,

Today I have reported to Dr. A. C. Smith a few more of your Fiji collection numbers. Thought maybe you would appreciate my reporting them to you, too.

Degener & Ordóñez

- 13505 -- *Stachytarpheta urticaefolia* (Salisb.) Sims
- 13620 -- *Vitex trifolia* var. *bicolor* (Willd.) Moldenke
- 13641 -- *Fremna taitensis* var. *rimatarensis* F. H. Br.
- 13691 -- *Vitex trifolia* var. *bicolor* (Willd.) Moldenke
- 13762 -- *Faradaya vitiensis* (A. Gray) Seem.
- 13793 -- *Fremna taitensis* var. *rimatarensis* F. H. Br.
- 14058 -- *Vitex trifolia* var. *bicolor* (Willd.) Moldenke
- 14154 -- *Clerodendrum inerme* (L.) Gaertn.
- 14191 -- *Clerodendrum inerme* (L.) Gaertn.
- 14212 -- *Stachytarpheta urticaefolia* (Salisb.) Sims

Degener

- 14481 -- *Vitex quinata* (Lour.) F. N. Will.
- 14546 -- *Fremna taitensis* Schau.
- 14585 -- *Fremna taitensis* Schau.
- 14621 -- *Faradaya ovalifolia* (A. Gray) Seem.
- 14912 -- *Fremna taitensis* Schau.
- 14949 -- *Fremna taitensis* var. *rimatarensis* F. H. Br.
- 14958 -- *Clerodendrum inerme* (L.) Gaertn.
- 14987 -- *Clerodendrum speciosissimum* Van Geert
- 15026 -- *Lantana Camara* var. *sculeata* (L.) Moldenke
- 15327 -- *Stachytarpheta mutabilis* (Jacq.) Vahl

With kindest regards and all best wishes, I am, as ever,

your sincere friend,

Harold N. Moldenke,
Associate Curator

10/20/41

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

October 20, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener
Wailua, Oahu
Hawaii

Dear Mr. Degener:

We have recently received from you three packages, one of which contains Hawaiian plants and the other two, plants collected by your native assistants in Fiji.

Dr. Merrill states that you wish us to hold the Hawaiian material until the end of the war and then to send sets to certain European institutions. This will be done.

I shall treat the Fijian material as a continuation of your own collection and will have the first set mounted and use the remainder as a continuation of duplicates. Am I correct in assuming that you have retained your own set and therefore will not wish us to send you a set of duplicates? I have only glanced at this material, but it will be an interesting supplement to your own collection.

Very sincerely yours,

A. C. Smith

ACS:T

A. C. Smith
Curator of the Herbarium

10/20/41

F. RAYMOND FOSBERG
THE WOODLOT, 39 HOLMES RUN ROAD
SLEEPY HOLLOW, R. F. D. No. 1.
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

Oct. 20, 1941

Dear Otto:

Beatrice Krauss, who was down from Cornell over the week-end, said you have been home since the beginning of the summer. I knew you had come back, but hadn't realized you had been back so long.

Smith sent me a set of your Rubiaceae and Ebenaceae a few weeks ago, and I went to New York for a week to work on them.

The Ebenaceae caused no trouble, and the majority of the rubs worked out fairly well, but, Oh what a genus that Psychotria is! There seem to be no end of species in it. You got most of what have been known from Fiji, and a number of others.

A paper or two ought to result from the collection. Seemann's genus Pelagodendron turns out to be Randia odorata, which you collected several times.

Since we heard from you last various things have happened - we have a baby - Helen Charlotte F. - and have just finished building a house. And this evening my dog is having puppies. There were 4 the last time I looked - may be more by now.

You will have to come east and visit us in our house. We have lots of room - an extra bedroom, a huge attic and basement. All in half an acre of woods with a stream on it. I had to do something to get out of apartments. However, if I get a chance at a decent job somewhere else, in an institution that I like, I'll sell the house in a minute. We had lots of grief building it. Laborers too independent, contractor a better talker than builder, scarcity of materials, etc. It was supposed to be finished by May. Actually, it was about finished by October. We were in it by August, but just

sort of camping and keeping
out of the carpenter's way.

(Intermission to go look at the pups -
4 is apparently the lot)

I hear Crawford is at last out.
you should be pleased - except
that Gregory is bossing the board
of regents. He (Gregory) is here, at
the geological survey just now.

I haven't seen him, but the people
I ride to work with are in the
survey and told me. I wonder
who will be the next president.
There is no one I know on the present
staff that would be any
good for the job.

Write and tell me about your
trip. I have heard little snatches
from different people, but no
consecutive account, as yet. The
more I hear about Fiji, the more I
realize I have to go there soon. I am
accumulating leave for some

such purpose. You may even see me next year - who knows, that is, if this damned war doesn't spread to the Pacific.

Here everything is defense, even Botany. Washington is a madhouse. I suppose Honolulu is as bad, from what Beat K. says.

Well, I'm getting sleepy, and, living out here, I have to get up early & get to work by 8:15.

Write sometime soon.

Aloha from Violet and me.

Ray

10/16/41

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 16, 1941

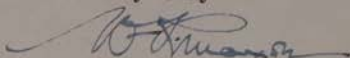
Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua, Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener:

In response to your request of September 28 I am forwarding herewith a couple of franks which may be used for despatching botanical material to which you refer. We shall of course be very glad to have it.

The other letter to which you refer was received some time ago during my absence, which partly because of serious illness has covered a period of nearly three months, so that I am only just now back at work. It was forwarded to me, and, as I recollect it, was returned by me to the Museum with the comment that unfortunately there seemed to be little that we could do in the matter of helping you as requested, much as we should like to be of assistance. I was ill at the time and therefore do not recall very definitely the details which you mentioned. I will make further efforts to find the letter and if successful will see that your suggestions are given careful consideration. I am afraid, however, that there is little if anything that could be done.

Yours very truly



William R. Maxon
Curator, Division of Plants

10/14/41

Oct. 14, 1941

My Dear Degener -

Thank you for speaking
to the Luthers about the Fern Society.
Mrs. Luther has joined.

You have taken on a big work
to take up Fiji also. I suppose
there is a big opportunity for
original research in the Fiji
flora. Too bad the Luthers, Clements
and natives do not get on
well together. I wonder why it
should be. The natives must
be much like those of Samoa
and Hawaii. My technical knowl-
edge isn't sufficient to do original
work on species, but if I learn
of any one who would like to
help you out on the ferns of
Hawaii will be glad to speak to
him about it. But there a simi-
larity between the flora of Fiji
and Hawaii - outside of intro-
duced plants which must be large
in both places -
With best regards - Aloha -

Robert Dole

10/13/41

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Peterham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

Oct. 13, 1941

Dear Degener:

I have your postcard of Sept. 28. When the packages arrive I will have the material fumigated, and those bundles marked for foreign institutions we will put in dead storage "for the duration" and will undertake to see that they are forwarded if and when conditions become more normal; and when sent out, the sendings will be to your credit, not to that of the Arboretum. We have quantities of material destined for Europe that cannot now be sent, including large sets of Smiths collections made just before the war started in South America (joint N.Y.B.G.-AA explorations).

Will take out the material marked for the Gray.

Smith went to N.Y. a week ago taking with him a lot of your Fiji stuff in various families to compare there, as the oriental herbarium at New York is much better organized for quick work than is the Gray. Here at the Arnold our Polynesian collections are relatively small. Study set of ferns goes off to Copeland tomorrow as he is to be in Berkeley for a few days in the very near future. Fosberg is working your Rubs. So on the whole you should soon be receiving identification lists.

Smith works on a different system than I do. At the time he commenced sorting your Fiji stuff I commenced on a 2800 number collection from Indo-China. I made "sight identifications" for everything and then typed a list of these, so the collector now has in hand a complete list of numbers, with approximately 25 percent final determinations to the species and approximately 75 percent with generic determinations only. After this preliminary list is submitted we continue to shoot partial lists as material in various families is named. Thus since I typed the preliminary list we have finished the Myrts., Orch., Euph., Olea, Thea., Myrsin. and various smaller families. I developed my scheme in Manila when I realized that if was to keep foresters and others interested in collecting that I must provide identification lists promptly. However by the end of this year you should have a fairly large percentage of your numbers named to the species as Smith will concentrate on this job now that the study set is mounted and arranged by families. All I have done on it is to go over the odds and ends that Smith didn't recognize and suggest family or generic names.

Very truly yours

E.D. Merrill

10/5/41

Chicago, Ill. Oct. 5-1941

My dear Mr. Seeger:-

Just a line to acknowledge receipt of your letter (following up the Fiji matter) and to state that here are some stamps long overlooked by me. I held them back last year when I found them, as you were away.

Many warm personal regards as ever from
Yours most sincerely,
Earl E. Sheff

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

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TREASURER
ARTHUR M. ANDERSON

October 10, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Otto:

Dr. A. C. Smith has just given me a number of your Fiji Verbenaceae and has promised to send me the rest later. My determinations are as follows:

- Degener & Ordonez 13672 -- *Clerodendrum fragrans* var. *pleniflorum* Schau. FIRST RECORD
13762 -- *Faradaya vitiensis* (A. Gray) Seem.
13693 -- *Fremna taitensis* var. *marchionica* F. H. Br. FIRST RECORD
14183 -- *Fremna taitensis* var. *rimatarensis* F. H. Br. FIRST RECORD
13505 -- *Stachytarpheta urticaefolia* (Salisb.) Sims
14058 -- *Vitex trifolia* var. *bicolor* (Willd.) Moldenke
Degener 14987 -- *Clerodendrum speciosissimum* Van Geert
15333 -- *Faradaya ovalifolia* (A. Gray) Seem.
14621 -- *Faradaya ovalifolia* (A. Gray) Seem.
15026 -- *Lantana Camara* var. *aculeata* (L.) Moldenke
14546 -- *Fremna taitensis* Schau.
15327 -- *Stachytarpheta mutabilis* (Jacq.) Vahl
14481 -- *Vitex quinata* (Lour.) F. N. Will. FIRST RECORD

I am still trying to get that Philadelphia address for you.

With kindest regards and all best wishes, I beg to remain, as ever,

Your sincere friend,

Harold N. Moldenke,
Associate Curator

10/3/44

P. O. SCHALLERT
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
OFFICE: 207-B O'HANLON BUILDING
PHONE: 8544 WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

Oct. 3, 1941.

Dear Doctor Degener;

T.H.

Your very welcome letter was duly received and since so many of your ideas coincide with mine I take great pleasure in again writing to you and explaining my further position to you. By the way, I sent in an application to the U. of Hawaii recently mentioning your name. I applied as student physician and teacher in botany. I also rec'd a very encouraging letter from Dr. Velez who teaches botany in The Polytechnic Inst. at San German, Puerto Rico, asking me if I were available to teach there, etc. in case some arrangement could be made. I have also applied to several colleges in Calif. I wish meantime that your doctor friend would see what can be developed there in T.H. in the way of industrial physician for some of the large canning estates. Have you any other college center besides the University? As I told you before our family of four children are now all independent; all are graduates of universities. I had accumulated about \$200,000. worth of wealth and property, but the depression just about sold me out. All I saved was a home with over \$12,500 against it and an orange-grove of 10 acres in Fla. I would have lost all this had not the gov. and friends come to my rescue. The debt has been reduced to \$2500. and the orange-grove has just been freed of all debts the past month. This grove has been well-taken care of, it is 15 years old and if oranges and grape-fruit sell well this grove should keep us alive for the rest of our days, but not enough to live on luxuries nor to travel very much. So if we come to Hawaii it will be necessary for me to get something remunerative to do. Office or student infirmary practice and with some time spent in lecturing on botany would please me greatly. I hold the B.S., M.A., and M.D. degrees, taking the latter degree from the Univ. of Ills. in 1904. I taught botany in a small college years ago; but since then I have read many botanical books and articles. In fact I have just recently received several bulletins from Un. of Haw. For years I have given many illustrated lectures on botany, flowers, health, and religious subjects to many persons in school, church, and college groups. Only last week I went to a nearby city and gave a lecture on garden flowers, illustrating the lecture with many pictures in colors of cultivated flowers and plants. Mrs. S. too is anxious to see more of the world as she did not go with me to Europe in 1935. She has a niece living near Honolulu and therefore has interested connections as you will see. I may also state further that we are both members of the Protestant Church and church and S. School workers. We neither drink nor smoke, altho some of our children do both. I speak the German language but she does not as her ancestry is Scotch-Dutch-Irish; while my parents were both born in Germany; I was born in Wisconsin. In my political thinking I am liberal to radical; not conservative, still I have voted more often the Democratic ticket than the Republican here in the South. I want to get away from the South here as there is still tremendous prejudice against Northerners. This is not so much the case in Fla. where a great many persons from the North have migrated on account of the climate. You mentioned color lines and I tried to explain some of this in a previous letter. I have to be very careful not to allow negroes in my waiting room or sit on office chairs for fear it will drive white patients away as no doubt it has done frequently on account of my not being particular enough. Then too I have always contributed liberally to the church, yet I could not be elected as the janitor because of my Northern birth. Of course our children came along and then their education and thus I could not think of making any change but I have been here since 1910 and now I can leave if it suits my pleasure and my future peace and satisfaction. I know that I can make contacts and make real friends elsewhere and be of some help to others besides always trying to break down such stubborn prejudices as exists here. You know one finally gets overly filled up on these prejudices. No person has done more for this community that wife and I have; always attending church and S. School regularly, teaching classes; besides I helped organized Boy and Girl scouts, give

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

thousands of illustrated talks to schools, churches, and other groups; all for nothing or just expenses, even urging groups to take collections for various church and missionary activities, yet they will constantly remind us that we are from the North. Only a week ago, a very good neighbor of ours came to my wife and forgot herself by telling my wife that because a recent newcomer to our community could not be trusted because she had heard that she was from the North. This has happened hundreds of times; yet Northern capital is actually being invested here to help develop the South. But now I have written enough of this kind of news, so let me change to something else. I had a rather large herbarium of about 25,000 specimens which I had worked on for over 25 years. Well when I saw I could not hold on to my properties I sold this entire collection to Duke University for \$1500 cash. This helped me complete the education of my last child. However since then I'm doing my best to get my second herbarium, and already I have about 50,000 specimens and adding several thousand every year. We are having rather warm dry weather thus far. In fact too dry to get the fall flowers at their best. I will have about 200 specimens for you when I get through with this year's collectings. Now we have given you more of our story, wife and myself; the future must lie in the hands of the spirits and the gods. With fondest wishes and regards, yours truly

P. H. Collett



9/29/41

FROM THE DESK OF

A. C. SMITH

Sept. 29, 1941

Memo in regard to Degener's letter of Sept. 14:

As regards Degener's first few paragraphs, it is unfortunate that he did not prepare for his Fijian trip by finding out what areas had been collected. I wrote him exactly where to go and what regions to avoid, but probably this letter was one which went astray and did not reach him until later. In subsequent letters I kept asking him to go to the central plateau or to the higher parts of Serua and Tholo West. His collections, except for those from Nandariatu, continued to be made at low elevations.

I should not have written such an unpleasant letter as the one he quotes except for two or three definite requests from him to know whether his plants were valuable or whether they were merely the "common stuff." I assumed that he really wanted to know. At any rate I wrote him a couple of weeks later that the numbers subsequent to his first 400 were a great improvement.

Of course any plants from Fiji are valuable as herbarium exchange, and in return for the handling and naming of the collection, it seems that we are entitled to a few sets to build up our exchanges. In an earlier letter, Degener suggested that we keep only one set while sending N.Y. three or four. This seemed a very unreasonable request. We should at least receive as much exchange material as N.Y. and logically quite a bit more. If some sets are sold for Degener that is immaterial to me. Personally I believe that the best available set should go to Kew as an "exchange" (although we probably won't get any return), since good sets of all previous Fijian plants are there and it is the logical place for future students to work.

ELIOT PRESS INC.
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS.

A. C. SMITH

It will probably be about 6 months before the duplicate sets are named and ready to use. At that time we can outline a plan to Degener and have his approval before we send out anything. It is still too early to discuss the disposition of these sets. Whether we use the duplicate sets as exchange or sell them should depend upon the original plan of the Archbold expedition.

As regards Degener's "musts":

1. The second set has already been sent him and as far as we are concerned it is not sent as a loan but is his property. Eventually I should like to know whether he is going to give it to the Bishop Museum. If so, we don't want to offer them another set in exchange.
2. I shall help with the weed book as I can and will look up the distribution of a list of species which Degener should send me.
3. We cannot send the Kew set until after the war, but in the meantime perhaps Hill can write to Fiji, if he has any influence.
4. Will have to work out the Bishop Museum exchange later.
- 5, etc. I shall name a few species as requested

I am preparing a paper to mention all the species not previously reported from Fiji and of course to describe the novelties. Mrs. Chase has already reported the grasses and finds three new to Fiji. Our set is now put into families and I see that there is a great deal of interesting material. A list of determinations will be sent to Degener as soon as possible, and in the meanwhile I shall be glad to discuss any specific numbers with him as he wants to know more about them.

ACS.

9/15/41

TELEPHONE SEDGWICK 3-3200

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

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September 15, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Otto:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of August 30th. It was most kind and generous of you to send me that dollar as commission for the sale of one of your books. I am, however, returning it, for I could not possibly accept it. My friendship would be of a most peculiar kind, indeed, if I could not do a bit of service for you like trying to advertise your publications for you at every opportunity without expecting pay in return for it. So please take the dollar back, Otto; I shall always continue to advertise your books for you in every way possible, but this I shall do because of my friendship for you and because of my firm belief in their great scientific value and importance. I do not want any pay for doing this.

I have not yet heard from the Draft Board as to how they are classifying me. I registered as a conscientious objector, and I also have two partial dependents and a few physical defects. Being 32, they are apparently deferring any classification of me until they have no one else to work on. I am probably safe until we get into an actual shooting war -- which seems to be a matter of only hours or days now! Then God only knows what will happen to Conscientious Objectors like me!

Meanwhile, I am planning to be with you all of December, 1942, and January, 1943. Sorry I can't make it earlier, but I have too many overdue assignments and jobs that simply must be done first. Have finished my papers on the Verbenaceae and Avicenniaceae of Surinam, of Trinidad & Tobago, of Yucatan Peninsula, 333 of Texas, and of Indiana. Also have finished my papers on the Ericaceae of North America for NORTH AMERICAN FLORA, of Texas, and of Panama. Now I am working on the Verbenaceae and Avicenniaceae of North America for NORTH AMERICAN FLORA, of Panama for Dr. Woodson, of Brazil for Dr. Hochne, and of Uruguay for Dr. Harter. My teaching of systematic botany also begins again on October 8th, and then there are those thousands of miscellaneous jobs that all consume so much time.

Keep up the good work in behalf of the poor Fijians. If I think of any way to help, I shall do all I can for you.

Take good care of yourself and let me hear from you. As ever,

Your sincere friend,

Harold [Moldenke]

2/15/41
Waialua, Oahu, T.H.
Aug. 15, 1941.

Dear Dr. Merrill:

I received your Aug. 4 letter with Smith's suggestions which I wish to follow with a few modifications.

I am cashing the New York cheque.

In regard to the Fiji catch:

Keep Set No. 1 for yourself.

My own set must have my own field labels, as these give me thunder for my Fiji native lore book. THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT!!!! If it is not too late, N.Y., preferably should have Set No. 2 of approximately 1700 plants, and I with the original field labels should have Set No. 3 of approx. 1500. If it is too late and the field labels already lie in Set 2, give me that and give N.Y., Set 3.

I received and asked no help from government officials so am under no obligations to Kew. In fact, I have been sending them Hawaiian dups. gratis for years. The Fiji officials under ordinary circumstances would have tried to be helpful, no doubt, if they were not so busy growing pothebs and papaya to feed the army. I have a number of good friends at the Dept. of Agri., in Suva. I paid my way, leaving well over \$1,000 in Fiji and over a half year of my (precious ?) time, not to mention boat fare for self and my Filipino. Fiji is still "sabotageing" my native lore project with their embargo on my native. I have offered them free of charge the use of all my zincos. They want about 166. I therefore prefer you to give Set 6 to Kew. My obligations are stronger elsewhere.

Please let St. Louis have Set 4. They have been buying my plants for years. Greenman has been very helpful. The charge \$10.00 per Century

Give Set 5 to Ray Fosberg's outfit if they have the cash. Fosberg talked to Mrs. Archbold in my behalf in the early days.

Then N.Y., can have the additional Sets No. 7, 8 and 9 without additional charge.

Please dispose of the rest at \$10.00 per Century wherever you wish. In many cases I collected as many as 35 dups. for a single number. Please return all such "rubbish" to me labeled or not if that is too much bother. I can do that job here. I would give small sets away to institutions buying my books. It would increase flora Haw. sales.

Make no special provisions for the Bishop Museum as you have my own set to give them when they cooperate with you. I need the set only until I have completed my native lore project.

When Smith bursts into print regarding my collection, he must not fail to mention "the success of the Degener collection is due to the faithful assistance of his Filipino collector, Emilio Ordóñez; and the Fijian collectors and experts in native lore, Timoci Bebe and Aloisio Tabualawa." I should feel most embarrassed if these young men were slighted.

They did lots for me without recompense. These two last are still collecting for me in Fiji under their own power and know more than any white man about the native flora.

Sell everything at \$10.00 per Century. That has always been my price. If go under, various institutions will want my Haw. herb. specimens at a lower rate. The unwanted "rubbish", as mentioned before, I can handle myself. I have quite a list of possible "customers". Of course, I am not trying to earn any money - what is the difference whether I "squeeze" N.Y., for extra cash now and leave them a slightly larger estate 20 - 30 years hence, or take things easy and leave them a smaller one? "Es macht nichts aus."

Did I write you Mrs. Archbold sold the "Cheng ho" to the U.S. Navy for "\$1.00 and love"? She evidently got disgusted. Will that be the end of her interest in getting plants?

Aloha,

Otto Spegner

~~with my equipment and drying botanical specimens on the grounds of a country hotel. I wanted him to have proper food during my absence and hence went to my landlord to pay him in advance for a modest supply of milk, eggs and papaya. I wanted my filian to watch this daily from the kitchen door in proper colonial style. The white man refused to sell me any of his abundant provisions which he had advertised on the neighborhood trees for sale, saying: "Filians don't drink milk! Filians don't eat eggs! Filians don't eat papaya. You're spoiling the damn boy." Yet this same white man during a two year period of poverty, had been living in Fiji villages during a two year period of poverty.~~

8/15/44

EARL EDWARD SHERFF

Chicago Teachers College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

Chicago, Illinois, August 15th, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Haw. Terr.

My dear Mr. Degener:-

Your letter of July 25th came to hand and I was glad to learn that once more you were back home. I have naturally been out of touch with you since you journeyed so far away, and repeatedly have had to defer writing to you about this or that point since I had no forwarding address.

My work on Pittosporum has come about to a close. Last January the first installment of my findings was published in the American Journal of Botany and about next October I expect that the second and final preliminary installment will appear in the Contributions from Field Museum. I shall try to remember next week on returning to Field Museum to send you reprints of the January article. — My monograph on the entire genus so far as Hawaiian Territory is concerned is likewise finished and should go to press shortly after the October number gets published. I have at Field Museum a large number of folders of duplicate specimens of yours that have been determined by me and were awaiting your return home. I shall give them back to Field Museum for return to you next week. In this connection, may I urge that if you or your associates or acquaintances have on hand any additional Pittosporum specimens ~~that~~ you would like determined and incorporated in my monograph, by all means send them in at once and there will be time. Except for Bidens (which you say you did not collect) I would not have the time or facilities here for working up any Fiji materials, so shall hardly care to bother Merrill. (He sent me the Hawaiian Pittospora.)

I read your extended remarks about the treatment accorded the Fiji natives by the British and was not at all surprised. Remember, the latter are the "holier than thou" race who boast forever and anon about "democracy" and "freedom of the seas" etc. etc. ad nauseam and exhibit the lowest degree of it among the "civilized" peoples of the earth. I saw all too much of their caste system both times I worked in English institutions and I shall never be deluded by their lying propaganda that they have recently been busy plastering the United States with. (Judging from the specimen Hawaiian newspapers that I have run across among your folders, I suspect that you get little truth down there.) If you are ever interested in ascertaining the real truth of foreign affairs, I would suggest a trial subscription to the Chicago Daily Tribune (over a million daily circulation).

I will at once write letters as requested by you to the two men in question and inclose copies herewith that you may see what I say. I hope you get results.

In rounding out my collectors' lists etc. I am short on certain data and wonder if you will be so kind as to help me out if you can: Topping gives either a Bowman or Bowen Trail on Oahu in 1924. Which is it? Rock collected with one Shaw. Do you know Shaw's full name? Also, can you give me the full names for J. Kepaa, H. Ochiae, E.K. Yoshinaga, K. Duker, R. Northwood? and which is right, Impung Chang or Impung Chang? Mrs. Frances Sinclair communicated in 1885 to Kew a plant from Kaolaunui, Hawaii. I can find no such place. But her writing is clear. Do you have such a place in any of your lists?

I shall start in a few weeks upon the apparently much simpler revision of the few Hawaiian Dodonaeas and if meanwhile you have accumulated more specimens of them you may send them on.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

I was more than pleasantly surprised to find what a large representation of Pittospora you had assembled during your stay in the Hawaiian Islands. You will find that a large share of my citations are of your plants. I took much pleasure in showing your cousin (the silk merchant) last winter some of the great stacks of plants collected by you, and some of your publications. It happened that when he visited me entirely unannounced at Field Museum, he found me plunged in a huge amount of work based upon the very things you had sent in. We had quite a pleasant chat, but I have never seen him since.

I have several times wondered if other botanical institutions at Honolulu besides Bishop Museum and the University of Hawaii have a herbarium in which specimens of Pittosporum are filed and if these could be borrowed for study. If you know of any I would appreciate being put in touch with the proper parties, or if, to save time, you would be so kind as to tell them the circumstances and suggest that I would be willing and eager to determine their specimens and cite them in my forthcoming monograph.

You will hear from me further as soon as I think of other things to write about.

Yours very truly,

Eastw. Shreve

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August 4, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua
Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener:

This is to acknowledge your letters
of July 12th and July 15th.

It seems to me that your proposal to prepare a book
on the plants of the Fiji Islands from the standpoint of
Fiji customs is an excellent one.

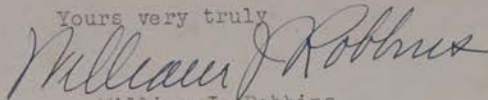
I shall be glad to do what I can with Sir Harry Luke,
although I fear that from this distance we can exert very
little influence.

I hope that we will receive sets of the Fiji plants
though, of course, it may easily be that Dr. Merrill will
wish to keep all of them for his own use.

We think of you frequently and realize the excellent
work which you are doing in connection with the flora of
the Islands.

With kind personal regards,

Yours very truly



William J. Robbins
Director

7/1/41

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION

July 1, 1941.

Mr. Otto Degener,
C/o General Delivery,
Waialua, Oahu,
T. H. (Carbon to Viti Leby, Fiji)

Dear Mr. Degener:

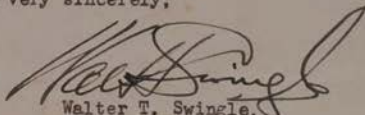
Thank you very much for the match box full of seeds of the wild edible Citrus collected near Valukarasa, Viti Levu, Fiji. From the size of the fruit, I would suspect this to be some pummelo. Did you collect leaves of this tree and do these leaves show a very broad petiole?

I hope you found, while in the Fiji archipelago, my very interesting new species, Wenzelia kambarae. This is called moli moli by the natives and known only from some of the islands in the Lau group to the southeast of Viti Levu.

I shall be glad indeed to have a chance to look over your Rutaceous plants, but if you send them to Dr. E. D. Merrill, I am sure he will send to me the ones in which I am interested, viz., all the genera of the orange subfamily, Aurantioideae.

I hear from my son that you got very many specimens. I hope your expedition will revolutionize our knowledge of the Fiji archipelago.

Yours very sincerely,



Walter T. Swingle,
Collaborator.

WTS/B

6/19/41

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
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ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

June 19, 1941

Dear Degener:

OK. will use the Anne Archbold name on all your Fiji labels, for this will be a nice gesture ! After all, as you say, she got you down to Fiji. Will settle other details as to form and wording with Robbins. My suggestion to him is that there should be printed in small type at the bottom of the label "Pacific cruise of the "Cheng Ho" 1940-41, ~~sponsored~~ sponsored by Mrs. Anne Archbold; collections made in cooperation with the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, and the N.Y. Botanical Garden"--pretty long, but with small type it won't take much room. The label heading would be merely "PLANTS OF FIJI" and the format would be more or less that of the first labels used.

You will realize from this that I received your telegram of June 11 and your letter of May 16, with enclosure for Smith. Don't worry about my weakening re. the Bishop Museum, even though I am an honorary member of its staff--before we get through they will probably think that I am more onerous than honorary ! I can, on occasion, use a big stick very harshly, and this will be one of the "occasions"--i.e., your Fiji collections. We can settle all details later when you shall have returned to your base. So you are going to introduce cannibalism in fair Hawaii ?

Have you made any contacts with Wm. Greenwood at Lautoka (Colonial Sugar Company)? He has collected considerable material for Kew but now writes both Smith and myself that he will be glad to send specimens to us. I have assured him that we always send sets of duplicates to Kew or to the B.M. from British spheres of influence and that a set of your material is earmarked for Kew. Also that if he wished to send us a duplicate set of his material that we would gladly store it and see that it gets to Kew when conditions become more normal.

Commencement is over and everything settles down to the quiet life for the summer. Holttum, Director of the B.G. at Singapore is in Denver and is coming here on 26th, and after his return to the coast leaves for his vacation in Australia. Is in the US for rotary convention as delegate from Malaya. After he leaves I shall take off a few days for fishing at Moosehead Lake and then get back to botany.

Very truly yours

E.D. Merrill
E.D. Merrill



THE NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY
AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
SAMUEL N. SPRING, DEAN

FOREST BOTANY AND PATHOLOGY

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Pathology

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Ecology and Taxonomy

JOSIAH L. LOWE, PH. D.
Mycology

June first, 1941

Hello Otto!

Your very welcome letter came from far-off Fiji in remarkably good time. You probably had a boat leave specially for it, which I - far from California - cannot plan on. Strange to say, this time I had a good excuse for not writing: I had thought you were traveling, and such inconsequential mail as mine would not be forwarded to you. So, thought I, why not wait until I can give him some news that will not be ancient history.

I have passed through another winter in this blasphemous climate - the fourth - and that is two more than I have ever put in to any other region, other than my little home town. Conditions have really been improved this year. I may have told you that after risking my position itself a year ago, one of our half-time assts. was raised to full time, and the man was put in charge of plant phys labs, thus releasing me not only of a big responsibility, but of a whole field of botany. For the first time, I felt that our letter heads were more or less correct. So with only ecology and taxonomy to keep active with, I had time to get into other troubles. My soph tax class was increased from 2 hrs to 3 hrs, the extra hr. being in ecology! I had great sport working up 14 lectures in the subject, and injecting into the unsuspecting fellows a few ideas which I know will cause snarls when some of our older more "conservative" professors express some out-moded ideas in later courses. The soph tax continues to develop, to the point where I will probably have a lab manual next year that will fit this now-unusual course. Then the faculty voted their agreement to my giving, at least every other year, a short course in grass taxonomy. Who'd a thunk it? When I came to Hawaii I hardly knew a grass from a sedge. But I have taught the grass tax twice already, and thought it was high time to have the bastard legitimized. With no physiology to worry about, I decided to take my position on the Publications Committee ~~with~~ seriously - with the result that I made enemies all around, and had to resign two times in order to wash my hands of the mess. Our college publications are admitted to be not the best in the country; the men in the committee must have had their names drawn from

11
a goldfish bowl, if one considers their aptitude for the work. I found it was tough work teaching them. They seemed willing to learn as soon as they found out I was serious, but their memory was shorter than short. I considered it "waste time" and went back to teaching students.

vegetable scraps
My most recent offspring is a 1000 acre natural Area on our 15000 acre Huntington Wildlife Forest. The success of the endeavor surprised me, since a more impractical thing can scarcely be imagined for a timber forester who expects an annual income from a research area, and there is a strong faction in college who would like to clearcut the timber from the Forest, and then turn it over for research. I am having a man work on it this summer, and intend to get as elaborate a set up of permanent quadrats for study of long-term time, as I know of. Just returned from 3 days on the land - beautiful country, 3 miles of lake shore on the Area, black flies that fly into one's mouth at every opening, as tho there were a vacuum.

Now a couple of days at Syracuse and then I leave. Central New York is really beautiful in May, and life would be glorious if we could have off the 3 winter months instead of the summer. But when summer comes, I have the urge to see new places - and admit that I am glad I am free to do it: no home, wife, child, dog, or current expenses to eat up money while in disuse. I just fill up my car, and settle down somewhere else. My immediate job is to give the final slaps to my alien vs. indigene Hawaiian paper, which Ecology has accepted; to write a preface for my Cape Henry Virginia check list, and to collect a few spring items for my Clark reservation (near Syracuse) State Park list.

This summer I have decided NOT to do any field work. Too many mss. have become nearly completed, and stayed put. Although my local draft board has deferred me, I am not at all sure what would happen in any worse emergency. I doubt if I could convince any one how punk a soldier I would make, and all these botanical masterpieces are stretching my wissenschaftliche womb. So I shall soon fill my car with books and papers and cards and notes and wend my way southwards, southwards until I find myself a wide beach, much sun, much moon, much sky and much sea, no professorial and administrative dis-eases, a place to get good dinners, coconuts and casuarinas especially - and there I shall set, and sire a few chimaeras pertaining to Hawaii, Martinique, Florida, taxonomy, and ecology.

I envy your being in Fiji. If I were ever to lose my job here, I would swish to the tropics like an iron filing going to a magnet.

Let me know when you are sailing for the Islands; and I shall get the Beankey in order. You could help in one respect: certain species, still uncollected, exist in the places indicated on the checklist. I want to put them in the key, if I can only get specimens.

Aloha

88888888

13.5.68

5/17/41

The Catholic University of America

Washington, D. C. May 17, 1941

LANGLOIS HERBARIUM

Dear Dr. Degener:

Please note your number 2466 and 8456 are both

Cyperus gracilis R. Br.

I have recently received from the Bishop Museum 4 specimens of *Cyperus alternifolius* collected on Oahu. The labels do not make clear whether this plant was collected from a cultivated stand or whether it is escaped. If you can find out if this plants is rally escaped or better still collect some of it from an escaped colony I will be very grateful.

Your number 12582 is *Cyperus laevigatus* L.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh O'Neill

Hugh O'Neill



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State College

Amherst

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY AND ZOOLOGY

April 29, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener,
Suva, Fiji.

My dear Otto:

Very many thanks for your letter of March 22nd, which came to hand two days ago. In the meantime, I had written to you but had sent the letter by way of Hawaii, so it is possible that the present letter may reach you at the same time or before the one sent a couple of weeks ago. In that I mentioned the further collections of Fijian Tipulidae that you had sent and indicated that there were some further additions to the known list.

In your letter you wonder whether Tipulids have an extensive range or are limited in distribution. It is our impression that the lowland forms, especially coastal species throughout the Pacific Islands, have a much wider distribution than mountain species, which are apt to be endemic. I feel that this certainly holds true in islands such as Fiji or Samoa, and that the great proportion of the endemic species will be those that occur high in the mountains. For this reason I am very anxious to secure all possible specimens from mountain stations from any of the Pacific Islands. I do not know whether your own collections and plans take you into the higher mountains, but if you ever are able to collect and see any Tipulids, I would be especially grateful if all such specimens could be saved. It is certain that your various lots of material are adding greatly to our insufficient knowledge of distribution of these flies. The last lot that I received from Zimmerman, although it included three Schmidt boxes and hundreds of specimens, yet contained relatively few species, and it is certain that several of those that you have sent are different from any taken by Zimmerman. The rare and new species secured by the latter were invariably taken at high altitudes in the mountains, especially on Mt. Victoria, Tholo north, altitude about

3000 feet, September 1938. I imagine that many other of the Fijian mountains would produce a rich endemic fauna in these flies. It is certain that my earlier collections of Tipulidae received through the British Museum, including materials taken by Veitch and Greenwood, were chiefly from the mountains. On the other hand, the first collection that I ever studied from Fiji, back in 1914, taken by Illingworth, was chiefly from low altitudes.

You asked about your old friends at M.S.C. I did not realize that you had not been hearing from some of these, as Dr. Torrey. I imagine that there have been many changes here since you left, due to the retiring of several of the older members of the staff, such as Chamberlain, Waugh, Sears, Chenoweth, Graham, and in fact, practically all of the heads of departments who were active at your time. Dr. Fernald retired in 1930 and since that time has been living in Florida. The generation below these, including Torrey, Crampton, Gage, and others, are all active and fairly well. We are much upset by the prospects of war, since the draft is taking many of our finest students. I imagine that we will go through the same series of disappointments and encouragements as the last war, but under the circumstances there seems to be nothing that we can do about it.

You inquire about the coral reef midges that you sent from Hawaii some years ago, and it seems that there must have been one of my letters that failed to reach you, from one cause or another. I had written indicating that I believe that these midges belong to the genus Pontomyia described by Edwards from Samoa, and having a very remarkable wingless female that is almost larviform. More recently, Tokunaga has described a second Pontomyia from Japan. I am not an authority on midges and do not know whether the specimens that you picked up in Suva Harbor are the same. If the opportunity arises to collect still further of these midges, I hope that you will do so, since we rarely have a naturalist who is in the position to save such materials.

With all sincere best wishes and
thanks, I am,

As ever yours,

C. P. Alexander
CPA/D

C. P.

4/6/41

1520 Nuuanu Avenue,

Honolulu, T. H.

April 6, 1941.

Dear Otto:

I certainly want to thank you for the material you sent me; it arrived in perfect condition. It's swell of you to collect for me when you have so much to do for yourself, I do hope that I shall be able to do something in return some day. The *Spathoglottis* have started pushing out new leaves, also the one that looks like it might be a species of *Phaius*. We are interested in the *Spathoglottis* for breeding purposes as it seems to be a vigorous grower. If the other that is growing is a *Phaius* we will be able to cross it with *Phaius Grandifolius* which we already have here. The other orchids are looking fine and will be starting to grow very soon I am sure.

I did not see Emilio but one of the Plant inspectors spotted the green and yellow tag on the package he carried when the boat was coming in; finding out the package was for me he fixed it up with the customs officers, took the package to the Plant Inspectors and then phoned me giving me all the information. I think it was swell of him. I also got another package thru the mail containing orchids and seeds and then another containing seeds. Last week I received the *Hoya* seeds and I do hope I will be able to raise some seedlings.

There was an Orchid Exhibition at the Art Academy on March 20th, 21st, and 22nd; we had a group of *Phalaenopsis Schilleriana* on display. The Botanical Society was invited to Foster Gardens a week ago Saturday and we had a very

good turn out. The Garden Club has its show on the 18th and 19th of this month so we will be busy getting prepared for that now. I also am to have the enviable ? position of acting as one of the Judges. Last time it got me into a lot of hot water so you can imagine how much I am looking forward to it again.

Well Otto I do wish to thank you ever so much again for all you are doing for me. Glad to know that you are getting so much new material. It sounds like a grand place to me.

Aloha,

Colin [Potter]

4/2/41

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The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

April 2, 1941

Dear Degener:

From your letter of March 4 in which you do not specifically mention receipt of the \$ 300.00 I cabled on Feb. 24 I have wondered a bit if you actually received it. I suppose you did, otherwise I suspect that I would have received another cablegram from you. After all Suva being a rather small place, and a stranger being a stranger in Fiji, there should have been no great difficulties involved in locating you as the recipient!

Again, in lieu of more specific directions from you, I can only forward mail in care of the Harbor Master, although possibly general delivery might be better; I only hope that said official does not forward the letters to Pago-Pago!

Smith is actually "laying out" the first 400 numbers received from you, these with the "Teng Ho" labels. Before going ahead with the numbers after you left the Teng Ho we should get a sort of clearance for the form from you, as assuming that you are spending our \$ 300.00, the field work becomes more or less cooperative between you and the Arboretum; and yet I don't know just what I should do regarding the bringing of the N.Y. Botanical Garden into the picture, as you said that Robbins had indicated that a grant might be made from Garden funds.

We can settle all details regarding ultimate disposition of your Fiji material, problems of publication, etc. etc., after you shall have returned from the field. The matter of making up sets, completing labels, making determinations etc. will, of course, take a considerable amount of time; and we have no idea at present, to do more than take out and mount a study set here, and make the preliminary identifications. The final identification work will be done later when all of the material shall have been received, so that we can get a complete set arranged by families. It may be that you will eventually wish to place your set at the Bishop Museum, on deposit. But I wish that you would keep in mind that we would like to have a club or "big stick" to use on the B.M. to make that institution come across with duplicates of Polynesian material. So far, in all the years I have been on its staff I have received almost nothing in direct exchange, and large collections were made ten years or more ago, and ten years is a long time to wait for sets of duplicates when one is situated as I am; i.e., approaching the time when I may expect to be placed on the retired list---I can only count on about six years before this may happen, with a possible maximum of ten from this date; so whatever I am to accomplish must be done within a rather limited time as you will realize!

Spring is just around the corner; the early bulb plants are in bloom and the magnolia buds threaten to commence swelling. I see I am at the end of the line. Best wishes

EDM

POST CARD



Mr Otto Degener
Suva
% Harbour Master Fiji



THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

March 25. 1941

Dear Degener: Today came 9 boxes -
ages of plants, but no statement
from you as to how many were
mailed - so the material comes
through OK. I shall fumigate &
turn over to Smith. Sticks are
cribbed and reserved for
you. Sincerely Ed Merrill

3/25/41



Duplicate

3/18/41

CONDITIONAL LANDING PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS
OF THE IMMIGRANTS ORDINANCE, 1909, AS AMENDED BY
SECTION 3 OF ORDINANCE 1 OF 1938.

PERMISSION is hereby granted to Mr. Otto DEGENER.

Holder of United States of America Passport No. 12060 issued at
Honolulu on the 4th., October, 1940.

to enter the Colony of Fiji for the purpose of Collecting Plants for
Joining "Cheng Ho" as member
of Archbold Scientific Expedition.

and for this purpose to remain in the Colony of Fiji for a period of _____

Three months and no longer unless he shall obtain
an extension of such period from the Commissioner of Police.

This permit may be revoked by the Commissioner of Police at any time
and such person may be deported by the Governor if the said person remains in
the Colony after the expiration of the period allowed in this permit, or after this
permit has been revoked, or if he commits a breach of, or fails to comply with any
of the conditions therein contained.

~~xxxxxxx~~ Holder R.T. No. 8986 (110 Dollars) ~~xxxxxxx~~

A Deed of Guarantee has been lodged by _____

(Signature).

Date 18th., March, 1941.

Frederick W. Brown
Commissioner of Police.

This is to acknowledge the receipt of _____ being
refund of the deposit made in respect of this permit.

(Signature)

This is to certify that _____
left the Colony on the _____ day of _____, 19____
by the _____ for _____
(and was accompanied by his wife and _____ children).

Date

17338-1004

19

Immigration Officer

3/5741

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN
MASS.

Mar. 5, 1941

Dear Degener,

I think of very little to add to Dr. Merrill's letter, for by this time you doubtless have our earlier letters which may have been forwarded to Samoa. You seem to have had your share of hard luck, and I hope that the rest of the trip will be smoother. I'm sure you will find working at Nandarivalu interesting. The region, as you know, was pretty thoroughly collected by Gillespie, and was also visited by im Thurn and some others, and so one cannot hope for a very large percentage of novelties from that immediate vicinity. You would find richer collecting to the south, around Monivatu, but this may be impossible because of present conditions.

Your collections are being unpacked and sorted numerically as they arrive and we have had labels printed for about the first 500. Soon I shall type the master labels for this many and start them through the mounting room. It will doubtless be most efficient not to sort them into families until the whole collection is assembled and the first set mounted, but then the work will go quickly, we will get off the specialists' groups, and name the remainder. Of the first 500 numbers, many are not well dried, as you noted in an earlier letter, but they will make satisfactory enough specimens. I confess I am a little disappointed that such a large percentage are from low elevations and appear to represent widespread species, but nevertheless we have so little material from Fiji that even common ones are welcome; however, you must not expect many novelties in Fijian collections taken under 500 meters.

We were interested in the details of your letter to Dr. Robbins. Apparently I didn't send you a copy of my account of my 1933-34 trip, because you seem not to recall that I spend several months along the south coast of Vanua Levu, making headquarters in Savu Savu Bay. This is the reason why I didn't suggest this locality to you, as it is really one of the most thoroughly collected places in the group. Of course I didn't spend much time on the coast, but used this as a base for ascent of the several highest peaks on Vanua Levu, such as Mbatini, Ndelakoro, Mdikeya, and others which will be familiar to you. However, I never worked on Valili, and I hope that this is one of the mountains you ascended.

I notice that your sets are quite irregular in number of duplicates, ranging anywhere between 1 and 35. I don't know what we shall do with so many duplicates, and I would suggest that you set a maximum number - perhaps 15. It is very awkward, in sorting duplicates, to have several tiny sets at the end. Of course you cannot always get 15 duplicates, but I think it is well to have a definite mark to shoot at, and not to exceed.

It will be very interesting to work up your collection, and I am looking forward to it. The only reason I am not yet beginning is because it causes such duplication of effort to start until all the returns are in, as doubtless the same species, in many cases, will be represented by various numbers. As soon as you inform us of your final shipment (and please tell me the last number) I shall start intensive work on the collection.

mbula vinaka, etc. etc.

A. C. Smith

3/5/41

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Botanical Research

March 5, 1941

Dear Degener:

A few days ago came your cablegram and I have just approved the bill for the cost of cableing you \$ 300.00, so I know that this amount is now available for you in Suva and can only assume that the amount is now in your hands. Suva isn't such a large place that one C.D. cannot be located, and I have further assumed that the bank would notify you soon after the cable was received.

The material that you are sending is coming through OK and as the packages are received I remove the stamps for you, kept in a special cache in my desk to guard them against ardent stamp collectors, and turn the material over to Smith for fumigation and storage. Now that you have definitely separated from the Cheng Ho we will have to devise another label, without the "Cruise of the Cheng Ho" forming a part of the printed legend; but just what the form may ultimately be no lo se as your letter to Robbins just came from New York, the first intimation that the N.Y.B.G. might provide you with \$300.00---if this materializes, then we would like to prepare a proper label indicating that the collections were being made under the joint auspices of the two institutions with Otto Degener doing the "dirty work" in the field. The letter to Robbins gives me a much more graphic picture of conditions on the Cheng Ho than I had previously. Can very well understand why you separated. Had a long letter a few days ago from Mrs. Archbold in Suva, but she didn't mention any difficulties with the crew. Incidentally she spoke very highly of you and of your interest in getting something done in the way of collecting. I take it, from your letter and from hers, that the parting was amicable.

You realize of course that the \$300.00 was merely the first payment on the amount I earmarked for you, and that if you need and can use more an additional \$ 200.00 will be forthcoming by cable on advises from you. One reason why I sent the \$ 300.00 instead of \$ 500.00 was that Mrs Archbold wrote that you had a special collecting permit for two months and I did not know whether or not you might find it possible to remain in Fiji for a longer period. Now that you are actually there I do hope that in spite of war conditions, and the suspicions aroused by your going about collecting plants (all botanists doing field work are more or less "touched" of course) that you may find it possible to remain long enough to satisfy your urge for collecting in Fiji! I had a very nice letter from the Resident Commissioner in response to the letter of introduction that I gave to Mrs. Archbold, and in my answer mentioned you especially expressing the hope that he would do all that he could reasonably accomplish to make it possible for you to continue field work in Fiji.

Keep us posted as well as you can. First collections from Miss. Reay are enroute and as soon as the specimens are received

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Smith will name them and we will send her a mounted set of specimens. Doubtless you will see her more or less now that you have returned to the place where she lives and give her more pointers on field methods. She mentioned especially that she had no press. Cannot you manage to have one made for her from bamboo? I shall send her some more driers; and when I send her the mounted specimens they will be packed in one of the famous (or infamous) Merrill cartons with which you were familiar in New York. As she is actually in residence I think that she should be encouraged to continue field work in spite of the fact, as she says, that she is not trained in botany.

Smith will be the individual who will do most of the work on your Fiji collections and I am asking him to write you about the material already received. I will help him make the preliminary determinations. When you get out of the field we can then work out a modus operandi that will be mutually satisfactory.

Incidentally we are in receipt of some tremendous collections of Indo-China material through Lingnan University. First shipment came some months ago; five large cases full a few weeks ago, and two more much larger shipments about due in Boston now. Freight charges alone about \$ 190.00---so you see that we will not lack for material to work with.

Hope eve rything goes well with you in spite of any disappointments you may have experienced with the T'eng Ho experiences. After all, expe riences are all in the days work !

Aloha


E. D. Merrill

PS Sorry to learn details of you accumulated mail having been sent to Pago Pago by mistake. I suppose, however, that be the time this reaches you that you will have connected with it.

EDM

2/25/41

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Feb. 25, 1941

Dear Degener:

Yesterday came a cry from the wilderness in the form of a cablegram asking the money be sent by cable to you on Bank of New Zealand, Suva, with some kind of cryptic comment to effect that mail had been sent or forwarded (by mistake) to Pago-Pago--now Samoa isn't exactly close to Fiji on the basis of direct connections. However, I immediately made up a bill and sent it over to the bursar directing him to cable you, at our expense, \$ 300.00. If and when you need more up to a total of \$ 500, please advise. All I will need to know will be: "cable balance" and I will understand and act accordingly. Not knowing whether or not it was going to be possible for you to remain in Fiji longer than the original two months for which you wrote that you had a permit I thought it best to cable only \$ 300 as a starter. If you don't have to expend the additional \$ 200.00 still earmarked for you here it will please us just as well, for we approach the end of the fiscal year and about this time commence to "draw in our horns" financially, living from hand to mouth until the new budget comes in July 1.

Am just back from Cuba, having left here on Feb. 4, returning Feb. 21. Nice trip and a good vacation, but no work. Now my job is to get back to normal and do a little work for a change. Attended the annual meeting of the Fairchild Tropical Garden at Coconut Grove day after my arrival in Florida and left next night for Havana.

Today while I was typing this came a shipment of three bundles of Fiji plants from you which I have turned over to Dr. Smith. On all these bundles I take off the stamps which are reserved for ultimate delivery to you. So far I haven't been tempted to take even a set of them for our N.Y. wealthy angel who is also an ardent stamp collector and to whom I turn over all the ones I receive other than mill run of common issues. A nice gesture of good will, for when I need a little extra money for some special purpose, this is usually a good source for a judicious touch.

Hope that you will make a serious attempt to get into some of the regions in Fiji where the original vegetation hasn't been too badly altered by the activities of ancient and modern man, for these are the places where one finds the really interesting species, endemics, endogens, etc. etc. I take it that St. John wasn't very successful in his attempt to botanize in the remote interior because of lack of time and continuous rain. Maybe one has to select the season and so cannot be entirely his own master.

Very truly yours

E. D. Merrill
E. D. Merrill

PS Let me know by postal when you receive the draft that I assume may now be on its way by cable.

2/1/41

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Botanical Research

Feb. 1, 1941

Dear Degener:

Yesterday came a letter from the High Commissioner in response to the letter of introduction I gave to Mrs. Archbold explaining why some things she wished to accomplish could or could not be done; a very nice letter which I answered this morning, which reminded me that perhaps it might be in order for me to write again to in view of the fact that I mentioned you specifically in my letter to the High Commissioner. I sort of read between the lines in the last letter received from you that some conditions on the Cheng Ho were not too satisfactory and have thought it possible that you might sever connections provided you could secure a permit to remain in Fiji for collecting; maybe there will be another letter from you in the next mail, i.e., Monday. But I am leaving for Cuba on Tuesday to be away for at least two weeks. I tried to get my last letter to you airmail via Los Angeles to catch a boat out, as I noticed a statement regarding the closing of mails from Boston.

I have talked with Smith and he can handle anything that comes up in my absence, as he is authorized to sign for me and to approve bills. The grant that I "dangled before your eyes" was a modest one, for I cannot go beyond \$500.00 and, with present conditions, would prefer to make it smaller---you can understand this from your own experience where you have to keep expenditures within certain bounds. But you never gave me the data I asked for as to how we could forward funds in case you need money while in Fiji. What banks -- I suppose probably a branch of some Australian, perhaps a Canadian one. Can funds be cabled to Suva? If you have enough to "get by" on in Fiji, assuming that you may stop there for collecting, then we could make our settlement later; but if you need funds we should know how we can get them to you expeditiously, draft by mail, or cabled funds.

I enclose a label we had prepared for the first lot of material you sent which I hope will be satisfactory. Yesterday came three more packages, but these were placed in fumigation immediately on delivery and I haven't seen the material, as I was in Cambridge at the time.

Smith says that in your first lot some of your "numbers" were very large (a few I suppose); he estimates 25 specimens for a few. Many are, of course smaller, which will mean very ragged sets. We both think that roughly 15 specimens per number should be ample, for small sets are difficult to dispose of whether by sale or on exchange. I wanted that if we were to use all for exchanges, which of course we shall not do, I judge that many of the "sets" would be

relatively small.

Should matters develop to a point where we actually make a grant to cover the "expenses of cooperative field work" we will have to work out some scheme that will be mutually satisfactory to you and to the Arboretum as to how the duplicates should be handled. There is really no difficulty here as I am sure that we can work together. For the present we shall, of course, do nothing more than take out a set for mounting and get material into the hands of a few specialists. All details can wait (other than these) until you shall have finished your present botanical raid and are again settled down in Honolulu.

I am clipping the stamps on your packages to be returned to you in Honolulu, knowing you to be an ardent stamp collector. I am going to hold this over until Monday morning to see if the first delivery brings in anything new from you as to your problems and plans.

Very truly yours

E.D. Merrill
E.D. Merrill

B
Keep us posted as to where letters
possible cables will reach you!

SM

11/8/41
In any further correspondence
refer to No



Telephone No.: B 1541

Telegraphic Address:
"Agriculture."

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND STOCK

BRISBANE, B. 7.
8th January, 1941.

Dear Mr. Degener,

In clearing up some specimens that had not been placed away in the Herbarium, I came across your No. 11069 collected by you on the 25/2/37 as *Ficus stenocarpa* F. Muell.?

It is certainly not that species which is very common in coastal Queensland. I have also seen it in New Caledonia.

If times were more normal I would suggest that you send specimens to Mr. V.S. Summerhayes at Kew for identification. Mr. Summerhayes has a very excellent knowledge of figs, and as you probably know, has done a lot of work on them.

The last word I had from Kew was that it had been rather badly bombed in spots, but fortunately so far the Herbarium building had got off with a number of broken panes.

With kind regards,

Yours truly,

B. T. White

GOVERNMENT BOTANIST.

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua,
OAHU. T.H.

4/10/1940

Back in England
sheet

Wailan, Calif.
Saturday.

Dear Foshberg:

Enclosed is the Isula paper. Please look it over for mistakes. I may have missed some. I note we do not have the number of Humera's Flora fascicle for 1875. This, for consistency sake, should be given. While you are at it, please get some for my Humera gigantic var. mixta Humera in Flora (?): 188. 1875, and write it in for Porter. Near bottom of page we state "It was collected in 1933 northwest of San Francisco" but don't state by whom. I think I am the fellow, but not sure it was not you. Please add the finder and rush the 2 Isula pages and the two Humera page to Porter. He will then have everything ready I hope for no this coming Friday.

Being left hanging in mid air without position is a most disagreeable feeling to which one does get accustomed. Don't take your being turned down by Harvard and others seriously. There are so many applicants that the acceptance of anyone is close to a miracle. During 1933-36 when I went through hell thanks to Gregory, I applied to various and corporations for help to continue my exploring. I came close to being accepted (so I thought) but was never final choice. Gregory extended the time limit to allow me to apply and made special ruling to include Territories as well as continental U.S. for their range. I thought I had a hellishly sure but it was finally denied. They had over 800 other applicants. Every letter gave my heart a upset and my face a flush. For I am hardened and more or less self-satisfied - so what I please in Botany and don't care what others think about it. In other words, I am a horrible example of a botanist running neck.

There is some danger of your getting into a rut by going into plantation work or teaching biology to groups of juvenile misfits when you should be teaching in a college or studying for a Ph.D. If you once get into a school, I fear you will postpone breaking away from easy bread and butter year after year and never get into something better. You would rust out. Here is my suggestion, prompted largely by selfish reasons so have a care:

Mark time until something good turns up but don't mark time too long. Apply for the following year's U.S. Fellowship. Apply to the University and for teaching jobs in mainland colleges. While having these iron in the fire do collecting with Henry on Volcan if possible (helped by the \$50 per month U.S. cash). Let me get the credit and advertising I deserve on plants, and let us print the results jointly in my Flora. Whenever we do not agree, we can easily come to some understanding by you printing your version and I printing mine. Then while that is going on why not we two together try to clean up the 200 - 300 drawings I have on hand by printing them? Many of the plants are just plain rubbish but, nevertheless, must be in a Flora. I can reserve some more U.S. cash for you for this purpose. But with printing and other cost on hand, and little coming in by sale of books and plants, I can't be lavish. It would help us jointly, I cleaning up my half-finished material during my lifetime and you still doing taxonomy while marking time for a decent job. And during your marking time, you would not be eating up your savings.

I still do think that your failing in the eyes of the powers that be is too great energy, too great popularity among the students, and too much publishing. You are a local comet threatening to flash through the horizon tannic sky and to hide the light of mediocre stars. It is too bad you are such a horrible lumper, FNE, FSE, FSE!!!

Think it over at your ease.

Aloha and good luck,

Otho Siger

12/14/40

Your letter of Nov.25 has just arrived, and I am writing to Miss Reay by this same mail, copy of my letter enclosed. Thanks for your interest in the matter. I hope that something really good will develop. Incidentally I wrote you by ordinary mail, about the time you were leaving Honolulu, in care of the Harbormaster, Suva, indicating that Smith and I hoped that you would plan to spend some time in Fiji after the cruise of the Chang Ho ends, with view to making a real botanical raid there; and Smith enclosed an outline indicating desirable places to visit etc., and gave the names of people who could help if they are still in Suva. I suppose that this reached you OK.

flies in the ointment, but don't eat em alive. You will soon find out what can and what can't be done on such a cruise as the projected one of the Teng Ho. We are counting on some fine collections as we seem to be getting into our stride on New Guinea, the Solomons, New Hebrides, etc. Robbins is going to loan us the enormous Polynesian card index I built up in Manila and in New York, and Smith and I plan to complete it by inclusion of items from various new sources (I have added nearly 600 titles to my Polynesian bibliography), and maybe we will go ahead in "digesting" the data, now on cards, with view to preparing and publishing a Bibliographical Enumeration of Polynesian plants, something like the large volume I did "on Borneo.

Keep us as well posted as you can as to where you plan to go, and when you hope to be back in Suva. I asked in the letter referred to that you give me data as to air mail connections, banks or similar agencies, telegraphic communications, etc. as to Suva; for it may well be that there might be a need of a little "rush" in getting funds to you in case you do find it possible to stay over in Fiji after the cruise or cruises of the Teng Ho end. I indicated a modest grant from AA funds, and that it might be as high as \$ 500.00. I gave you the reasons why we wanted extensive Fiji collections, to use the duplicates as a clubb to make certain individuals in Hawaii toe the mark--you amigo SJ has his eye on Fiji and we wish to be in a position to make him "open up". I think I told you that in all the years that I had been on the "staff" of the B.M. that I had never received any duplicate material at any institution--California, New York, or here; but after I left N.Y. some of the Guam stuff went ~~there~~ there--now I am supposed to know something about the Guam flora and could have helped considerably had I been given a chance to look at some of the material; and could have obviated some terrible blunders in identifications incidentally. Well, enough of this.

I shall be in Miami on Feb.6, and after that a week or so in Cuba as the Atkins Institution, Cienfuegos. Other than this trip nothing more than very short ones stare me in the face, so I expect to be on the job here practically all the time. The stage is set for work on Fiji with Smith on the job here. So more power to you.

With best wishes, and my regards to Mrs. Archbold and other members of the expedition.

Yours
E. S. Merrill

11/12/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
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Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

November 18, 1940

Dear Degener:

Your postcard just received announcing the time of your departure, with impedimenta, for Suva. Best luck and buen viaje. We hope that everything will turn out well and that you will have the opportunity of making really significant and important collections. I have today written to Mrs. Archbold at Suva, as the same mail brought an enthusiastic letter from her written on the Monterey, telling me that passport difficulties had been ironed out and that the Cheng Ho had arrived in Suva.

Both Dr. Smith and I feel that if possible for you to do so that you should try to do some real collecting in Fiji after the expedition returns to Suva. I enclose a statement prepared by Smith for your information. We are so much intrigued by this possibility - - - for Smith is really interested in the Fijian flora and is thoroughly competent to work material from there - - - that I am willing to commit the A.A. for at least a modest subsidy, on the sets of duplicates, and dispose of them on your account. - - - the subsidy proposition because then we could control the disposal of the sets and use this material as a club on recalcitrants. As you know, Dr. - - - and St. John isn't going to loosen up on any material if I know him, and if my hunch on the B.M. situation is correct. If we had some important collections from Polynesia, Melanesia, or what not that the B.M. needed, then I could "talk turkey" and make them come across, or - - - I think I wrote you to the general effect that I could only conclude that in spite of all that I have done to help the B.M. (Bibl. and Polynesian card catalogue), that the present regime there were intent on not letting any Polynesian material get into my hands for fear that I might break out and describe a Polynesian species or two. Wouldn't it be just too bad?

Smith and I are planning to amplify and complete the Polynesian card index if we can get a loan of the N.Y. set, and I think we can. I have nearly 600 additional titles in my unpublished supplement to the Polynesian Bibliography, and I may or may not have duplicate slips prepared for the additions that we shall make. I really am so fed up on the narrow attitude of the Honolulu botanical "leaders" that I do not feel at all disposed to continue assisting as I have in the past. So you see, feeling as I now do, a nice Fiji collection would give us a really "BIG STICK!"

I said "modest subsidy" because I am not a prophet and cannot see very far into the future. Under anything approaching normal conditions I would say you might expect several hundred dollars, if we do not have to revise budgets downward on account of reduced income; if you can arrange to spend a reasonable amount of time in Fiji I would be willing to set up at least \$500.00 on account of this Fiji venture. But even under reduced income, there are other possible sources of funds if we have a really good proposition that appeals to at least one of our wealthy supporters. There is no need to be more specific now, for if you can manage to stay over in Fiji and can assemble good collections, as I know you can, then matters can be settled to our mutual satisfaction later; i.e., either by our undertaking to determine material and making up sets to be disposed of on your account, or by our subsidizing you during the time you are to remain in Fiji.

In any case please look into the possibility of our being able to cable funds to Fiji; i.e., the name of the bank, etc., and if air mails are operating. We could have the University cable funds which would be the quickest way, or if air mails are not available, send an air mail letter. I assume that you will have some personal funds with you so that speed may not be essential in reference to possible transfer of money to you in Fiji - - you see this is based on an assumption that all will be well with you and that we shall be in a position to make the advance if and when the time comes.

I enclose a memorandum that I asked Dr. Smith to prepare for you.

Very truly yours

E. D. Merrill

E. D. Merrill
Director

EDM:CG
Encl.

11/18/40

(1101-21st St.)
Arlington, Va.
Washington, D. C.
November 18, 1940

Dear Otto:

According to various reports you are at last embarked and on your way. I got your card, asking for credentials from the U. S. D. A., but Mr. Morrison said he had been down and talked to the State Dept. people and had given them full assurances about you and the rest of the party, so that no letter would be necessary.

As space seems to be at a premium on the vessel, I would suggest that each time you get to a port where mail can be sent, you ship your accumulations back, by mail if the package is small, by freight if large. And be sure to wrap the plants in waterproof tar-paper or something of the sort, with naphthalene or paradichlorobenzene, and tie the plants between boards. Probably if you shipped them here there would be less red tape getting them in. I would be glad to take care of them for you, and to get them sent to wherever you say. In fact, I will divide them into sets, send groups to specialists, identify the obvious ones, and do everything but write the labels, if you want me to. Merrill will, I think, publish anything that can be got out on groups or islands very promptly. I am going to talk to him about the whole proposition as soon as he comes down here, or at Philadelphia next month. As for the extra duplicates, sell them, by all means. If your stuff is in good shape, you should be able to get 15 or 20 cents a sheet.

If you can find the time, and are not too seasick, I would suggest that you write up all the notes you can collect on the various islands, with a view to using the material in floras of the islands. For example, if you do visit the Ellice Islands, collect even the common things on all the islands. There are no mountains there. Write up good notes, then we can publish a flora of the Ellice Is. when the material is worked up. I have the beginnings of such a flora already compiled, and it would not be too much work to complete it with your material. Also, if you do visit Rennell and Bellona Islands, I have a flora partly written of the few things known from there, and you could without doubt multiply the number of species by ten, many of them new. By all means get up onto the plateau at Rennell, and get everything in sight. If you return through eastern Polynesia, remember my interests there, too.

Did you finally get to take your Filipino boy along? I hope so.

If you come to the East when you come back, plan to spend a good while with us. We have plenty of room.

Please give Mrs. Archbold my best regards.

Aloha from both Violet and me, and we hope you don't get as seasick as I did.

Ray

Je.
18

11/15740

Dalagatan 72,
Stockholm, Sweden,
November 15, 1940.

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu,
T.H.

Dear Degener: -

Recently I received from you two series of leaves for Book IV and a proof-sheet with the new description of *Lipochaeta tenuis* var. *Sellingii*, evidently sent by you at different times, finally also a letter, dated April 3, in which you wrote that Sherff had confirmed the belief I remember you had already when the new *Lipochaeta* was collected: it is a variety of *tenuis*. I was glad to get all these things and I want to thank you ever so much for your kindness to send them. I hope that this letter will reach you and that I shall not get it back with the common note that the postal communications do not work.

This year has been a long military service year even in this country. I was sent to Royal Military College School at Karlberg Castle near Stockholm. When this course was finished 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ month ago, I got permission for some months to spend my time at the university. Now I am devoting all my time to the Hawaiian bog material (pollen analyses). I am glad to be able to push this study forward again.

Skottsberg will become 60 years of age on the 1st of December. Swedish botanists are going to publish three botanical volumes in honor of him; they will also coin a medal with his portrait on,

and a big copy of this medal will be placed somewhere in the Institution Building in Gothenburg Botanical Gardens.

Finally I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With best wishes and kindest regards to you and to Emilio,

Sincerely yours,

Olaf H. Selling

10/31/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
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Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

Oct. 31, 1940

Dear Degener:

Got back from Phila and N.Y. yesterday with a combined Philadelphia-New York polyvalent cold, and stayed in bed all day. This morning I found your postcard indicating delay in start for Suva. I had written nothing recently thinking that probably you were "on your way". I have sort of suspected that there might be some difficulties in relation to pass ports, sailing permits, etc., but I note that this situation is now complicated by withdrawal of certain ships. Just how matters can be adjusted no I do not know; but the delay will at least give you an opportunity of finding out more about objectives, space, etc. etc., than you could possibly do by correspondence.

I suspect, from putting two and two together, that Fairchild had certain difficulties in reference to the preparation of botanical specimens, perhaps because of inadequate space; but I would never suspect that an individual like Fairchild would improvise and adapt. And I suspect that success on a trip like the proposed one will be largely due to one ability to improvise and to adapt himself to what is available.

Anyway, I hope, now that you have actually planned to go, that arrangements can be made for the trip and that if you do get away, the trip will be successful.

Take advantage of this opportunity of expressing my personal appreciation of the courtesies you extended to Mrs. Merrill while she was in Honolulu. She is due home today!

Very truly yours

E. D. Merrill

10/29/40

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE
EAST LANSING

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

October 29, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, T.H.

My dear Mr. Degener:

Your letter of October 10 reached me about a week ago but the specimens did not arrive until yesterday afternoon. I have counted these over hastily and there are approximately 160 numbers, a few of them identified as to species, more identified as to genus only and most not identified at all.

In view of the fact that you charge ten dollars per hundred for your Hawaiian Herbarium Specimens which are completely identified and ready to be mounted, I do not think we would be justified in paying at the rate of ten cents a specimen. I am, however, making a requisition for ten dollars to cover the lot. This would be a little over six cents apiece per specimen. I cannot send you a check for the amount because the red tape involved requires that your signature must be had on the official paper before you can receive the money. The purchasing agent will send you this requisition and the papers requiring your signature.

I envy you your chance to collect in the various Pacific Isles. Be careful not to fall off the boat and be eaten up by a shark or what is perhaps equally fatal, don't get yourself eaten up by some cannibal native on some of the islands where you stop. With your knowledge of the Pacific Islands' flora, I think you are especially well fitted to make a trip of this kind. Of course, if you should see leaf fungi and fungi on herbaceous stems which can be pressed and handled in the same way as you would the higher plants, you may be sure that I would be tickled to death to receive these, provided the host is named at least to the genus.

Our Fall weather is well underway but we have had nice Indian Summer most of the time. Today is rainy and dark. We have had a few frosts but right at present, the temperature outdoors is about 55 degrees.

I am keenly anticipating my return to the Hawaiian Islands sometime in the future. That will be several years distant, if ever.

I just had begun to scratch the surface as far as Mycology is concerned. I will know what to look for should I come again.

I hope you will have a very pleasant trip and I know you will find it interesting.

With kindest regards.

Very truly yours,

Ernst A. Bessey

Ernst A. Bessey,
Professor of Botany

10/24/40

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Oct. 24, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener
Suva

Dear Degener:

I don't know for certain that you will receive a letter so vaguely addressed, but I am afraid that it is too late to address you at Wailua. Dr. Merrill says that he wrote you to Hawaii yesterday, but since you expect (expected?) to leave Honolulu the latter part of October, I hardly see how his letter will reach you. As you may have heard, I have abandoned New York for Arnold, and now have the intention of resuming my work in the Pacific which was barely begun on my Fijian trip in 1933-34. Hence, you may imagine, I was greatly interested to hear that you are accompanying Mrs. Archbold, and this letter is primarily to assure you that any plants you may obtain will be promptly studied, if you will follow Dr. Merrill's suggestion and send them to us. As he doubtless told you, we would prefer to handle the whole collection here, making it up into sets which can be distributed as you decide. I hope you are planning to collect in at least several sets - as doubtless you are. This will not be a hardship, as you will find many places where species are few and you will need volume to keep you busy. I don't know how much of the collection you would like to handle personally, but if you will permit us to do the sorting and the routine determinations, we will of course send you any special families you want to work on, although I doubt if Honolulu is as good a place for study of the western Pacific as Arnold. The amount of New Guinea and Solomon material here is already impressive, but it can stand a great deal of addition.

Your route is something of a mystery to me, but I might mention a few of the places you may visit which need collecting. Doubtless you know a lot more about the region than I and the following is superfluous. If you have any time in Fiji, we are most in need of material from high elevations on Viti Levu. You know of St. John's collection there, but it is my impression that he spent too short a time on the central plateau (Mt. Monivatu) to do much intensive work. If you should by any chance have as much as a couple of months in Fiji, this is the area most needing work, but it can hardly be attempted in less time. I feel that I covered the southern slopes of Vanua Levu pretty well. Of the smaller islands, there are many which have never been visited, but on the whole they are not exciting botanically. If you make a cruise through Lau, the southern island, Ono-i-lau, sounded interesting to me because of its comparative isolation.

If I understand Mrs. Archbold's plans, you will be travelling westward and will perhaps pass through the New Hebrides, which are even more uncollected than Fiji. Any material at all from this group is bound to be interesting and to contain novelties. In general, as you certainly appreciate, the best collecting is on the summits and on the wet slopes approaching them. If you have any choice in the matter and have a period of some weeks ashore in the New Hebrides,

I suggest as an objective the higher hills on Espiritu Santo, which get up to 1680 m., higher than anything in Fiji. But anything, with the exception of the coastal and mangrove areas, in the New Hebrides will be worth a large slice of time. From the Santa Cruz group we have essentially no material and anything will be welcome.

If you continue to move west, of course the best bet in the whole Pacific, as you know, is the Solomons. Here you can just pick up any plant you find, away from the coast, with some assurance that it will be a novelty or a new record. Personally, if given any choice, I would head for the interiors on the larger islands like Malaita, Guadalcanal, and Ysabel. I have no idea of what work in the Solomons will be like, but I don't doubt that a period of a week or two on an island would let you reach a pretty good elevation. I don't suppose your party will get farther west into the Bismarck group or New Guinea proper, but there of course any material is "jewelry." But work in that region probably needs a big party and to get into the interior by oneself is out of the question. New Caledonia, if you go there, is full of endemics which are not represented in American herbaria.

Well, I guess I have mentioned the western groups which you are likely to visit, and anyway this information will be unnecessary to you. I do hope, however, that your collecting won't be circumscribed by a boat-to-shore system. You must plan on being left behind at good "bridgeheads" and picked up later by the boat, so you can spend some weeks in the interiors. Collecting within a day of the shores will of course produce some swell things, but the real important work means living in interior villages and camps at the bases of mountains.

I have been here at Harvard only a few weeks, but it is going to be extremely pleasant living and working here. Of course, the herbarium isn't in the good condition that New York is, due to lack of space, but we are hoping to remedy that eventually. Probably I shall do less on S. America in the future and more in the Pacific, especially the western part, and in this connection you understand my interest in your trip and my personal desire to see that the collection is handled here, where I believe we are better equipped to do it than elsewhere in America. I hope you will have occasion to visit us after your return.

In Suva you may see many of my acquaintances, and I do not send you letters of introduction since you will doubtless meet them otherwise. Please get acquainted with, and give my regards to: Sir Maynard Hedstrom (Morris Hedstrom Ltd.) who will give you some invaluable connections for work within Fiji; Mr. A. L. Armstrong, Colonial Secretary's Office, who can provide you with introductions to District Commissioners, etc.; Ratu Sukuna, same office or perhaps still District Commissioner of Lau (most helpful person in Fiji, as to establishing contacts with natives); Mr. Allport Barker, editor of the local paper; Mr. George Barker, in charge of the Museum. But let me warn you not to let the latter loan you a halfcaste "assistant" named Charlie Jesse (no good). In fact, I advise you throughout to hire native laborers and not those who are a little better than the average or spoiled by contact with Europeans. (You know this I'm sure).

Well, this is to wish you the best of luck and good health, etc. Please let us know where we can reach you by mail and write occasionally to either Dr. Merrill or me. You may be sure that I'll think of you often during the long Boston winter.

Sincerely,

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

10/23/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain
Atkins, Department of the Arnold Arboretum,
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Botanical Research

Oct. 23, 1940

Dear Degener:

I have your letters of Oct. 9 and Oct. 11, but do not know whether or not this response will reach you before you leave for Suva; if you shall have left, then doubtless you have made arrangements for having mail (of certain classes) forwarded. I have no idea how I shall be able to keep in touch with the expedition as the Cheng Ho sails here, there, and elsewhere. I think that you have the "picture" of the "Abdullah" collections. There are no particular strings on that, will you say, collect, and the first second and third sets, etc. will you ever you indicate if I have anything to do with the distribution of the material-- Arnold, New York, Washington. Doubtless you will wish to retain a set for your own herbarium. Seeing that extra sets should not be disposed of as you indicate, I think it is a basis that "for a set" a contribution to your publishing will be acceptable. On the whole, now that Smith is definitely interested in the expedition, I think that this is a logical "center" for the study, and distribution, and I rather feel that this would be Arnold's wish. I don't think that there are any "commitments" to Washington other than a tentative agreement that a set should go there; and logically, it should go to Washington.

I am particularly pleased to get the "picture" you have painted of the botanical situation in Honolulu; I had suspected as much, re SJ. at least.

If there be any of keeping in touch with the expedition please let me know, if you get under way. Doubtless you will from time to time be where air mail facilities are available, and you may know of "posts of call" etc.

I try to sort of tip you off on which might be possible, and what might be left alone. You will find out from experience what can and what cannot be accomplished. Mrs. A. was willing to take your assistant along, and to mate with the crew, and this may still be worked out. I do hope that everything works out reasonably well and that you will have the opportunity of making important collections. Details as to the actual handling of the material can be settled later as I have an entirely open mind on the matter, which is more than some botanists we might mention could claim! I would hate to see the material go to the BM. with the present attitude of its botanical "staff" but would rather see it being used as a CLUB to make them see the light, take a reasonable attitude as to collections, and not play the dog in the manger. It has been dog in the manger as far as I am concerned ever since I was made a member of the staff of the Museum, for I have felt strongly-- so strongly at times that I have

threatened to resign- that those in authority in botanical matters feared that I would break into the Polynesian field more than in that of bibliography, and hence nothing should be placed where I could see it ! Yet the whole staff have the benefit of all that I have done bibliographically, and this includes a duplicate slip of all the species references that I have prepared from about 1919 to date, I estimate 40-45,000 individual entries. So don't feel that as far as some individuals are concerned that you are the only parish-botanically I feel that I am also in the same class, Polynesianxially speaking.

Got to close to catch the mail out

Hastily

W. Merrell
EDM

10/20/40

IOWA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT: E. J. Cable, Ph. D., Head

A. E. Aitchison, M. S., Geography
Marguerite Uttley, Ph. D., Geography
W. S. Scott, Ph. D., Agriculture
C. W. Lantz, Ph. D., Botany
W. H. Shafer, Ph. D., Chemistry
Louis Begeman, Ph. D., Physics

Martin L. Grant, Ph. D., Botany
Roy L. Abbott, Ph. D., Biology
H. Earl Rath, Ph. D., Physiology & Hygiene
R. W. Getchell, Ph. D., Chemistry
W. H. Kadesch, Ph. D., Physics
F. Hersey, B. Ph., Physics

October 20, 1940.

Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, T.H.

Dear Mr. Degener:-

Vol. 4 of your Flora Hawaiensis has been recently received, and enclosed is a check for \$3.50 to cover same. I shall be very pleased to receive any further additions to this magnificent work as soon as they may be published.

I have complete copies of Centuries 1, and 2, and about half of Century 3. I shall be very glad to purchase the rest of Century 3, and the sheets needed are listed on an enclosure.

In my copy of Century 4, there were two sheets of Gouldia₂ but none of Gouldia₁, which is accordingly listed on the enclosure with the other desiderata. The extra sheet of Gouldia₂, as well as an extra sheet of Leucanthemum which was included, is enclosed herewith.

I notice the Temporary Index to Centuries 1-4 lists Korthalsella complanata, which sheet I have not seen, and am accordingly requesting, but the index fails to list K. Remyana which you have published. Incidentally, here are some other omissions from the index: Alternanthera repens, Bidens schizoglossa, Chrysophyllum cainito, Doryopteris, Fagara semiarticulata, and Silene anglica.

I have been curious as to the procedure followed in preparing the index mentioned. For most of the families listed in the index no family sheets have been published, and there is no way to tell from the index which ones have been treated. According to my compilation 27 family sheets have been published (Aristoloch., Batid., Begon., Bix., Caric., Cassyth., Commelin., Cuscut., Dioscor., Gooden., Hydrophyll., Junc., Legumin., Lemna., Loranth., Lycopod., Marsil., Ophiogloss., Passiflor., Phytolacc., Runic., Rhamn., Rhizophor., Santal., Schizae., Tacc., and Zygophyllaceae). If there are any more I should be glad to receive them. In some instances the family name is entered, but the type genus is not, hence there is no way to tell from the index that the following sheets have appeared: Amaranthus spinosus, Batis maritima, Marsilea villosa, and Pittosporum undulatum.

In other cases the separate species that have appeared are entered in the index, but the genus sheets are not there; this applies to Bidens, Colubrina, Coffea, Korthalsella, Santalum, and Verbesina, all of which have appeared. For some genera, e.g. Curcuma, the genus and the species are listed separately. For many genera the index lists each species (e.g., Clermontia, Bidens), but for most of them there is simply a genus entry (e.g. Cyanea, Panicum), with no indication as to what species, if any, have been treated. In bound books this would not be particularly important, perhaps, but a loose-leaf work, with additions appearing irregularly, might require more complete listing. The index lists many synonyms with references to the appropriate species, but the recognized species in most cases do not appear in the listing.

The value of your work on Hawaiian botany to me cannot be overemphasized, and I am listing the above inconsistencies not in a spirit of criticism, but in the hope that they might be considered in preparing future volumes.

Has a table of contents of Century 4 been published? Without it, I have no way of knowing if my copy is complete.

Thanking you, I remain

Very sincerely,

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

What I wanted
answers him
on my return
to How

10/17/40

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 17, 1940

Dr. Otto Degenger
2220 University Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Dr. Degenger:

Thank you very much for the copy of
your Flora of Hawaii containing the grass descrip-
tions we wanted, which you have kindly contributed
to the Library of the Grass Herbarium. I appreciate
this very much.

Yours sincerely,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase,
Custodian of Grasses.

10/12/40

DEPAUW UNIVERSITY
GREENCASTLE, INDIANA

October 12, 1940.

Dear Mr. Degener:

I have just gotten your card and learn of your proposed trip to Melanesia. Congratulations. I know that you have wanted to do just this thing and I am glad that you are to have the chance to go down under. I am sending this hoping it may reach you in time to bid you Aloha and bon voyage and all that and to ask that you send me a letter from the various islands you are on and paste them up very well with sets of their stamps so I can have them for my collection. I will gladly re-imburse you for their cost. I have one from each place I have been and right now they are in display in one of our book store windows.

I can give you no information you do not already know other than to suggest that you will be taking out good insurance by taking your pressing papers with you. You may be able to pick them up but it is my experience that one often has difficulty in getting paper in these outlandish places because the papers are not many and there are numerous uses for them after they have been passed around through numerous reader's hands. I would take all I could possibly be allowed.

I envy you your trip and wish I could go along with you. Pick up all dodders (doubt your finding many, if any) for me. My take on the melanesian peps. if I ever get the work in hand done.

Again let me say take care of yourself, have a swell time and let me hear from you from time to time if you can find time to drop a note.

Aloha and best wishes,

W. G. Y.

10/10/40

TELEPHONE SEDGWICK 3-3200

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK (FORDHAM BRANCH P. O.)
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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WILLIAM J. ROBBINS

October 10, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua
Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener:

I have word from Dr. Merrill
that The New York Botanical Garden is to have a
set of plants from your proposed Melanesian trip.
This is in answer to your post card advising us
of your arrangements. Good hunting!

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours

William J. Robbins
William J. Robbins
Director

10/8/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

Oct. 8, 1940

Dear Degener:

Mrs. Archbold wrote me from Washington just before she left for San Francisco yesterday that she was having some passport difficulties, or perhaps "permit" difficulties but seemed to be optimistic that everything would be worked out satisfactorily. Today I had a note from Robbins quoting you as saying that a set should go to N.Y. Yes, by all means, and all you have to do is to make the suggestion or recommendation. Mrs. A. indicated to me that she would like to have the collection handled through the Arboretum; that is, in a way she did, for she sent a suggested form of wording for herbarium labels. Swingle and Fosberg have interested her in a set for Washington, which is OK. New York ought to have a set, and I might say would automatically receive one if the material be handled through the AA. There ought to be an understanding that a set would go to Kew or the British Museum in view of the fact that you will visit British possessions if the trip comes off as planned---this always helps in getting permits etc., and is, of course, a logical thing to do. There aren't any definite instructions, other than suggestions for the AA and Washington, and I have an idea that we will have practically a free hand on the distribution of sets, just as Richard Archbold left in my hands the distribution of the New Guinea material---the understanding here is that study set remains here, first duplicate set to Leiden and second to Buitenzorg; otherwise I have full discretion in the distribution of the material.

Incidentally I don't think that you need bother too much over ~~French~~ French visas, as you may not visit any French possessions. If you can get them, then OK., but I wouldn't hesitate to start without them.

You will remember that, space probably being at premium on the Cheng Ho, I suggested shipping material from time to time rather than attempting to keep the entire collection together on the Cheng Ho; and I suggested that you might ship direct to the AA or to Honolulu. Use your own best judgement. After all we are interested in reasonably comprehensive collections from an interesting region, and details can be worked out later to the satisfaction of all concerned. I do hope that everything works out well.

I wrote Mrs. A. about your Filipino assistant suggesting that it would probably be OK if he bunked with the crew and took potluck with them. She said that she would talk with you about the matter when she got to Honolulu. This may be the solution to the problem of taking him along. Hastily,

10/6/40

1101 - 21 St. S.
Arlington, Va.
Oct. 6, 1940

Dear Otto:

Yesterday evening I had tea with your charming hostess-to-be, Mrs. Archbold, at her home, and answered questions of all sorts about the South Seas, etc., looked at pictures taken on her other expedition in the Moluccas, and blew your horn in great style. The boat you are going on is amazing.

I looked over the bundle of plants the other day that you sent to me at the office. All are Rubiaceae except one *Diospyros*. Someone had detached part of the stamps, and the others are safely reposing in my desk at the office, where I won't be able to get them in time to put in this letter, as I am leaving tomorrow morning for a ten day trip to Cape Hatteras.

Now for a few especial desiderata to look for on your trip. On coral islands (low) and beaches of others you should find *Hedyotis romanzoffiensis* (0.5-1 m. tall, thick obovate leaves, small green flowers almost hidden by the leaves, and conspicuous purple and white berries the size of marbles). It has not been reported from the western Pacific, but is probably there. Look especially in Fiji. Other species of *Hedyotis*, of diverse aspect, should be on elevated coral limestone. *Psychotria* will be everywhere, most likely. Most of them will look somewhat like *Straussia*, but perhaps with longer corolla. Don't be afraid you will get too many of the same species. There are dozens of species that look much alike. And get material showing terminal buds with their surrounding stipules. Also notes on color and odor of corolla, color and fleshiness of fruit. Approximate altitude of locality will be of much interest. Get *Lepidium bidentatum* wherever you find it. On the raised coral islands, and others too, you will find species of *Ixora* with only a few flowers (3-10) between large cordate bracts. I would like many collections from each island. Apparently most islands have at least one endemic species. Of course I would like to see much material of *Diospyros*. And there will be lots of different ones. It would be interesting, on low islands and beaches, if you could find dwarf *Bragrostis*, similar to *B. paupera* and my *B. whitneyi*. They should be there. Australia to Christmas Island is too big a gap. I would like to see material of *Pisonia* (*Ceodes*, etc.) from as many places as possible. Also the various forms of *Boerhaavia*. If any have a white rust, with attendant change in growth habit, collect them for me. Theoretically I am writing a paper on this. If you get to S. E. Polynesia, keep an eye open for *Fitchia*, a genus of tree composites that I am interested in. They have a huge head of flowers somewhat like *Hesperomannia*. Get color notes if in bloom.

Bon Voyage from us both. Aloha, Ray

2014/40

Bernice P. Bishop Museum
Honolulu, Hawaii

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that Otto Degener,
American citizen of Honolulu, Hawaii, is authorized to collect plants in the western Pacific on behalf of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, to aid in the study of the botany of the Pacific area. Any assistance given to him will be highly appreciated by this Museum.

Peter H. Duck.
Director

October fourth, nineteen hundred and forty.

10/2/40

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
GROUND-WATER DIVISION
333 FEDERAL BUILDING, HONOLULU, HAWAII

October 2, 1940

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Mr. Otto Degener for ten years intimately. His great ability in botany is shown by his handsomely illustrated five volumes describing Polynesian plants. He is a staff member of the New York Botanic Garden and was formerly professor of botany at the University of Hawaii. His excellent character and charming personality have won many staunch friends in Hawaii.

H. T. Stearns
Harold T Stearns
Geologist in Charge
Hawaiian Ground-Water Investigations

Mr. Belcher at Wapora, Jarcuni
Bird enthusiast

9/28/40

Waialua, Oahu, T.H.
Sept. 28, 1940

Dear Mrs. Archbold:

I just received your letter of Sept. 22 which must have crossed mine of Sept. 25 in the mails. The day before I had cabled you my acceptance to your most wonderful invitation to botanize in Melanesia. I am most eager to go. On receiving your cable I began getting equipment together, started vaccination treatments, reserved passage on the Monterey, and made arrangements about my passport and proper visa. This last is a bit complicated as the French consul here just resigned in protest to France's capitulation.

Mrs. Merrill is at present visiting her daughter in Honolulu. Some weeks ago I invited them to come to dinner out here at my beach place in Waialua. My boy called for them in the car in Honolulu and on the way out stopped at the postoffice where he found your letter awaiting me. The Merrill's and I then read it together. This was quite a coincidence.

Although Mrs. Merrill is not a botanist, she suggested I be a little franker than in my previous letter to you. Dr. Coulter did "scare" me a bit by telling me the yacht would not have room for a trunk. I do not need a trunk but I fear for four months' collecting the necessary supply of blotters, driers, lanterns, newspapers and possibly kerosene would be rather bulky - easily taking up about as much space as two large trunks. Perhaps some of this material could be shipped on ahead from Suva to one of the islands we plan to visit later on. Without sufficient newspapers to dry and store the herbarium specimens, I would simply be lost.

In my collecting I am rather greedy, really a good quality. I do not just collect a few scraps of specimens but take as many as 25 of the same kind if possible. In that way I have ample material to show possible variations in the plant, and have enough material to send to many scientific institutions such as the National Museum in Washington, Arnold Arboretum, New York Botanical Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, University of Michigan, Groningen, Leiden, Berlin Botanic Garden, Stockholm, Geneva, Cornell, Royal Botanic Garden at Kew, etc. As I know the time must be spent in collecting a plant and studying it, I must have ample material to show for the effort. And usually it is not so easy to gather 25 specimens of a kind as it is to collect only 2 or 3 when in the field. So often only a few scraps of some plant are collected and available for study. After these have been pulled apart and dissected in order to describe and illustrate the variety, hardly anything is left of it to put in the museum! I therefore prefer to err on the greedy side if possible, and this requires an abundant supply of old newspapers.

It has been practice to distribute my plants for the most part gratis. I guess this free distribution is to be our practice likewise in the future. I am no longer interested in keeping plants for myself after I have once studied them. Hence I am gradually giving my personal set to the Bishop Museum of Honolulu as a gift. I have even gone a bit farther. As my relatives are in no need, I made the New York Botanical Garden my beneficiary five years ago on condition they complete my Flora where I must

leave off. That is my private contribution to Science, a drop in the bucket in comparison to your magnificent undertaking.

My second frank remark concerns a possible assistant. I have trained numerous boys to help search for and illustrate plants for my Flora of the Hawaiian Islands. The best of these is a bright, capable, pleasant Filipino youth, Emilio Ordonez, formerly my house boy. No doubt we can find any number of native porters. These, however, would be little better than just beasts of burden. This Filipino, if space were available to tuck him in, however, can collect with some intelligence. If you think it wise to have him, he could make drawings of our choicest finds while they are still fresh, and could occupy himself changing driers, writing labels and doing other time-consuming drudgery associated with preparing our catch. It would allow me more time to note down color and other features of our plants and to amass a larger collection. If you should approve the addition of this Filipino amamensis, I would be only too glad to defray his expenses. This is merely a suggestion I would never have dared make without Mrs. Merrill's remark yesterday.

Many of the islands you have chosen to explore are relatively unknown botanically. We should find many plants entirely new to Science, especially at higher elevations. I am eagerly looking forward to my arrival in Suva.

Sincerely,

9/27/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
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Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

Sept. 27, 1940

Dear Degener:

Mrs Archbold send me a copy of her cablegram to you and this morning she wrote that you had accepted her invitation to go on the raid from Suva. I hope that it works out to the satisfaction of all concerned. I suggested to her that we would like to have arrangements made that would insure a set of specimens coming to the Arboretum; but it may be that you may wish to go further and send the material, as collected, to us for identification, distribution, etc. However any arrangements that you make will be satisfactory. Dr. Smith has reported as Rehder's successor (A.C. Smith of New York) and he is quite interested in dipping further into Melanesian-Polynesian problems. Somehow we have never been able to develop any cooperation from the Bishop Museum, in spite of the fact that I have been a member of its staff for many years in an advisory capacity, and while I have done much bibliographical work, and provided a duplicate set of species slips to the Museum, I have never done much actual work on Polynesian plants. I have developed the idea that the botanists at the Museum have adopted a sort of dog in the manger policy, perhaps with the hope that they may be able to do all or most of the work. Now Smith, with sight determinations from me, would be in a strategic position to go ahead on the general study of any collections you may make, unless you prefer to do this work yourself. Let me know what you think about the matter.

David Fairchild is here now and his experiences on the Philippine-Molucca trip were not all happy ones, but I think that this is understandable, if one knows the Fairchilds. I judge that various members of the group "got on each others nerves". On a small boat and with a limited party, more or less isolated for rather long periods, the prime essential is to "play the game" and fit in personally as closely as possible. The botanical results of the Fairchild trip were negligible, the material brought back being very limited, very poorly selected and prepared, etc. Fairchild was after viable seeds; took very extensive notes, a great number of photographs, but, as in all his other travel work, neglected the botanical aspects; so that I have the prospect of trying to make determinations with insufficient material, often only leaf specimens, for in the case of Ficus, etc., while fruits were present, only leaves were preserved! Imagine how far one will get with such material. I really do not know how much space for storage of dried specimens, presses, etc. will be available, but you should look into this as far as possible before leaving Honolulu. Fairchild said that the space was limited and that he couldn't do much; but he never was a botanical collector. I have an idea that you can work out space requirements, and would suggest that you take with you a supply of ordinary unbleached white cloth and some paraffine; melt the paraffine and dip the cloth, using

this to wrap your bundles of dried specimens, for you will then have this material in moisture proof packages. It will probably be well to ship packages parcel post, or otherwise, from time to time as you visit places where shipment may be made, and shipment may be made here or to Honolulu as you prefer.

From what Mrs. Archbold told me I feel certain that she was very much disappointed in the botanical results of the first expedition, and that she will be inclined to do all that she reasonably can to accommodate a botanical collector; i.e., a real one, such as you are. While you may not always be able to do what you would like to do, from limitations as to time etc., I do hope that you will be able to get into the interior, i.e., into forested regions. If you can do this I know that you will grab everything in sight.

It may be that you may wish to take one of your trained assistants with you to help in collecting and in drying specimens. If so take this up with Mrs. Archbold when she arrives in Honolulu, for I think that she would agree, particularly if the assistant were willing to take pot luck with the crew.

As time is getting short I enclose a general letter of introduction for your use. If I can do anything else, please let me know.

Very truly yours

E. D. Merrill
E. D. Merrill

PS

Confidentially I understand that the
Rock collection of orientation is to
come to the Harvard-Yenching
Institute in Cambridge!

SM

10/1/40?

October 1st

TELEPHONE EMERSON 8008

Dear Mr. Bequest

"HILLDALE"
3905 RESERVOIR ROAD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Your letter was mailed Sep 25 and its
banded to me about 9 P.M. Sep 29. I should
think mind time - I am glad you are so
enthusiastic over the trip but it will not be possible
to take Emilio - there is no place for him
either to sleep or eat in the boat. The crew's
quarters are already crissed. so are mess
cabinets filled. I am sorry for the sounds
most competent and I know will be a
valuable help. The state dept here has
just told me they must get permission
from India for us to land in their ^{islands} islands.
So are calling all particulars. the answer
cannot possibly come before I leave. but I
am proceeding just the same. I plan to fly
for ^{Guatemala or the} Honduras about Oct. 15. So as to have
a few days before the Monterey leave on
the 21st for Suva. Ask Dr. Coulter to let
you know when I call him. I was
told before the Sir Henry Luke. Journal

at Suva would be able to put us all
necessary authority so there is a new
man in this part due to the war no
doubt. I do not think there will be any
serious difficulty but I wish I had more
time to clear it all up before I leave.
A cable came from Captain Stolfeld
this morning from Port Vila where ever that is -
saying he would be in Suva the middle of
October - check for him a little
time & put this in note before we
arrive. I return the photo & regret we
cannot take I wish -

Yours
Andrew Archibell



9/27/40

Sunday Sep 22

TELEPHONE EMERSON 8005

"HILLDALE"
3905 RESERVOIR ROAD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bennett.

A letter came last evening from
Mr. Merrill. He tells me he has sent you
a copy - Mr. Dingle & I have just
sent you a cable - I am most happy
to think that perhaps you may be able to
join us in the China Is. the Chinese junk
we were in in the Philippines last winter with
Mr. Fairchild's Expedition. She is the only
modern in all of our unit. 2 Diesel 10 horse
power engines. I have been looking at your
book on the Flora of the Hawaiian Islands
and am told you have a wonderful collection of
Hawaiian plants. Mr. Merrill suggests that we
send me a set of what you collect to Arnold
Arboretum. If possible an other set to the
National Arboretum at Washington DC.
You will need to buy drawers and holder
sheets - these will be impossible to obtain in
Oahu - you will need portable presses -
Mr. John W. Coulter is going for economic botany

Survey - Mr. Abbott - Mr. Church's assistant at
the Comparative Zoology at Harvard to land
shells - John Dwight will be in charge of
photography - The itinerary has been tentatively
arranged as Mr. Coulter's time is limited. He
must be back in Suva February 13.

I hope to fly from San Francisco about
Oct. 15. if the weather permits. I shall have
a berth reserved in the O.S. "Matamoros"
sailing Oct. 15. My address in San Francisco
after Oct 7: is St. Francis Hotel - you
can reach me here until Oct 4. Mr. Church
and Mr. Abbott are on their way to work
with Mr. Montague Cook at Honolulu.

I greatly hope you will be able
to come. Mr. Wiggins Mr. Richard Archbold
has actively pushed a collection of Hawaiian
plants in the Suva. I find every body
enthusiastic about the prospect of his work.

Yours truly
Richard Archbold.

You must buy a round trip ticket to Suva
or you will not be allowed to land. This can
of course be turned in if not used.

Mo I haven't heard from W. Bartram.
I have collected various bags of moss
+ put them by in case he wants
them, would they be any use to you
you can have them if they are.
There aren't many -

Prof. Merrill wrote & said they
had some mounted specimens
in America for me but I told
them not to bother to send them
till they justified a parcel.
Since then I have sent quite a
lot more but my rate of collection
would take a hundred years
to reach your 3000 mark!

I hope you have a good journey
on the 26th and wish you all
luck with your book. addressing
this to Susan as I don't know how
much longer you expect to be
at Ra. Excuse this awful scrawly
writing - the D. C. stole my nice

I only have this scrawly one left - you
may remember me to Smiths - Best regards
Gussie

4/18/40

DORMON & BUCKLEY
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS-AT-LAW
950 REAL ESTATE TRUST BUILDING
SOUTHEAST CORNER BROAD AND CHESTNUT STREETS
PHILADELPHIA

HORACE PAUL DORMON
ELTON J. BUCKLEY

April 18, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener
2220 University Avenue
Honolulu
Hawaii

Dear Mr. Degener:

Operculina
I am a member of the Horticultural Society of Pennsylvania, and we have in our library several volumes of your admirable Flora Hawaiiensis which places you in my mind as one of the outstanding figures among the horticulturists of the Hawaiian Islands.

Late in 1938 my wife, an enthusiastic amateur horticulturist and a very able "arranger", procured a few of the so-called Wooden Roses, which after much effort I later had identified as the seed pods of IPOMOEA TUBEROSA, probably native in the West Indies, but apparently more commonly found in the Hawaiian Islands than elsewhere.

My wife and I have tried growing them from seed in a greenhouse here, with no success. We also tried growing them in central Florida and succeeded in getting the vines to grow, but all our plants were killed by the unusually cold winter. We have some evidence that a few Wooden Roses have been grown in Florida, but we have concluded that Florida is not the place to grow them, and we are now trying it in Puerto Rico.

I am wondering if you would be kind enough to tell me what you can about the habit of growth of this plant, and to give me any cultural hints which you think would help me to grow it successfully in Puerto Rico. Unusual diligence on my part in going through botanical and horticultural literature has brought me very little actual information.

My horticultural knowledge is very thin and I am not sure that I shall use technical terms accurately. I have some authority for believing that IPOMOEA TUBEROSA grows freely from both seeds and cuttings. I have just sent some seeds to Puerto Rico. What I am anxious to know just now is whether the plant is an "annual" in the sense that it will produce flower, seed and seed pod in one single year; or whether it is a "biennial" in the sense that it takes two years to produce flower, seed and seed pod.

I shall be obliged for any information which you may be able to give me, and I enclose stamped envelope for your reply. It will be a pleasure to reciprocate your kindness if at any time I may be able to render you some service in Philadelphia or in this section.

Very truly yours,

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park, New York City.
Aug. 27, 1934.

Prof. O. A. Stevens,
North Dakota Agricultural College,
Fargo, North Dakota.

Dear Prof. Stevens:

The plant to which you refer in your letter of Aug. 23 is no doubt *Operculina tuberosa* (L.) Meissn., an introduced ornamental.

This an similar plants would not be in my "Plants of Hawaii National Park" as that book concentrates on plants of a definite, circumscribed region only. It, however, will be described and illustrated in my "Flora Hawaiensis" nor "New Illustrated Flora of the Hawaiian Islands" now being published in fascicles. Book 1 of this work was completed last year and sells at \$3.50 per copy. It contains about 100 full-page illustrated descriptions similar to the sample pages enclosed. Book 2 is complete excepting for the cover which may reach me from the printers within a month or two.

If you are interested, I shall be glad to mail you Book I of my new Flora on approval. I am selling it below cost of production.

Two plants occur in the Islands with fruits similar to Operculina tuberosa, the one being Stictocardia campanulata and the other Argyreia nervosa. The latter is very ornamental and should prove of value to the florist trade.

Yours very sincerely,

NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
STATE COLLEGE STATION, FARGO

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

August 23, 1934

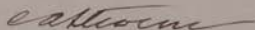
Dr. Otto Degener,
New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Doctor Degener:

I have been very much interested in reading your book, PLANTS OF HAWAII NATIONAL PARK. It seems to be planned and executed on an excellent style. I did not find mention in it of one plant in which we have been interested and am writing to ask you whether you could identify it from the following description:

Some specimens of dried flowers were received by a friend from the Islands with the information that they grew upon vines and are known as "wooden roses." The flowers are some two or three inches broad, bearing five oblong parchment-like flower parts and the pod, which apparently contains a single seed. The external appearance of ~~this~~ reminds me very much of the pods of Convolvulus. They are somewhat flattened, otherwise rounded, about half an inch wide and marked with four vertical lines. The texture and appearance of the dried flower is similar to the flower parts. If they are used as extensively as would be indicated by our limited information I thought probably you would recognize the plant. Doubtless it did not happen to fall within the scope of the book.

Very truly yours,



O. A. Stevens,
Associate Professor.

oas.1

WILBUR DUBOIS & SON
Landscape Gardeners and Nurserymen
MADISONVILLE, CINCINNATI

September 26, 1941

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua Oahu
Hawaii, T. H.

My dear Mr. Degener:

I am inclosing a note which I received some time ago, which is self-explanatory. Although I have searched through your volume on the flora of Hawaii I have not been able to identify the plant. (No it may be there)
The Lloyd Library suggested that I write and ask your help. Any service you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

The specimens usually sent to my garden column in the Cincinnati Post are native plants or garden varieties with which I am familiar. This one has me entirely baffled.

Trusting that you will be kind enough to help me, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Miss)
Was Operculata as
tuberosa
named.
Dauces H. Dubois

ED/MS

9/13/40

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 13, 1940.

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua, Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener:

Among the plants received from you in May there were several ferns for which you wished the names. They are as follows:

Topping's no. 3599 is Ceratopteris thalictroides (L.) Brongn.
So also are Topping 2911 and 3709.

Your no. 12574 is usually called Dryopteris setigera (Blume) Kuntze.
But according to Christensen the correct name for the Dryopteris setigera
of authors is D. uliginosa, the synonymy being as follows:

Dryopteris uliginosa (Kunze) C. Chr. Ind. Fil. Suppl. III. 100.
1934.

Aspidium uliginosum Kunze, Linnaea 20: 6. 1847.

Polypodium tenericaule Wall. ex Hook. Jour. Bot. Kew
Misc. 9: 353, in part. 1857.

Polypodium trichodes Reinw. ex J. Sm. Journ. Bot. Hook.
3: 394. 1841 (nomen nudum)

Thelypteris uliginosa Ching, Bull. Fan Memorial Inst.
6: 342. 1936.

Topping's 3508 and 3757, concerning which you did not inquire,
were labeled Ceratopteris ochracea, but they are both Pityrogramma
austroamericana Domin.

I am sorry for the delay.

Yours very truly

156404.

William R. Maxon
Curator, Division of Plants



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Otto Degener
Gen. Del.
Waialua
Oahu, T.H.

9/10/40

Sept. 10, 1940

Dear Otto:

glad to get your
letter and card
yesterday, and am
looking forward to
seeing the Lanai stuff.
Did you get the Artemisia
from Maunalei gulch?
I have it in m.s. as
new, and if you got
any material I would
be glad to see it.

How is the plan for
a trip to Polynesia coming?
Are you still going,
or has the war inter-
fered?

I have been having some
fun trying to read Sherff's
Bidens monograph.

Aloha, Ray

9/10/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

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The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

September 10, 1940

Dear Degener:

Thanks for your letter of August 29, and enclosures. If you happen to know Rock's address in the Orient please let me know, as I can't very well cable him not knowing where he is. As I wrote previously, I sent him a rather chatty letter on September second, addressed to him at the University of Hawaii, opening up the suggestion that the Harvard-Yenching might be the logical depository for his collection of Orientalia. I have sent a summary of the information supplied by you to Mr. Carl Keller, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harvard-Yenching Institute, and I think that he will be interested in following the matter up with the Directors. I judge from one of the newspaper clippings that Rock is already in touch with that organization, because of the statement made that his publication is to be issued by the Harvard University Press, and this probably means that the Harvard-Yenching Institute is actually backing the publication.

Thanks for sending the Hillebrandia corms to Croizat. I have told him that they are "on the way".

Mrs. Merrill's address is: 200 Dewey Way, Honolulu, and she will be there for about a month.

Can Lynne Merrill

Very truly yours

E. D. Merrill

E. D. Merrill
Administrator

EDM:CG

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua, Oahu
Territory of Hawaii

9/9/40

TELEPHONE SEDGWICK 3-3200

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK (FORDHAM BRANCH P. O.)
NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRESIDENT
JOSEPH R. SWAN

VICE-PRESIDENTS
HENRY DE F. BALDWIN
JOHN L. MERRILL

DIRECTOR
WILLIAM J. ROBBINS

TREASURER
ARTHUR M. ANDERSON

September 9, 1940

Dear Otto,

Thank you kindly for your card of August 27th and the generous comments about my poor effort with the plants of the Bible. I spent \$45 in publishing it, for I had to furnish the paper, mimeograph ink, and get the binding done myself. I doubt if I will get this back in sale of copies. Macmillan Company was interested in it and asked for a copy to see if they would want to undertake to publish it in book form with illustrations, but I have not heard from them since, so guess it was thumbs down on it. Dr. Robbins plans to make the Garden exhibit at the International Flower Show this year on this subject and also to establish a permanent exhibit at the Garden, including 3 big volumes (about 6 by 4 feet) with gigantic colored pictures, verses, etc., which will be illuminated and the pages turned automatically, one a minute, at the Museum Building. He plans also to have me issue the material in a series of articles in the JOURNAL in greatly condensed form, to be gathered together afterwards in the form of a little booklet on sale by the Garden. All these plans are still tentative, so please do not tell anyone of them. He does not want them publicized until they are actually done.

I have asked Mr. Hastings to write a review of your "Flora Hawaiana" in TORREYA before he retires as Editor and he has promised to do so. He has taken the copy of your latest book from me for this purpose and will return it to me when the review is written.

I am finally getting around to publishing the description of the Brazilian Vitex which I am naming V. Degeneriana in your honor. Hope to publish it soon in TROPICAL WOODS and in it I am giving your Flora another boost.

Good luck, Otto, and hope you are enjoying the best of health and happiness.

As ever,

your sincere friend,

Harold Moldenke

7/4/40

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.
LANGLOIS HERBARIUM

HUGH O'NEILL, CURATOR
IVAR TIDESTROM, RESEARCH SPECIALIST
ARTHENE DUTILLY, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

JOHN O'BRIEN, CYTOLOGIST
VINCENT ABELL, ASSISTANT CURATOR

September 4, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener,
Weisalus, Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener:

Replying to your letter of August 16, just arrived, I wish first of all to sympathize with you in your task of 666 hours of labor distributing pages of your volume four.

I have re-determined all Dr. Yuncker's species from Spanish Honduras and have now on hand his Cyperaceae from Hawaii and other Pacific Islands. I am pleased to know he is a friend of yours. Incidentally I have met Mr. and Mrs. Fosberg and see him every now and then at the Bureau of Plant Industry.

I have already sent a set of my Cyperaceae of Central America to the New York Botanical Garden. However if you wish me to send a second set there in your name, I have no doubt they would be very useful in their exchanges and quite acceptable. Please let me know if you wish me to do this.

The graduate student who may take up the Cyperaceae of the Hawaiian Islands will not arrive until next week. I will write if he offers to do this dissertation. If he does, there will be no difficulty about new names. In such cases, we do not consider our dissertations a proper place for publishing new names. Your Flora would be the appropriate place unless you wished to publish sooner in some periodical. In any case, the greater part of the study of a new species and the responsibility will depend not on my graduate student but on me. Although we will work jointly, only his name appears on the dissertation and in the journal articles or new names only mine (and in this case) and yours will appear. If you have a better plan to propose kindly let me know your views.

Regarding a new species of *Gahnia*, it might be helpful if you could put up a few spikelets and "schein-Mirchen" in formalin (4 percent) and send to me in a small metal or glass vial. (Mature anthers, achenes and any rudiments should be shown) I am very pleased your protege Ordonez is collecting more sedges.

As to *Cyperus rotundus* as described in my Carnegie publication, I feel crest fallen about the two errors one of which is obviously typographical as you say i.e. tubers are 0.5-1.0 cm not mm. The second error is one in proof reading, where except should be used in place of even (p. 286 line 5 of the description).

I am keeping a carbon copy of this letter and wish you would keep this original on file. Since you wish to alter or amend my descriptions we should have some understanding as to how this is to be done. To this end I am offering the following suggestions:

1. Regarding terminology, that we use
Bischoff's Terminologie, 3 volumes
Hayne's Termini Botanici
Roemer's Terminologie
Schenk's "
Berkenhout Botanical Lexicon
Linne's Philosophia Botanica

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VINCENT ABELL, ASSISTANT CURATOR

2. That we omit characters shown by all the species of a genus and place such characters in the generic description.

3. That characters which are of diagnostic and contrasting value should always be included and that those without such value should generally be excluded.

4. It is customary in many American publications not to use "in" when referring to periodicals but to confine the use of "in" to books where one author publishes in another authors' books (see my marks on the synonymy). *Would you care to follow this rule? If you prefer not, it does not matter to me.*

Much of the difference between your description of *C. rotundus* and mine is due to the fact, I think, that mine is based on specimens from many parts of its wide range while yours is based on the local form shown in Hawaii.

There is not the slightest objection to your using verbatim my descriptions in previous publications (Carnegie or any other) in whole or in part.

Below are my comments on your description of *C. rotundus* given by the number of line. I believe it will facilitate any further such joint work we may do if I go thus into great detail now. It will surely save time later.

2. On account of the absence of light, underground rhizomes are "whitish" in nearly all plants, certainly in all *Cyperus*, at first. Dessication and age cause them to darken later.

3. The color of the scales on the rhizome is accidental and highly variable, and of no diagnostic value, they are always quasi-tubular (growing in the ground makes it impossible for the scales to spread) always eventually either deciduous or marcescent, always entire but becoming bidentate as they are split by the expansion of the growing rhizome. *Suggest omitting such features from your description.* (e.g. Ascherson & Grabner say "braunen fleckig")

4. Rhizome buried 3 dm. under the surface is very surprising to me. In very light sandy soil I have found it at a depth of 1 dm. in sand and almost on the surface in the case of dense soil. Length of tubers observed on all herbarium specimens (nearly 600 sheets) does not exceed 10 mm. Do you think it is the even Hawaiian climate and rich soil that gives rise to the very large tubers you measured?

5-6. Scars on the tubers are left by scales not by bracts. By definition with all *Cyperus*, a bract is a modified leaf subtending a flower or an inflorescence. The distance between scars on the rhizome is, I think, of no diagnostic value. Of course, it does make a very complete description. The same applies to your interesting observation about the "sharp" (would you prefer "acute" or "acuminate"?) buds.

7. "Crisp" applied to roots is of very little diagnostic value. Is the sap "milky" or is merely cloudy from finely suspended starch particles? *If there is a true latex, it would be unique in the Cyperaceae.*

8. "Pungent" I take this odor to be aromatic rather than of the sharp character implied by pungent. This odor rapidly disappears and is most pronounced in specimens growing in hot, dry sand. It is often totally lacking in specimens growing on wet clay as far as I have been able to observe. The Egyptians prized *C. rotundus* as well as *C. esculentus* for the aromatic odor. I would omit "thickish, wiry, stiff" after culms as "erect" which follows virtually implies stiff, while "wiry" implies very slender which contradicts the immediately preceding "thickish". *Ascherson & Grabner*

9. "At bottom" implies a flat surface toward the ground. I prefer "at the base" which means the lowest part of the stem. In a somewhat analogous sense I prefer "at the apex" to "at top".

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VINCENT ABELL, ASSISTANT CURATOR

"Stengel... so lang, länger oder kürzer als die Blätter" 2:280

11. The leaves are not seldom as long as the culm., "About 5 mm. wide" is not as definite as "3-6 mm. wide". Leaf width is of considerable importance and should be given as accurately as possible.

Aschmann
v. Gräben
Synopsis
Mittelamerika
Flora.

12. The leaves although sometimes sulcate are frequently not so.

13. "Flat" applied to leaves is used in the sense of not involute, conduplicate, etc. A prominent midrib is not necessarily an exception to the leaf being flat.

0. If you care to make an additional observation I did not complete, I would like to suggest that you observe whether 2 lateral, raised ribs on the ventral surface of the leaf is a constant character on the Hawaiian plants. This would be of diagnostic importance.

13. I note you prefer the tetrasyllabic "scabridulous" to my coined trisyllabic "scabrellate". I took this direct from the English scabrate (like serrate-serrulate) instead of taking from the Latin diminutive which leads to scaberulous and scabriusculose as well as scabridulous all rather ponderous, I think.

14. Leaves are never "bracteate". This term is restricted to flowers or inflorescences. Inasmuch as the outer leaf-sheaths are always more or less bladeless and reduced to scales, I would suggest omitting any reference to them. Their color is too much the result of accidental circumstances to be of value. Sunlight, rain, bacterial or fungal action and the metabolism of death all affect the color of the persistent leaf-sheaths.

15. Bracts are unequal in other respects as well as length e. g. in width, rigidity, etc. Why not leave them simply "unequal".

16. I would add after "sometimes scabridulous" "toward the apex."

17. "up to 9 cm." "up to" is something of an Americanism "0-9 cm." as I have it is also objectionable. I should think "the longest rays 2-9 cm. long" might be better. "0-9" is true as far as an individual plant is concerned. Except in *C. giganteus* and *C. Papyrus* some of the rays are always sessile. What is of more importance is the variation in length of the longest rays.

18. Peduncles on our specimens are 0.3-0.8 mm. thick. If yours are 1 mm. thick, let's say 0.3-1.0 mm. thick.

19. Hereafter I would like to follow a fixed order in describing spikelets always giving length and width first. I would like this to read "Spikelets 4-40 mm. long, 0.7-2.5 mm. wide (width is too important to let go as "about 5 mm. wide) 12-36-flowered, 2-12 on a spike, linear, compressed. (Since color of glumes is given farther down it seems unnecessary to repeat the color here)

29. Would you consider "lustrous" in preference to my "shining" and your "shiny"?

Type locality: The specimen (Sheet No. 5) in the Linnean Herbarium in London marked in Linne's handwriting "rotundus Kh" (= Kähler) is probably from Italy. I have a good photograph of this immature plant. I have been unable to discover so far if the specimen from India still exists.

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Linnaeus's "Habitat in India" merely says the plant grows there. He does not necessarily mean it originated there. Kükenthal says "in den wärmeren Regionen aller Erdteile". C. B. Clarke says "All warm regions".

Passing over some mediseval and classical references I think the following will be pertinent to your question and perhaps make an interesting note in your flora.

According to Loret (La Flore Pharaonique page 26. 1892 Paris) the ancient Egyptians mention *C. rotundus* in their receipts for perfumery "entre autres dans les recettes du Kyphi". While remains of the plant itself have not yet been found in the tombs yet all ancient authors agree that it grows in abundance in Egypt.

(Shabin in Coptic) is the hieroglyphic for the rhizome of *C. rotundus* while

(GaTou) designates either *C. rotundus* or *C. esculentus*.

Following Loret, I have reversed the Egyptian order of writing from right to left in order to conform to our text.

for C. rotundus
Turkish, Armenian and Arabic each have a word which shows no evidence of borrowing from the other languages as far as I can ascertain. This may indicate that the plant was known to them very long ago.

Only one of our specimens of *C. rotundus* from United States matured achenes. I investigated this for U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry. Specimens from China and India often show achenes. How is it with your Hawaiian specimens?

When *C. esculentus* and other Cyperi grow in sand the roots are often densely pubescent as well as provided with roots hairs. Have you observed this peculiar structure on *C. rotundus*? I would like to have material of it in formalin for further study.

Enclosed is cut of *C. rotundus* spikelet, etc. used in one of my publications. Make any use of it you wish.

(Eskimo for good-bye.)
Ak - skin - assa (Is that equivalent to the Hawaiian Aloha?)

Hugh O'Neill

P. S. Cheer up. I won't ever inflict another such long letter on you. Hope it will facilitate the writing of description for the other Cyperaceae.

H.

9/2/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

Sept. 2, 1940

Dear Degener:

Thanks for your telegram or cable regarding Rock. I have today written him a fairly long letter, making suggestions along the line you indicated, and this went out by air mail. Anne Archbold was here last week and I had a long talk with her; she was a fellow passenger on the same plane from Manila with Rock, and she said that he was dissatisfied and that he would probably return to the orient.

Mrs. Merrill sailed from S.F. on 30th August and plans to be with Lynne a month or so at 200 Dewey Way, Apt. 6. I hope that you will look her up while she is in Honolulu.

Very truly yours,

E.D. Merrill



8/22/40

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 22, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener,
7 Goodrich Ave.,
Fieldston, Riverdale,
New York City

Dear Mr. Degener:

Recently I have seen the Smithsonian copy of the Flora
Hawaiiensis, Book 4. I should like to purchase for the Hitchcock-
Chase Agrostological library the sheets dealing with Family 47,
Gramineae, which total 19 pages. We already have the preceding
sheets in the grass library.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase,
Custodian of Grasses

8/20/40

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN
BRONX PARK (FORDHAM BRANCH P. O.)
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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JOSEPH R. SWAN

VICE-PRESIDENTS
HENRY DE F. BALDWIN
JOHN L. MERRILL
DIRECTOR
WILLIAM J. ROBBINS

TREASURER
ARTHUR M. ANDERSON

August 20, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua
Oahu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Degener:

May I acknowledge Book 4 of
your Flora Hawaiiensis which reached the Botanical
Garden during my absence on a brief vacation? I
was particularly interested in the personal material
which was included with the book. I think I succeeded
in identifying the author amongst the illustrations.
I selected the gentleman with the shirt. I wish to
congratulate you on the character of this contribution
to the flora of the Hawaiian Islands.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours

William J. Robbins
William J. Robbins
Director

8/9/40

EXPERIMENT STATION
OF THE
HAWAIIAN SUGAR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

Honolulu, T. H.
August 9, 1940

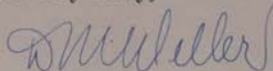
Mr. Otto Degener,
Lot 2, Mokuleia Beach
Waialua, Oahu.

Dear Degener:

Your letter of June 28 inviting us to a "husking bee" on July 6 and 7 was received only a day or two ago. Obviously I must decline your invitation or you must have another "husking bee". Apparently your letter went to the University where it resided in situ until somebody brought it down to my desk.

I have long been curious to see your beach work shop and one of these days very soon, when I have my vacation, I am going to satisfy that curiosity.

Yours very truly,



D. M. Weller

eb

8/6/40

Waialua, Oahu, T.H.
Aug. 6, 1940.

Dear Dr. Buck:

With increased taxes in sight and the European War reducing book and plant sales, I feel I should sell all my herbarium specimens as soon as studied. I therefore cannot well deposit additional specimens at the B.M., on loan.

I have been selling my unmounted specimens for \$10 per hundred to numerous institutions. As the best set of Haw. plants really should be retained in the Hawaiian Islands, I herewith offer you my future "catches" carefully poisoned, strapped and mounted at the same price of \$10 per hundred without strings attached. You would thus get my best and completest plants for the Museum, while the New York Botanical Garden would receive the best duplicate set. If the B.M., cannot arrange such a purchase, my original set will go to New York and the duplicate sets wherever I can find customers for them.

I now have a small collection of mounted plants, including cotypes and cited material, ready for sale. Let me know if you want them.

Sincerely,

W. L. Wagner

7/24/40

Hawaii National Park, Hawaii,
July 24, 1940

Dear Mr. Degener:

I got back from a week in Kona to find your registered letter here, for which I thank you very much. Please do not apologize for not answering sooner for I think I told you not to hurry. And I know that I know that you must be awfully busy getting out Volume 4. Though I didn't know how much work it was putting them together,; at which job I wish I might have helped you. And that reminds me that I am afraid that I havenot yet thanked you for our copy of No. 4. So I am the one to apologize.

KUKUI. I am sorry that I did not know until I got those specimens and looked the plant up in the botanica that there was a male and female inflorescence. In fact, even after reading those terribly incomprehensible words (to this ignorant wahine), I didn't know that the said different kind of flowers were in different bunches. I did have sense enough to wonder if they were; or if they were in the same inflorescence. I was so anxious to get them off to you right away that I didn't wait to get to Hilo to looksee. But I shall make a point to get down there this week after making an appointment with my friend so she can show me the Kauai tree, as well as give me all information that she possesses. I thought I marked the nuts so you would know which was which. I remember this: that the double nut was from the rare tree.

My stay in Kona was to be with an aged friend who was ill and I did not leave her house once. Besides I went and returned in a Japanese bus, so I had no chance to get down where I think I can find the trees over there. The Jaggi are economizing on car expense, so we do not go driving hither andyon at all times, but I have not forgotten my promises.

I do not know if I did wrong but I have not kept the sheets of the Flora as they came to me. I arranged them numerically so they are not in the volumes as you

state them. Is that wrong? In the No. 3 cover I have only a small number of unsorted sheets -- I was waiting for other before arranging them. Hence my not seeing Lycopodium phyllanthum. Stenogyne kaalae var. coriacea I do not find at all. Yet. I'll search again. And I'll take a phot of the kukuis.

I'll answer other questions when next I write. Am rushed to catch this mail. Pardon mistakes.

Yours

Isabel Jaggs

Why did you register
letter?

7/21/40
EARL EDWARD SHERFF

Chicago Teachers College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

Chicago, Illinois, July 21st, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii Terr.

Dear Mr. Degener:-

This afternoon I must write and first of all thank you for your highly valued gift of Book Four of your *Flora Hawaiiensis*. It came the other day and I have browsed in it many a moment since. It was a great pleasure to see that I had been of some service in assisting you to give a treatment for some of the groups. I have taken my entire afternoon in arranging the separate sheets of all four books as per your directions and now this task is accomplished. It is amazing what you have gotten done in the few years that you have been in the Hawaiian Islands. I can think of very few so enviable records as you are piling up for yourself in botanical work. I especially noted the large number of botanists that have collaborated with you in describing new forms. I think that this is one of the most commendable features of the entire work, since it almost guarantees that your perspective in various groups of plants will be authoritative.---It may be that I can get a fresh review of this monumental work into the Botanical Gazette before long. I certainly shall try.

In binding the sheets back together, I recalled my own experience with my large set of 11 x 14 inch albums in which my photographs are filed. I use the brass posts and screws as you do in your binders, but I use also small copper or brass washers at each end of the post, outside of the cover. If there is much slack, I use an extra washer or two. In this way I insure that the cover is gripped firmly (by the washer) and that the cover in turn holds the sheets tightly so that there is no loose motion and so that they cannot wear out at the holes.--It might not be a bad idea for you to experiment along this line and perhaps issue a suggestion to your subscribers if the matter seems worth while to you. I pass it on merely as a suggestion. (The brass washer must of course have its hole smaller than the head of the post or of the screw.)

I note that where corrections have been made an ordinary ink was used. On academic principles, I believe in using India ink always in such cases, lest the other ink might in time fade out and leave the more permanent printers ink to tell something that is not so.

I sent my mss. for *Pittosporum* and several other genera to the American Journal of Botany as usual. I included the treatment of all the *Lipochaeta* specimens that you sent me for study earlier in the year. During the period of my illness my correspondence suffered terribly. Even when I wrote I saved no carbon copies for present reference. The new *L. exigua* that I worked up carefully under our joint authorship was included. But I recall that this form was one that you wanted me to illustrate at the time. Was it your thought that I should not publish this? If so please by all means let me know and I will kill the text in the galley proof. Otherwise the name *Lipochaeta exigua* Degener & Sherff will appear along with the *Lipochaeta* notes this fall. (I believe that you already know I have a var. *Degeneri* appearing in *Phyllostegia* and in *Stenogyne* in the same paper.)---Did I think to tell you, that Dr. Diels told me that as soon as the war was over he would send the Hillebrand *Pittosporum* sheets?

O, what does Aloha nui mean on your fly-leaf? I notice Fosberg labeled a plant from Palolo-Maikawela Nui ridge. (Perhaps Maikawela is wrong, but I mean about the second locality east of Palolo.) I thought his Nui was a sphalm for Niu but possibly it was like mauka and some other directional names.---Write when you can! Ever yours faithfully,

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Earl E. Sherff



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Otto Degener
Box 302
Waialua, Oahu

Dear Mrs. Rogers:
 I have your letter and check on hand.
 I am mailing you tomorrow, the plants
 collected yesterday. It is much of a collection
 because we reached the bottom of a "fair off"
 mountain at 10:30. My horse, Stephen, fell
 about one way. We had a difficult time
 to plants because the grass was in the path
 today, its arrival. Only half day on foot.
 so you can imagine when we returned from work
 at 2:45. I will give you, endeavor sending
 plants without the press.
 There are two traits with mountains yesterday
 from and to not. The company was very large
 so all the time we were there. It is you that we saw
 the go down. I did not take anything for collection
 and I hope to be in the middle of the year.
 we had reached (I think) today and
 and our muscles were not so hard as
 the time of previous with no more which is
 what I do. Today, Sunday, I have not yet
 I would be very thankful if my collecting
 of plants for you would count my debts and
 accompanying the fruit of my brother's dream. I
 think I am getting near there. I have not
 with my eye, but in any way possible, to make
 all my leisure time in collecting until I return
 to Miami.
 Oh yes, I send an illustration in one. Sent
 by G. B. Kellogg, edited by Mrs. Rogers.
 The illustration I sent you I think was very small
 and will make it difficult for you to see it.
 I wish the Kellogg's were much larger.
 I suppose I am making better. I am glad I am
 collecting something to send you.
 Yours truly
 Charles

7/6/40

C O P Y

July 6, 1940

Mr. Emilo Ordonez
Box 52
Lanai City

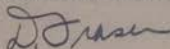
Dear Mr. Ordonez:

At the request of Mr. G. C. Munro and Dr. Degener, permission is hereby granted you to obtain certain specimens of Lanai plants.

We would request that you notify the Lanai Fire Warden, Mr. Ernest Vredenburg, each time you desire to make trips into the Lanai hills. Also that you take not more than one companion with you on these trips.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,



D. Fraser
Plantation Superintendent

DF:lea

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr. Otto Legerer
P.O. Box 302
Waialua, Oahu

7140
Dear Mr. Kegerer:

I am forced to remind you again about that \$2.00 that Mr. Bell took from me for magazine subscription. He promised practically one year ago that I will receive my first copy and it certainly is dishonestly on a person's part to make a person wait that long. I am not petitioning this for my sake alone but for the many unfortunate people he has likewise fooled. Of course, considering it in general, \$2.00 is not much but if such dishonesty is impressed in a person's leaves a bad conscience.

Remember we split 50-50 if you could help me get that \$2.00. An Elementary Principal bought the books but you will have to wait a little. I demand my right because he fooled me for no apparent reason!

P.S. His address is Aloha
Gene Bell, Box 2871, Honolulu

Bishop Museum,
Honolulu,
July 5, 1940

Dear Mr. Degener:

Miss Harth & I
will be glad to come
to your husking bee, &
we think that early
Sunday afternoon would
be the best time for
us—just after lunch.

We will bring our lunch
& either eat it on the
beach near your house
or somewhere along
the way.

Sincerely yours, Marie Noel

7/5/40

7-5/40

For Dr. ~~Shuff~~ to discard

Dear Mr. Spencer

I have received your interesting letter to-day, brought by my friend here in C. P. C. Williams.

I am very sorry to tell you that I am now working in pineapple plantation. I did not have any time to write a few words or to come in your place to let you know about it because I had my car to be repaired and I hope you don't mind.

Waialua plantation is a very good place, but it seems to me that they are now cutting down the prices of concert work. I came here to try my very best to earn money in order to pay all my balance and some other cases in front of me. Right now we are very busy.

Please don't worry about your money. Don't think that I am just like Paul. I want to make money if I can so that I can return back your money. I am ashamed about it if I remember. I can't work it out for the drawings.

because it is really very hard
to finish one particularly now
that I am doing hard work.
It takes a very long time,
but even if told you these I
am willing to help you when
the season time is over.

That is all I can tell
you and I hope that you
are always in good condition
as I am here. Aloha.

very truly,

C. J. Nicolson

7/5/40

CODE ADDRESS FORESTRY



P.O. BOX 3319

TERRITORY OF HAWAII
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
HONOLULU

July 5, 1940.

Mr. Fraser, Plantation Manager,
Hawaiian Pineapple Co.
Lanai City, Lanai.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a request from Mr. Otto Degener requesting permission for a former assistant of his named Emilio Ordonez, now in your employ, to spend his Sundays collecting botanical material in the Lanai Forest areas.

Mr. Degener states that Emilio Ordonez is now a harvest hand on Lanai and that he was examined last December by the Honolulu Office of the Board of Health and found clear of parasites so that he could enter watershed reservations.

As this land is under your control I am sending on Mr. Degener's request and hope that you can assist him in getting material from Lanai for his work on Hawaiian Flora by permitting Ordonez to collect specimens in the forest area of Lanai.

Very truly yours,

William Crosby
WILLIAM CROSBY,
Territorial Forester.

cc- Mr. H. P. Agee,
Mr. Otto Degener.

6/21/40

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK (FORDHAM BRANCH P. O.)
NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRESIDENT
JOSEPH R. SWAN

VICE-PRESIDENTS
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DIRECTOR
WILLIAM J. ROBBINS

TREASURER
ARTHUR M. ANDERSON

June 21, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua,
Oahu
T. Hawaii

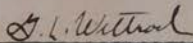
Dear Mr. Degener:

I am mailing to you today seven (7) boxes of your material suggested in your letter of June 5. The bill for the postage is herewith enclosed. Apparently box #105 must have been mailed to you in the past since it could not be located.

Clippings, letters and photos. are always desirable and specifically when attached to a mounted specimen. Dr. Merrill always attached his original typewritten manuscript for a new species on the type sheet. So you see you would not be in the wrong to do this. As long as I have helped per W. F. A. I can readily locate your sheets in the Herbarium, and attach whatever you suggest. Since Dr. Merrill left most of the staff members have criticized pasting clippings on species covers, because of the wear and tear. They prefer Dr. Maxon's method which is to mount anything of this nature on a Herbarium sheet.

I hope that the present world situation is not disturbing your beautiful island too much, but I fear that you will be in an eruption soo that cannot be classed as volcanic, but political.

Very truly yours,



G. L. WITTRICK
Custodian of the Herbarium

GIW:MH

6/18/40

Dr. H. Hapeman
225 BROWN AVENUE
Minden, Nebraska

June 18th 1940.

Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu.

Dear Mr. Degener:

In looking over some of my correspondence to day I find that I have failed to answer some of your questions. You ask where I store my plants. I rent the entire second floor of a bank building and after I have used what I need for plants I use the balance for my office and when necessary contract the office part. All the plants I keep in my herbarium are mounted on card-board. For drying I use carpet felt and presses made of narrow slats so that the air dries them rapidly. I fully appreciate your remarks about the financial part of botanizing as I have been collecting plants for more than fifty years.

The remembrance of these collecting trips and the associations they have afforded me are priceless and would fill a sizable book.

I do not know definitely where I may collect this season but if I

6/17/40

Arlington, Va.
June 17, 1940

Dear Otto:

The package of plants arrived yesterday, but I have not looked at it yet. I am recuperating from an operation that I had a couple of weeks ago; and am not doing much yet. I will get at the plants probably next week, as I figure on being able to go back to work then.

In the recent batch of pages of your flora, received a couple of weeks ago, I noticed a peculiar abbreviation--the authority for Bidens campylothesca is given as "Schiz. Bip." but the man's name was Schultz Bipontinus.

Did I ever ask you where you got the information that Schizaea dichotoma (L.) Sm. is the type species of the genus Schizaea? If not, I intended to. There is something funny there. You say that Lophidium Rich. is one year earlier than Schizaea, but use the latter. Maxon recognizes Lophidium as a separate genus, and transfers S. dichotoma, supposedly the type of Schizaea to Lophidium. It doesn't add up. I want to ask Maxon about it, but first I want to have my facts straight, principally whether S. dichotoma is certainly the type of the genus.

Do you happen to know the specific name of the common magenta Mesembryanthemum cultivated in the islands, and used for making the akulikuli leis sometimes obtainable. I need to know the name for a popular article I am writing about leis, and I never happened to collect a specimen, so I have no way of identifying it except from memory, which is not so good. If you happen to know the thing, would you send me a card, if not, would you collect me a specimen so I can run it down? The best I can do from memory is M. multiradiatum Jacq.

If you don't mind a suggestion, you would preserve better diplomatic relations if, when you send anything for Blake to look at, you would send it directly to Blake, % Div. Plant Expl. & Intr., Bur. Pl. Ind., U.S.D.A., rather than to the National Herbarium. There might be considerable trouble if it got known that Blake had been asked to look at your Elephantopus by Maxon, and it might conceivably prejudice your chances of selling specimens to us. There has been much fuss about such things in the past, and the two places are not on the best of terms as a result. The same applies to grasses sent to Swallen, in case you ever sent any. Both Blake and Swallen have no connection with the U. S. National Herbarium. This is all from my purely selfish point of view, as I want us to continue to buy your plants. I was apparently wrong in my identification of the Kauai Elephantopus as E. tomentosus. I had too much faith in Merrill's naming of our plants from the south Pacific.

Isn't Europe a mess? I hope there is some civilization and a few botanical institutions left when they get through.

Aloha from Violet and me,

Ray

6/11/40
Hawaii National Park, Hawaii,
June 11, 1940

Dear Mr. Degener:

I mailed to you yesterday (for the USS Frank today) a specimen which I got Sunday when returning from a three mile walk down the road. I was hot and tired as I went along the bridle path but couldn't help noticing two long trailers with square red stems and pairs of pointed leaves at quite distant intervals. It was familiar and so pretty that I couldn't let these trailers hang on the trail to be tramped on. And while I was putting them back against the bushes, I saw a flowering and fruiting branch which I picked to study when I got home and wasn't so tired. But as I walked along I couldn't help wondering what other flowers I had seen like them, only larger. Finally I remembered the vines I had brought into this place several times from the woods near 28 miles, with pink and also white blossoms. Only the leaves were rough and rounded. By the time I got home I felt pretty certain that my specimen was a variety of the above. I had never known the name until we took Dr. Skotsberg up the road to the koa mill on the side of Mauna Loa in S. Kona. I looked it up when I got home and found there are many varieties of *Stenogyne*.

I looked all around the place to see if there were more plants and found some across the trail; but not another one the rest of the way. I have seen this from time to time but it did not especially attract my attention until I saw these long fresh looking trailers. I walked the whole length of that part of the bridle path yesterday morning to see if I could find another spot where it grows and also to get more for you -- as I remember your sorrow that the specimen of *exocarpa* was so "pindling"! I came back by the road and kept looking among the trees, but saw none in any other place.

I do not know if you are interested but I thought

it possible that you might not have seen it in this immediate neighborhood. This bridle path goes along at the foot of the bluff that runs back of the hotel and on to the entrance of the Park on the Hilo side.

Forgive me if I am being a ninney and bothering you too much when you are so busy. But you need not answer until you have finished that index.

Aloha!

Isabel Jagger

5/24/40



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,
KEW, SURREY.

24th May, 1940.

All communications should be
addressed to—THE DIRECTOR.

3/U.S.A./91

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of April 18, together with a letter and account from Messrs. E.M. Lawson & Co., for £1. 1. 0.

I note you wish the Ministry to pay this amount direct to Messrs. E.M. Lawson & Co. In view of the fact that no material can be paid for before receipt I suggest that you forward the 100 specimens by insured post. Upon receipt of the parcel I will then pass your account for payment less the sum of £1. 1. 0. which will be paid to Messrs. E.M. Lawson & Co., on your behalf.

I enclose a copy of a letter I have sent to Messrs. E.M. Lawson & Co.

Yours faithfully,

Arthur Hill
Director.

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua,
Oahu,
HAWAII.

5/20/40

Volcano, Hawaii,
May 29, 1940
y

Return to
C.D.

Dear Mr. Degener;

I had not forgotten your request for that nut but because of too many reasons to write here, have not had a chance to go to the place in Kona where I heard my plant came from. It meant searching along a road. But I suddenly got inspired as to whom the woman was who knew of their presence over there. (I guess it is whom after all!) I rang her up and she told me she had a tree in her yard grown from nuts she got in Kona, and that I could have all the specimen material I wanted. She said she had a tree from nuts from Kauai that was different from the common ones here. Anyway, I finally got to her place. She was absent but I got some specimens from two trees, which I am sending you this same mail. There was a third tree in a gulch and not so accessible but it looked like the Kona tree with its indented leaves. I can get some from it if you wish it. I'll see her again some time.

I am in an awful rush to catch the mail, so if I do not get the nuts started, you'll get them later. Do the male and female flowers grow in a separate cluster? I read it up after I got home, so didn't look for different flowers. I was hurried then, too.

Haven't had a chance to make an expedition up the side of Mauna Lea from Hamaula to get the exocarps. That means a two day trip and getting horses.

The nuts are numbered 1 and 2 like the leaves. Excuse haste. Much aloha to you and your sister.

Frank J. J. J.

5/16/40

DORMON & BUCKLEY
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS-AT-LAW
950 REAL ESTATE TRUST BUILDING
SOUTHEAST CORNER BROAD AND CHESTNUT STREETS
PHILADELPHIA

HORACE PAUL DORMON
ELTON J. BUCKLEY

May 16, 1940

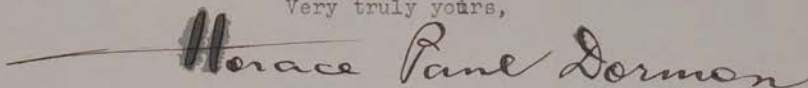
Mr. Otto Degener
2220 University Avenue
Honolulu
Hawaii

Dear Mr. Degener:

Your letter of May 6th. on the subject of your Hawaiian Wooden Roses is received and I thank you for your kindness and generosity in giving me so much information. I am particularly glad to have you mention your preference for the name Operculina Tuberosa. I knew that some botanists had called the plant by this name, and that among them are Britton & Wilson, to whom you refer.

The few Wooden Roses that have been brought here have awakened much interest among the "arrangers", and I think we can grow them commercially in Puerto Rico and market them here, but it remains to try it out. I have been hoping that I could import some Wooden Roses from Hawaii in advance of the time when we can get them from Puerto Rico, but I have not found anyone as yet in Honolulu who can furnish them. If you run across anyone whom you think would be interested to do it, I wish you would give him my name and address and ask him to write me.

Very truly yours,

Horace Paul Dormon

5/10/40

Arlington, Va.
May 10, 1940

Dear Otto:

I shall be glad to see the bundle of Rubiaceae, whatever they are, though I hope that they have some data. What about the data on the collection of *Hedyotis degeneri* var. *coprosmaefolia*?

Hope you can make the south sea trip. I am quite certain that, if there is any money available for purchase of plants the U. S. D. A. will be interested in buying the best set of duplicates, if they are good specimens. However, we have for the last few weeks been having budgetary difficulties, and the appropriation for the National Arboretum (from which the plants are bought) may be seriously curtailed or eliminated. So we can't be sure. Of course, I personally have nothing to do with purchasing any plants, but can make recommendations. And since I am working on such things they will be more willing to buy them, probably.

Here is a better suggestion--you will have to get the things named--you can't very well take all the time off from your Hawaiian work that will be necessary to learn enough about the other floras to do it, and you probably don't want to get that much indebted to the Bishop Museum or St. John to have them do it--why not send one set of the whole lot to me for naming. I will be glad to tackle it, and if the office gets the set, they will be glad to have me use my time doing it. Also it will boost my number of identifications, which seems to have something to do with my efficiency rating. I have to get in and dig for most of my identifications now, as I don't know the floras of the parts of the world from which our stuff largely comes well enough to do much sight determination. For example, yesterday and today I identified plants from Georgia, Yucatan, Mexico, Morocco, and cultivated stuff from Florida, state of Washington, and Virginia, originating in China, Jamaica, and Australia. Believe me, that meant work.

Weeds, etc., are welcome from any of the islands in the south seas, though of course the native stuff is more interesting. To get really good things it is necessary to get up to ~~really~~ high ground, just as in T. H. I would suggest that where your stops are for any length of time it would be best to try to get into the interior, but where they are one day or less, clean up everything you can in the lowlands. Cultivated things are O.K. too, but for God's sake, say on the label that they are cultivated. For the wild things, the more data on growth form, color of parts, etc., as well as altitudes and habitats, the more valuable the material will be.

I certainly wish I were able to go along. There are innumerable problems that need attention in the field. If I knew where you were going, I would give you a few suggestions. As it is, I guess the best thing is just grab everything you can find.

There is much excitement around here just now-- the State Dept. is promoting a Pan-American Science Congress in Washington--a very snooty affair, full dress clothes, etc. At the opening session this evening the President is to speak. I would go, but I do not like full dress. Next week there will be several good scientific programs which I will go to. All this is, apparently, to convince the Latin American countries of our good intentions.

Under separate cover, along with some of your stamps, I am sending a couple of copies of a small paper on *Ruppia maritima*. I hope you can look in the brackish estuaries and lagoons in the south seas for *Ruppia*. It has been reported from a very few islands, but must be much more widely distributed.

The situation in Europe gets worse and worse. I hope the damned Germans don't bomb all the botanical institutions in Holland, France and England. If they do, we might just as well start all over again, as certainly a huge number of types will be lost. It makes one disgusted with the whole human race.

We had Dr. & Mrs. Edmondson out to dinner the other night. They are spending a few weeks here.

Well, I hope you have a perfectly swell time in the south seas, and get plenty of specimens.

Violet has been enjoying making a garden this spring. She really has done fairly well at it--some of the things are growing--even some have flowered already. She joins me in best wishes for your trip.

Aloha,

Ray

Would you mind returning
me the envelope this is in, with
the block of stamps?

5/8/40

TELEPHONE SEDGWICK 3-3200

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX PARK (FORDHAM BRANCH P. O.)

NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRESIDENT
JOSEPH R. SWANVICE-PRESIDENTS
HENRY DEB. BALDWIN
JOHN L. MERRILLDIRECTOR
WILLIAM J. ROBBINSTREASURER
ARTHUR M. ANDERSON

May 8, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu, Hawaii

Dear Otto:

Well, sir, the mounting room returned to me today the specimens of Stachytarpheta which I sent down to have mounted. I kept about 5 sheets of each number for our herbarium and am still waiting for you to tell me what to do with all the rest of the fine duplicates. Would you like me to return them to you, so you can put them in your sets? I should imagine that that would be the most sensible thing to do, but shall wait until you instruct me.

Now as to names for the skalawags. I think that I would call your numbers 12,679 and 12,678 Stachytarpheta jamaicensis (L.) Vahl, although as you say one of these differs somewhat in the field. These differences are not apparent ~~ly~~ on dried material. Perhaps it is a hybrid, as you suggest, but I do not see much evidence for it. Won't you please continue your search for hybrids for me? Just sort-of keep it in the back of your mind and whenever you see a member of this genus that looks different, grab it for me, with notes on its neighbors and the possibility of hybridization.

Your number 12,680 is a horse of entirely different color. It is what I am calling Stachytarpheta urticaefolia (Salisb.) Sims. It is the thing that has been passing as S. indica (L.) Vahl in India, Malaya, Philippines, Dutch East Indies, etc., and also as S. jamaicensis. I am adopting the Salisbury name for it because there is absolutely NO DOUBT but that it is Salisbury's plant -- see fine colored illustrations by both Salisbury and Sims -- while there is a good bit of question as to what Linnaeus' plant really was. I have examined his "type" in the Linnean Herbarium and it is a totally different thing, but there is always argument as to whether the specimen in the Linnean Herbarium is really his type, etc. Still and all, I feel that for the present I must regard Linnaeus' species as a species dubia and adopt Salisbury's name for the common Asiatic plant.

You have in Hawaii at least one other species, S. australis Moldenke. We have three Hawaiian specimens of this species here at the Garden -- Forbes 546 H, G. T. Hastings s.n., and Capt. Wilkes s.n. It is a common South American species, with the leaves quite strigose above, almost velutinous beneath, and densely pubescent spikes. It has gone about as S. dichotoma (Ruiz & Pav.) Vahl for many years and even I regarded it as that in my work on the Flora of Surinam. Since then, however, I have examined Ruiz and Pavon's type and find it to be nothing more than S. cayennensis (L. C. Rich.) Vahl. This drops S. dichotoma into synonymy under S. cayennensis and leaves it without a name, so I am calling it as above. To date I have not seen any true S. cayennensis from Hawaii.

In our herbarium we have 3 more sheets of S. jamaicensis from Hawaii -- Hastings s.n., Heller 2091, and Degener, Topping, & Saluocop 11,049; and we have 3 more sheets of S. urticaefolia from Hawaii -- Hastings s.n., Heller 2089, and Degener, Topping, & Saluocop 11,048.

Hoping to hear from you soon on what to do with your duplicates, and with all best wishes for your health and continued success, I am, as always,
your old friend,

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

5/3/40

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OF
BOTANICAL COLLECTIONS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ARNOLD ARBORETUM, JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS., U.S.A.

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum,
Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba
Botanical Garden, Cambridge, Mass.
Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.
Bussey Institution, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

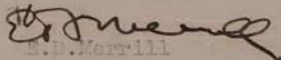
Farlow Herbarium and Library, Cambridge, Mass.
Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.
Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass.
The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation for
Botanical Research

May 3, 1940

Dear Degener:

I received your letter of April 24 today at the Gray Herbarium, and enclose the general letter of introduction that you asked for; I hope that it may be of some service to you in case you make the jaunt into Polynesia. Naturally we would be interested in at least a partial set of the material you may collect, and in due time I think that there would be no difficulty in providing you with at least a part of the sum you suggested, probably all of it. Much depends, however, on just what we may receive from our annual appeal which is now out, this not being a very good year for raising funds because of the European situation. Take the matter up later when you get back from the Polynesian jaunt (if you make it); I rather envy you the trip!---especially after the winter we have had in New England--and all over the east and south for that matter. I was in Florida just after the freeze, and believe me it was a freeze, and at Soledad, on the South shore of Cuba, two weeks after the freeze at Miami we had one morning temperature of 40--and went to bed several nights about 8 P.M. just to keep warm. However, summer is with us today and I even have my coat off as I write this; this means that the buds in the Arboretum will jump into flower and that within a few days we will be overwhelmed with hordes of people seeking driving permits.

Best wishes


E. D. Merrill

4/24/40
TELEPHONE
LE XINGTON 2-8624

C. A. AUFFMORDT & CO.

TWO PARK AVENUE

New York May 24 1940

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I thank you sincerely for your
congratulations, but when a
man has reached the birthday
this year and his health
and condition is as good as
that of a young man.
The photo you sent me is
very welcome. The one of our
family that I send was sent to
me. Your clippings and pictures
of the welcome clippings I have
shown to all the family. Hope
you are keeping well.

Also

Yrs. [redacted]
cousin of [redacted]

Waialua, Oahu, T.H.
April 24, 1940.

Dear Dr. Merrill:

Please rush me by Air Mail an official letter stating that I am collecting botanical specimens for Gray Herbarium. I may never need the letter, but I prefer to be on the safe side in case I go on a wild jaunt.

I completed Book IV (at least in gally) and see no reason why I should not "play" a couple of months and incidentally pick up a large quantity of plants. This is the set-up:

The S.S. Thor of the Johnson Line of Sweden sails from Honolulu May 22 and ends at San Francisco about three months later. The boat is a freighter taking about a dozen passengers. It will stop at about 16 (!) South Sea Islands picking up coconuts, etc., and delivering freight. The trip is to cost about \$550. The precise itinerary is not yet definitely known - that depends on last-minute freight consignments. At any rate, the trip sounds so enticing that I left a deposit at the Steamship Office for my ticket.

If the Japanese don't get involved in the European mess and start sinking ships in the Pacific and if I could catch a boat from Suva or some such place for home instead of going all the way back to San Francisco, I shall sail.

I would probably take along my Polynesian boy as servant. He could help materially with native collectors. He would also haul plants off the islands and, between stops, press them on board boat while I write the labels. I would grab everything, including introduced weeds and similar rubbish. No telling what new records I would catch and just think how such a trip would satisfy my wanderlust. To be sure the trip would be just like a postman taking a long walk on his holiday. I would not attempt to identify the plants seriously on my return to Honolulu but continue on my Hawaiian flora. I cannot let that project slide.

If I really do go, please try to dig up a \$100 or so for me during the next couple of years. I plan to borrow from my capital for the trip and feel I must eventually pay this sum back - a year or two would do. I am writing Dr. Robbins in similar vein.

I am dickering for \$50 monthly from the Bishop Museum. In exchange they would receive that part of my personal, mounted herbarium which has already been worked up. They would get a large number of types - *Sidens*, *Euphorbia*, *Lahordia*, *Labiata*, etc. I would continue to give B.M. plants whose study has been completed, let my *Flora Haw.*, be considered a B.M. publication, and lend St. John certain genera for study. Dr. Buck complains of lack of funds. If I can sell my personal herbarium to a mainland institution - a ~~reliable~~ reliable one - to get more cash for further collecting and publishing, the B.M. would forever regret it. I can't help that.

I guess you are beginning to throw out.

Aloha,
C.H.

4/23/40

Waiakua, Oahu, T.H.
April 23, 1940.

Dear Dr. Robbins:

Please rush me by Air Mail an official letter stating that I am collecting plants for the Garden, etc., etc. I just want to play safe in case I go on a South Sea trip.

The "S.S. Thor" of the Swedish Johnson Line sails from Honolulu May 22 for a 3 months' South Sea Islands trip. The boat is a freighter and stops off at 16 different islands, many little-known, to load copra and deliver freight. It takes about a dozen passengers at about \$550 each.

If the war situation remains serene in the South Pacific, I want to take a "postman's holiday" and botanize in these interesting islands. The precise itinerary will not be known until later, this depending on last minute freight consignments.

The trip sounds just grand to me. I imagine we would stop off at each one of the 16 islands a day or two to load and unload freight. I would try to take my Polynesian boy along to help me collect, and to press the plants while I write the labels. I would grab everything, weeds as well as endemics. New records, particularly for islands, are always of interest.

If, if, if, if this trip should materialize, I must borrow from my capital to finance it. After I send you a set of my botanical catch, could you help me defray expenses by \$100 or so? I would be in no hurry for it but feel I should get my capital back to normal in a year or two. I am writing Dr. Merrill a similar "touching" letter.

Sincerely,

4/12/40

BOTANISCH LABORATORIUM
DER RIJKSUNIVERSITEIT
AFD. PLANTENSYSTEMATIEK
GROOTE ROZENSTRAAT 31
GRONINGEN

Groningen (Netherlands), April 12, 1940

Dear Mr. Degener,

I must apologize for my long delaying to write you and to answer your letter of Nov. 8, 1939. From December to February we had a quite unusually severe winter and I did not feel well during those months. So I forgot entirely your last letter. But afterwards I did pay your bills to an amount of:

Lechevalier, Paris. f. 1.92.

Dultz & Co., München. 10.56.

Heffer & Sons, Cambridge. 10.30.

f. 22.78.

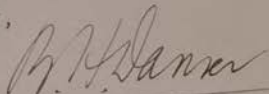
I hope you will pay this to me in due time in any form. If you prefer to balance it at once, please do it through the "Amsterdamsche Bank", Amsterdam, or Groningen. I think the post connection via New York and Italy, as well via the Netherlands Indies, is sure enough. In that case you must bear in mind that I still owe you a debt of \$ 5.24.

Many thanks for the pages of your *Flora Hawaiiensis* I received from you few weeks ago. Especially that with the key of *Santalum* was welcome, as I intend to start soon revising the *Santalaceae* of the Malay Archipelago.

A publication on *Korthalsella*, including many data on the Hawaiian species, has appeared in the *Buitenzorg Bulletin*. I did not yet see the paper, but as soon as I will receive the separate copies I will send you one.

With kind regards,

yours truly,



7/4/40
EARL EDWARD SHERFF

Chicago Teachers College

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

Chicago, Illinois, July 4th, 1940

Mr. Otto Degener,
Waialua, Oahu,
Hawaii Terr.

My dear Mr. Degener:-

Your package of miscellaneous plants came a week or so ago and I have now determined them mostly. They will come back to you as soon as I get enough to make it pay for the Field Museum to make up a shipment. I have quite an assortment of Bidens from you that I hope to attack later in the summer. I have to teach in our summer school this time and so have less time at my disposal than usual.

My gall-bladder trouble has largely passed away but I still have the very lame right elbow and have not felt able to make any illustration of the new Lipochaeta. I hope you will get a new artist that you can count on to do such tasks. Personally, I have not drawn plates for I believe ten years and my nerves I am sure would not be steady enough to do work any more of which I would or could be proud.

The Aleurites specimens were most interesting. Those of one number were an exact match for my A. Remyi! I noted that you had, according to your enclosed slip, perhaps crossed the numbers for the fruits and that I should be guided by the context of Mrs. Jaggars' letter. But her letter afforded me no basis for guidance. Anyway, I did not see off-hand any distinction that would seem to have any specific significance. I see that Mrs. Jaggars failed to collect female inflorescences. Too bad, for these might offer something to go by. Anyway, in all the peculiar variations that I have seen in accepted A. moluccana material, from different countries, I have never seen the leaf form found in A. Remyi and so have felt that with detailed study it will stand up as a good species. I enclose Mrs. Jaggars' letter. I have planted three of the seeds sent me, but even if these germinate and trees grow, nothing can be hoped from here at this end for years to come.

If Mrs. Jaggars or someone else can obtain fuller data and material for this A. Remyi tree, and perhaps even a good sharp photograph of the tree (if there is anything distinguishing about its habit), I shall be glad to make a write-up for one of my articles. Or if you should prefer, it would be splendid if you could assemble full data and specimens and set this forth in your Flora.

I received your separates recently of our new Lipochaeta (var. Sellingii) and one other of our novelties, I forget off-hand which one. There were only two of each, and these had gotten wrinkled. As I have these mutual projects bound into three sets of my collected contributions, it will be fine if you can enclose three or four more when next you send me a package.

I do hope that the lady whom Mrs. Jaggars knows can tell just where on Kauai the A. Remyi nuts came from. Also, this lady's name? And just where is the tree on Hawaii?

I sympathize with you keenly in your loss of Emilio. He was apparently a treasure, in spite of his limitations.--By the way, just how much does it require in money to act as patron to a single colored plate in your Flora. If this is not a personal matter, I have thought how I might in each of my advanced classes announce every semester, in a purely spontaneous way, the great opportunity that the better-to-do students who might be interested in taxonomy would have and do have to participate in an international undertaking like this, or at least one of world-wide importance.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

I remember that on several occasions when I have shown students your Flora and remarked upon an occasional colored plate, they have exclaimed with delight at its beauty or value and I suspect that two or three might have offered to act as sponsor or patron had an opportunity been afforded. Anyway, it might not be a bad idea if I were to be put in a position where I could be ready to enlist such assistance.

My Pittosporum work is coming along rather satisfactorily. I feel however that at best it will be only a preliminary monograph or revision. I can mark out various new varieties etc. that are pronounced, and tie them up with the established concepts of the past. But perhaps more than with any of the other groups that I have revised thus far a vast amount of information about these forms must be dug out by extended fieldstudy. ---Fortunately, the valuable set of Hillebrand specimens did not get lost at sea, as possibly I told you was to be feared. I recently heard from Dr. Diels (after seven months for me to reach him and the reply to travel back through the censors' hands!). The shipment had been withheld the last moment, a year ago, and so the plants are safe in Berlin. He assured me that he would send them as soon as the war was over and transportation became safe once more. So in this genus, as in the others, I shall have the very valuable privilege of using Hillebrand's own wonderful collection as a basis. In Pittosporum, however, his collection will not probably be so vital as in most of the other cases.

If you have more material for me to name, do not hesitate to send it along. I shall try soon to catch up with your plants.

With all good wishes, I am, as ever.

Yours very truly,

.....*Earl E. Shreve*.....



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Bryophyllum
April 29, 1940.

Dear Mr. Degener:

Many thanks for the air plant. I have pinned it up on the curtain in the office and shall await the miracle. It was very thoughtful of you to relay it to me.

I have long intended to write you and thank you, too, for the card you sent me after the Tower about you and your work appeared. I deeply appreciated it.

Mrs. Slaten and I have planned to drive by and pay you another call, but have not been able to make it conveniently as yet. We tried it yesterday afternoon, but ran into detours and closed roads that prevented. We hope to be able to do it yet, sometime. A visit with you is a genuine inspiration.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Wakefield Slaten



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Otto Wiegner,
Waialua,
Oahu,
Hawaii

Bushkill, Pa
Apr. 12 - 1940

Dear Mr. Hegener:

I have a large box and a small
package from you both in good condition. I
haven't had a chance to get at them so far but
hope to do so soon and will report the results.
I seem to have trouble keeping my head above
water these days. It is not lack of interest that
makes me tardy but lack of time

4/12

kindest regards

Sincerely,
Edwin B. Bartram

7/7/40?

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dr. Otto Hegener
Waialeale, Oahu, T. H.

Dear Dr. Hegener,

I thank you for your kind words about my paper on *Besleria*. I am somewhat interested in the genus *Cyrtandra*. My present program of study is now so full, however, that I do not feel that I can take up your material at the present. If I ever find the opportunity I shall be very glad to undertake a revision of your material.

With best regards

C. V. Morton

Assistant Curator

As to the sale of sets, all right, but you should do the negotiating when we sent you word that the material is available. You should state your unit price, 10 cents I believe, plus the fact that transportation from Jamaica Plain will be at their expense; the bills to be made out in your name and payment made direct to you in Hawaii.

Degener's suggested
distribution

Set 1 (study set) Arboretum
Set 2 Degener or N.Y.
Set 3 N.Y. or Degener
Set 4, Missouri Bot. Gard. sale
Set 5, U.S.D. Agr. (Fosberg) sale
Set 6, Kew (selected only) -----

Counter suggestion
E.D.M.

OK.
OK
OK
~~No objection~~
No objection
OK

This is as far as we are in agreement. I think before we get any more deeply involved that we should come to a very definite understanding as to the disposition of the remaining sets. I have never liked institutional sales of sets of duplicates, and Smith isn't very happy over having to drum up sales for remaining sets of duplicates. We both think that this is your job, we merely to act as agents and see that the specimens are packed and shipped when the time comes. We began to think that all these arrangements should have been agreed to before we got mixed up in the matter!

Now comes the matter of what we may call "exchange" sets, for the AA and New York, for our \$300 as against N.Y. \$250.00. You say sets 7, 8, 9 to New York, which leaves us nothing but a study set for doing all the work and, of course, getting the glory. I would counter with this proposition:

Arnold Arboretum

New York Bot. Gard.

Set 7

Set 8

Set 9

Set 10

Set 11

Set 12

Sets will be getting to be pretty thin by the time 12 is reached. We will, of course, turn back to you all of the material above "12" in those cases where you prepared 20 to 30 duplicates, so that you can use this material as a club with your subscribers etc.

Let me know as soon as you can what you think about my counter proposals in the actual distribution of sets. We cannot move on this matter for some weeks yet, i.e., the actual making up of sets, and it really ought to be deferred until the identifications are made, so that the labels may be completed as a job.

In addition to the above suggested disposition of "sets" we have, of course, taken out selected sets for specialists where we shall have to depend on others for making determinations. This will effect totals to only a slight degree however, as there aren't many "specialists" on Polynesian groups in the United States, and Europe is "closed" for the duration of the war.

I am sure that you will see the justification of my plea that if we supplied some funds to you, will expend in excess of \$2000.00 more getting the material into shape for study (counting salaries time), printing labels, expressage and postage on sets to specialists, etc. etc., that we should receive at least as fair a "break" as the N.Y. Bot. Gard. that put up only \$250.00!

Very truly yours

E.D. Merrill

Set 6 see Smith's list

11/31/39

NATURHISTORISKA RIKSMUSEUM
PALEOBOTANISKA AVDELN.
STOCKHOLM 50

31.1.1939.

Dr. Otto Degener
Waialua
Oahu
Hawaiian Isls., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Degener,

Toppings

Professor Samuelsson has handed over to me your letter of Dec. 23, 1938, since at our museum the Pteridophytes (as well as the Gymnosperms and the Bryophytes) are kept together with the fossil plants in the palaeobotanical department, of which I am the curator. I can find no record of any previous correspondence, but I wish to tell you that we shall be glad to purchase a collection of Pteridophytes from especially Borneo and the Philippines. I do not yet know how much money we shall be able to spend for this purpose, so I should be obliged if you could tell me approximately how many Centuries a complete set would contain. Meanwhile, please send us a first consignment of a few Centuries, as you propose.

Professor Samuelsson, who has nothing else of importance to communicate at present, asks me to thank you for your letter and the enclosed label, and to convey his compliments.

Yours sincerely

T.G. Halle

(T.G. Halle)

1/25/31
Wailuku, Oahu, T.H.
Jan. 25, 1937.

Dear Dr. Skottsborg:

I received your *Mahoei* *Fagara* description and should have answered months ago. I retained nothing of the specimen and can neither illustrate nor describe it any better than you have done. As I print only illustrated descriptions in my *Flora Haw.*, I planned to have Dr. Buck publish the species in a Bishop Museum publication. He, however, feels that descriptions of new species should be figured. Hence publication was postponed until we might get more and better material.

I could not comb the forests for this tree as I had just had a nose and throat operation. Dr. Buck then induced Glenn Russ to go after the plant he had discovered. This meant more delay. When I went to the Museum to get the branch for a drawing, I discovered it was not the *Mahoei* *Fagara* but *F. multifoliolata*! Shortly thereafter Russ was dismissed from his position and I feel it impossible to impose on him for more help. With no illustration, the *Mahoei* *Fagara* cannot be published in my *Flora Haw.* by the B.M. Consequently I am trying to get it into print in a N.Y. Bot Garden publication under our joint authorship. This will get it out of the way. Then when I come across the plant in good enough condition for illustrating, I will reprint it in extenso in my *Flora*. I think that is the best plan for us.

Now that the Bishop Museum under Dr. Buck is willing to publish something for me, I feel I should accept the offer. It indicates in a more or less formal way that past ill-feeling is over now that Gregory is shelved. I therefore wish to publish *Fagara multifoliolata* "eg. & Skottsb.", jointly with you there. I now have a satisfactory drawing of it on hand, and have discovered new specimens - many with fruit but somehow the pistillate flower is elusive. I must yet go to the B.M., to get localities for specimens collected by Forbes and possibly Rock and others. Forbes collected it in the Koolan Range!

For novelties I consistently have Latin descriptions. The only exception was *Schiedea Gregoriana*. There the Latin was purposely omitted because our friend had the nerve to delete all references to me in Cunn and Hosaka's ms., when I was cooperating with them on the plant which I had found years ago independently and had described as new in me. I omitted the Latin so that Cunn and Hosaka should get credit for the species, and that Gregory should receive the credit he deserved at the same time. Though I always use Latin, I have tried to reduce it to a minimum because I consider a good illustration a far more "universal language" than any tongue, ancient or modern.

To print a verbose Latin diagnosis in my *Flora Haw.*, bought far more by tourists and garden lovers than by scientists is pedantic, objectionable to my average reader, and a terrible waste of space and money. You know as well as I that not one per cent. of my clientele will read it. Hence my diagnoses are reduced to a minimum - about three lines - and contain just enough to "get by" with the law. In the case of *Fagara multifoliolata*, therefore, I am satisfied to print your full Latin description in B.Museum publication. But for my *Flora* I will omit it altogether.

I have been harshly scolded, and I think with justice, for making names made in Florence and Neapocromia, for example. I mentioned new species by name, in the discussion of old ones, which I plan to describe later when I have a drawing on hand. David Keck, a keen taxonomist, frankly wrote me that I was making a "botanical nuisance" of myself by doing this. I know your printing Goultia in your paper as a non. nud., has troubled Eschberg a bit. His Goultia monograph has not even appeared in print to this day, he has now many more specimens than when your publication was printed, and now with additional facts on hand he feels the non. nud., prevent him from making changes in his earlier provisional nomenclature. Besides, the non. nud., have taken the "bloom" or freshness off his coming publication. To find Pagara multifoliolata in print as a non. nud. did not please me very much in view of my apology to Keck. It does, however, advertise my Flora Haw. for which I am grateful to you from a dollars and cents (not botanical) standpoint. By sending you the Wikstroemia without proper labeling, I not only saved myself time during a busy moving period but also avoided non. nud., dangers as far as my own collection is concerned. Please don't do it with my plants without at least warning me beforehand.

I am not interested in using my private fortune to comb these islands for novelties and then give these over to botanists in Europe and America to work on. I am doing this to get "thunder" for my "Flora Hawaiiensis", an enterprise which is becoming a "major industry" for me. If you seriously wish to collaborate with me on certain groups and publish the results jointly with me in my Flora Haw. at my cost, please let me know and I shall be glad to open my herbarium to you. But if I send you mounted specimens and you name the novelties and write the name followed by "Skottsb.", in ink on the label, how can we later print the result jointly in my Flora? In most cases I know my novelties beforehand, particularly when the genus has been recently monographed. So that there should be no misunderstanding later, please write me fully your reaction to this proposed agreement. If we can continue as with the two Pagaras then I shall be glad to send you everything on Senevola, Santalum, Syntandra and Wikstroemia as a beginning. But if you wish to print novelties and results based on my collection under your name alone or as non. nud., I feel I should retain my specimens and when the time permits work them up myself for publishing in my Flora. I have had such arrangements with Sheriff, Croizat and Whitney and they have been mutually beneficial.

You will forgive my point of view when you realize that I must retain my findings and discoveries for my Flora Haw., and strenuously push it. It is by the gradually increasing income from the sale of my books that I can adequately continue my field work and extensive traveling in the Islands (and back in the sunshine of my Honolulu lot). My Flora must come first. I want to get Book III out soon.

I am considerably interested in your reaction to my Flora as expressed in your second list of Haw. Vasc. Pl. Of course no two botanists ever will agree on all points, and we are no exceptions. My loose-leaf arrangement will enable me to make necessary changes when once I get around to them. Four or five trees of Mav. unifoliolata occur in Kauwawa, and hence I feel that the plant can well be accorded specific rank. It is not simply a single monstrosity but apparently is persisting in very unique form. If it were not for cattle, it might well cover quite an area in the region. Now that I have Saphora tomentosa growing in my garden, I am inclined to reduce Edwardia - not quite sure yet. I have so much new material on hand to print that I have neglected correcting errors such as Mav., Mariliumidium and Se. lanuana. In regard to Trematolobelia, unless we pin a nose definitely to a type specimen we won't know

where we are at. Unless we do, why cite type specimens at all? More confusion and more nuisance arises by having all kinds of exceptions to easily understood rules than to have a few nomenclatorial changes in genera known to only half a dozen botanists anyway.

The Jaggars are coming out to Mokuleia tomorrow to visit us - have not seen them for years. I will give them this letter to mail in Honolulu for me. Country mail delivery is not too reliable.

FAGARA MULTIFOLIOLATA Degener & Skottsberg

FAGARA MULTIFOLIOLATA Degener & Skottsberg
WATARAE BRICKLEY-ASH; AE of HBAE

Fagara multifoliolata Degener & Skottsberg; Skottsb. in Ned. Goeteb.

Bot. Trädg. 10 : 155. 1936.

Check citation!

Fagara multifoliolata Degener & Skottsberg sp. nov. Arbor parva, gracilis,
glaberrima, ad 3 metros alta. Folia petiolo 3 - 4 cm. longo suffulta.

Foliola 5 - 9 vel interdum 11, plerumque 7, obtusiuscula, coriacea,
leviter discoloria, utrinque in sicco reticulo distincte venularum

notata. Foliolum terminale ovatum usque ellipticum, basi et apice an-
gustatum, 5 - 7 (8) cm. longum, 2.5 - 4 (5) cm. latum, petiolo 1 - 2

cm. longo; foliola lateralia inaequalia, superiora et media terminali
sat similia sed base ⁺ obliqua, 4 - 7.5 cm. longa et 2 - 3 (4) cm.

lata, infima late elliptica usque ovato-guborbicularia, basi per lata et
valde obliqua, 4.5 - 6.5 cm. longa et 4.3 - 5 cm. lata, omnia breviter

(0.2 - 0.5 vel ad 1 cm.) petiolulata. Adsunt innovationes cum foliis
novellis longepetiolatis (ad 8 cm.), inferioribus 3-foliolatis, ceteris

5-foliolatis; foliolum terminale usque 9.5 X 6.5 cm., ~~extremis~~
petiolo longo 5.5 cm.; terminalia usque 10 X 6.5 cm., brevissime

petiolulata (2 - 3 mm.). Inflorescentia - - -

Dioica. Flos masculus apertus usque 11 mm. diametro, pedicello crassi-
usculo 3 - 3.5 mm. longo, bracteolis ovatis prope basin insertis circ.

1 mm. longis, mox caduis, cum pedicello sepalicque dense et minutissime
puberulis. Sepala minuta late deltoides, circ. 0.8 mm. longa et 1 mm.

lata. Petala leviter recurva, ovato-oblonga, crassiuscula, minute coch-
leata et macromulata, praecipue versus apicem minutissime pilulosa,

4.5 - 5 mm. longa et 2 - 2.4 mm. lata, supra alba, infra fusco-rubra.

Stamina erecto-patentia 4 - 4.2 mm. longa, filamentis albis, incrassato
et complanato, apice attenuato, 3 - 3.2 mm. longo et 0.9 - 1 mm. lato;

Would like your reaction
to my question about pedicel
in my letter of Dec. 6, 1935.

anthera ovata, flava, 1.5 mm. longa et 1.2 mm. lata, connectivo viridi.
Discus viridis semigloboso-gua drangularis, 1.2 mm. altus, 1.5 mm. latus.
Carpellodium (carpellum sterile) l. subapicale, subglobosum, reclina-
tum, circ. 0.7 mm. longum, viride; stylus cum stigmato breviter clavato
horizontalis-ascendens, 0.8 mm. longus. Flores feminei ignoti.
 Fructus - - - - -

This rather rare Pogona, closely related to P. kauaiensis (A.Gray) Engl., of Kauai, is endemic to Oahu. It may be found in the upper forest of the Waianae Range from Palehua to about Kahanahāiki Valley. Specimens examined from this mountain range are the following: Degener, Park & Takamoto 10,318 (Type), decadent, pastured forest, Palehua, Nov.23.1936. Skottsberg 844, Palehua above 600 m., Aug. 24, 1932. Degener's 8607 collected by John Horner, top of mountain, Palehua, Jan. 15, 1927. Degener 8609, at summit, near Maina Kapa and Palikea, Jan. 15, 1927. Degener, Park, Potter, Bush & Topping 10,319, in dense wet forest, east slope of Pun Kua, Oahu, Jan. 19, 1936. Degener & Takamoto 10,864, dark forest, Middle Palawai Ridge, May 12, 1936. Degener & Park 8599, small valley northeast of Pun Hapape, Aug. 7, 1932. Degener, Park & Y. Hitta 8597, in forest at top of Piko Trail, Makua Valley, July 10, 1932.

It should be emphasized that Forbes collected this species in the Koolau Range of Oahu. He - - - - -

MEMORANDUM

University of Hawaii

15/36

MEMO TO

Mr. Regener

DATE

Jan. 25, 1936

I hope you have recovered from the flu by this time.

I wonder if you can give me some idea of when it might be possible to secure the drawing of the Joha. ^[Physalis] You doubtless have many other more important matters to attend to but as you may have heard, "the wheel that does the squeaking gets the grease".

N.F.-10778 10-34-10M

SIGNED

Cory D. Smith

12/22/36
Wailuku, Oahu.
Dec. 23, 1936.

Dear Dr. Duck:

That *Fagraea* herbarium specimen I feel is in too fragmentary and poor a condition for illustrating. So, if it is all the same to you, I would like to substitute for it another new species of which I have a good illustration and a description written by Skottsborg and myself jointly. This I will send you later when I get around to it.

I tore or strained a ligament in my foot so can't do much walking - am to coddle it at least three weeks. Russ' *Fagraea* perched on a "Waimea Mt.", top is consequently out of my reach. Please let me have the description of it I mailed you some time ago, and I will get H.K. to print it and get it out of the way. This will act as an advertisement for my *Flora* by my mentioning that it will be reprinted there with illustrations later. It is a cheek way of getting my *Flora* before certain mainland bot. readers.

Enclosed is a letter I just received from Sheriff which please consider confidential and some day return. I am sending him all my *Bacca*, *Odontococcus* and *Pittosporum* material. He is a "go-getter" and I have considerable confidence in his work. He ferrets out new specimens located in all kinds of out-of-the-way places on the Continent.

I am greatly disturbed by learning that Fosberg is botanizing on Molokai this vacation and St. John on Maui! What is the matter? Does that not mean that he has failed to be reappointed at the University? Fosberg is a virile and energetic collector, unusually popular among the students and has an excellent mind. He is even now a good Hawaiian botanist and is beginning to know the local flora well. If he should be enabled to settle in the Islands permanently, he will soon develop into a dangerous competitor to taxonomists, like me, now on the spot. For the sake of New Botany, however, I feel all of us should do our utmost to enable him to remain here. The Gregorian practice of getting newcomers all the time to monograph groups before these men have even had the opportunity to become familiar with local conditions is not conducive to very good work. If F. should have no position next year in the Islands, I hope you can engineer a B.S. fellowship or position for him. It would be too bad to let him escape out of the Islands when we have once gotten him here and given him several years of training in New Botany. I consider him something of a prize.

Greetings of the season,

Sincerely,

Otto Degener

1/13/36
2220 University Ave.,
Honolulu, T.H.
Jan. 15, 1936.

Dear Dr. Skottsberg:

I guess by this time you finally received the Pagoda flowers. I regret that the letter was so delayed - the post-office had no business keeping it so long before returning it to me for readdressing it. I fear the flower will not have reached you in a nearly fresh condition as I had intended.

I received your letter of Dec. 16 in which I note that the "Makulu" Wikstroemia was somewhat involved nomenclatorially. I am glad you unravelled the synonymy.

In the case of my Wikstroemias (as in the case of my other plants), I really do want to work up my novelties, we two can agree upon, jointly with you and publish them in my own Flora. As you know, it is only by the inclusion of novelties that I can "sell my wares" to botanic gardens and museums. So I am sure you will pardon this very definite wish of mine.

Your letter made me shudder when I read that you cited my Flora "in numerous places". The usual reason for citing a Flora is for the purpose of correcting errors. I know of some errors and these same ones, and many more besides, you probably know also. Are we now correcting these same errors at the same time? The most glaring should be off the press corrected this week. Enclosed are old proofs, excepting that of *Argyrodaphne Grayana*!!!!!! I hope my corrections do not coincide with part of your annual report.

By the way, I found a new Variety of *P. semiarticulata* with later-
leaflets sessile. It came from the Waialeale Range.

Do you know of any Scandinavian institutions that might be interested in the purchase of my three books? In winter is there no one who would like to read about tropical plants while a blizzard is howling out of doors? Now if our temperature should rise to 100° , I would quickly get a volume dealing with tundras, reindeer and glaciers.

Sincerely,

10/7/40

Hendy Oct 7
Hunt Institute Co. (1940?)

On the Routes of the Flying Clipper Ships

Dear Mr. Bogner, I arrived
here this morning & just got
letter of Sept. 28 - You wrote
about taking Emily. I had
a letter from you about this which
I answered saying there is no
place on board for him to sleep
or eat. He could not eat either
with us and I do not suppose
he could care to eat with the
crew. He could sleep on a mattress
on deck but if it rains that is
not comfortable. I can see
how valuable he could be
for you but this is the situation.
I want to fly to Honolulu
on the Oct 15 plane but
am not assured of a place

in the Islands so may have
to go in the ^{new} "Venture".
On the Routes of the Flying Clipper Ships
leaving here Oct. 15. The
passport left in Washington
yesterday no Saturday
morning all passport members
I believe they called for you
& Mr. Coulter. They want to
get permission for us to land
in the British Islands from
London & say it is necessary
to have them - This may
be red tape - I understood
that Sir Harry Luke in Quora
had full authority & I have
many letters to him. So I
am not disturbed. They say
my Captains passport have
not two years ago he has
been in the British Islands all

the way down a cable for him
page he expects to arrive in
On the Routes of the Flying Chipper Ships
Nearer the middle of October -
I am not getting any French
visas - Large trunks are not
possible on board but there is
considerable space on board
for the material for much of
the stores - If you think
your assistant will be able to
get on with the crew, if he
has a pass port bring him -
I have never met him myself
but look forward to doing so -
I am afraid the "Mentor" will
be in port only a few hours.
I will cable her Captain whenever
plans are fully settled -
Yours truly
A. C. C. C.

12/6/35

2280 University Ave.,
Honolulu, T. H.
Dec. 6, 1935.

Palakoa

Dear Dr. Skottsberg:

I returned to two trees of the *Pagera multi-foliolata* Degener & Skottsberg which grow practically within sight of the von Holt mountain house at Palakoa, Waianae Range. Are those the two plants you had observed? I also have specimens from other Waianae Range regions. Most of my *Pageras*, unfortunately, are still in New York.

One tree bore about 4 flowers of which I have enclosed two: From fresh material I have drawn up the following tentative description:

Flowers (apparently) perfect, pedicel 5 mm. long, faintly puberulous to glabrate, dull purplish-brown. Calyx shallowly 6-lobed with puberulous somewhat ciliate lobes broadly deltoid. Petals 4, spreading to recurved, whitish within, purplish-brownish-red without, subequal, about 3.5 mm. long and 3 mm. wide, ciliate especially toward apex, thickish, oblong-ovate. Stamens 4, spreading erect, 3 mm. long; filaments white, glabrous, obclavate in outline, thick; anthers yellow, small; pollen yellow. Pistil light green, slightly more than 1 mm. wide, globose-subquadrate-globular, glabrous. Carpel apical, single, light green, laterally attached, with reclined style 1 mm. long.

Pencil drawing of flowers and habit of plant have already been drawn. My artist must now ink them in. I shall be ready to print illustrated description in my *Flora Hawaiianis* at my expense, if you wish, the minute you have completed your part of study of plant.

By the way, I don't like the idea of saying that the flower has a 3 mm pedicel! Why is that not simply part of the flower raised by some growth? I would like to get your reaction on this. Everyone seems to consider that a pedicel.

I am printing another 16 pages of my *Flora* including novelties. I find, also, that I must put *Wilkesia Grayana* into *Argemonephium*! My specimens have excellent disk florets as they should have with a number of ray florets. This may make *Wilkesia* a monospecific genus with *W. gymnox* as the sole representative. I had excellent fresh material from Pun Kuliand have a really good drawing. The ms., is now at the printers and I should get this out before Jan. 1.

Greetings of the Season,

4/13/35

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

April 13, 1935

Mr. Otto Degener,
New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park, (Fordham Branch P.O.)
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Degener:

I have your letter of April 11. Did you
receive the ^{drawing} ~~print~~ of *Uncinia uncinata*? If so, are you
going to publish it soon? I would like to have the ori-
ginal drawing returned after the engraver is finished with
it.

I notice a number of Hawaiian plants in the
Doubletten-Verzeichnis of the Berliner Botanischen Tausch-
vereins. I would much prefer to get these plants direct
from you. Have you already sent these to me or will ~~will~~
you promise to send them to me? This will obviate ordering
the same plants from two sources. If there are any plants ^{from Florida}
in particular you wish, let me know and I will send them
to you.

If you wish to ship plants direct from the
Hawaiian Islands, let me know, and I will send you an order
for the approximate number by return mail. We have sent an
order to the Business Office for the 32 plants of Hawaii.
You should receive the order in a few days.

Very truly yours,

H. O'Neill
Hugh O'Neill,

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.
LANGLOIS HERBARIUM

HUGH O'NEILL, CURATOR
IVAR TIDESTROM, RESEARCH SPECIALIST
ARTHEME DUTILLY, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

JOHN O'BRIEN, CYTOLOGIST
VINCENT ABELL, ASSISTANT CURATOR

List of Determinations for Dr. Otto Degener

Degener

408. *Scirpus lineatus* Michx.
413. *Cyperus dentatus* Torr.
409. " " "
416. " *filiculmis* Vahl
415. " *ovularis* (Michx.) Torr.
17428. " *odoratus* L. = *C. ferax* L. C. Rich.
455. *Carex bermudiana* Hemsley
748. *Carex aurea* Nutt.
447. *Carex pallescens* L.
406. *Carex canescens* L.
429. *Eleocharis caribaea* (Rottb.) Blake
442. *Carex lurida* Wahlenb.
461. *Carex stricta* Lam. var. *strictior* (Dewey) Carey
450. *Carex Longii* Mackenzie
17407. *Carex lanuginosa* Michx.
17408. *Carex* " "
453. *Carex crinita* Lam.
433. *Eleocharis compressa* Sull.
428. " *tenuis* (Willd.) Schultes too young
17576. " *obtusa* (Willd.) Schult.
470. *Eriophorum angustifolium* Roth.
421. " *brachyantheum* Trautv.
456. *Carex inflata* Huds. = *Carex rostrata* Stokes
St. John and Thayer 7288. *Carex pseudo-scirpoides* Rydb.
Cyperus dentatus Torr. Degener, Coll. 8-15-22-24. Gay Head, Mass.
Cyperus polystachyos Rottb. var. *texensis* (Torr.) Fernald Degener, Coll.
8/14/21. Pembroke Marsh, Bermuda
Dichromena colorata (L.) Hitchc. Degener, Coll. 7/30/21. Devonshire
Marsh, Bermuda
Carex capitata L. S. J. Ewer, Coll. Mt. Wash. N. H. near alpine Garden Area.
Scirpus caespitosus L. " " " Mt. Katahdin, Me.
Fimbristylis autumnalis (L.) R. et S. P. O. Schallert, Coll. Urban N. C.
9/16/34.
Cyperus diandrus Torr. Hapeman, Coll. Minden, Neb. 8/22/29.
Driesbach 8383. *Bulbostylis capillaris* (L.) Clarke
Carex Bigelovii Torr. Ewer, S. J. Mt. Katahdin, Me. 8/14/28.
Carex debilis Michx. R. E. Torrey, Sept. 1920. Amherst, Mass.
S. J. Ewer, Mt. Katahdin, Me. No. Basin 8/14/28. *Carex brunescens* Poir.
R. E. Torrey, *Carex festuacea* Schk. Amherst, Mass.

12/7/31

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TROPICAL, SUBTROPICAL, AND ORNAMENTAL
PLANT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

P. O. Box 340
Honolulu, T. H.
December 9, 1931

Prof. Otto Degener
2320 University Ave.
Honolulu, T. H.

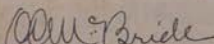
Dear Sir:

Referring to our correspondence of October, 1930, regarding certain Island plants as possible insecticides, we are now in a position to take up this study. We would appreciate very much any information that you may give us relative to the source of various poisonous plants. Can you supply us with information where a good supply of the following may be secured?

Wikstroemia Sp.
Tephrosia piscatoria
Cocculus Ferrandianus
Isotoma longiflora
Piscidia erythrina
Anagallis arvensis

Suggestions as to other possible poisonous plants would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,


O. C. McBride,
Entomologist.

P

2220 University Ave.,
Honolulu, T.H.
Dec. 10, 1931.

Mr. O. C. McBride,
Box 340,
Honolulu, T.H.

My dear Mr. McBride:

From your letter of Dec. 9, I am not certain whether you are referring to possible commercial sources of the plants specified or merely wish to get a sufficient quantity for chemical analysis.

1. *Wikstroemia* can be found in commercial quantities in the Kaa Desert of the Island of Hawaii. Considerable amounts could be gathered in Makua and neighboring valleys, Oahu.
2. *Tephrosia piscatoria* grows scattered throughout the islands in dry places - not in commercial quantities, however. A small amount could be gotten between the road and the shore at Diamond Head.
3. *Coccolus Ferrandianus* grows scattered in the drier uplands, - no commercial quantities. I know some can be found along the Pupuke-Kahuku Trail near Eupukea, Oahu.
4. *Isotoma longiflora* is not on Oahu but near Hilo and on Kauai. I believe I have seeds of this plant that may yet be viable.
5. *Piscidia erythrina* is said to be growing in Thomas Square, Honolulu. I do not know whether the trees are still there now that the park has been landscaped.
6. *Angellia arvensis* grows scattered at Waimanalo and also near Haunalea - not in commercial quantities.
7. *Colubrina asiatica*, a fish-poison, can be found in quantities at Waiman Bay, Oahu. A large clump is growing in Kamaele Park, opposite my house, near the University.
8. *Ripar natheticsus*, swa., is a narcotic growing in commercial quantities in Puna, Hawaii. I know of a plant in Waialeale Valley which might be large enough for chemical tests.

The juice of the *Cleandora* and *Eleuteria* are deadly poisons. *Xanthium* seedlings kill livestock. To eat 1 - 2 seeds of castor oil plant may cause death. *Adiantum* nuts are narcotic.

Sincerely yours,

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL
Faculté des Sciences



Laboratoire de Botanique

1265, rue Saint-Denis,
Montréal.

Mr. Otto Degener
Univ. of Hawaie.

Montréal, le _____ 19__

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous accuser réception des
publications suivantes : *The gametophyte of*
Lycopodium cerinum in Hawaii.
Other new stations of Lycopodium
prothallia.

Veuillez agréer nos plus vifs remerciements.

Jacques B. Brunel
Assistant

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

LABORATOIRE DE BOTANIQUE

1265, RUE SAINT-DENIS,

MONTRÉAL



FRÈRE MARIE-VICTORIN, F.E.C., D.Sc., M.F.R.C.

PROFESSEUR



JULES BIENVENU-BRUNEL

ASSISTANT

Montreal, April 22, 1926

Mr. Otto Degener,
University of Hawaii,
Honolulu, Hawaii.

My dear Sir:

We have received, some time ago, two papers on *Lycopodium prothallia*, reprinted from the Botanical Gazette. We thank you very much for same, and send you in exchange, as requested, Prof. Victorin's monograph on the Lycopods of Quebec.

We would be very glad to arrange a regular exchange of publications with your Institution. If you are interested in this matter, please let us know, and we will put your name on our permanent mailing-list.

Very truly yours,

Assistant