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4909 Frew Street
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Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
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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.

Dear Dr. Degener

2064 Makiki
Honolulu
Jan 25, 1944

I write to thank you for your
unique Christmas card & your
good wishes. Also to make
sure that I have your address
correctly as I want to send you
a copy of my book "Birds of
Hawaii" which will be out
soon. It is not the book I am
working on which was to be a

History of the Indigenous birds
of the Hawaiian Islands.
That will be finished later
& may be published some time.
Birds of Hawaii is a book for
the general public but caters
to the scientific side as well.
Best wishes
Sincerely
H. C. Munro

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

2 February 1951

Dear Otto,

The enclosed reprints might be of some use to you. The Dicranopteris sandwicensis Degener reduction was Morton's idea, not mine. Hope you agree with him on this score.

How are you doing out there these days ? I have been here at Cal since September, working toward my Ph.D., and it seems very wonderful to be in a really good botanical institution for a change. I am learning more about taxonomy than ever before, and enjoying life in general. Writing a bit, but mostly doing the groundwork for my Flora Brasílica treatments (Palmae, Araceae, Velloziaceae) and some work on Colombian Orchidaceae.

Let me take this tardy opportunity to wish you the happiest and most successful year yet. Do write when you get a chance, will you ? I've been doing a lot of drawing of late, and if you are still at work on "Plants of the Tropics" perhaps I can help you out on some of the plates.

Sincerely,

Alex

Alex D. Hawkes

Mokuleia Beach,
Waialua, Oahu, T. H.
March 12, 1951.

11

Dear Alex:

I have your letters before me. I have been so busy fighting to keep our foolish legislators from introducing deer to the Island of Hawaii that my correspondence lagged. Saturday we recommended that the bill be killed in committee. That is just a recommendation. Now we must see that the Legislators follow it. It will be a fight.

I am glad that "Notes on *Dicranopteris emarginata*" in the American Fern Journal for 1950; "The Upright *Psilotum*" in the same journal the same year and the article on *Melia* in *Popular Gardening* for February of this look so well. It is too bad that you have stated in the footnote "the writers' forthcoming book," now we all know you agreed to give up the partnership of writing my "Plants of the Tropics" with me. Our friends at the Garden are snickering. With your interests in the *Flora Brasiliica*, you have enough irons in the fire without this project, anyway.

Now the question is, how are we to correct the wrong impression in the American ~~Journal~~ Fern Journal by having the apostrophe incorrectly after the "s" in writer? I don't like to write the editor a long explanation to impress upon him that "Plants of the Tropics" is not your manuscript nor that some facts and cuts are from my copyrighted books. My suggestion is that in a next joint article we state "Part of the material used herein, as well as the accompanying line plate, is adapted from Otto Degener's copyrighted *Flora Hawaiiensis*. For one such article on one plant by me I now agree to collaborate with you. Which do you want to select? I do not, however, give you indiscriminate permission to publish without your first getting my okay. You will realize that is only reasonable.

Have you any drawings I can use, giving you credit for them?

Unless we do something like the above so that readers know precisely what text and drawings are from my copyrighted publications and what are from yours, you (and I) and the publication are bound to get into hopeless difficulties to last you a life time. One fiasco by you can be forgiven and gets lost with the lapse of time. But any little irregularity henceforth would tend to unearth unpleasant memories in the bot. world against you. Don't acquire the reputation of a Persoon

^[withhold]
I owe Gus cash for book postage so please mail the Gardening Publications cheque for \$") to him after endorsing it. I herewith enclose a cheque for \$10 as your share of our *Melia* collaboration.

When will you return the correspondence regarding book orders to me; also the index card notes. You promised to do so. I like to prove to Gus and Harold M., that our relationship is cordial. That cheque is in part concrete proof.

During the last 24 hrs., we had $\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rainfall, a record for a number years!

Aloha,

Otto Degener

PARIS, LE 27 avril 1953

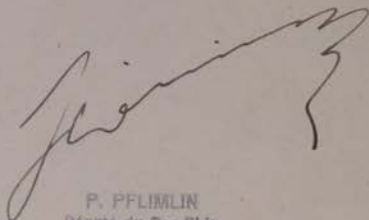
Monsieur,

J'ai bien reçu votre lettre en date du
9 avril 1953.

Comme je n'exerce plus depuis le mois de janvier dernier les fonctions de Ministre de la France d'Outre-Mer, j'ai transmis votre lettre à mon successeur,
M. le Ministre JACQUINOT.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes
sentiments distingués.

Monsieur Otto DEGENER
FALKAU
b. Titisee
BADEN
zone française
(Allemagne)



P. PFLIMLIN
Député du Bas-Rhin
Ancien Ministre

Jxv. & A Office.
317 W. Main St
Apr. 29-53

Dear Friend Degener:-

Fred Seaver and wife were over last Sunday for a visit and talkfest and they gave us the information that N.Y.B. Sargent had recently received information from you that while in Germany you had met a suitable and congenial Fraulein and had married her. Also that you had given up your trip to the South Pacific and were on your way back to Hawaii. Of course we were all very pleasantly surprised, and Grace and I wish to congratulate you, and wish you "Bon Voyage" on this new adventure which we are certain you will find more interesting than the trip to the South Pacific could possibly have been.

Our Dorothy from N.Y. is visiting us at present, and also joins us in these extended good wishes.

You will be interested to know that while I still do not have the classifications of all the Haw. Haploids, I did finally get all the Mucic named and thus far I have sent sets to Munich and Berlin-Dahlem Museums; also to Univ. of Mass: and N.Y.B. Sargent as well as to Bishop Museum. I still have several less numerous sets to distribute of which I expect to send a set to US Nat. Herb: to Univ. of Ill: Chicago Museum: to Univ. of N.E. as well as to Univ. of Fla.

20. Schallert
Thus you see your collections will be widely distributed.
I may also send a set to Dr. Aaron Stange, Univ. Tenn. whom
I met and liked years ago. If you want a set send
to France, give me address, and I will respond.
A set should also go to England, if you have the address?
Dr. Henry S. Goward of Iowa recently visited us, and
I took off a day to Botany in that area for
Bryophytes as this is the interest of Dr. Goward.
I think you once wrote that you were working
on a 5th vol. of the Haw. Flora, as I have your
first 4 vols. Of course send this 5th vol. to me and
I will send you check for same.

I am still in the Med. Section of the VA in Jacksonville
but commute to our home in Altamonte Springs at
week-ends usually via Greyhound Bus. My health is
still excellent at 74 yrs. of age.

I still am hoping to get to Hawaii some day to
visit these wonderful Islands and do some personal
collections and sight-seeing.

Now please write to me and tell me about your
European adventure; and when you have specimens
of any thing that grows, send it on and I will
try and get somebody to name the material and
always send duplicates to Bishop Museum.
Don't forget to write Schubert Haller

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

GILBERT GROSVENOR, PRESIDENT
ROBERT V. FLEMING, TREASURER

JOHN OLIVER LA GORCE, VICE-PRESIDENT
THOMAS W. MCKNEW, SECRETARY

January 28, 1954

Mr. Otto Degener
Care of Dr. Paul O. Schallert
P. O. Box 262
Altamonte Springs, Florida

Dear Mr. Degener:

Thank you so much for your willingness to help us ensure the accuracy of the botanical data in our forthcoming Honolulu article. We make every effort to prevent error in the Magazine, and the opinion and comments of the expert in the field are most helpful.

I am enclosing excerpts from the manuscript which deal with the flora of the Island. I have indicated questions on the copy. Any correction or comment will be greatly appreciated.

Also, the author states that there are some 4,000 varieties of hibiscus in the Islands. Is this figure not somewhat high? To your knowledge, are wild boars still to be found in the mountains of Oahu?

I am also enclosing several pictures which will appear with the article. Questions are attached directly to each.

Some of these matters are not botanical, of course, but I am taking the liberty of including them in the hope that, with your long residence in the Islands, you might be able to help us.

As we agreed would be wise, I am sending a copy of all this material to you, care of American Express, 209 Saint Charles Street, New Orleans. Since we are pressed for time on the article, we shall greatly appreciate your prompt attention. I am enclosing an addressed, airmail envelope for your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Margaret G. Bledsoe

Margaret G. Bledsoe
Research Assistant

MCB:pr
Enclosures



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Hawaii—Nature's Botanic Garden

Otto Degener, Author of *Flora Hawaiiensis*

THE HAWAIIAN ARCHIPELAGO, which includes the entire chain of islands extending from Ocean and Midway to Hawaii, was developed from the slow extrusion of lava from a crack or series of cracks on the ocean floor.

To these isolated islands of bare lava came about 250 kinds of flowering plants. Some blew here during storms; some floated on ocean currents; some came stuck to the feathers or feet of migratory birds or hidden away in their intestinal tracts. About three-fourths of these plants came from Malaya and Australia, and the rest from America or elsewhere. Finding a land devoid of competition, these 250 pioneer immigrants bred and multiplied at a prodigious rate, spreading everywhere.



Ohia Lehua

As the result of variation and isolation of the offspring of the original 250 plants over a period of 25 million years or less, the Hawaiian Archipelago at the time of Christ could boast a flora of about 20,000 different kinds of flowering plants, and 98 per cent of these grew on no other place on earth. Some grew only on a single mountain like Diamond Head or on a single sunny ridge or shady gulch. Truly, the archipelago was a paradise, a superb botanic garden planted by the creator.

At length the handsome Polynesians—ancestors of the present Hawaiians—sailed up from the south in huge double canoes to these uninhabited islands. They brought with them as a future source of food the pig and, perhaps as a stowaway or from the chiefly sport of shooting with bow and arrow, the Polynesian rat.

They likewise brought with them as sources of food, drink, clothing and medicine, such plants as taro, sugar cane, sweet potato, banana, pia or "native starch," mountain apple, *awa*, *uwake* or tapa plant, *olena* or turmeric, coconut, breadfruit, perhaps the dye plant *nomi*, perhaps the candle-nut or *kukui* (no pollen grains of this common tree have as yet been found in ancient Hawaiian soils) and perchance a few stray weeds like the willow-herb of taro patches.

One kind of coconut, the *niu palapala*, evidently came originally from the island of Bolabola near Tahiti. Whether breadfruit cuttings perished from salt spray during the early trip, or whether someone in the excitement forgot to bring them aboard, we do not know. We do know, however, from *meles* or epics of the old Hawaiians that Chief Kahai, centuries later, made a special trip to Upolu, Samoa, and successfully brought the breadfruit to Oahu.

The pineapple, or *hala kahiki*, in the Islands before the coming of Captain Cook in 1778, was not brought here by the Polynesians. As the plant is native to Brazil, it very likely reached here on a Spanish vessel wrecked, so tradition relates, during the reign of King Keliokaloa, early in the 16th century at Kei, Kona, Island of Hawaii.

With the coming of the Polynesians, the destruction of the botanic garden that is Hawaii began. It is regrettable, but it was mostly justifiable. The pigs, a necessary source of animal food, ran loose in the fern forests and elsewhere, eating and damaging native vegetation. The rats were, perhaps, a mixed



Hawaii Silversword

The Hawaiian Archipelago, Nature's Botanic Garden
Otto Degener, Author of "Flora Hawaiiensis", etc.

The Hawaiian Archipelago - this includes the entire chain of islands extending from Ocean and Midway to Hawaii - developed from the slow extrusion of lava ~~and~~ from a crack or series of cracks on the ocean floor. This volcanic activity may have begun 100 million years ago, the mountain peaks, however, not piercing the surface of the ocean to form these lovely islands until 25 or even a scant 10 million years ago. Many of these peaks along the older, western end of the crack on the ocean bottom are so ancient, by the way, that they have been worn down by rain, wind and wave practically to sea level and are now known to us as obscure Ocean and Midway Islands, the home of seabirds and perhaps aviators.

To these isolated islands of bare lava came about 250 kinds of flowering plants to leave offspring to within historical times. Some blew here during storms; some floated here on ocean currents; some came here stuck to the feathers or feet of migratory birds, or hidden away in their intestinal tracts. About three-fourths of these plants came from Malaya and Australia, and the rest from America or elsewhere.

Finding a land devoid of competition, these 250 pioneer immigrants bred and multiplied at a prodigious rate, spreading everywhere. They found areas of pure or salt-impregnated coral beach sand and rough aa and smooth pahoehoe lavas to sour bogs and treefern jungles; of near tropic heat, as in the Kona District on the southwest side of the Island of Hawaii, to ice and snow, as on 13,784 foot high Mauna Kea; of desert conditions, as in Kau, to over 600 inches annual rainfall, as at Waialeale; of cloud filtered light, as in the coffee ^rregion of mauka Kona, to intense rays of the sun, as within Haleakala Crater; and all possible combinations of such conditions. No wonder the offspring of these 250 immigrants, by a process of natural selection, were induced to speciate or bring forth variable offspring. These varied all the way from salt tolerant, fleshy leaved naupaka

or half-flowers and lava flow inhabiting ohia lehuas to sunlight repelling, silver haired silverswords. Furthermore, such variations were at the same time intensified by isolation more extreme in the Hawaiian Archipelago than probably in any other region on the globe. The plants were not only separated from their relatives by growing on distinct islands but often in distinct kinukas, or lava oases, which, unlike formerly, now occur only on East Maui and Hawaii. Shade loving plants in one deep gulch, for instance, were separated by high, dry, sun baked ridges from their relatives in neighboring gulches. Conversely, sun loving plants of one ridge were separated by deep, dark gulches from their sun loving relatives on neighboring ridges. There were no mammals to disseminate seeds from one area to another as in most other regions of the world. There were relatively few insects to carry pollen from one insect pollinated plant in one gulch to another insect pollinated plant in another gulch. Nor did the winds carry pollen to all points of the compass to mix up the different strains of ~~wild~~ ⁱⁿ pollinated plants so long as almost continuous trades prevailed. No, the Hawaiian Archipelago was no melting pot for plant races as it is for races of the human species.

As the result of variation and isolation of the offspring of the original 250 plants over a period of ~~25~~ ²⁵ million years or less, the Hawaiian Archipelago at the time of Christ could boast a flora of about 20,000 different kinds of flowering plants, and 98% of these grew no other place on earth! The endemism is so extraordinary that some grew only on a single mountain like Diamond Head or on a single sunny ridge or shady gulch. Truly, the archipelago was a Paradise & a superb Botanic Garden planted by the Creator.

At length magnificent Polynesians - ancestors of the present Hawaiians - sailed up from the South in huge double canoes to these uninhabited islands. They brought with them as a future source of food the pig and, perhaps as a stowaway or for the chiefly sport of shooting with bow and arrow, the Polynesian rat. They likewise brought with them as sources of food, drink, clothing and medicine such plants as taro, sugarcane, sweet potato,

banana, pia or "native starch", mountain apple, awa, wauke or tapa plant, olena or turmeric, coconut, breadfruit, perhaps the dye plant noni, perhaps the candle-nut or kukui (no pollen grains of this common tree have² as yet been found in ancient Hawaiian soils), and perchance a few stray weeds like the willowherb of taro patches. One kind of coconut, the niu polepole, evidently came originally from the island of Bolabola near Tahiti. Whether breadfruit cuttings perished from salt spray during the early trip - or could someone in the excitement have forgotten to carry them aboard? - we do not know. We do know, however, from meles or epics of the old Hawaiians that Chief Kahai centuries later made a special trip to Upolu, Samoa, and successfully brought the breadfruit to Oahu.

The pineapple, ~~or~~ hala kahiki, ^{or "foreign hala of the Hawaiians, was} in the Islands before the coming of Captain Cook in 1778, ^{not} was not brought here by the Polynesians. As the plant is native to Brazil, it very likely reached here on a Spanish vessel wrecked, so tradition relates, during the reign^m of King Keliokaloa early in the Sixteenth Century at Keesi, Kona, ~~Kauai~~ Island of Hawaii.

With the coming of the Polynesians, the destruction of the Botanic Garden that is Hawaii began. It is regrettable but it was mostly justifiable. The pigs, a necessary source of animal food, ran loose and rooted about in the fern forest and elsewhere, eating and damaging native vegetation. The rats were perhaps a mixed blessing, for, while eating seeds, they probably dropped a goodly share and thus may have helped in their sowing. The crop plants, needing land cleared by manual labor or burning, may have crowded out a few native lowland species. All in all, however, the Hawaiian Islands, before the coming of Cook, were still a lovely Paradise in the Pacific with the native vegetation largely unspoiled and intact.

Since the coming of Captain Cook and the haoles in general - and I use this term in the original native sense so that it means both the Occidental and the Oriental Races of Man - the destruction of the native flora has progressed with leaps and bounds. Much of it is justifiable as we must have space for the growing and raising of food, and for housing. For ex-

ample, vast areas once covered with native plants growing no other place on earth have been cleared for the growing of sugarcane (fig.), pineapple (Fig.), rice, macadamia nuts and other crops. The cane and pineapple areas are familiar to us all. Even those of us who have not visited Lanai or West Molokai have seen photographs of their monotonous but profitable veneer-like covering of pineapple plants that has taken the place of the interesting native dry forest consisting of species endemic to those areas and now as extinct as the dodo and the passenger pigeon. We are apt, too, to forget that rice crowded out native marsh plants on most islands until the rice borer, excepting on the Island of Kauai, gained a foothold and made further planting hopeless. Nor do many readers realize that large areas of unique native jungle in the Panaewa region of Hawaii are being ~~in~~ bulldozed free of all native vegetation for macadamia nut culture.

Many native plants have been exterminated or decimated during the drainage or dredging of marshes, and the clearing of land, for houses and gardens. A striking example in recent years of the latter activity is the bulldozing of vast sand dune areas to build the Dream City of the Island of Maui. Many interesting Hawaiian plants have been wiped out completely by having grown in areas given over to grazing. Even the few plants there not palatable to stock succumb, due to trampling, the disturbance of the shallow rooting system, and the inability of their seeds on the now eroded, humus poor soil to germinate and replace their parents as these die of age.

Much of the extermination of our native flora, sorry to say, is not justifiable at all. It is due largely to past and present "lack of wisdom" and to negligence. For example, the escape from domestication of goats, cattle, deer, sheep and the lowly African snail has subjected the native vegetation to destruction in regions not touched by plow and bulldozer. The earth of the Island of Kahoolawe has blown into the sea after the hale or white man introduced browsing animals to this once interesting spot. Deer are now eating up the last vestige of native forest on the Island of

~~Leai~~. Due to feral sheep and to a lesser degree goats, Mauna Kea is now little more than a bare desert of lava with unpalatable weeds like the stinkweed marigold taking the place of the now exterminated silversword which in this particular strain was so abundant in the time of the horticultural explorer David Douglas that he used its dead stems for his camp-fire. Due to goats, the drier slopes of Haleakala are little better. And while such herbivores were allowed daily to fatten on native plants, we tax payers employ armies of men and boys to plant foreign weeds, trees and shrubs where these native plants had thrived. We long ago should have caught the bull by the horns and shot off the feral herbivores with the aid of our hunters and allowed the native plants to heal the damage to forest and water reserve in their own efficient way, and without expense. They have had millions of years experience in this work, even covering fresh lava flows most expertly with verdure.

Another factor, largely unjustified, that continues to decimate our native flora is the introduction, by design and by accident or carelessness, of exotics. As a result, our Islands, once a Paradise for interesting Hawaiian plants, are no longer that but, instead, a Paradise for weeds introduced from all corners of the earth: gorse, lantern, pricklypear, ~~pamakani~~, cocklebur, stinkweed marigold, golden crownbeard, guava, spiny amaranth, Spanish needle, euporbias of many kinds, American blackberry, castorbean, parrotfeather, cassias, melastomes, apple-of-Sodom and troublesome grasses like bur, Hilo and fountain grass.

In conclusion, Man in less than 200 years has wrecked a good fourth of the native Hawaiian vegetation that has taken the Creator 25 million years to evolve, AND THIS DEVASTATION CONTINUES WITH EVER INCREASING BRUTAL EFFICIENCY. "What Hath God wrought" in our Islands is a question future generations have a right to ask, yet we thoughtless vandals by our acts of eradication and extermination will soon obliterate all possible means of answering it. The flora is being wiped out faster than botanists can collect, study and preserve (even as dried specimens) samples for future generations to admire.

Individuals interested in strange and beautiful plants, such as shrubby violets two to four feet tall, all sorts of lobelias, the giant-leaved ~~Epiphyllum~~ ant-ant or Gunnera, the colorful cousin of the begonia called Hillebrandia, the glistening silversword, sandalwood, tiny filmy ferns and majestic tree ferns, fan palms or Fritchardias, and thickets of ground-pine have still the opportunity to see them in what is left of Nature's superb Botanic Garden. Whether their children and grandchildren will have the same glorious opportunity, however, is quite doubtful.

Mokuleia Beach,
Waialua, Oahu.
April 11, 1955.
May 17

Dear Miss Hickok:

I hope you got the desired information from Mrs. Louis Vierra of Waialua about local gardens.

^{a month ago}
Enclosed is an article about Hawaii. It ~~was~~ based on a talk I gave last summer before the Honolulu Garden Club. For the Mainland, of course, much of interest to people in Hawaii Nei was omitted. Perhaps you may want to run the longer article in your Magazine Section. If not, please return it to me so I can place it elsewhere.

Do you know that our local Rauwolfia trees are being studied by Mainland pharmaceutical concerns to see if they contain the same drug as is found in the Indian Rauwolfia serpentina? The drug is used to lower blood pressure.

Aloha,
Dr. Otto Seagren

18 January 1958

Dear Dr. Degener,

I am not sure whether to address you in New York or "at home" in the Islands, but I did not want to pass by the opportunity to acknowledge with appreciation the receipt of Book 5 of the illustrated Hawaiian flora. Obviously, it is a very handsome and useful work, and becomes progressively more useful as it grows toward completeness. If opportunity comes to hand, I should be glad to add to the representation of Umbelliferae, as adequate material becomes available. I understand that Dr. Sherwin Carlquist of Rancho Santa Botanic Gardens plans to visit the Islands this coming summer. His interest is especially in the anatomy of woody Compositae, but I hope to be able to get him to collect Umbelliferae, too. With best wishes for 1958, Sincerely,

Laurie Constantine

IC
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA



BRONX CENTRAL

POST CARD

Dr. Otto Degener

~~New York Botanical Garden~~

~~Bronx, N.Y.~~

~~New York 50, N.Y.~~

68617 Crozier Drive
Waialua, Oahu,
Terr. of Hawaii

COLEGIO DE LA SALLE
VEDADO, HABANA

Mr. Otto Degener
Waialua, Oahu
Hawaii, U.S.A.

March 3, 1958

Dear Sir:

I have your words and the notice of a new parto of your Flora Hawaiensis. Of course, as I have purchased the first 1-4 parts, I am interested in getting the rest as it comes out of the press. I include a \$5.00 bill for the expenses of this new part. Please, have it sent to me at the earliest convenience.

Thank you for your interest. I am now preparing the fifth volume of the Flora of Cuba, that is the Rubiaceae and Compositae, and the few families between them. This will close the Phanerogams. May be later I shall publish some more volumes with the Cryptogams, as they will be ready for publication.

Sincerely,

Bro. Alz.
Bro. Alain

pd, 5.00

granted permission to use
grants me credit.

10-15/24
Fitz/Pat.

April 16th 1958.

Box 277

Darwin N.T.

Dear Dr Degener,
You will be wondering why I haven't written. My husband and I have just returned from 10 weeks leave in southern states of New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania.

I received your wonderful parcels of blocks and newspaper cuttings on my return. I'm still picking them up and finding something new each day. How can I thank you for such a lovely surprise.

At the present time the local paper is not giving me much space (although paying more) so they haven't used any blocks recently. However I'm trying to get up courage and energy to publish a small booklet covering the more common trees and shrubs of Darwin, when I do, could I use some of

4/11/58

your cuts. I thought that these with some color photos with short articles on each might have a place both for people who live in Darwin and the tourists who are coming here each dry season in increasing numbers.

To day I renewed my subscription with Honolulu Sunday Advertiser. I have enjoyed the paper greatly even though I don't get the "Gardening is Fun" that must be in the Advertiser thro' the weekdays. My husband dives on to the 24 page color comic section like a child. How young ^{can one be} The general news is of great interest too.

The cuttings with reference to gardening will brighten up my ideas for notes. They are a different style to our Australian writers. I will post a couple of our main Monthly Garden magazines, which goes to every Australian state. My husband and I had a

4/16/58

wonderful holiday and we found it hard to settle down to work again.

The garden is tidy but as there hasn't been much rain during the wet season there's been no rampant growth. I put in some annuals for color into seed boxes today, our annuals are rather limited, we cannot grow anything that need really cool nights.

A friend is sending some Anthurium plants to try from Sydney. They are indoor plants there, but here they should be able to grow in sheltered places out of doors. I'm sending by constantly referring to the books I have and your cuttings.

Now, from
and now finally from both my husband and myself many thanks for your volume of Hawaii Flora. We appreciate your kindness very much indeed.

yours sincerely
with regards to Mrs Regener
and yourself
May FitzPatrick

2/28/60

STATE HERBARIUM OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
ADELAIDE

10th October, 1958

Drs. Degener,
WAILUA OAHU.

Hawaii.

Dear Drs. Degener,

I wish to thank you both very much for -

Flora ~~of the~~ Hawaiiensis, Book 4 (without cover),
Book 5 (with cover)

"Illustrative of Plants and Customs of the South
Seas" reprint of Plants of Hawaii National
Park, and

Naturalist's South Pacific Expedition: Fiji,

addressed to State Herbarium. I shall pass these books
on to our library, which we have, for the present, in
common with the Botanic Garden here.

I am very pleased to see from Book 5 how speedily
your work is progressing, and am glad to have it in our
library.

Checking through our holdings reveals that we now have
three copies of Book 4. I do not know whether the other
parts are still available. However, in view of the fact
that the Herbarium library possibly may be separated from
that of the Botanic Garden, I am trying to duplicate for
the time when the Herbarium might be in another building.
I shall send back to you one Book 4, and should like to
ask you whether it would be possible to complete the one
set, of which I have a personal copy of Book 4 only.

With great pleasure, I looked again through your book
on Fiji, which I read with interest when at Leiden, where
I had it on loan from Professor Sleumer.

Some time ago, I planned to write to you asking for
some special help regarding Ranunculaceae. However, I
did not get around to it, as I had not the courage to
worry you, and so I was very pleased to now have corres-
pondence with you. While in Leiden, I revised the Malay-
sian Ranunculaceae (Bibl.Bot.124), and became so interest-
ed in the problems of that family in the Pacific and South-
East Asia that I cannot stop this interest. If you should
be able to send me duplicates of Hawaiian representatives,
I should be most grateful to you. There is a very inter-
esting relation between *Ranunculus sundanicus*, *R. maniensis*
and *R. hawaiiensis*, which I should like to investigate.
Recently I studied the *Ranunculus sessiliflorus* group of
Australasia and would therefore like to see material of
R. parviflorus from Hawaii, as there are a few similar
species to this in California and Australasia, and it
seems not certain that the plant introduced to Hawaii

offered 10/27/58 to publish privately, R.
have at our expense, to get
50 copies of the book.

is the European species.

I hope very much you both are well. You,
Dr. Degener-Hansen, no doubt remember my visits to
Berlin.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

M. J. S. S. S.

First fold here

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

From: Dr. H. J. Eichler, State Herbarium of South
Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide.

Drs. Degener,

WAILUA CAHU.

Hawaii.

BY AIR MAIL

To open out at top



URGENT



Second fold here

To open cut here

Sender's name and address

Dr. S. Chatterjee, M.Sc. Ph.D. (Edw.)
Sri S. N. Mitra, Curator,
Indian Botanic Garden,
Calcutta, carrying on the
current duties of the
Superintendent, Indian
Botanic Garden, Calcutta.
P.O. Botanic Garden,
Dist. Howrah, I N D I A,
(West Bengal).

CORR. 68

Third fold here

HAWAII, U.S.A.

Oahu,

Malulu,

Mokulele Beach,

To
Drs. Otto Degener, B.S., M.S., Sc.D.,

BY AIR MAIL
AERODIGRAMME
NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



25

25

From:
Dr. D. Chatterjee, M.Sc., Ph.D.(Edin), F.L.S., F.B.S.,
Superintendent,
Indian Botanic Garden,
Calcutta, Shibpore,
P.O. Botanic Garden,
Dist. Howrah,
I N D I A. (West Bengal).

No. Lib.103D-1-III/3-36.

Dated the 14th., November, 1958.

To
Drs. Otto Degener, B.S., M.S., Sc.D.,
Mokuleia Beach,
Waialua,
Oahu,
HAWAII.

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of two
books and reprints so kindly presented to me.

I am very much interested in obtaining the back numbers
of the book entitled Flora Hawaiiensis from book Nos. 1-4.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly send to this
library copies of the above book and send your bill in tripli-
cate to the address of the undersigned for payment.

Yours faithfully,

S. N. Mitra
(S. N. Mitra),

Curator,

Indian Botanic Garden, Calcutta,
~~carrying on the current duties~~
of the Superintendent, Indian
Botanic Garden, Calcutta.



X 804
MADE IN USA





Dear Friends:

To wish you all the
blessings
of Christmas
and happiness in
the
New Year

It was disappointing
to miss you in the Islands
last September, but
we enjoyed your letter.
The Ka'u "Family System"
volume is out at Holst
(J.P.S., New Zealand)
+ we are at work here
on Hawaiian Planters, Vol.
II, aloha from
E & E Handy

Virginia - 1959

จดหมายทางอากาศ
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME



ส่งถึงอากาศไปรษณีย์

VIA AIR MAIL

DRS. OTTO DEGENER
6867 CROZIER DRIVE, WAIALUA
HONOLULU, HAWAII
U.S.A.

DR. GEO. C. RUTLE
c/o DR. BRANSON C. LEIGAL
4 GUSTAF HANSE LANE
BANGKOK THAILAND

AIR

Bangkok, Dec. 27, 1959

Dear Friends:

May your Christmas have been merry and 1960 hold much joy, many blessings for you.

Thanks for the great help that you have given the Haleakala Guide. You did not receive the acknowledgment commensurate with the amount of time and effort devoted. Now that it should matter much, I will not be by then the issue will be sold out, will be superseded by a new one, and soon forgotten. It is kind of you to include a sentence that you get technical advice and check the names of the plants as your connection adds note of confidence for travel between who may refer to the book.

I regret exceedingly the situation despite the matter of a guide to plants of the area. I have already given you the reasons why I consider you the most competent authority for the task. Had I taken up the matter years ago, the opportunity would not have been wasted.

Please send a copy of your *Flora Hawaiianensis* to Dr. ANWAR DILMY, DIRECTOR OF HERBARIUM BOGORIENSE, KEBUN RAYA INDONESIA, BOGOR, R.I. Send the book by air for charges and transportation to me. I promised Dr. Dilmy to present him with a copy if I could procure it, as he did many favors for me. Send the book by surface mail, registered. Other mail delivery in R.I. is undesirable.

Your Bot. Congress experience sounds most intriguing. I wish especially like that Churchill trip, since the view from Hudson Bay. I do love Guatemala, however, with a climate not surpassed by Hawaii.

I arrived in Thailand a month ago and immediately moved out into the jungle and mountains. That is as it should be, for my work is there. Cities, hotels, most of traffic, clouds are not favored for National Park lands.

I am informed that Telamex Ski is in brilliant eruption, but know no details. Someday I hope that you will identify the shrubby herbaceous *Ranunculus* which grows in the R.T. Crater. Its large white blossoms appear in November. Maria Neal says all *Ranunculus* are yellow flowers (I presume she did not mean to include the same guide varieties). The plant is abundant locally.

May we have the pleasure of visiting Haleakala Crater together some day. With all best wishes.