

# HUNTIA

A YEARBOOK OF BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

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HUNTIA

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HUNTIA is a yearbook devoted to studies of the literature on systematic botany and horticulture, botanical voyages and explorations, early agriculture, medical botany, and the related subjects of botanical biography, iconography, and bibliography.

While HUNTIA serves primarily as a record of investigations at The Hunt Botanical Library, its pages are open also to papers from scholars of other institutions.

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## Hunt Botanical Library activities, 1963

IN LIEU OF a published annual report, it is proposed that this section of *Huntia* serve to inform those who may be interested in the library's accomplishments for the calendar year now ended, in its plans for the coming year, and in reports pertaining to personnel. Reports of acquisitions and growth of the collections are treated elsewhere in this yearbook.

Since its formal opening in October, 1961, this library has given local publicity to a continuing series of exhibits of books, paintings, and prints displayed in its rare book room, lecture hall, and print gallery. These spaces are open to the public weekday afternoons, when a receptionist is on duty. An estimated 3,700 persons visited the exhibits during the year. In addition, 56 groups including 13 garden clubs, visited the library for lectures on its collections and program, and for tours of the premises. Although none of the staff participate in the University's academic program (no instruction is given at Carnegie Institute of Technology in the plant sciences or in the history of science), classes in medicine, pharmacy, and botany from other institutions in the area met here for special lectures by the staff in the literature of their fields. The collections have been consulted by an estimated 30 visiting scholars on repeated occasions, and by twice as many individual students, in connection with research at other institutions.

Three exhibitions were presented. The first was a survey of botanical art and illustration of the eighteenth century and earlier, January-March. The second was an exhibition of 203 items in Mrs. Hunt's extensive holdings of paintings, drawings, prints, and books illustrated by Pierre-Joseph Redouté (1759-1840). Also included was a considerable suite of letters written by Redouté, and notated proofs of some of the engravings of his work. The collection, together with a biographical account of the artist by F. A. Stafleu, was reported in *A catalogue of Redoutéana* (117 pp., 22 figs., 2 col. pls., and index) published by the library for the opening on 23 April 1963. The third exhibition, opening 15 August, was devoted to 254 items selected from the library's holdings of the books, manuscripts, herbarium specimens, and correspondence of the eighteenth century French botanist, Michel

Adanson (1727-1806), augmented by supporting materials generously loaned by the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle of Paris and the Institut Français d'Afrique Noire of Dakar. *A Guide to the Adanson exhibition* (51 pp., photo-offset) was published and distributed to visitors. The exhibition, associated with the Adanson Symposium, reported below, remained open until near the close of the year.

The library's acquisition of Adanson's botanical library in 1961, coupled with the bicentennial anniversary of the publication of Adanson's acknowledged *opus* on plant classification, *Familles des plantes* (2 vols., Paris, 1763-64), prompted the organization of a two-day international symposium dealing with the man and his works. This was held at this library August 18 and 19, 1963. The program provided for the presentation of eight papers and addresses by leading scholars in the field. The proceedings are published in a two-part illustrated volume titled *Adanson* (Part I comprising the papers of the first day, published 19 August 1963; Part II, with papers of the second day, in press). The symposium was attended by 147 scientists and others, representing 55 institutions. Nine of the participants came from England and the Continent. The occasion was further marked by the presentation, at the closing banquet, of a new bronze Adanson Medal, by Prof. Roger Heim, on behalf of the Académie des Sciences and the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, to all who were present.

The library's Advisory Committee met for a three-day session in mid-April, and again for three days immediately preceding the Adanson Symposium in August. Special attention was given at these meetings to consideration of titles from which would be selected those to be future volumes of the Hunt Facsimile Series (see p. 2) and the Hunt Monograph Series (see p. 3). It also studied the many problems associated with the content, organization, and requisite research for *Bibliographia Huntiana* (see p. 3).

In May 1963 the library was assigned a suite of five additional offices on the third floor of the Hunt Library building, which serve as the primary center for the staff and records of the *Bibliographia Huntiana* project.

At the close of 1963 the staff numbered nineteen, of whom nine were professional members. This represented an increase of six over the total for the previous year. M. Jean-Paul Nicolas, formerly of Paris and Dakar, was appointed a Hunt Fellow in Bibliography in August 1962, to utilize the Adanson materials for his biographical studies of Michel Adanson. Many of his findings are included in his paper, "Adanson, the Man" in *Adanson I* (pp. 1-122, 1963). On completion of his studies in August 1963 he and his family returned to Paris. In July 1963, Dr. Günther Buchheim accepted a two-year appointment as Hunt Fellow in Bibliography, to pursue studies

in the eighteenth century botanical literature and to serve as Coordinator of work on *Bibliographia Huntiana*. At the same time Dr. Claude Weber of Geneva, Switzerland, (Ph.D., Harvard '63), was appointed Assistant Bibliographer, working in various European centers on the *Bibliographia Huntiana* project. In December, Mr. Frits Schütz of Utrecht was appointed Assistant Bibliographer for the same project and likewise is working in centers on the Continent. Miss Katharina Poppé, a recent graduate of the University of Pittsburgh (and a Russian language specialist), was appointed Bibliographic Assistant in July and devotes a major part of her time to the *Bibliographia Huntiana* work.

In March 1963, the library received three fonts of a new type from the Stempel Foundry, Frankfurt, Germany. This type, named "Hunt Roman," was designed on commission from the library by Hermann Zapf of Frankfurt. It is a display face, in 14- 18- and 24-point sizes, to be used with the library's holdings of Jan van Krimpen's "Spectrum Monotype" face (in which the text of this yearbook is printed). The new Hunt Roman face was first used officially in the *Program* for the Adanson Symposium, and on the title-page of the volume *Adanson* (both designed by Jack W. Stauffacher). This emphasis on selection of type faces for particular needs is in keeping with a tradition for fine typographic design established earlier by Mrs. Hunt. Her standards for excellence are reflected further in the selection in 1963, of Volume 2 of *The catalogue of botanical books in the collection of Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt*, as one of the Fifty Books of the Year 1962, a volume which also received the American Library Association's Oberley Award as the best American book in agricultural bibliography for 1961.

Plans for 1964 are focused on the continuation of established projects. The primary exhibition of the year will be devoted to original works by contemporary botanical artists and illustrators, and will be open from April through August. A catalogue guide to the artists and the exhibits has been prepared. Botanists on the staff will attend and participate in the International Botanical Congress, convening in Edinburgh in August, and several will pursue bibliographical studies in various European centers.

George H. M. Lawrence  
Director