As we face current challenges and look to the future, the value of preserving history comes into sharp view. Examples include contributions to Samoan medicinal traditions, the role of wheat in regional agriculture and how communities have addressed influenza outbreaks. History provides the perspective on knowledge as a foundation for new developments.

A Tribute to Dr. Art Whistler

Dr. Art Whistler, ethnobotanist and expert on Samoan plants, became Hawaii’s third COVID-19 casualty on April 2, 2020. His death is truly a tragic loss for the field of ethnobotany, as well as for those of us who considered him a friend, a colleague and a model botanist. The Lloyd Library was fortunate to host Whistler last June, where he presented a lecture on Samoan herbal medicine. Dr. Eric Tepe of the University of Cincinnati shared his own tribute here.

Lloyd Brothers in Influenza History

While the United States and the world faces a pandemic today, we are reminded that our founders faced the influenza pandemic of 1918-1919. The Lloyd Brothers pharmaceutical firm surveyed 1,000 physicians regarding their preferred remedies for influenza and pneumonia, printing the results in a 1919 advertisement. Please note that we share this as an item of historical interest and not as medical advice.

Rare Book Connects to Ohio Agricultural History
The Lloyd recently acquired several rare 19th century books. Seen here is John H. Klippert’s 1860 work, *The Wheat Plant*, showing the namesake plant embossed in gold on royal blue covers. Born in Stark County, Ohio, Klippert was the fifth and longest-serving Ohio Secretary of Agriculture. Klippert also directed Ohio Board of Agriculture documents to be published in German, owing to the large number of German-speaking Ohioans at the time, especially in Cincinnati.