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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.

MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA
DIRECCION NACIONAL DE AGRICULTURA

DEPARTAMENTO TECNICO INTERAMERICANO DE COOPERACION AGRICOLA

CASILLA 13120
TELEFONO 82641

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

HUERFANOS 1117
SANTIAGO DE CHILE

July 29, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
Antigua Guatemala

Dear Wilt:

Your letter of July 14 was forwarded to me here and came a few days ago. Needless to say, it was a great pleasure to hear from you.

I have already written to the California Avocado Society concerning Sr. Paredes and have sent him a copy. The probability is good that I will visit him for I am scheduled to visit the Peumo district.

Fuertes have been on the markets here for a few weeks and they are good and command very good prices. I have seen several good orchards and expect to see many more shortly when I go to Quillota and La Cruz, said to be the major center for avocados and chirimoyas.

My work here is interesting and I am enjoying it.

Hope this finds you well and in good spirits.

Cordially,



Robert W. Hodgson

RWH/lasz

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

OFFICE OF THE DEAN AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
405 HILGARD AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

Air Mail

November 5, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Rancho California
Almunecar (Granada), Spain

Dear Wilt:

Your most welcome letter of September 15 did not reach me in Turrialba, and hence was forwarded. Needless to say, I am most grateful for your efforts to make arrangements for us to see your home in Antigua and I am glad to be able to report that we were able to do so. We stopped in Guatemala for four days on our way down to Turrialba and hired a car and chauffeur for a three-day trip, which included Antigua. It turned out that he was well acquainted with Senora Maria Garcia. As a consequence, with my card and his recommendation, she graciously showed us through your interesting and lovely place. Needless to say, we greatly enjoyed the privilege. Incidentally, the name of our chauffeur is Carlos Salazar Munoz. He said that he had met you on a number of occasions and certainly knew a great deal about you.

As you have guessed, the occasion for the trip was the annual meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Institute at Turrialba. Several years ago Knowles went off that Committee and I took his place. I have greatly enjoyed serving on the Committee. It has been stimulating and informative. As matters currently stand I will probably serve two years longer.

In that connection, the next meeting of the Committee is planned to be held in Guatemala City immediately preceding the Fifth Inter-American Agricultural Congress, which is scheduled to be held there some time next April or May. I sincerely hope that you will be there at that time. Also in this general connection, Ralph Allee was recently re-appointed to the directorship for another six-year term.

Your report concerning your trip to the Canary Islands is most interesting. I have always wanted to stop there and am all the more eager to do so now from your description of the Climatization Garden in Orotava.

I strongly encourage you to undertake the task of preparing a manual of tropical fruit culture in Spain.

Expressing the hope that this letter will find you both well and happy, and with best personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

Robert W. Hodgson - by R.H.
Robert W. Hodgson
Dean and Assistant Director

FRIENDS OF DEAN R. W. HODGSON
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

April 15, 1960


Dear Friend:

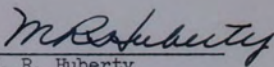
Dean Robert W. Hodgson, Professor of Subtropical Horticulture and Dean of the College of Agriculture, Los Angeles, will retire from University service on June 30, 1960, after more than 43 years of activity as investigator, teacher, and administrator. His influence as a teacher and researcher in the field of subtropical horticulture has been felt not only throughout California but is recognized in countries throughout the world where subtropical climates prevail. Students from these areas have been attracted to his classes throughout the years and his teaching of subtropical horticulture, especially citriculture, has influenced the respective industries in the major citrus areas of the world. As a fitting commemoration of Dean Hodgson's retirement you, as a former or current student, colleague, or friend, are hereby cordially invited to write a letter on this occasion. Preferably such letters should reach Dean Hodgson prior to his retirement.

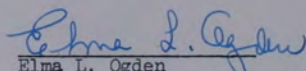
We shall appreciate it if you will call this matter to the attention of former students and friends of Dean Hodgson with whom you may be in contact since we are unaware of the present whereabouts of a number of such persons.

We hope that all of his former students and friends throughout the world can be informed of this event and that the letters of greetings will be a token of gratitude and esteem for the contributions which Dean Hodgson has made to subtropical horticulture in particular, and to agricultural education generally.

Very sincerely yours,


C. A. Schroeder


M. R. Huberty


Elma L. Ogden

Antigua, Guatemala, 15 May 1960

Dear Bob:

They tell me you are going to "retire". I dont like that word; I prefer the one I used in the last Annual of the California Avocado Society; they are going to jubilate you.

I just want to add a few words of appreciation to the many others you will receive. I dont like this idea of looking back, too much; I understand Lot's wife tried it and the results were not too happy. But seriously, you know that I have followed your career closely since the very beginning, and I know that you have done a tremendous amount of good, in the whole field of subtropical fruit growing. You know that as well as I do, but dont let it make you think that you are through. From now on you are going to be swamped with requests for advice and short time jobs, and you grab them! You can bring to bear your long experience on these jobs in an extremely useful way. I dont care whether the jobs are in Israel or South Africa or Peru or Brazil or elsewhere. Take them; you have a lot of useful years left to you. Make them count.

And I just want to add, on one of these trips you are going to make, drop in at the old house in Antigua, and I will try to show you a Guatemalan avocado that is not an alternate bearer - but dont count too much on that. Come anyway.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

OFFICE OF THE DEAN AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
405 HILGARD AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

June 24, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala

Dear Wilt:

The letters received in response to the announcement of my imminent retirement, sent out by colleagues sometime ago, were not given to me until after the recent dinner meeting held in my honor. This will serve to explain why I have not written you sooner.

Among the many letters which came in none has given me greater pleasure or satisfaction than yours. I greatly appreciate your generous remarks concerning me and my work, your sage advice and your good wishes.

I, too, have developed a strong dislike for the word retirement and prefer the term you have used. In that connection the French phrase for retirement, en retraite (in retreat), has always amused me and seems even worse. Of course I have no intention to retire so long as I am physically able to work and mentally alert. I am greatly pleased therefore that I have been recalled to service on half-time basis for another year, but without administrative responsibilities. I shall teach the course in Citriculture again and do some writing, and will have time to taper off somewhat, adjust myself to the new situation, and develop plans for the future. In that connection I am already tentatively planning to return to India for another six-month assignment sometime during 1961-62. If you hear of short-time assignments for which I am competent, please bear me in mind.

Now that the Administrative Committee of the Inter-American Institute has been allowed to lapse, my annual opportunity to make a trip to Costa Rica has disappeared. This I greatly regret, for I found those trips most enjoyable and had been hoping to pay you a visit one of these times.

I read your paper in the last Avocado Yearbook with particular interest and pleasure, and was pleased to see your reference to Garcia Cabezon in the Canary Islands. He was a student of mine many years ago. I surely would like to visit the Canary Islands and see the wonderful garden which he administers. Your reports on your travels in the Mediterranean as usual were both interesting and informative.

If you have occasion to be up this way be sure to drop me a line and plan

---Page 2---

to pay us a visit.

Expressing the hope that this will find you both in good health and things going well with you, and with kind regards and very best wishes, in which Evelyn joins, I remain

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob".

Robert W. Hodgson

RWH:kh

Answer 2 Aug 1962

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DEPARTMENT OF PLANT BIOCHEMISTRY
405 HILGARD AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

June 12, 1962

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala, Central America

Dear Wilt:

We reached home about two weeks ago after a leisurely and pleasurable 6-week trip with stopovers in Beirut, Cairo, Rome, Venice, Vienna, Paris, London, New York and Washington, D.C. En route to India last September we had a trip of 3 weeks with stopovers in Hawaii, Japan, Hong Kong and Bangkok. The duration of my assignment for the Rockefeller Foundation in India was 6.5 months so we have been away for an academic year and are quite willing to settle down for an indefinite stay at home. I am sure I have enough library and field work and writing assignments to keep me busy for months to come.

Shortly after our return Art Schroeder took off with his family for the long drive to Antigua to attend the Caribbean Region Section meeting of A.S.H.S. which he said was being held there primarily to honor you. This was good news indeed and was heightened a few days later when I read in one of the Society news letters which had come during my absence that you are also to receive the Medalla Agricola Interamericana on that occasion. Hearty congratulations and best wishes. I only wish I could be there to express them in person.

I attended the 48 Annual Meeting of the California Avocado Society at Riverside last Saturday. The program and attendance were better than usual, I thought. Among old-timers I saw were Coit, Condit, Barrett, Rounds and Crawford. Coit's eyesight no longer permits him to drive beyond his home community - a serious handicap. Condit and Barrett look about the same - as youthful as ever. Rounds has aged considerably and Crawford somewhat.

I sincerely hope that your health has continued to improve and that things are going better for you.

Haven't seen Knowles yet but Cameron tells me he looks well. He saw him in Berkeley recently.

With all good wishes, in which Evelyn joins, I remain

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert W. Hodgson

RWH:mcm

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

OFFICE OF THE DEAN AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
405 HILGARD AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

Air Mail

August 22, 1962

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala
Central America

Dear Wilt:

It was a great pleasure to receive your letter of August 2, and your remarks concerning the Wilder Medal award are greatly appreciated. I was most surprised but of course greatly pleased.

Art Schroeder should be getting back soon and I am looking forward to having a report from him. I hope Zentmyer will be bringing or sending back the wild Guatemalan avocado prototype for I want to get acquainted with it.

I am glad to learn that the possibility exists of restoring the school at Zamorano to its original purposes and objectives and wish you success in your efforts. It was so distinctive and outstandingly successful that I was deeply disturbed when I learned of the changes planned. I would suppose and certainly hope that the recent resignation(?) of the director who succeeded you might have significance in this connection.

For some weeks past I have been working on a paper on the less well known Indian citrus fruits, most of which I regard as good species though none of them was recognized by Swingle. I introduced some of them years ago and was afforded the opportunity to study them in their native habitat during my assignments in 1959 and 1961-62. I am enjoying it immensely though the descriptions are tedious.

Hope this finds you well. Best regards and all good wishes from us both.

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert W. Hodgson
Professor of Subtropical
Horticulture, Emeritus

RWH:t