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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.

Gainesville, Florida  
November 16, 1956

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Escuela Agricola Panamericana  
Apart. 93  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

It has been a long time since I recieved your letter dated September 24, which I did not answer before because I have been too busy in my classroom work.

This letter is just to tell you a little about the Florida Horticultural Society meeting which I attended last week. There were very interesting papers about sub-tropical and tropical Horticulture. I presented the paper which I am sending with this letter. I hope that you read it, and give your opinion.

I am really glad to hear from you that the nursery and orchard work is all right, I hope that every thing comes through successfully.

Ofelia and myself feel fine so far. I believe that Ofelia is doing fine job around here, She helps me so much in my work( washing equipment in the laboratory, typing reports, etc.), which makes me to love more and more. She sends to you and Mrs. Popenoe the warmest regards, like I do.

Sincerely yours,

*Waud*

Mario Jalil R.

*B*

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

July 23, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
21 Avenida Roosevelt  
San Salvador. El Salvador.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I felt really very glad when I had your letter in my hands, always there are so many reasons to feel that way, mainly when I realize that you are thinking on me as I do of you. Ofelia and my little daughter send to you as many regards as you can take. Both of them are fine.

I was trying to write you before but, I decided to do it after getting a very good idea of the situation of the Horticultural Department. The grapes, which you mentioned in your letter are two alive, which I don't know what they are due to the reason that neither tags nor maps are around, somebody lost them. Whatever the outcome may be, I will try to put a little work in the grape business.

The avocado nursery (siembra directa) is not good, few plants can be saved, however I got now 4000 seeds from town which look pretty good and, they are planted in seedbeds now. I hope that they will grow.

I am saving the Julie mangos for you and beside that I am trying to push the growth of the rest of the mangos which were budded too late, then we will send to you the amount requested through Mr. Beasley. I hope they will be ready some time late September or early October.

I don't see any reason why Castillo is wasting his time using the chip budding method in mangos. I very strong for veneer grafting, more now, after seeing the untrained RECLUTAS getting over 90% taken.

As far as Citrus is concerned I feel in the same way as Manuel Chavez's cousin. Valencia, as you know is a late variety in Florida, the trees are very vigorous and do well on most combinations of stocks and soils. Seeds are usually few, and the juice is of very excellent quality. Pineapple (mid-season variety in Florida) which I know you like a lot, the production is heavy but, when not properly fertilized, the tree has a tendency to die back when a heavy crop is borne, with a consequent alternation in production.

My situation in the school is not as good as before, I still have my wife in Tegucigalpa because there is not place to live here so far. For that reason and others I am afraid that I have to leave the school in a near future. I applied for jobs in Ecuador and Panamá and, I will write to Dr. Richardson in México but, first I want to hear your comments about it.

ever yours

*W. Popenoe*

21 Doble Via, San Salvador  
27 July 1957

Sr Ing Mario Jalil  
Escuela Agricola Panamericana  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Dear Mario:

Many thanks for your good letter of the 23rd. Before I talk about fruits I want to give you my advice about your future. You say that you have asked about jobs in Ecuador and Panama, and are going to write Ralph Richardson. Allright; all of us want to see you get ahead as rapidly as possible, and we dont care where it may be: our job at EAP is to train good men and help them get ahead, keeping always in mind that we want them to work in Latin America if possible. You ask for my comments: they are as follows. Take your time. Do not make a hasty move. When I left Zamorano I realised that you were going to come back to a housing problem. I have been through housing problems for 15 years at Zamorano. If that is the only trouble, wait! If it is, on the other, the question of a job you like better, and has a better future for you, then grab it, but first be convinced that you are really making the right move. I might add that I think I might be able to advise you regarding some of the factors connected with any job you are considering. You know I am interested in your future and in your field, which is horticulture, and horticulture in tropical America,

Now as to plants. I do not think we ever had a chart of the grape planting which is below the coffee without shade. If we had one, I do not think I ever saw it. You made charts or plans of most of the fruit plantings and I believe there is a set of these in the office file. Ask Medina about it. I remember that I felt we should have such charts in our office files because those which are kept elsewhere always get lost, sooner or later. The chap who has them moves away and takes them with him, or something like that. The grapes to the north of Morcillo's house are Piescoe, as you will remember, and are the ones in which we are most interested. The ones down below, near the shadeless coffee, are Isabella and Niagara and a few of those Demko hybrids. Probably nothing important among them. I hope you will go on with grapes. This fruit has possibilities in tropical America - look at Brazil and Colombia.

As for the avocado nursery, some years ago we planted seeds direct in the field and got a good stand. This year I do not believe the seeds were good, for one thing; there may have been other factors also. Almost always we get seeds from fruits which are not really mature. I am glad you are getting some more seeds and will start them in seed beds as usual. It is probably the safest way.

As for mangos, I have found over here, at Santa Cruz de Porrillo, that they have a number of good Haden trees but only one Julie. Fruit flies are the big problem in Salvador and as you know, Julie is pretty resistant. Therefore, I think it would be fine if you could send 25 Julies over here this year; you do not need to send any Hadens. And I would like a few Julies for Spain, as I have told you. There are three good Amini trees at Santa Cruz de Porrillo, probably enough to supply scions, so I think the only problem here is to get more Julies. We also find here plenty of trees of the good oranges, Washington Navel, Valencia, Pineapple and Jaffa. So we are fixed so far as citrus is concerned.

I went out to San Andres yesterday to see how the mango propagation is coming along. They are still using the chip bud. They say they are getting better results; I doubt it, and think we should stick to veneer grafting, just as you do. It works.

Best regards to your nice little family.

Sincerely,

*Do not return*

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

August 15, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
21 Doble Via  
San Salvador, El Salvador.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thanks for your letter of July 27. It is really good to know that every things are fine with you and your work.

The Fruit work in the school is as usual. I have in mind to make new orchards and groves in a very near future. As for citrus, I think that we have to start looking for a new land and replace our old grove. There are so many deficiencies and diseases that an economic production is not expected any more from it.

As to avocados, you know we always have faced that problem, no land for avocados at the school. However I am interested in making a new orchard only of Simmons, just for the school consumption. It does not mean that I will disregard our beautiful collection which I will try to keep it by all mean.

As for mangos, I think we are all set now, however, in the "FUNDAMENTAL PRODUCTION PROGRAM" for the school in conection with fruits, which I will present to Dr. Paddock pretty soon, I will considered a new mangos orchard too.

Thanks Dr. Popenoe for your advice. I will not make a hasty move, I can't do it, as you know I have a family to support. Probably I will stay a little longer and I will talk to Dr. Paddock about it, so can be ready to look for replacement. It is not the matter of working at the school, I like it very much, but lately I have gotten so many órdenes and contraórdenes that make me to lose all interest in the work.

I am very grateful that you are interested in my future, as you know I want to become a good horticulturist wherever it may be. When I went to the school at San Andrés I heard that horticulturists are wanted, I hope that you mention my name for it, if the conditions are reasonable I would like to work there, being there, in a matter of two or three years I will see what can I do. I think that El Salvador have a good future in our field.

Best regard to you and Mrs Popenoe.

Sincerely,

*Wauson*

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

6 Septiembre 1957

TESUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

Dr Wilson Popenoe,  
Calle de La Nobleza No. 2,  
Antigua Guatemala,  
Guatemala, A. C.

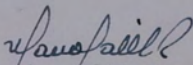
Estimado Dr Popenoe:

Recibí la orden de arbolitos para el Sr. Roy Beer que trabaja para la Compañía. Quiero aclararle que los arbolitos todavía no han endurecido suficiente y creo que sería conveniente esperar unos 15 días mas para enviarlos.

Se mandarán al Centro Nacional de Agronomía y a Mr. Beer los arbolitos en la fecha explicada.

Los arbolitos de Mr. Dixon, 12 mangos Haden, se le enviaron ya por la vía TACA, flete a cobrar.

Sin mas por ahora va para Ud. y doña Helena un atento saludo de mi esposa, hijo, y de su afmo servidor,

  
Mario Jalil R.  
Horticultor

Antigua, 12 Sept 1957

Profesor Mario Jellil,  
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Dear Mario:

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th. There is no hurry about sending the trees for the Centro Nacional de Agronomía and Mr Beers. It is of course advisable to wait until they are in proper condition.

I wish you could sample one of the fine Hachiya persimmons we are eating now, from the Finca El Pintado - the trees Jorge Benitez and I planted in 1929. These trees look awfully small for their age - they are only about 12 feet high, but spreading in habit, and they are in good production, the fruits large and of excellent quality. Eventually there will be some fine fruits on the trees up on Uyuca, but it certainly is a slow business.

The Macadamias at Pintado are producing good crops. There are two other trees at Fina El Retana, which were planted by us at the same time as the ones at Pintado. I suspect that these four may be the only ones now in production here in Guatemala. Dr Hamilton got people in Salvador interested in Macadamias and there are quite a few young trees over there, some of them grafted I believe. He also introduced the Groff lychee of which I believe there are only two trees in Salvador; this is a new variety and said to be very fine. I wish we could get it for EAP. It seems awfully hard to ship lychees, and there is another thing: the people in Hawaii say they lose a great many acodos when they remove them from the parent trees, just as we have done. They say the acodos must be left on the trees for a long time, and that big balls of moss must be used so that an abundant root system is formed. Then when they are removed they must be kept in an atmosphere as moist as possible until are established.

Winter Banana seems to be the best commercial apple over here, and Santa Rosa the best plum. About 25 years ago Satsuma was introduced into Salvador and has done well between 5000 and 6000 feet. I sampled some of them recently; it is not a good dessert plum as you know, but it is productive and does not split. It is too bad they did not get Santa Rosa over there; I think Satsuma is the only variety of which there are large trees. Apples and pears do not seem to be promising for Salvador, and peaches do not ripen well but there are quite a lot of seedlings in production at various places - not so many as here in Guatemala.

You ought to get some more of the American grape varieties - we lost most of ours, you know. I think the promising ones, after Isabella and Niagara, are Delaware and Catawba and perhaps Diamond.

I hope you have a fine lot of patrones coming along. We saw lots of Washington Navel oranges in Salvador; they do not bear at all well at low elevations and the fruit is of very poor quality. The proper zone for this variety is 3500 to 5000 feet, 4000 being about ideal.

Best regards to all the family.

Sincerely,

September 24, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
La Antigua, Guatemala  
Centro América.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Many thanks for your letter of the 12th. I am sure that you are taking a good rest in your *hacienda* at Antigua and together with your charming wife, Mrs. Popenoe. We are fine, so Francis Jeanette, she is taking the money of this Turco's pocket at a fast rate in all her food, as all the babies do. We moved to the Eduardo's House, since he went back to Costa Rica, also I have to take over the vegetable garden and now I have a lot of work to do. I hope to get assistance in a near future to keep up the work.

I am really glad to know that Macadamias are producing good crop at Pintado. In the school the few trees we have beside the sun-hedging coffee are growing very slow.

I went to Uyuca with Dr. Paddock two weeks ago. He likes our collection of fruit trees. The Reina Claudia which I top-worked before I went to the States are doing very well. I hope to get fruit from them next year. I am sure that we have more than one variety of Reina Claudia, and I very much interested in finding out which one is going to be the best in our condition. Satsuma had a heavy crop last year, the fruits have nice color and good taste, however we face the problem that near the stone a substance likes goma is noticed. I am thinking in boron deficiency as the pears. Incidentally, we have a nice crop of pears but, the flesh has small brown spots all over which make me think in boron deficiency too.

Few days ago I was invited by Rafael Castillo to go up the Picacho. From the collection of fruit trees which they ordered from the States they only have few left, however I got so interested in an apple trees full of fruits of a deep red color with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter as average, flat ends and a very good taste. I do not know what they are because labels were lost. I am going to graft some in the Uyuca.

I found that letter in my mail box, I am sending to you in case that you wish to advice him in the matter that he is interested.

Hoping to get news from you soon, Ofelia and myself send to both of you very and very warm regards.

*Ward*  
Mario



Escuela Agrícola Panamericana

October 7, 1957

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thanks for your letter of the 27th and 29th. I am writing primarily to tell you that I do not think is Molestia, as you mentioned in your letter, to ask for the few seeds of vegetables, which I sent last week through the United Fruit Company office in Guatemala city. I hope those seeds germinate, since they are from the last order. I am waiting the seeds from the States which I ordered soon Eduardo left. For <sup>some</sup> reason Eduardo did not order any lately and, when I took over the vegetables section I realized that no seeds were in stock for our own use. I have been getting some of them from the Banco de Fomento with the hope that the package from the States comes any moment. In case that you don't have any good germination of the seeds sent, please let me know, I will send new ones.

We had a few Capulin fruits this year and we kept the seeds in case that some body wants them. The root sprout which were grafted with Reina claudia were transplanted to the terrace where the avocados were, and new sprouts are going to be grafted in January, in case that you like to have some which I moved to the new place, I will give to you in early November when you come over, I am also waiting to send with you the budwood that Benitez wants.

I am really glad to hear that you have the set of plans from our fruit tree planting, please bring to us when you come over, I need them.

Dr. Paddock talked to me about Simón Malo. I don't think that Simón wants to come as assistant with a salary of \$ 125. which is the money that the school wants to pay for an assistant, moreover, he is married and the housing is a problem in the school. I wrote to Carvajal offering the job as assistant with the point in mind of sending him to Gainesville next year, also I am getting other of our graduates for the vegetables section. These assistants will be only for the field work, in that way I am sure that I will handle the Horticulture Dep. pretty well, then I will have more time to prepare the lectures in vegetables and fruits, however, I would like to talk to you about these when you come over.

Thanks for the copy of the letter sent to Marín, I am sure that you are very glad to help people with advises of this kind, that is a great thing Dr. Popenoe, and I think that every one who gets your advises will feel deeply grateful.

Warmest regards to you and Mrs. Popenoe from Ofelia, Jeanette and myself, and hoping to see you soon, I am

Sincerely

*Yaud*

Antigua, 16 Oct 1957

Dear Mario:

Many thanks for your letter of the 7th and the vegetable seeds. The Eiffel Tower Cos Lettuce and the plants are as thick as pelos en la espalda de un perro. We have enough broccoli to supply not only the market of Antigua, en su totalidad, but also Guatemala City and Nueva Orleans. The onions are coming up well. No celery as yet and no egg plant or sweet peppers, but lots of tomatos. We will have a fine garden, thanks to you.

If everything goes well I hope to get over there in early November, and will bring the set of plans with me. What became of the other sets? I hope there is one in the office file. You know, we have found by experience that when a staff member has a set of plans he usually takes it with him when he leaves EAP, and that is why I kept a set myself - though I thought a set in the office should be sufficient. When I bring over this set we will check it together and make any necessary corrections. Incidentally, I wonder if any of the grapes which were planted on the north or Prof Morcillo's house are still alive? There were several good varieties in that planting but during the last dry season I think most of them died out.

You mention Porky Carvajal: I really hope he will come back to help you, for he is a good nurseryman. As you say, It is not likely that Simon Malo will come for \$125 when he is getting twice that salary in Managua, though if he really stopped to figure it out he would be just as well off at Zamorano with half the salary, if

he could have a house there. Dr Paddock will have to tell you if there is any possibility of this. There is a boy over here named Octavio Santa Cruz who graduated in 1947; he sent me a letter and wants to get a better job; he is now on one of the government coffee fincas near San Francisco Zapotitan. I can see what he is doing and figure out if it is worth while considering him for a job as assistant; he used to like horticulture when he was at EAP.

You are going to be forced to hang onto that collection of Florida mangos! Several people have told me they expect to get budwood from you and I have told them it will be very difficult until you have a chance to propagate them yourself. I am getting some good information on the fruit fly problem; there seem to be three possible roads toward at least partial solution. One, the resistant varieties, such as Julie, and two, picking the fruits before the flies have laid eggs in them, as they do in Mexico to a large extent, and three, spraying to control the flies. I am getting information from Mexico and Puerto Rico where much work has been done.

Best regards to all of you.

Sincerely,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

December 10, 1957

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thanks for your letter dated November 22. I am very glad to know that the capulin Budwood got there in a fine shape this time. I don't understand why the former shipments failed. I hope that the rose bushes give flowers pretty soon. I can send to you more plants when they are ready to move, some time in May. The Nursery is a dream now, all the budded roses are coming beautifully as ever, and after looking so fine results, I believe more in your motto " EL QUE NO OSABE HACER NO SABRA MANDAR".

I don't have any news from Salvador about Portillo, I hope he comes before we finish all the budding and grafting, as you know, this is the right time to train people in budding and handling nursery plants.

Last week I received a letter from Dr. Mario Lewy, I wrote him back yesterday, explaining with all the detail on what condition I will consider the work that they offer to me.

We had in the school few days ago to the Sud-director of San Andres, Mr. Olmedo. We talked a lot of things about the school, he really gave credits to you who made a good school in this place where only carbonales y piedras were before. All of us are proud of you and we will have to remember you as long as we live.

I sent the Mango collection to Salvador. I hope those people take good care of them.

Lately I have been thinking in getting a job with the FAO, if they need some body in Horticulture. I wish if you can give me a good push with some body who you know in that organization. I can go anywhere they want my service.

Give our regards to Mrs. Popenoe, and hoping to hear from you soon, I am.

Always sincerely yours,

*W. Paul*

Antigua, 31 Dec 1957

Prof. Mario Jalil  
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Dear Mario:

It was good to have your letter of the 10th. I assume you got mine about sending the Julienmangos to Spain with Juan Fernandez. It is worth trying but I do not have much hope. There is an awful lot of red tape to cut in that country. I just received a letter from the man over there with whom I am going to work, and he tells me he has become acquainted with the técnico in the Ministerio de Agricultura who has charge of fruit production, and this man has bought a place on the Mediterranean coast where he is going to plan fruit trees on his own account. If we will divide our importations with him, he will get them out of Madrid in a hurry and down to the coast. This sounds like a swell idea. ¿Ud conoce su gente!

I am sorry they did not send Portillo over. Mario Lewy and Mr Mortensen write that they will be over here next Monday and I will see what can be done. When I came through Salvador I got the impression that they have somewhat lost faith in Portilão, and you and I agree that we cannot expect too much from Castillo.

While Mario Lewy is here I will grasp the opportunity to talk with him about the possibility of your joining them. Nothing would be better than to have you take active charge of the three nurseries which we included in our program. Mortensen is supervising them but as a Point Four man he is only an advisor and he cannot hire and fire, as we say.

If you decide you want to get into FAO I will do all I can to help - I think you know that. I have some good friends in that outfit, especially Robert Ticho who is now at home in Israel but expects to be sent to India. The trouble with FAI, from your point of view, is that they might want to move you all over the world. If they would put you in Ecuador, with one of their salaries, not one of the salaries the Ecuador govt is prepared to pay (you know all about this) it would be fine. Take your time; I still wish things would work out so you can continue at Zamorano under conditions which are satisfactory to you. In any case, I would prefer to see you stay in tropical America - though of course you might jump at the chance to work in some other part of the world, to get the experience.

Always sincerely,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

January 10, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popence.  
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Dr. Popence:

Thanks for your letter of Dec. 31. Which Armando gave it to me soon he got his. The Julie Mangos were sent with Juan Fernández, I hope they will survive the transplanting. As you say, it is worth trying. When you get to Spain and see them, please let me know, I will be more than interested in learning that they are alive.

Last week we had the pleasure of having with us don Chico De Sola, I took him around the Horticulture Department. He got so interested in the mango collection that I am sending him pretty soon some varieties which I still have in the nursery. I will give them to him, because I am sure that he will take good care of them, and beside that, nothing better than giving trees to a good Horticulturist like him. Don't you think so?

I got letter from Dr. Mario Lewy last week, they offer to me \$ 350 as a maximum, which I think is too low if I take in account my salary at the School and all the things I have here (House, vegetables, milk etc.).

Believe me Dr. Popence that the night I got your letter I could not sleep, thinking in the FAO possibilities. Ofelia shares my wishes of going all over the world to get experience in my work. I think it is wonderful, as you did when you started your career. I hope you will do what you can in helping me. I have been thinking in writing to FAO asking for the Forms to fill them out for the job, but I would like to hear from you before you go on your trip and advise me if I should do that or wait until you write to Robert Ticho.

I would like to stay in tropical America, but if I have the chance of working in other part of the world to get more experience, I will do it very gladly. As far as the School concerns, I think it is a great place to work in but, I don't want to work any more under this new set up, you know why.

I am sending herewith a letter which Amado gave to me from Ecuador. I hope you answer them back.

Give our regards to Mrs. Popence and hoping to hear from you soon, I am.

Always sincerely,

*Ward*

Antigua, Guatemala, 14 January 1958

Dear Mario:

Thanks for your letter of the 10th, which came last night. I am happy to hear that Juan took the Julie mangos with him; we will not have a better opportunity to send them over, the only hope being (if these fail to get down to the Mediterranean coast promptly, due to red tape in Madrid) the possibility of developing our contact with that chap in Madrid who is in the government and also has a place at Almeria where he wants to develop tropical fruits. When I get over there I will make him a proposition: we will give him half of any lot of plants we send over if he will receive the plants at Madrid and see that they are dispatched promptly to Almuñecar. That's the way you do business in Spain, you know.

Mario Lewy and Ernest Mortensen were with me all last week. I talked with Mario about you, and he says they just simply cannot pay more than \$350, the President will not approve. Our trouble(!) is that we get so much free at Zamorano no other school can compete with us, - they don't have free milk and butter and vegetables and meat at half price.

I am glad you gave Chico - or are giving him - some mangos. He takes good care of anything he gets. The mangos you sent over to the Centro stayed more than two weeks in the Aduana - nobody sent word to Dr Lewy that they had arrived. I don't suppose many, if any, of them will grow. In all such cases it is a good idea to send a telegram saying "Mangos despachados hoy" or something like that; it should not be necessary, because the airplane company should advise the destinatario promptly, but you know how things are!

Now about your own plans: I don't blame you for being rather enthusiastic over the possibility of going to some other part of the world. I wish you could have seen my enthusiasm when I left California at the age of 20, headed for Japan and India and Arabia! I suggest you write Ticho, whose address is Robert J. Ticho, 43 Pine Road, Mt. Carmel, Haifa, Israel. Tell him what you have in mind; ask him if he thinks there is a place for you in FAO, and if so, what you should do to apply for it. I will probably see him or at least will be writing him and will be glad to discuss the whole thing with him. Then another point: I don't know what FAO is doing in Spain, but if they have any agricultural work there, I would be 100% in favor of your going to that country. Just think what a fine thing it would be if you could take up the work in southern Spain which I am going to start this summer! I could help you from this side of the world a lot, and you know I would love to do it. Now that I know you are interested, I will keep my ears open and see what may turn up. I will be over in Florida two weeks from now, and then later in Washington - both good places to check up on possibilities.

Mario Lewy and Mortensen and Jorge Benitez and I spent four days making a wonderful tour of the fruit-producing regions in this country and seeing Jorge's nurseries. He sure has them - I guess about 50,000 citrus roostocks, half of which are budded and growing - mostly Navel. His avocados are not doing well down on the coast near San José - even the seedlings die before budding, just like some of ours have done. At Barcena the avocados are doing well, however; at Chocó fairly well.

You will be hearing from me from time to time, as I make my way to southern Spain and settle down to work there. Pierda cuidado! I will send my address from time to time also, and ask you to write me. Conmigo en recuerdos cariñosos a todos ustedes.

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada) Spain  
24 March 1958

Sr Ingeniero don Mario Jalil,  
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Mario:

How I wish you could be with us here! It is one of the most interesting places I have ever visited, and has a great future for aguacates and a number of other tropical and subtropical fruits. As Juan Fernandez has told you, however, the Julie mangos failed to get here alive; I am almost sure they got frozen somewhere along the way. I doubt that the baggage compartment in the airplanes is heated and Juan says the package stayed overnight in Lisboa, perhaps and even probably, in a place which was not heated. In any case, on being planted here they failed to show signs of life. I think we shall try again with some trees from Florida in June or July - perhaps Hadens this time.

I want to compliment you on the record you have made with the vegetable garden at Zamorano, as reported in the memorandum Dr Paddock sent us members of the Board of Trustees. Keep it up. And if you have any Mignonette lettuce seed, send me a small quantity by air mail as I would like to see it tried here. I ask this in part because I want you to write me anyway, and tell me about the new mango orchard with the Florida varieties. Some of the trees should be in bloom by this time.

There are about 200 Mexican avocado seedlings planted in orchard form here and don Luis Sarasola and I are going to graft them in May, which I think (and he thinks) will be a good month. I shall write Dr Paddock in April, asking him to authorize you to send us some puas at that time, if you can spare them. The principal one we need from Zamorano is Gottfried, of which I believe you will have more material than you need; we will also want Simmonds, which may be hard to get in Florida. Sr Sarasola has found that your veneer graft is very successful here, provided one uses the terminals, not just short sections of young branchlets. We will need puas of pretty good diameter and fairly mature, as the patrones are seedlings 3/4 to an inch in diameter. Keep this in mind.

The cherimoyas here are wonderful, and lots of them! Probably the largest commercial plantings of grafted trees in the world. Are you going to have any capulin cherries from the Ambato trees on Myuca this year? I would like to get 100 seeds if you do. We shall be here, off and on, until October probably; in the meantime we hope to go to Israel to see our friend Ticho and others, and probably to the Canary Islands and Madeira.

Warmest regards to all, and do let me hear from you every once in a while, at the address shown at the head of this letter.

Sincerely,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

August 25, 1958

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I had the pleasure to get your nice letter few days ago, and Ofelia and myself are so glad to hear from you again, that we read the letter twice. Nothing better than having the opportunity to travel. We are sure that you and Mrs. Popenoe had an enjoyable trip.

I very glad to learn that Robert Ticho got the Capuli budwood, however he has not written me saying so. I hope that the grafted avocados with the scions sent to Ing. Sarasola will do fine. Last week I sent you scions of Nabal, Booth 8 and Gottfred. For some reason which I can not figure out, I sent to you Gottfred instead of Choquette. I am deeply sorry about it. I hope to sent Choquette later on.

I am in favor of West Indian race to grow as stock, if the climate at Rancho California is like that of southern Florida. Seedlings of this race are generally vigorous, although there is some variation in this respect. Booth 8 and Choquette which are West Indian X Guatemalan- usually are unsuccessful on Mexican stock, like varieties of West Indian too.

Armando got letter from you tonight, so Amado. Armando told me that you think that is not worthwhile to send the Riobarbo, but is you need it, please let me know.

Amado mentioned to me the problem of Varela. That boy never showed up to the nursery while he was here last year. I do't know if he is interested in Horticulture. I told him several times that I was willing in training him in the basic things of propagation, so he can be ready to work anywhere, but he just never went to the nursery.

I am sending herewith two pictures of the new Mango orchard, so you will see how big and good looking are those trees by now.

We are planning to move the whole Horticulture Dept. in the Potrero where we have the Avocado collection now. There is a land of 7 hectares, where we will put the Vegetable Garden, the Nursery and a new Citrus Grove, and an avocado and Mango Orchards for the school consumption. We already started with the avocado orchard. When you come to the school I hope to have everything in that area.

Hoping to hear from you soon, and sending regards to Mrs. Popenoe and you, I am

Sincerely yours

*W. B. O.*



Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)  
8 Sept 1958

Dear Mario:

On returning here from the Islas Canarias three days ago I found your letter of 25 August, and Luis Sarasola has shown me the grafts he made with the scions you sent of Nabal, Booth 8 and Gottfried. I think Nabal is especially important here, tho all three of these varieties are interesting. We now have a total of about 30 varieties grafted but cannot depend on keeping all them; the soil here does not drain well and it is a constant struggle to keep the men from giving the trees too much water.

Our stay in the Canarias was very interesting; ten days at Orotava, where there is a wonderful little Jardín de Aclimatación established in 1788 - just full of interesting trees from all parts of the world. I did not find as many avocados in the Canarias as I had expected, but there are quite a few, practically all of them West Indian seedlings from Cuba I suppose. We were only on the island of Tenerife, which is the largest of the group; I calculated that there might be 2000 avocado trees on the island, and with the exception of some 250 young grafted trees, mostly Fuertes, they are all WI seedlings. We brought back here 300 seeds to grow rootstocks. Our climate here is much more like that of southern Florida than southern California, I feel sure; but it seems to me a combination of the two, since the Mexicans do well here, and also the Guatemalans and to a certain extent the West Indians. These latter will have to be grown in the regions which are practically frost-free, like Almuñecar.

Many thanks for the pictures of the new mango orchard. It sure looks good and it was pleasant to see Lippens in fruit. Next year you may get a good crop from this orchard. Incidentally, Billy Krome writes me from Homestead that he is sick of the mango business. This year he got nine bushels of fruit from 30 acres of Hadens.

I am not surprised that you have not heard from Ticho about the capulín scions; he is not a good correspondent, but he is a grand person just the same. A lot of people are that way! Incidentally, I doubt that the capulín will ever become important in Israel but I would like to see them test it.

I have not heard from Mr Pansiot in Rome since we came back from our trip to Israel, but I imagine they are expecting to give you a job after the first of the year. If not, there is an interesting opportunity in Venezuela about which they - the people of the Fundación Eugenio Mendoza in Caracas - have been writing me. This Fundación has a lot of money and has done some good work along several lines; they say that have not been able to do much with fruits for lack of good personnel. They have asked me to come there to make plans, but I can not do it soon, in any case, as I am hoping to settle down here for the winter and write a "Manual Práctico de Fruticultura Tropical" for Salvat Editores of Barcelona. I think this work would have real value in tropical America for many years to come. I have told the Fundación Mendoza that they would be lucky if they could get you to organize and start their program of fruit improvement, training two or three local men to carry on. I wonder what happened to the program in Salvador? As far as I know, they did not send you any boys to train; and until they have two or three good propagators I don't see how they can expect very good results.

Mrs Popenoe joins me in good wishes to all of you

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

*Jahl*

September 22, 1958

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thanks for your letters dated September 8 and 12, telling me all about your wonderful trip to Islas Canarias where you and Mrs. Popenoe visited the Horticulture set up that those boys have there. As you say in your letter, I hope to get there some time and see that beautiful Jardin de Aclimatación.

This morning I went myself to the orchard to get the Haden scions and by now they are on the way to Tegucigalpa. I also sent to Ing. García Cabezón few feet of budding tape and a mimeograph sheet explaining every step on the Veneer grafting.

I am so glad to hear from you that you are going to write a "Manual Practico de Fruticultura Tropical" this coming winter. I want you to keep in mind that I will be more than glad to help you with any information that probably you are going to need from here. I understand that I will not be of much help, but I will try to do my best in doing so.

Things around here are like usual, we are near the end of the first semester and some students are very concerned about the PODA. I think that you know that from the last year the school has been sending some of the staff members to give the Examen de Admisión in each Country from where we get students. This year I am going to Panamá and Colombia to give those Exámenes. I will leave from here September 27, coming back around October 13.

Three weeks ago I received a letter from FAO offering a job in Guatemala bigining October 1st pending the Guatemalan Government approval. I understood in their letter that they need me soon but, I can't leave the School in such a short time. I talked to Dr. Paddock about my decision to take a job with FAO and he is quite perturbed about my leaving. He wrote to FAO a very nice letter saying that he will appreciate very much if they are kind enough to extend the date to February 1, 1959, so give him time to find a replacement. I also wrote to FAO asking for an extension to February 1, 1958, until somebody comes and takes my place. I will let you know what do they answer me.

Thanks for giving my name to the Fundación Mendoza in Venezuela, seem to me that the opportunities there are pretty good but, I think that living condition are high, anyhow I might consider the job if the condition are satisfactories to me.

Ofelia and Jeanette joins me in good wishes to you and

*Jahl*

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)  
11 October 1958

Ing. don Mario Jalil,  
EAP, Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Dear Mario:

Thanks for sending the Haden mango puas to Ing. Andres Garcia Cabezon (who, incidentally, has just been decorated by the Generalissimo). They really must get the Haden established in the Canarias; while as I have told you, I do not consider it to be a first-class mango country they are producing commercially a few fruits and they might as well have good ones.

While I very much regret your leaving Zamorano - because I don't know who will take as much interest in some of those fruits as you and I have done - I feel that joining the FAO means a lot for your future. They are a fine crowd and are doing good work, and you will probably get a chance to widen your experience quite a lot, if you stay with them a few years. And how fine that you will probably go to Guatemala! You and I can work together over there. I wish that later you might work for a while in El Salvador but I don't believe FAO has any program in that country at present. Ernest Casseres has sent the last News Letter of the Caribbean Region of ASHS in which I notice that he announces a vacancy at EAP for a horticulturist.

Our plans are not definite yet, but in all probability we will return to Guatemala in December. We are unable to get our Volkswagen over here and bring it home on a banana boat from Rotterdam because the Tiquisate farms were badly damaged by wind and there are no ships sailing to Barrios now - I suppose it may be some months before they can get Guatemala fruit for Europe again. We are leaving Almuñecar in ten days or so, to make a tour of Spain with Martin Connelly of Boston and his wife; Mr Connelly for many years had charge of EAP affairs in the Boston office and became a close friend of mine. He retired about the same time I did. Not many of my old friends left in the Boston office now!

We are having some trouble with our avocados here - I think I have told you about it. The soil, while not heavy clay, is of fine texture, probably with a sodium complex, and does not drain at all well. The trees get chlorotic in appearance, especially those on Mexican rootstocks. However, only 10 to 15% of them show this trouble up to now. We got 15 lychee avocados from Florida, and ten of them are showing good signs of growth. Your sweet potatoes doing well. The Missionary strawberries from Salvador are nearly all died; I don't believe we will save any of them. Five mangos from Israel look well, also the macadamias and the Mexican limes (limon criollo). We have discovered several more seedling avocados on this coast which seem to be worth propagating; and two weeks ago found two large grafted trees of Puebla at Valencia; we got some mature fruits and they are good. This is going to be an avocado country as soon as the Spaniards learn that the fruits are not poisonous.

Best regards from us both to all the family.

Sincerely,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

October 26, 1958

*Jalil*

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thanks for your letter dated October 11, which I am answering now after getting here from my trip to Panamá and Colombia, where I had, beside taking the admission exams to the next year students, a nice time with many Zamoranos bringing up all the memories of the wonderful time in the school. Every one send to you and Mrs. Popenoe warm regards.

I got a letter from FAO saying that at the end of this month they will send me the terms of the offer of appointment to begin on January 1, 1959. They already received confirmation that the project have been approved by UNICEF Executive Board as well as the acceptance of my appointment from the Government of Guatemala, so I hope to see in Guatemala in January.

You know better than I do, how much I regret to leave Zamorano. The school is part of me, but I hope you understand that this change means a lot for my future.

Last week I received a letter from the Fundación Mendoza, they want me to go to Venezuela for three months to assist in their fruit production program, as you recommended me to them. Unfortunately I can't go by now, and I going to write them saying so. I want you to know how much I appreciate all these things that you do for me.

Last night I had the opportunity to talk with Chico de Sola who stayed at Zamorano one day. We talked a lot about you and I mentioned to him that you probably will come home in December. He was very please to hear that. He mentioned to me the possibility of establishing a canning plant in El Salvador and probably they are going to need Zamoranos trained in Horticulture (vegetable and fruits) for growing those products and supply the canning plant.

The nursery at the school is coming nice. We had around 12.000 rootstock (avocado, mango, citrus and roses) to be budded from November on, and I hope to do this work before leaving. I have also received about 3.000 Royal palms from Lancetilla which will grow in pots this year to be planted around the campus next year.

Best regards from us both to you and Mrs. Popenoe

Sincerely,

*Jalil*

DIRECCION GENERAL DE DESARROLLO SOCIO EDUCATIVO RURAL  
GUATEMALA, C. A.

11 AV. 9-70, Z. 1  
TELEFONOS: 28-733 28-239

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| NO.....  |
| REF..... |

Al contestar, sírvase mencionar el número y referencia de esta nota.

28 de septiembre de 1960

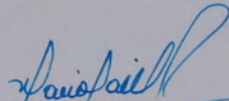
Doctor Wilson Popenoe  
Antigua, Sacatepéquez

Estimado Doctor Popenoe:

La presente es portadora de mis saludos, los que hago extensivos para doña Elena, deseando al mismo tiempo se encuentren en perfecto estado de salud.

El objetivo principal de esta breve carta radica más que todo en presentarle a usted al señor Carlos Fagg y compañero, quienes siendo muy buenos amigos míos me pidieron una carta de presentación, para así tener la oportunidad de entrevistarlo y platicar con usted asuntos de interés.

Con la confianza de que pueda prestarles a los señores mencionados su voluntaria atención soy de usted atento y seguro servidor,

  
Mario Jalil

ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR  
L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA  
LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

DIRECCION  
APARTADO POSTAL NO. 289  
TEGUCIGALPA, D. C.  
HONDURAS, C. A.

MISION EN HONDURAS

DIRECCION CABLEGRAFICA  
FOODAGRI-TEGUCIGALPA

Junio 26 de 1961

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I was deeply sorry for not seeing you at Antigua when I visited your home. Maria told me that you and Hugh were away somewhere in the Country.

As I mentioned in my note which I left on the table, I was coming to Honduras, where I am now in home leave for two months, part of it I will spend in Ecuador.

I am planning to get back to Guatemala at the end of July and, I will try to see you as soon as I return to Guatemala so we can discuss a few points regarding our society.

With all best wishes from all of us.

Your sincerely,

*Mario*  
Mario Jalil



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Via delle Terme di Caracalla ROME

Cables: FOODAGRI ROME

Telex: 61181 FOODAGRI

Telephone: 5797

Ref. FU 2/2

NOV. 1 8 1966

Dear Dr. Popenoe,


After such a long silence I am very pleased to write to you, hoping that this finds you in good health. I have just returned from a long trip in several countries of Latin America including Guatemala where I had the opportunity of participating in a Panel on "Crop Production and Human Nutrition in Central America." There I met Ernest Casseres, Dr. Coghill and Hernan Fonseca, whom I had not seen for a long time. While I was in Guatemala Hernan and I were planning to visit you in Antigua but unfortunately I learned that you were not there and so I missed a good opportunity of seeing you.

I have received from Mr. A.G. Gonzales, Redactor Técnico y Traductor of "La Hacienda", an article on "La Propagación de los Arboles Frutales", extracted from the book "Nuestra Huerta Escolar" issued by FAO/UNICEF on which you were the main advisor. As far as I am concerned, I have no objection to this article being published in "La Hacienda", but permission for reproduction should be requested from UNICEF and I have advised Mr. Gonzalez to do this. I have also made a few additions and observations to which I hope you will agree.

I have no plans for travelling in Latin America except that I will be taking home leave in July next year and probably passing through Florida and Guatemala. If I do, I hope to get in touch with you to see if there is any possibility of visiting you.

With best personal regards.

Yours sincerely,

  
Mario Jalil

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
Field Food Crops Branch  
Plant Production and Protection Division

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
c/o Dr. Hugh Popenoe  
College of Agriculture  
University of Florida  
Gainesville  
Florida  
U.S.A.

MJ/tp 18 November 1966

cc: Dr. Popenoe, Florida ✓  
PL Reg.  
chrono

FU 2/2

NOV. 18 1966

Estimado Sr. Gonzalez,

En mi poder su atenta carta con fecha 5 de Noviembre en la que adjuntaba el artículo sobre la propagación de arboles frutales que usted desea reproducir en la revista "La Hacienda".

En lo que a mi me corresponde decir, no tengo ninguna objeción en permitir tal publicación pero me gustaria en verdad cambiar el orden de los autores en tal forma que el Dr. Popenoe aparezca como autor principal ya que en verdad los dos preparamos el documento. Considero que es necesario pedir también la autorización a UNICEF porque ellos publicaron el libro. La dirección es:

UNICEF  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y.  
U.S.A.

... La forma como debe presentarse y ciertas observaciones adicionales le adjunto con la presente.

Por ejemplo, en pagina 4 después del primer párrafo y donde he marcado con la flecha, debe incluirse el párrafo que le adjunto y que corresponde a la importancia del amarrado en el injerto.

Saludo a usted muy atentamente,

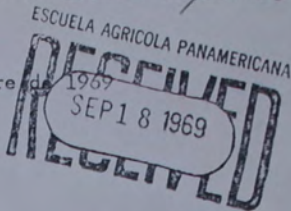
Mario Jalil  
Dirección de Fitotécnia y Protección Fitosanitaria

Dr. A.J. Gonzalez  
Redactor Técnico y Traductor  
La Hacienda  
P.O. Box 1030  
410 West Verona Street  
Kissimmee  
Florida 32741  
U.S.A.



pe. Dr. Wilson Popenoe.

Guayaquil, 4 de Setiembre de 1967



Estimado Bob: [Armour]

Lamenté mucho no saludarte a mi paso por Centro América cuando vine de Roma a pasar vacaciones con mis parientes en el Ecuador. La causa fué la premura de llegar a casa y la situación que tu conoces entre Honduras y El Salvador.

En el Ecuador, por encontrarme trabajando en mi finca algo distante de Guayaquil, perdí también la oportunidad de saludar a Julio Pineda y en verdad lo lamenté mucho.

Antes de salir del país, quiero pedirte un favor como amigo, y es que me ayudes al máximo de tus posibilidades para que en el grupo de ecuatorianos que pasaron el exámen de admisión, le des merecida atención a un sobrino mio, Jorge Jalil, quien pasó el exámen. Te recomendaría que además te interéses en otro ecuatoriano que estoy seguro hará también un buen papel en la escuela, su nombre es Rafael Patiño.

Al pedirte este favor lo hago conocedor de la vocación de este par de jóvenes y de la necesidad que tiene la costa ecuatoriana de técnicos con un enfoque práctico para diversificar nuestra crónica monocultura.

Espero pasar un día de estos por El Zamorano y tener la oportunidad de saludarte personalmente.

Si el Dr. Popenoe se encuentra actualmente allí extiéndele mis saludos que yo le escribiré pronto desde Roma.

Un abrazo,

*Mario*  
Mario Jalil

Antigua, Guatemala 8 Sept 1971

Ing. Mario Jalil  
Via Aeronautica 34  
Roma, Italia 00144

Dear Mario:

I have heard that you have been in these parts recently but I have been moving around a great deal, as usual and did not get to see you. I think it is about time for me to stay at home.

Agriculturally and horticulturally, things have been moving pretty fast here in tropical America. You know all about it. One result is that there are some very good men out of good jobs at the moment. One of them is Peter Hogaboom, whose father was my Assistant Director at Zamorano for several years.

Peter was born at Zamorano, He is a graduate of Mississippi State Agricultural College. He joined United Fruits and has worked in several countries. He has, in my opinion, become one of the best tropical agricultural men of my acquaintance. He is sound, he is a hard worker, and he has a good personality. He is married to a Guatemalan girl whose father was a long time in the United Fruit Company.

It will be a great mistake if we let Peter get out of the tropical American field. I am wondering if you could not use him in FAO. I have told him to write you and believe he has done so.

Best regards to all the family, and hoping to see you the next time you come this way.

Faithfully yours,

Wilson Popenoe