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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.

Antigua, Guatemala, 1 January 1959

Dr John McKelvey
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th St, New York City USA.

Dear John:

It is not too early to be thinking about fellowships for this new year 1959. I earnestly ask you to put on the docket for serious consideration José R. Calvo F., who is now teaching at the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura in El Salvador.

This young man is a graduate of Escuela Agrícola Panamericana. I have just this last week returned from a year in Europe, as you perhaps know, and have not had time to bring together all the details in connection with the application I am urging him to make the Rockefeller Foundation. Perhaps he has already written you, but if he has not, he will shortly be doing so. Calvo went to the University of Florida where he got his B.S.A. Bert Muller can tell you all about his record there, and it is a good one I am sure. In my opinion, he is doing a fine job at the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura in El Salvador, and a few months ago he married a very fine young woman, Rhina Samayoa, whom I have known for several years. She worked as a secretary for Jaime Guiscafré-Arrillaga at Santa Tecla.

I would very much like to see Calvo go back to Florida and get his M.Sc. Of course if he prefers some other college, allright. I would be inclined to think Florida is the best place for him because they know him there and he has a fine record. But of course I would not push him, if he wants to specialise in some field which is not as strong at Florida as elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20

AGRICULTURE

J. GEORGE HARRAR, DIRECTOR
ROBERT F. CHANDLER, JR., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
ALBERT S. MOGENSEN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
ROBERT P. BUKDEY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
JOHN J. MCKELVEY, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
KENNETH WERNIMONT, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE:
COLUMBUS 5-8100

January 8, 1959

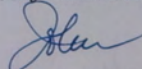
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you for your letter of January 1, calling to our attention José Calvo F., a graduate of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana, who in your estimation would be well qualified for one of our scholarships.

On my next trip to Central American I shall be very glad to interview Ing. Calvo for detailed information regarding his qualifications for a scholarship and his possible study program.

With best regards.

Very sincerely yours,



John J. McKelvey, Jr.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala

JJM:mk

Antigua, Guatemala, 16 January 1959

Dr John J. McKelvey Jr.
The Rockefeller Foundation
New York City.

Dear John:

Many thanks for your letter of the 8th, advising that you will interview my recomendado José Calvo, on your next trip to Central America. I have urged José to make formal application to you, and to send you transcripts from Zamorano and Florida.

I feel sure this young man is an excellent prospect. I think he has married well (last October I believe) and don't think at age 66 a man doesn't realize that wives count! I am not asking any favors, but I honestly believe you will be well impressed with this candidate when you see him. His knowledge of the English language is quite satisfactory; his intelligence is good; and he gets along with people.

Mrs Popenoe and I leave next week for Mexico City, to spend a few days on your old stamping ground, talking especially with Ralph Richardson and Ernesto Casseres. Then to California for about three weeks, then back here where I must sit down and pound out a Manual Práctico de Fruticultura Tropical for Salvat Editores of Barcelona, Spain. If I live to finish this book I am going to knock off for a few months and go over to Hawaii and Japan.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20

AGRICULTURE

J. GEORGE HARRAR, DIRECTOR
ROBERT F. CHANDLER, JR., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
ALBERT H. MOSEMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
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CABLE ADDRESS:
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE:
COLUMBUS 5-8100

January 22, 1959

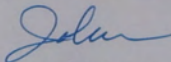
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you for your letter of January 16 about José Calvo and his candidacy for one of our scholarships.

Have a pleasant, profitable time in Mexico and an enjoyable trip to California. We look forward with a great deal of interest to seeing your Practical Manual on Tropical Horticulture, which you are about to write.

All of us send you our best regards.

Very sincerely yours,



John J. McKelvey, Jr.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala

JJM:mk

Antigua, Guatemala, 20 April 1959

Dr John J McKelvey Jr
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th St New York 20, NY.

Dear John:

I have just heard from José R. Calvo over in El Salvador, who advises that one of your group will talk with him at the first opportunity, which quite probably will be before the end of 1959. Is there no chance for him to get a scholarship this year - that is, to enter the University of Florida in September?

I can assure you that this young man is good material - I have already told you this. He did excellent work at Zamorano, then at the University of Florida to get his B.S.A., and I am familiar with the work he is doing at the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura in El Salvador. I have no hesitation in recommending him, in fact, quite the contrary.

With best regards always,

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

Antigua Guatemala, 9 June 1960

Dr. John McKelvey,
The Rockefeller Foundation,
New York city,
N.Y.

Dear John:

A week ago I came home from Nicaragua where I did a little job in connection with commercial fruit culture. While there I had several talks with Alfonso Blandón who now works with the Instituto Nacional de Fomento in connection with agricultural loans.

Alfonso graduated from Zamorano and after a few years went to the University of Florida, partly on money he borrowed, it seems to me from the Pan American Union. He got his B.S. A. degree and has done and is doing a good job in Nicaragua. He wants to go back to the States, for a Master's. I suppose this would be in agricultural economics for that is his present field of action. He does not expect to go this year. Would there be any chance of his securing a Rockefeller fellowship to enter some university in the United States - most probably Florida where he got his B.S.A. - to be available in September 1961?

With best regards always,

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe