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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.

Friday April 29th.- [96]

Memorandum: To Dr. Paddock,

From: Julio Pineda R.

About: First Meeting of the Library Committee.

All members of the Committee were present at the first meeting with the exception of Dr. ~~Pesuga~~ representative of the Animal Husbandry Department.

After going over the suggestions of the old Library Committee we discussed and agreed on the following points:

- 1.- In general we are to try to get for the library material that is up to date.
- 2.- If the library is to have the range that we want for it we have to plan on eventually getting an adequate building.
- 3.- We should add Harvard University to the list of institutions from which we are to try to get help. They would probably be interested in the work of our herbarium.
- 4.- Investigate the possibility of getting a graduate student from some university in the States to come and organize our library as part of his work towards a thesis.
- 5.- We are to see if we can get some of the Student Benefit Fund money for our organization.
- 6.- We decided to freeze the present budget until we can organize a system of operation.
- 7.- We have agreed on deviding the library budget for purchasing materials into five equal parts to be allocated to the following departments:
 - a.- Horticulture
 - b.- Animal Husbandry
 - c.- Agronomy
 - d.- Science
 - e.- Extra curricular. (Corley and Pineda to be in charge).
- 8.- We are to try to get help from anybody that wants to give it but we are to maintain our freedom.

Since financial help seems to be our greatest need we are to try to get people interested as soon as possible.

Dr. Furman is to contact people in the West Coast States.

Profesor Pineda is to write to Dr. Popenoe.

Dr. Krochmal is to write to a friend in Princeton University.

Dr. Freytag is to write to people in the United Nations and to institutions interested in tropical agriculture. (Botany).

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

Abril 4 de 1960

Al Personal Docente:

De: Wm. C. Paddock, Director

Tema: Comité Pro-biblioteca.

Por algún tiempo he estado preocupado por el progreso que ha hecho el Comité pro-biblioteca, principalmente porque el Decano y yo hemos estado muy ocupados para mantener más supervisión sobre el asunto.

No hay sección en la Escuela de mayor importancia que la biblioteca, y debemos asegurarnos que siga creciendo. Somos muy afortunados en tener ahora al Profesor Molina encargado de nuestra biblioteca y es mi deseo que él cuente con el apoyo del personal de la Escuela para mayor éxito en sus funciones, y esto puede hacerse por medio de un comité. El comité pro-biblioteca debe ser un medio para fortalecer el trabajo del Profesor Molina; puede llegar a ser una ayuda tremenda para el desarrollo de la biblioteca, con esto no quiero decir que el comité se debe encargar de sacar, comprar y archivar libros, pero debe prestar al Prof. Molina ayuda en sus varios deberes para los cuales el Prof. Molina no tiene el tiempo suficiente.

Me parece que el comité podría asumir los siguientes deberes:

- 1) Quedar encargado del completo control del presupuesto de la biblioteca. El jefe del comité debe firmar todas las requisiciones.
- 2) El Comité debe trabajar con el bibliotecario en poner reglas para adquirir libros.
- 3) Debe asegurarse que se hagan revisiones de libros mensualmente, de manera que no falten libros que la biblioteca debe tener, esto significa que no deben olvidar la necesidad de comprar novelas, materiales gráficos no relacionados con la agricultura, pero que harán de la biblioteca un lugar mas popular y de mayor uso, tanto para los alumnos, como para los empleados y sus familiares.
- 4) El Comité estará en completo cargo de la política que gobierne el uso de la biblioteca de parte de los estudiantes y los miembros del personal. Se asume que el comité no hará política alguna respecto al uso de la biblioteca de parte de los alumnos sin previa consulta con el Sr. Inspector y el Decano para estar seguros que se ceñirán al programa general de la Escuela. Sin embargo, el Comité estará encargado del edificio completo de la biblioteca.

Considero que el Herbario ha sido una de las mayores contribuciones que la Escuela Agrícola Panamericana ha hecho en favor de la América Latina y espero que el comité pro-biblioteca apoye al Prof. Molina en su interés de mantenerse siempre haciendo colecciones para el herbario y ver que la biblioteca no consuma todo su tiempo y le quede algo para aumentar los ejemplares del herbario.

Nó creo que el jefe del comité pro-biblioteca deber ser el bibliotecario ya que el comité es principalmente para ayudar al bibliotecario y creo que éste nó debe formar parte del comité.

Con estos puntos en mente estoy solicitando al Prof. Pineda que se haga cargo, por seis meses, como jefe del comité pro-biblioteca. Será su responsabilidad ver que los puntos mencionados en este memorandum se lleven a cabo, y que el comité se reúna como mínimo, dos veces a la semana debiendo reportar por escrito al Director sobre los puntos tratados en cada reunión.

Debe haber por lo menos un miembro de cada departamento en este comité. Por medio de éste solicito que los jefes de departamento nombren un miembro de sus respectivos departamentos para integrar este comité. Fido, sin embargo, que antes que los jefes nombren un miembro para esto, discutan con el Prof. Pineda su candidato y se nombren bajo el consejo del Prof. Pineda. Repito e insisto que nada es tan importante para el futuro de la Escuela como el desarrollo de la biblioteca y para lo cual es esencial que el Comité mencionado funcione con la eficiencia que todos esperamos.



May 3, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza 2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I have been named Chairman of a Committee formed to try to widen the scope of the library that bears your name. Frankly they could have found many others among our staff who are better qualified than I am to direct such a program. I will, however, try to the best of my ability to help the group carry out what we all strongly believe is a very worthy project.

In taking stock of what we have, we find that there are many things we must acquire to give the library the standing which we desire. The school budget naturally isn't ample enough to allow sufficient money to be allocated to this one department to permit us to accomplish what we have in mind. We believe there are many organizations and individuals who would willingly contribute towards the betterment of our library, but we have to make the right contacts. Of those of us who integrate the Library Committee, there isn't anybody who has had the experience or knows enough of the right people to enable him to investigate fully this possible source of help. We know that you are the one person in a position to help us and we hope that you will be able to do it. You are also better qualified than anyone else to give us your advise so that we may organize a library that should contribute greatly to the name of the School.

Basically we have three problems: 1 We need more funds. 2 We need a librarian (Antonio Molina's interest and time should really be given to the herbarium which should be a project by itself). 3 We need to establish a policy for the library. So far we have only discussed at random the ideas that come to each one of us. I am sending you copy of these and I would appreciate any comments from you. The stated thoughts will give you a more complete picture of our line of thinking that you may better advise us on a plan of action.

I hope that you and Doña Elena are in good health and that I may hear from you some time soon.

Sincerely,

Julio Pineda R.
Julio Pineda R.

Encls.

Dr. Popenoe:

Our Library got two copies of the Proceedings of the Florida State Horticultural Society. Since Antonio says we only need one, we are sending the other back to Mr. Menninger.

Julio.



May 12, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza 2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

As you probably know, due to Professor Morcillo's illness and Dr. Paddock's trip to the States, I have been left holding a very difficult position. I can now begin to understand some of the problems that come to people who run educational institutions.

Your letter of May 9th was given to me and since Dr. Paddock won't be back until the middle of June, I thought I would write you a note acknowledging your letter and telling you why you won't get an official answer until a month from now.

There is a slight variation in Sandoval's story to you. I actually had no objection to his being married and staying to finish his third year. I remembered Barrenechea's case plus that of a number of others who have been married while studying here. The problem was that Sandoval had to go back to Guatemala to straighten some of the difficulties occasioned by his hasty action. I felt that the school could not start the precedent of letting its students put aside their obligations to take care of problems of which they have not fully considered the consequences. It may be that Dr. Paddock might have acted otherwise but, unfortunately, I had no other alternative. Perhaps, on his return, Dr. Paddock may decide something favorable on Eduardo's case.

I hope everything is well with you.

Sincerely,
Julio Pineda R.
Julio Pineda R.

Antigua Guatemala, 10 June 1960

Prof, Julio Pineda R,
Apartado 93, Tegucigalpa, D. C.
Honduras. A. C.

Dear Julio:

I'm sorry to be slow in replying to your letter of May 3rd. regarding the library. I'm afraid I can be of little help in connection with obtaining new funds. I feel sure other members of the Board of Trustees can do more than myself.

As to the general program, my ideas are roughly as follows:

I think the library as developed by Dr. Williams is practically adequate from several standpoints. It is, of course, strongest in the field of Botany but also good from several other angles, and needs only to be kept up to date by spending perhaps \$2,000 to 2,500 dollars each year for new works.

Looking back I feel that we did not do enough to obtain technical works in Spanish, primarily in the fields of economic botany, horticulture, agronomy, and animal husbandry. While in Spain I became familiar with the Colección Agrícola published by SALVAT EDITORES of Barcelona. Some months ago, I asked them to send EAP a catalog. Not being sure you have received this I have written them again. In their collection of nearly 75 books, which I believe should be in your library. In some cases I would order at least three copies of each and perhaps there are in this collection some books which should be given or loaned to students as classroom texts. The only problem here would be the expense of these books.

As regards organizing the library I strongly recommend that you ask Dr. Harrar to send Dr. Dorothy Parker for the necessary time. Without question Dr. Parker is as good a librarian as can be found anywhere. She has had many years experience with the Rockefeller Foundation, especially in Mexico. I think it quite probable that the Foundation would not charge you for her services. They did not last time. One of the strong points in her favor is that she has handled the Foundation's library in Mexico which covers much the same field as that of the EAP and has much material in Spanish as well as in English.

I would attempt to get on the list for publications from the universities and experiment stations in the warmer parts of the United States and in all of tropical America. You may have to pay for some of these, unless CEIBA is issued more frequently than has been the case recently. An exchange basis is of course the ideal thing. In some recent memorandum I noticed that you expect to receive some 400 publications on this basis and another 100 by paying for them. I do not think the school needs anything like 500 journals, magazines, and periodical bulletins. I do not believe there are more than about 100 which can contain material of value to our students and I think 500 will involve a tremendous amount of work and storage space without being of much real help to students or visiting technicians. It is my feeling that a total of about 100 publications selected because

$$\begin{array}{r} 460 \\ 140 \\ \hline 120 \\ \hline 120 \\ \hline 120 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{grams} \\ \text{longa} = 28.7 \\ \text{longa} = 29 \text{ grams} \\ 2 \end{array}$$

they are likely to contain material of value in our region would be about right. It seems to me that a student who comes into the library and tries to look over 500 publications is going to lose himself and give up.

Undoubtedly the library will soon need more room, and would have done so even if development had continued along the lines followed in Dr. Williams' time. When I was last at Zamorano Dr. Paddock showed me the alterations which have been made in the building we planned for a gymnasium, which was more recently used to house part of the primary school. He mentioned that this building would probably be used eventually for religious services. I think this is an excellent idea and it would permit taking over the room in the Science building, now used as the Chapel, for increase library space. Of course if we can get all the money you want for a library building that might be a fine idea, but on the other hand, it is very convenient and sort of standard practice to have the library adjoining the herbarium.

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe