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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.

[1942]

Paul: I dont think I have told you this. When I was in Venezuela this last time, a few; the members of our party were invited to a reception at the Embassy in honor of Admiral Sadler and the officers of USS Eris. While I was standing on the verandah trying to work down a highball, a very good looking young chap came up and said "You wont remember me sir, but I am Ensign Brett, son of Homer Brett." We had a very pleasant chat.

Mighty glad Karl and Betty are moving to Calif. They will be able to enjoy life now; I think living in a N Y apt. and working long hours at Bellevue has been something of a grind.

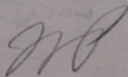
Dont bother to send Nancy that sheet music from Brazil and Cuba until she is older and has some more definite place to keep such stuff; I find attrition is hard on it at Silver Spring.

PTO

You speak of signing up with Dr Meaker of Boston for a book on sterility. Is he the gynecologist? I believe I came up on the ship from Honduras many years ago with a Dr Meaker who was a grand compaignon de voyage; Karl knew him and he put me up at the Harvard Club in Boston. If you give me his first name, wh I cant recall now, I can probably remember if he is the same man.

W

P S: I overlooked yours of 18 Sept in writing the enclosed. -Helen and I think it wise to substitute Betty's signature for mine on the safe deposit box; as you say, there is little need of my having access to it, and with you and Betty on the list the matter is safeguarded. -- Send me Herb's new house address when you write again, and I'll try to put it somewhere in sight so I wont lose it; I want to drop him a line occasionally. --Glad to have news of Dr Greg Mason. That is probably a good job.--I'm mighty glad you and Betty got a look at Mexico this summer. Now all you lack is a good long stay at La Antigua Guatemala, which will be the next big splurge on your program I hope. Do you think you ought to register Nancy for Pomona, to enter in the autumn of 1943? I suppose it wouldnt cost anything if she didnt go. I'm not sure I can pry her away from U of Md but we'll see.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'WJ' or similar initials, located at the bottom right of the typed text.

Feb. 8, 1942.

André S. Wilson

Dear Wilson:

Dear Wilson:

I am pulling the loose ends together preparatory to leaving tomorrow night for way stations; to return Apr. 2. Yrs. of Jan. 2 arrived yesterday. I should be glad to take over your job of Ahuacatlan if I can swing it. Probably

the fairest thing would be to have some professional and disinterested agent or agents here make an appraisal of its actual sale value, and let you consider that in sis. Last yr was a good one for me, this one now looks to be a bad one, financially.

H is getting loaded up with various jobs as other people in the school offices leave for emergency service. He is now in charge of publicity, is chrm

of the committee to arrange for natl. youth week or something of the sort, etc.

Unfortunately they don't give him any more money for all this, but it is all good business and I hope it will lead to getting a little more recognition. He hasn't been functioning up to his real level, in some ways.

Last Sunday night we had the Roswell Johnson's and the Babers of Pomona College in, and Baber showed his colored movies of the trip last summer including Casa Popocatecalt all very good and very interesting to us, of course.

Pleasant Sunday here; Pab is working on his car, John is off in the

Also give note instructions to the boys who are requested not to shoot off fireworks in the church. We have been having a big time here at the house these days, with some 100 packs of Chinese firecrackers which Maria's daughters have expended in the customary manner. We father down baby on New Year's eve by going to bed at 10, so they didn't feel free to fire any at midnight.

Yours ever,

Much love to all of you.

Feb. 8, 1942

Antigua, 2 Jan 1942

Dear Wilson:

Dear Pablo:

...after having spent here the holidays pleasantly as
Always, and goes to Tegucigalpa on Monday. Address hereafter: Tela Railroad Co.,
Tegucigalpa, until I get a lock box in the name of the Escuela Agricola Panamericana.
We hope to come back to Antigua to spend Easter week.

Rec'd the statement of our financial status; conforme. If at any time you
get to making a lot of money and would like to buy out my 1/2 interest in Ahuacatlan
I will be glad to talk turkey with you, payments to be made annually on the basis of

Peter's expense. I will never have any use for my interest in Ahuacatlan while
your side of the family can probably continue to occupy it in one form or another
indefinitely.

Yes; I would like to have, some time, the various hort. bulletins and reprints
which are at W I G. If the agric. school goes over, I can probably make good use
of my home library which I now have at Antigua, by willing it to the school when
I pass out. Probably the best way to bring down the stuff you mention is for you
and to ship it to me in the States and I can bring it back with me.

Enclosed headline from El Imparcial re the golpe mortal reminds me of one
of FOP's gags: Big headlines "Czar's death" followed by small type "foretold by
Gypsy". Do you remember?

Also pls note instructions to the boys, who are requested not to shoot off
fireworks in the church. We have been having a big time here at the house these
past few days, with some 100 packs of chinese firecrackers which Maria's daughters
have expended in the customary manner. We let them down badly on New Year's eve by
going to bed at 10, so they didnt feel free to fire any at midnight.

Much love to all of you.

Apartment 93,
Tegucigalpa, 26 Jan 1942

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 4 Jan duly read and contents noted. Glad to hear that Hon. Pablito told the boys at Whittier all about the parent Fuerte tree, but you'd better advise him not to lend Hpn. Carter Barrett any money. Also glad you are now able to keep in touch with latest marimba music through TGW, the Voice of Guatemala. As for Lt. Alfred Hoel Jr., I have had one or two letters from him and am glad the boy is getting along well. He is likely to see active service before this war is over.

We are having quite a time here, trying to get settled and to figure out what to do with the 3200 acres we have for a school site. Fortunately, I have been able to eliminate some 25 acres already, so far as agrl land is concerned; they are hill lands in pine which will give the boys a fine chance to do some forestry studies and that's all.

Yesterday Helen and I returned from a week-end excursion to Valladolid de Comayagua, colonial capital of Honduras, where we saw the jewels in the old cathedral and sundry other antiquities; but came back with a broken spring and divers other casualties to the Dodge. Guess we wont try it again. That's one of the worst roads to drive I have ever seen in my dissipated career.

Mr Pollan advised the other day that I am being loaned to the USDA from Feb 8 to 18 to examine proposed sites for the Interamerican Inst of Tropical Agr in Honduras and Nicaragua. This will make a pleasant diversion, but wont take me far from base. I dont know Nicaragua so will be glad to get a glimpse.

Also am advised that I may have to go up to Boston to discuss plans for the school, before the frost is outn the ground. I hope the trip wont materialise before Easter, as I dont like to venture into the frigid Northland at this season of the year.

We have a comfortable house here (photos later) and Helen has been able to line up a good cook; also, Hon. Alberto Pereira who worked 22 yrs at Tela for the Co has attached himself to me as handy man and is looking out for my interests in good shape.

Helen has subscribed to Ladies Home Journal for 1 yr in order to be able to read all your dissertations. I have taken on the Citrograph so as to be able to keep in touch with activities of Archibald Dixon Shamel et al. And I have made myself a typewriter desk out of one only cedar packing box and have set up business in one of our upstairs rooms in good style. This is a pioneering job, the sort for which FOP and I seem best fitted. When things get on a maintenance basis it is time for me to move on. When we get the school going, and the 4 kids through high school, we'll retire to Antigua. By the way, K owles mentions the possibility of Nancy going to Berkeley, so he and Emma can look out for her. This would be a good scheme, perhaps, if they would agree to take her during vacations. What say?

Love to all

Antigua, 18 March 1942

Dear Pablo:

Just to let you know my plans have been changed since writing my last from Tegucigalpa. Mr Turnbull asked me to wait here for him, and we are flying up to New Orleans together on the 23-24th. This will probably put me in Boston about the end of the month, and not at Washington much before Easter if at all. In the meantime, Helen will await my return here at Antigua. We are taking advantage of this week here to potter about the old place and fix up the garden a bit. Always pleasant.

Presumably Betty will open this at Altadena before sending on to you, so I will take this opportunity to thank her for her birthday letter which was most welcome and appreciated. But I did hate to pass that 50 mark, and it does hurt now, when they take the data for Panair air, to say "50" when they ask my age. Someway it seems to put you on the wrong side of life, but no hay remedio.

Weather lovely here at this season of the year, though too much dust on the roads when you go out. Not so much travel as usual; people are saving their tires. And not many tourists about. Menos mal.

Sally has her tenth birthday next week if I remember correctly. She waxes daily not in wisdom but in iniquity. I am afraid she is going to be a managing woman. But a very bright one withal.

Much love to all of you from both of us

Wilson

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON, D. C.

20 April 1942

Dear Pablo - Back from Boston on
the Federal yesterday; now - few
days here then on to Mississippi to see
a man about some agit implements
for our school; then I fly from
Brownsville to Guatemala on the 28th
to pick up Helen; and we go on to
Tiquigulpa about the 30th. My stay
in Boston was pleasant - at Tom
Barbour's house on Beacon St. para
lujo. U. F. Co. engineers polished off the
plans for our school bldgs in good
shape and we are to commence
construction as soon as I shall be ready.

I think I've told you there is a
possibility I may go to Colombia
sometime this summer to organize
a campaign of buying Cinchona bark
for U. S. govt. There is also a
possibility Helen and I may be

in Mexico July 6 to 16 attending the
II Congreso Internacional de Agricultura
Vamos a Ver. Right now I'm mainly
interested in getting back to Teguzigalpa.

The children are coming along
fine - but I can't make head nor tail
of Edith's future. Doors will be
opened - maybe. She isn't really inter-
ested in teaching and the Dept. is
cutting down heavily in research
work so I don't think there is the
slightest chance of her getting back
into Entomology. Perhaps she can
get, later, a nation's job or something
of that sort, in a school or other
institution. It takes a good \$4800
per year to support her established next
to Silver Spring and would take
at least \$3500 without my kids,
unless she reorganized completely and
then she probably cannot do. Her
car (1937 model) is getting to be

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON, D. C.

point where upkeep is very expensive.
I'm trying to get her to do without
and use typicals who would
cut the expense heavily but she
isn't strong for it. I'm going to have
a real problem on my hands just
as soon as my bro. begins to go
away to school.

Hugh is developing splendidly - has
changed - grown up - a great deal in
a year. Nancy also and
both Marion and Dolly are coming
in well. But Oh my! how dirty
and messy the house is! Doors falling
off their hinges and not put back on
again and the bathroom a cochinedo.

I see our Al Hall - a handsome
leftenant. and I see Mr. ES
Brown on the street. He says
one of Katherine's daughters is

about to be married. Ed sends you
his best regards. It has been very
pleasant seeing some of the old
friends. Ben Morrison is being
squeezed out of BPI and may go to
Paris as agent advisor to that
govt. Jim Kearton likewise will
may go to Venezuela. I'm
working for it.

My love to all of you.
Will

Taguzgalpa, 15 de mayo de 1942

Dear Sir and Bro.:

Animadverting to your recent communications, none of which has gone unnoticed on our part, item (1) It wasnt the Rev. Gilkey who married us but an equally Rev. Garrison. Helen knows of the former; he is head pastor of the flock at U. of Chi. and she wanted him to marry us, but we were too small fry or he had a previous engagement, thereby curtailing his emoluments for that yr by \$20.

Item (2), apparently you diagnose the trouble: Edith has no nigger to say "clean up the bathroom", ergo, the bathroom is never cleaned. I still cant get across to Edith that the time is evergoing to come when she wont have \$300 in the bank at the 1st of each mo, and in addition be able to write me every threemmos and she cant take Nancy to have her teeth stopped (as Dorothy used to say) unless I remit forthwith. I think the only way we are evergoing to get action is to send Nancy and Hugh away to school; bring the two younger ones down with us or send them away to school too and state plainly and unequivocally that Edith must sell the house and bring herself down to a more economical level. I believe she can always earn a living but not the sort of living she wants; with only two boys on her hands and those out of the baby stage she could live in a small apt and teach, as you suggest; but it is going to be hard to get her to give up her house and what I am afraid of is this: before doing so, she will borrow money and get herself all bogged down in debt just like Chas did. It seems to be a Holcomb failing.

Yes, Betty can well rave about Hugh; at least she and I agree that he is worth raving about. I am inordinately proud of the way he has buckled down. I didnt do it at his age and havent since. And dont think I am not appreciative of the care Edith has given the 4; as you point out, they have had a happy if not clean home, and she deserves lots of credit for it.

Now in re yours of 2 instant, and the Altadena house: You can readily appreciate the fact that my interest in it is purely financial, since Helen and I intend to die at Antigua G., and on the other hand it may serve you & yours rather indefinitely. I would therefore be glad to sell out my 1/2 interest to you at such time and such price as you consider proper. If you can see your way clear to assume the obligation, I suggest you name the figure, based on the appraisals you have had made and your own views as to what the place would actually bring (usually less than the realtors figure in advance) and then undertake to pay off my share by handling Peter's expenses; with the understanding that if in any given yr you are unable to handle the full amount of letter, I will try to do so; and if he should die before the entire sum is paid off, you would pay me in such annual instalments as you could handle. To protect you I could at any time sign over my share of the house to you, and take in return an agreement on above lines. What say?

Is there any hope of getting Peter into any sort of an institution eventually? If he should live to a ripe age, and I should die in the meantime, I dont know what would happen. Though I can only assume that he would have to be cared for out of the insurance money I leave - if money is worth anything at that time. - En passant, I learned at Boston last month that the Co. carries for all its staff insurance against death by airplane accident if travelling on Co business, without regard to kind of plane or operating agency. I hope I can go via that route.

But please don't again offend my naval traditions by referring to Lt Alvin Eager as (senior grade). When we introduce a confrere who is j.g. we have to say "May I present Lieutenant (junior grade) Robbins"; but A. Eager is Lieutenant pure and simple. Also please note that the Reserve Officers Manual states that it has lately become the custom to refer to Lt. Cols. in the U S Army as "Colonel" but such slack habits are frowned upon by the Navy; a Lt. Comdr. is not to be called "Commander". Hard on the girls.

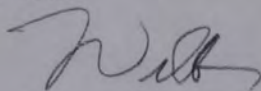
This week we have broken ground for the first building at El Zamorano and are appropriately honoring the occasion tonight by entertaining at dinner H A Von Wald et ux, engineer in charge of construction, and Mario Valenzuela, architect. Out of the entertainment fund we have provided one only bottle of Asti spumanti from Italian Swiss Colony, in lieu of M&T et Chandon, cordon bleu. Helen is down below at the moment, working on a turkey and will later execute a pumpkin pie. Turkeys costing only-Tempiras 1.50 to 2.00, 75 ¢ to 1.50 of your currency, and being several times as big as local gallinas, there are not a bad investment for those still given to the habit.

Helen and I flew down to La Lima last week in the Co's luxurious Lockheed Electra; she to get her teeth fixed and I to discuss certain details re the school. I hope we won't have to leave here again for some time. I am - after some 30-odd years of almost uninterrupted travel - getting to feel I would like to stay somewhere long enough to get my suitcase unpacked.

We have just hired a local boy - or rather, transferred him from the accounting office in Tela - to handle our bookkeeping and payrolls at the school, and this a.m. I discovered he had spent 3 yrs at Stanford, then 3 more at Washn as private secy to the Minister of Honduras. Looks like a good bet. By the same token as no good thing can come out of Nazareth, certainly no bad thing can come out of Stanford, as witness the fretelli Popence. Our local architect, by the way - who draws pretty pictures of our proposed bldgs by means of which I convince the jefes that the costs are not too high - is a graduate of USC.

Wish you could see the typewriter desk of Spanish cedar wh Helen had made for me as a birthday present; cost \$12.50 and is a beaut. Three drawers on the right side for stationery and a good smell throughout.

Much love from us both.



Apartado 93, Tegucigalpa, 31 May 1942

Dear Pablo:

This will acknowledge recd of yours of 23 inst. Thanks for all the news, wh has been greatly enjoyed by Doña Elena y este su mas humilde servidor.

Latest development here is that there seems a good probability that the Honduren govt will name me as one of its delegates to the Interamerican Conference on Agriculture which convenes at Mejico City July 6 to 16. If so, Helen and I will probably fly up and change our diet a bit.

We are getting along with our school, in spite of great difficulty in obtaining building materials of certain sorts. We are buying what we can here, at stiff prices. I think we can get enough stuff together so we can put up the bldgs and then figure on adding the plumbing later when we can get it from the US.

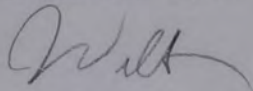
So you met Ruth Adams (that was) - or rather, Park did. She lived near Berryton, and we attended school together there; later she came to Calif with some of her family, and I ran around with her a bit. I'd like to see her again.

Quite right, quite right; Lt. Comdr. Ford Henry Brown (the middle name est de rigueur) USN retired, was not called Lieutenant by his ux. I still remember the day, by the way, when Dick Groves and I ordered a load of manure dumped on his front lawn, and it was done before he knew anything about it. All of which caused a few difficulties; or as my friend Ad. Tonduz of CR once said, when I asked him what Oton Jimenez remarked when he found him drunk offn the 50 cents I had given him, "me hizo varias observaciones".

Yes, I think \$2800 is allright for my share of the Ahuacatlan property, and you can go ahead on that basis.

We went to the Amlegation last night and saw some good Am films sent out by the govt; including plenty of Pearl Harbour wh made my blood boil, as they were intended to do. We havent been going out much lately; all of us Americanos here in Teguci are pretty darn busy these days. Helen and I usually turn in right after supper, sit in bed and read until 8 or 9.15, then turn the light out. Days when I go out to Zamorano, the school site (which are numerous) I get up at 5.30 and leave here at 6 in the 1939 Dodge, tires of which wont last us many months more. I'm looking around for a pony like my Starlight of early Guatemalan days. But there will never be another Starlight.

Much love to all of you from all of us.



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

7 August 1942

Dear Pablo et al:

Dont recall just when I wrote you last. But anyhow (Mrs E Simmonds) we are back again at the old stand, frente al parque Herrera, Tegucigalpa, D.C. (Distrito Central), having arrived per Panair two days since. We stopped a week in Guatemala, where we had a busy time going over things at Antigua and getting them in shape to carry along by themselves until we get back there again, quien sabe quando.

In Mexico we fulfilled our obligations to the Conference, then the following day K Augustus Ryerson, Carl B Schmidt, Helen and myself were driven down to Atlixco by Carl, where Knowles had a chance to see the parent Fuerte tree, a sight which thrilled him considerably; and which he achieved just in time, for the tree is about gone and probably wont be there two yrs from now. We then stopped in Puebla overnight and saw the sights there, and incidentally bought up a little Talavera pottery to enrich our collection at Antigua. We got quite fond of Carl; he is a good solid reliable citizen with a fine family and a beautiful home out in Coyoacán. Incidentally he is next door neighbor and constant bridge companion to King Carol and his Magda.

We also looked up the Littlejohns, she that was Josephine Keiser; and had dinner out there twice. Old Mrs Keiser was there, and we talked in extenso of Topeka and many old friends. You missed something by not seeing her; and Jo sets up a fine meal.

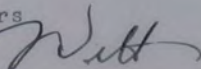
We had a fine visit with Knowles, and saw quite a number of old friends from the U S DA. There were 62 in the crowd from the States. Some of the boys talked about roping me in for further work for the US Govt down here, so I dont know how long I may be in Teguci; perhaps the rest of this year, perhaps not. Things are going well out at the school; Von Wald has 250 men at work on construction and our handsome stone buildings are going up rapidly.

Edith writes that she put up the car as I suggested (mainly I suspect because she couldnt get much gasoline) and doesnt find that it cuts down the expenses at all. Her food bill is now \$165 to \$185 per mensem, and she wont have money to pay the taxes.

I have just had the honor of being invited to send a biographical sketch for inclusion in Who's Who in the Western Hemisphere. Now if I can only get into Who's Who on the Pacific Coast.

Thanks for sending the letter from Val Goddard. I was interested in hearing from him - as he mentions, I saw him at Miami some 20 yrs ago, that is, fairly recently.

Ever yours



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

27 August 1942

Dear Pablo:

We were extremely sorry to learn from Betty's last letter that you had been laid up at Frisco, but glad you had Dr. Karl M. Bowman M.D. to straighten you out.

Betty mentioned the forthcoming marriage of Phyllis and Ward; which two are they? Not Hubert's daughter and Edwin's son? My only reason for suspecting such, is that it runs in the family.

Here we are keeping busy as per custumbre, mostly on construction work at present. We are now drawing up plans for our own house and I am having quite a time keeping Helen from making the place resemble the Union Station in Washington. She would like the bedrooms to be 22 x 44 ft, but is willing to compromise a bit. Our big bedroom in Antigua is that size. And speaking of Antigua, you probly know there was a big earthquake there on Aug 7th; it knocked down quite a few old houses and further ruined some of the ruins. We hear that our house got off with four or five big cracks in the walls, though Maria also laments the loss of a water pitcher which was thrown off the bathroom table. Maria wrote twice about the affair, but each time devoted so much space to itemizing the divers and sundry ways in which the Hand of the Lord could be seen in all this, that there wasnt space to mention that we had five cracks in the walls, which news we had to get by writing to a friend.

I'll bet they havent approached you for a biog. sketch for "Who's Who in the Western Hemisphere". You small fry only get included in Who's Who on the Pacific Coast or Who's Who in America, or some other equally circumscribed work.

Pero vamos al grano. Some friends of mine here want information on sterilization. Unfortunately your book is over at Antigua, and I doubt that we can get at it for several months. You probably have some folletos on the subject. Pls send to me by return of airpost, in plain sealed envelop; they especially want to know whether it should be performed on ♂ or ♀; and I dont want to advise them too much on my own responsibility.

Must go forth and make friends.

Over thine

Tegucigalpa, 13 Sept 1942

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of Aug 29 and Sept 3 are before me. I dont like animaladversions to the fact that it is "just 30 yrs ago to day that you left home, never to return." Except for lack of teeth, creaks in the joints, general debility and a few other items I feel just as young as I did on that never to be forgotten afternoon when you and I walked down Sta Anita Ave, en route to Bagdad; and I dont appreciate being reminded of my age. I told you, didnt I, of my rude awakening a few yrs ago when I was en route to Haiti? On the steamer, in the evening, a few of us convivial spirits gathered in what is known as the smoke room, and late in the evning I sang them a few Spanish songs. Next morning a padre asked my roommate, "who was the old man who sang the Spanish songs last night?"

Doggoneit, I just never get around to writing Herb. I guess I have owed him a letter now, for nigh onto a yr; but of course he owed me one for well over a year, before he wrote the last one. I hope the boy is doing well. His kids will soon be grown up now.

I guess I wrote you that our house got 5 cracks in the walls; though I dont know whether they are new cracks or old ones reopened; for we antigueros have a habit of plugging up cracks which appear after the periodic earthquakes, on the principle that what you cant see wont hurt you - I believe you call it the ostrich policy.

Thanks for news of Phyllis Popenoe's wedding. I believe Helen is returning it as per request. Sounds like a good lad, the bridegroom.

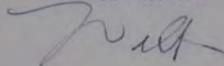
Helen and I have put in a lot of time this past week on plans for our house at the school, wh same are now complete. It is to be in the Colonial style, with a patio, and charmingly simple but not inexpensive I hasten to add. I imagine we shall commence construction on it next month; we are going to start the main school bldg then, when the heavy rains are over. We are catching plenty of rain these days; have some 36 ins this yr, so far. I hope we get a total of 45 for the season.

From dodgers I am receiving thru the mails I take it there is a big fight on in Calavo Growers, some folks thinking they ought not to be selling dates, limes etc at expense of the avocado growers. Then from another angle comes a broadside signed by Unuted Date Growers to effect that Calavo is trying to strangle the date coop. which is very unfair and not nice at all. But they really should not drag me into all this, at 3000 miles distance, should they?

Hang on to your health now, boy; keep yourself well bundled up when you go out and above -ll be careful not to breathe the night air.

We are getting ready for big celebrations this week, same being the Fiestas Patrias -15th of Sept being independence day in all Central America. School children have been parading daily in front of our house for the past 9 or 10 days to get in practice, and for the past several they have also been estrenar-ing their new uniforms. Its quite the event of the yr.

Ever thine



GREETINGS

for

1 9 4 3

from



AHUACATLAN

2503 North Marengo Avenue
Altadena, California

Ahuacatlan

means The Place Where Avocados Grow. The Aztec symbol for the word is pictured on the front of the folder. The tree symbolized is a conventionalized Ahuacatl (avocado is a corruption of this word, which was further and almost unbelievably corrupted to alligator pear); and the teeth in the trunk are the "tlan," which means "place;" Ahuacatlan is the name of several towns in Mexico, and was given to the property of F. O. Popenoe in Altadena because of the number of fine old avocado trees growing on it, and particularly because the parent California Fuerte avocado is to be found here.

In 1911 F. O. Popenoe, who then had a subtropical nursery called The West India Gardens, on this property, sent a representative to Mexico to get budwood of the finest avocados to be found. Many varieties were introduced at that time; one of them, from a seedling tree at Atlixco, turned out to be so vigorous and hardy that Mr. Popenoe named it Fuerte, which means strong or vigorous. It has become the progenitor of most of the avocados grown commercially in California and after an entire generation, during which the best varieties of all Latin-America have been tested in California, no other has been found to challenge its supremacy.

Come visit Ahuacatlan and your friends:

Paul Popenoe
Betty Popenoe
Paul Popenoe, Jr. [In Signal Corps
U. S. Army]
Oliver Popenoe
John Popenoe
David Popenoe



PARENT FUERTE AVOCADO AT AHUACATLAN
with F. O. Popenoe standing beside it.
Photographed in Altadena in 1933.



ORIGINAL FUERTE AVOCADO TREE
in Atlixco, Mexico, April 16, 1938, with
Alejandro Le Blanc, owner of the tree, and Dr. Wilson Popencoe.
This tree was planted about 1898.

Tegucigalpa, 12 Dec 1942

Dear Pablo:

Animadverting to yours of Sunday morn the 6th instant, I am glad you will talk with Hubert re Nancy. I share your feeling that 1943 will be the time to put Edith on her own feet, though I shall want to help her get there and stay there, because she has been so good to the youngsters. She has been talking about a permanent job at the Univ of Md; I dont know just what she has lined up. She said she could only get \$1420 teaching at Silver Spring HS, which was the job she originally had in mind. This wouldnt alcanzar, as we say. If she could get \$2500 to \$3000 at Univ of Md it would probably enable her to carry on. I suppose they wont give her anything until she has her Ph. D., obtained under the auspices of said Univ. That is the system.

Hon. Carter Barrett seems to be doing good work, in his own quiet but not altogether unostentatious way. More strength to him - lots more of it.

Yes, I still get an annual check from Macmillan and Cie. for my Manual; ranging from \$45 to \$70 USC. Hon. Frans Verdoorn, editor of Chronica Botanica (I am on the board of travelling editors or something of that sort) is after me to prepare a book on Tropical American Fruit Culture, wh I think I shall do some day instead of trying a revisiton with Macmillan. They seem unwilling to consider a revision of the Manual as long as the old one continues to sell.

We hear from Ralph Cornell with fair regularity. He is one of the standbys.

No, my dear fellow, Turrialba is not a suburb of San Jose', rather the contrary; it is 39 miles on the road to Limon. But the President, in our recent conversation, remarking jokingly that with the Instituto I nteramericano de Ciencias Agricolas at Turrialba, there was now much talk of moving the capital to Turrialba. There is a good motor road to Cartago now, from San José, and it is being completed to Turrialba.

Helen and I are getting ready to fly to Guatemala on the 17th inst., to spend the holidays at home. But I have enough work lined up over there so that I realise there wont be many holidays.

I hope you will make it a point to call on mere Barsaloux when you can. She was devoted to father Barsaloux and is probably having a pretty hard time adjusting.

I regret I cannot pass onnto you my Underwood portable, modelo 1929, now that I have this life-sized Remongton, cost \$165.29, puesto en Tegucigalpa. I'll get used to it in time. I remember that I first learned (sic) on a Remington at Highland Park circa 1900. The machines have changed somewhat since then.

We are not doing much about Christmas. Not even any cards this year. We'll wait until Hitler is licked.

Tegucigalpa, 21 Oct 1942

Dear Pablo:

This morning I rolled over at 85.45 light face figures and dived to the niña Elena " Paul had a birthday last week and I failed to write him"; to which she replied "I wrote him" so I trust we are still in good standing.

Yours of the 10th del mes en curso, or 10th de los corrientes, as you prefer, came duly, with a big slice cut out of the nether portion, where you had complained that 6 ¢ dishes at the cattereria now cost 8 ¢ and were probably going on to recite greater horrors. I was reminded of that summer I worked in Pasadena on index cards for one of your friends and always got my lunch for 13 ¢ at the cafeteria, said lunch consisting of mashed potatoes and gravy and a piece of pie. Spuds 5 c, gravy 3 c, and pie 5 c. Good lunch, at that.

Thanks for reminding me re my will. I havent done anything about it but will do so. But the problem is: the life insurance policies. I think you are now named as beneficiary on all of them (4), and to change over to Helen's name, the policies have to be sent back to the factory, I believe. I think we will probably have to wait until the next time I come to the States to do this.

Yes, I remember John Ely Birlson, very, very well. The last time I saw him he was lying on the floor of the house at Cos Cob, screaming at the top of his voice "You did this, you did this!"

As for aguacates, and what kind you ought to plant at the house, I would say Nabal is good if you want a Guatemalan; but if I were planting for my own use I'd be inclined to have some small black Mex also; they are about the best eating of all. I dont know much about the newer varieties; but if I were doing it, I'd probably have a Fuerte, and a Nabal, and one small black Mex such as Duke or Leucadia. You'll have to feed Nabal well if you hope to get a crop every year; it is a heavy bearer and like other heavy-bearing Guatemalans incline s to alternate-year production.

Mighty busy here; and it begins to seem queer to have been so long in one place - almost 3 mos since we got back from Mejico. I have word from Rahway that they may want me to fly over to Guatemala before long to sit in on a Cinchona conference. Helen hopes so, as she wants to go along, and see the old house again. Maria doesnt give us much news; writes about once a month, 8 lines inquiring after our health, 2 lines saying she needs some more money, and 6 lines sending regards of family and friends.

We are just about to break ground for our house at Zamorano. We have worked over the plans until we are satisfied; the house is going be something like the one at Antigua only considerably smaller; but it is a patio house, with 3 bedrooms in case the kids come down some day. We'd like mighty well to bring Marion and Sally down here for a year but it seems inadvisable to attempt anything while the war lasts. And that may be some time yet.

Helen had a cable last week that her father died on the 15th. I wish she could have gone up, but it didnt seem feasible.

Love to all,

Nov 5 1942

Dear Pablo:

Numerous envelopes from you been coming in lately, dated back about Sept 14 or 22 and containing information on how to grow odd gracefully and get 30 ¢ worth of grub at the Cafeteria practically free if you use a paper napkin and dont ask for no substitutions. But not much real news.

Here we are busy as usual if not more so, and still spending money (the school's) like drunken sailors. We rather expect to start work on our house next week. Have just finished one for Alfred Butler who will move up here from Tela in a few days.

Helen had a good letter from Betty Bowman telling all about Ensign Richard Bowman USN, who seems still to be cooling his heels at SF though raring to go. Betty says the Navy has gone a swell job of indoctrination; that Richard is now as strong a Navy man as I am if not stronger.

Say, what's the matter with Hubert and Anna taking on Nancy as a boarder, while the latter attends Pomona, now that all their own kids are married and gone? Unless some of them like birdie, tired of his freedom, comes hopping at the door, back once more. I dont know that it's practical, but if we could send Nancy out to Pomona, and put Hugh in Farragut Academy, and bring the two younger ones down here next summer it would solve every problem except Edith's. And I dont know how that can be solved as long as she keeps 401 Sligo. Jim Kempton was here last week, for 3 days, en route to Venezuela; and said he had been trying to talk Edith into selling the house now while prices are high, but she wont listen to it. Jim by the way has a swell job. The story is this: when I was in Venezuela last yr Doc Corrigan our ambassador there, suggested I join him as agrl attaché which I had to decline; but when I got to Washn in Apr and found Jim in the dumps because Henry Allison and Aucter were going to send him out to Iowa and leave him on the shelf until retirement set in, I wrote Doc Corrigan and suggested Jim; and finally the State Dept agreed and not only that but Jim gets \$6500 plus something like 70% bonus to equalise the exchange in Venezuela, plus house rent etc. Its very, very soft. And Dimp and the two unmarried girls will join him down there soon. And after he had signed up, the BEW and the Rockefeller boys both approached him, trying to raise the ante; all of wh made Jim feel mighty good. He spent three days with us and we had some good talks.

Edith writes that Gertrude Deutz nee Hughes has come to stay a while - or rather, it is Marion who writes it, and I rather gather that Gertrude has got a job in Washn or something of that sort. Further details solicited. I only hope she doesnt settle down on Edith; the house is already pretty full.

Well, send us a letter some day wn isnt all clippings. But say, I was surprised to see old Dick Groves a Brigadier. That boy has done well.

Hoping you are the same

Tegucy, November 26 [1942]
Thanksgiving

Dearest Paul and Betty,

Thank you so much, Paul, for writing me after dad died. His death was a blessing as far as he was concerned, for he had suffered too much in the past year, and I'm glad that he's at rest. However, it didn't cease to be a shock to me, and I was disappointed that I couldn't get home to be with mother. She has done splendidly, and very fortunately there was a great deal to do and she hardly had time to brood. She sold a great deal of her furniture, and has already settled in Pasadena with her widowed sister. Wilson and I wanted her to come down here to spend the holidays with us, but that was not possible for us to work out either; it's too hard to get a passport these days. She'll have to wait awhile and come via Mexico.

Wilson is in Costa Rica. Dr Bressman came down from Washington and took him off with him to give advice and help on the Institute of Agricultural Sciences (the new name of the Inst. of Trop. Ag.) They are ready to start construction; I doubt if they have the same difficulties that we are still having, for they will be given priorities on material from the States. Ours, however, will be the more interesting because of being built out of the country. Wilson is working terribly hard, sometimes I think too hard, for he is getting jittery. This is a huge task for him and the engineer alone, and any other project as big would have ten men on it. Besides that, each and every coordinator wants his time as well as the people who pass thru the country. But he seems to thrive on it, and it hasn't had any effect on his marvelous disposition, so I'm sure we'll pull thru. A week or so at home at Christmas time will give him a rest.

School

You'd be surprised, Paul, how religiously your JOURNAL articles are read here, and pondered over, by the American women. I've heard some very interesting comments; some of the ladies would do well to read them twice! The magazine comes months late, but it comes.

Your last clipping did come thru, about the coffee vine. That was a good story. My, but things are getting scarce here. I had to get together a collection of kitchen utensils the other day for the Butler family, who came up from Tela to live at the school, and I had to pay 6 dollars US for an enameled frying pan, and 7 for the same kind of coffee pot! Boy, at that rate the 500 thousand won't last long!

Jim Kempton spent four days with us on his way to his new post in Caracas, and seemed as pleased as punk to be going. Gertrude has been with Edith for several weeks, learning to be a co-op store manager. Edith seems to be working very hard, really doing three jobs, for she works as well as studies at the U., and does all the housework. We are so hoping that she will be able to get on alone next year, for we are more than anxious to bring the two little girls down here with us, and send Hugh away to school. Now that rooms are scarce, she should have a chance to rent a part of her house. I guess it's hopeless to try to get her to sell it. Jim thinks she's crazy not to, now with the boom on.

Lots of love to you, my dear ones, and write us soon.

deleeri

29 Nov 1942

Dear Sir and Bro:

On getting back from 9 days in Costa Rica I found yours of 14th inst. I'll figure out the insurance matter as soon as I can collect my thoughts and see how best to handle it. When in CR I talked with one of our Co lawyers, an American, about a will and he thought the best thing under the circumstances would be a holographic one just like the one I gave you a few yrs ago, wh the same you returned to me recently. I told him the only real property I owned in the States was my interest in the Altadena house, and that very likely I would sell this out to you within the next few yrs. With no real property up there, he did not know just where to locate the will, so to speak; he says it ought to be written to conform to the laws of some definite State. I have written out a holographic will leaving everything to Helen but we still have to figure out the ins business.

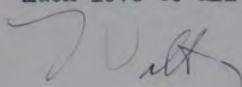
Continue the clippings at the 3 cent rate. They're always welcome and oftentimes very interesting.

I believe it would be well to sound out Hubert in re the possibility of taking Nancy next Sept, asuming she can get into Pomona at that time. If you see him, talk with him. Nancy may kick up a row about going west but I think I can talk her into it, if we decide it is the best bet. I feel next yr would be as good a time as any to put Edith on her own feet. She will almost certainly have a job at the Univ of Md - she has a part time one now and is carrying on certain studies in addition. We could send Nancy west next summer; put Hugh at Admiral Farragut Academy; and bring the two youngsters down here for a yr or two. Edith could then see how she can make out, between her job and renting out rooms. Of course if the war is over next summer she probably wont have a chance to rent any rooms - or at least cant get much for them. But it seems to me she should be able to handle things some way, with the help of her own family who so far havent done anything for her. What do you think of the plan in general? Helen could go up and get the younger girls, if I cant get away.

I had quite a time in Costa Rica with E N Bressman, making preliminary plans for setting up the Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agrícolas, which is to have its seat at Turrialba. I brought back 150 lbs of flowering plants of various sorts for our gardens at the school. We are making quite a lot of progress and are now considering the possibility of having Pres Carias lay the cornerstone of our main bldg in January.

We are hoping we can go over to Antigua for the Xmas holidays but not sure of it yet.

Much love to all



Tegucigalpa, 11 Jan 1943

Dear Pablo:

Cant remember just when I wrote you last. We were so busy in Guatemala I dont think I wrote you from there. We had guests several times at Antigua, and spent the entire period between Xmas and New Years on a quinine tour of the West coast. All very interesting but didnt leave much time for other matters. On the whole, we had a pleasant Xmas at Antigua and did a little work in the garden.

I have had a very characteristic letter from Frank Fawkes, dodging the issue by passing the buck to the Co. He says he is asking them to prepare the papers and send them to me. I have recd papers from National Life Ins Co., signed as per instructions, and enclose herewith. Now when you have time, if you will be good enough to send them this document and the policy and answer their question in the letter, I guess they will fix things up for us. Then have policy returned to you for safe keeping.

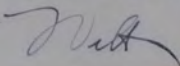
Yours recd with statement of acct. I hope it hasnt pinched you to make these disbursements. If we make a shift at Washn this yr and cut down the overhead on the kids, I could carry Peter's expense in case of necessity; but as long as you can do it, and thereby gradually buy out my half of Ahuacatlan, so much the better. You can easily see that it is desirable for me to dispose of my 1/2 interest in Ahuacatlan; it will never be of any use to me.

What do you think we'd better do about Nancy? Send her out to Pomona, and let her board and room with the rest of the gals? Or leave her in the East, to go to whatever school she chooses. Jim Empton thinks we ought to out her in govt service. He says they take girls out of high school now, pay them \$1420 per annum, and train them for secretarial work. This sounds good but I am not very keen to see Nancy go into govt work, are you?

Shall we bring Hugh down here for a yr or so, along with the two younger girls, or put him at Farragut? We find there are a couple of good schools in Guatemala City, now, wh can take the kids for a year or two at least, but we think we will keep Marion and ally with us for the first year, to teach them manners and Spanish. After that they might get by in Guatemala for a couple of yrs, then we could send them up to the States again. I am very anxious to make a new arrangement re Silver Spring this yr while there is an opportunity for Edith to re-establish herself. When the war is over and the boys come home looking for jobs, and the girls swarm out of Washington, that is going to be one of the poorest places in the world for Edith to start looking for a position. But I think right now she can get by, tho I still doubt that she can hang onto 401 Sligo indefinitely. I suspect it will go on a mortgage, or something of that sort, in the end.

Mighty busy here since we got back; much correspondence piled up on my desk.

Ever fine



Tegucigalpa, 24^Jan 1943

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 17th just to hand and contents noted. In view of the many problems raised, cf. Parson Baker, I shall devote myself mainly to business in this.

Item. We appreciate all you have done to help get the Ins matters in shape. As you say, these now seem to be en train without exception. For your information and files, I also beg to advise that I have written out a holographic will, in best Sutherlandian style, had it witnessed by my two gringo colleagues at Zamorano, and have it in the nice little iron safe wh our accountant at Tela sent me. So now I am prepared to die like a man and a Christian.

Item. Edith has written quite a letter about plans. She says she is ready to take over. She says, however, that she thinks it is a pity to tear Marion and Sally away from the pleasant life and many social opportunities of Silver Spring. She suggests sending Hugh down for a year, and leaving the girls there; but says if I decide to make the whole shift she wont complain; but would like to know promptly as she would then PUT HER HOUSE ON THE MARKET. Sorry I cant put that in red type. This is the best thing she could do; she might sell it now, but she will have a hard time when the war is over, and she can never swing that place alone, as we have all agreed. I believe this is the year to make the whole readjustment. If the war drags on another couple of years it is quite possible that I may be called up for active service; and in that case, it would be quite impossible for me to finance the Washn establishment and ours here.

I am for sending Nancy out to California. I have asked her repeatedly to let me know what she wants to do about college, but Nancy simply will not write, and furthermore, she has a hard time making decisions. As you say, she will probably take it hard if I make one myself and send her out to Calif, but I believe on the whole it would be the best thing. Whether she goes to college, or gets a job. The main objection is, I dont want her to fall back on you too much. You have your hands pretty full as is. But I think if we sent her out there for summer session at Mills, and then let her go to Pomona or get a job, that would be a good start. She doesnt have any real objective in going to college, and if she worked a year first, she might gain one. I rather hate to see her just "Go to college". It doesnt get you anywhere. But that's what 90% of our young folks do., I suppose. And if she stays around Washn, and headquarters with Edith, and the latter fails to sell her house this year, it may complicate things for me at that end.

Now about Hugh: I would like to have the boy with me for a yr before he goes further with his education. First because I want to have some part in his training, and second, because I think a year here working in our nursery at Zamorano might establish an interest in agriculture wh would take him into that sort of a career. He has asked if he cannot come down and go to our school. Helen is very fond of Hugh and I believe a year here would do him no harm. Then after that, he might go up to Webb, and from there

to Davis - if Kowles comes back to his job. I think Hugh would enjoy a year with us at Zamorano - it is the right life for a boy of his age.

As for the two little girls, I think we could handle them for a year at Zamorano; and if it did not seem the right thing, I believe we can put them in a very good boarding school over in Guatemala, which is not far away from us after all. Probably they could go as far as the second yr of high school over there, after which we could make the next move. There are so many Americans now in Guatemala that school facilities of the right sort are developing and may improve even more.

Let me have your views re the above program. I am preparing Edith for some such thing, and by the time June rolls around we must have things lined up. I am telling her to go ahead and put her house on the market, for occupancy when school closes in June. She may not find it easy to sell. Last yr when I was there she put it on the market for rent, and in spite of the keen demand for housing in Washn did not even get a nibble.

We are working on our house at Zamorano and will have it ready for occupancy by June 1st at latest. We have just finished the third one for our department heads. Two are occupied by Von Walds and Butlers; and Erudio Rivera and wife are due to arrive from Venezuela in about a fortnight. He is to be our animal husbandman; is a Porto Rican, with a Venezuelan wife. Butler has a fine boy, just Hugh's age, born at Tela. He is now working in our carpenter shop - where we are making furniture in quantity. We really have quite a place now; last week more than 500 men on the payroll.

With Nancy's tuition and allowance, the budget at Washn runs between \$4000 and \$5000 a yr. Edith's share of this is now about \$4000. With this eliminated, there would be money enough to put the kids in any sort of school we might choose. And if in another year Nancy were at Pomona and Hugh at Webb it would seem to me a nice arrangement, - the two smaller girls to stay down here for three or four years yet, when they also could be sent up to California if we thought that the best place.

I was much interested to hear of Olga Tarbell's daughter. If you see her again, ask ~~me~~ for her mother's address; I would like to drop her a line for old time's sake.

Helen's mother writes enthusiastically of all your attentions. Her presence in Calif is another argument in favor of moving our base out there; she could take care of one of our kids in a pinch, I imagine, and might be glad to do it. Especially if the subject was not too young.

Things are moving pretty fast these days and it is hard to make plans far ahead. But doors will be opened.

Much love to all

Wilt

If they are speeding up the courses at Pomona so that Nancy could get through in 3 yrs, so much the better. Do you know about this?

Tegucigalpa, 10 Feb 1943

Dear Pablo:

We have just had a long letter from Nancy, the first since last November, in which she says she would like to go to Pomona, unless I would prefer that she get a job. I have replied that she can keep her eyes open for a good job, but if she doesn't find one that she thinks is just right we will send her out to Pomona. And I have also told her of the possibility of taking a summer course in Spanish at Mills. It would be fine for her to be there, since you will also be on the ground; and I will appreciate it if you will check up on the summer course and let me have the necessary details later on. And would it not be well to register Nancy for entrance at Pomona next Sept? Can you do this without too much trouble or shall I write?

I don't recall whether or not I have told you that we learn we can put the two smaller girls in the Lehnsen School at Guatemala City - which is really excellent, I believe - for about \$400 per annum, each? The price is \$425 with a 10% discount for each additional pupil beyond the first. That would be a nice set-up for some of my antioqueño friends from Colombia who have 16 children.

I am writing Edith that she should put the house on the market right away, and that we will take the children off her hands as soon as school is out. I know it is going to be hard for her to break up the present menage but it has to come sooner or later, and I feel more and more, now that we seem likely to be more or less permanently established in one place, I should take a more active part in the upbringing of my children. There is the added factor that I shall probably not be going to the States as frequently in years to come as I have in the past.

Nancy has developed a good deal of independence and seems now quite capable of looking after her own affairs at college. She buys all her own clothes and I am satisfied with her taste and choice. She doesn't seem to go beyond her budget very much. I suppose it will cost about \$1200 per year to keep her at Pomona, which I can stand very well when we cut off the Silver Spring expense. If the war should continue another couple of years I might still be called up, and I would certainly feel much happier in such a case if I have my expenditures reorganised as now planned. In a pinch, Helen could go to Antigua with all the younger children and live on \$2000 a year very comfortably. I have been told that I will be called up for active service at any time I express such a desire, but I feel that this year, with our school in the making, I should carry on here unless actually needed. Another year I might feel differently. If the school were running smoothly, and the reorganised family could live on a naval salary, I would like to get into uniform. We will see how the war goes this year. Maybe it will be over.

Gosh, but we are busy here. Man from Costa Rica coming in today, to see the school; and a man from the Rockefeller Foundation arriving shortly to talk with me about their agril program in Mexico. All of which is very interesting but keeps me on the run.

Much love to all,

*Pls return
APP*

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

23 March 1943

Dear Pablo:

First you must know that I greatly appreciated the birthday note from Bets, and I will be obliged if you will please communicate this fact to her. --- Next it is my duty to inform you that Helen has been laid up for the past three days with an acute sore throat, but I think she will be out of the woods in another day or two. I have read up on the subject in Gould and Pyle, Hughes' Practice of Medicine, and the book put out by the U S Public Health Service, and have been unable to decide which of the 16 drugs therein recommended we should administer; so have stopped gargling with NaCl and an occasional dose of aspirin. Something is wrong with all of us. I didnt useter catch colds or anything of that sort, not since I had my tonsils removed by Wm Deverley Mason in Washington about 1921, cost \$125, but this past yr or two I am beginning to have attacks of flu and that sort of thing. Must be old age creeping up on me. At suggestion of my colleague H A von Wald, I bought a bottle of Abdol C last week, containing Vitamins A B C and D, and will see if they will pull me out of the hole. But I think it rather futile to attempt thus to cheat old Father Time.

Nancy has written me enthusiastically that (1) she wants to go to Pomona, and hopes Uncle Paul has registered her already, and (2) or perhaps (1) there will be certain expenses incidental to graduation at Washington, such as photographs for the annual, class ring, cap and gown, prom dress, and class picnic, which the same have not been provided for in the budget. She is also much interested in Mills summer session. I have today rec'd small bill recommending the latter and I think Nancy should go. And if you havent signed her up for Pomona, I assume there will be no difficulty as I have also rec'd document from the Alumni Assn intimating that the college is financial embarrassed due to the fact that the student body has been reduced by the demand for military man power. I shall try to help out by sending them a new student, class of 1947, unless they can hurry her thru and turn her out in 1946, just 28 yrs after her pa should have graduated but didnt. It took them almost 20 yrs to forgive that sin and awake to the fact that I might be a source of collegiate income.

My hands are full; lots of visitors and lots of work, and withal I'm trying to prepare a preliminary chapter for Frans Verdoorn's book, Plant Science in Latin America. I've just worked up the Prospectus for the school, telling how the boys hafter be in bed by 9 p.m. and must check out at any time the Director thinks their presence on the campus no longer mutually beneficial. So runs the world away.

Ever thine

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

1 April 1943

Dear Pablo:

Accept our joint thanks for "Marriage Before and After" wh I think is one of the best books you have turned out. How about giving Nancy a copy of it when she comes out to Calif this summer and seeing that she reads it from kiver to kiver.

And speaking about Nancy: we are just in receipt of a long letter from her, motivated by the desire for cash to pay commencement bills of various sorts, ~~and~~ very neatly covered up with news of interest. She says she expects to graduate about June 23. Is that going to be too late for her to get in on the Mills summer course? If not, I'm in favor of sending her West immediately she graduates. How shall I handle her cash? Have you any objection to doing so for her? I could send you a check from time to time and you can dole out the funds to her. I assume you have put her up for Pomona; but I also assume it doesnt matter very much, as the last plea I got from the Alumni Assn intimated that they are going to be short on students this coming autumn, ergo, short on funds. I shall contribute not thru sending my check as requested, but through sending them a student - a far more effective method it seems to me.

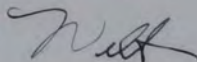
Animadverting to yours of hoy 19, I'm sorry you are having so many colds. Betty spoke about it in her birthday letter to me (for which, incidentally, I havent yet thanked her). I'm getting the same way myself; I fear our resistance is lessening as we push into the 50s. My right bower H A von Wald has talked me into taking a course of vitamin tablets, Abdol-C made by Park Davis, and reputed to contain A B₁ C and D. After I had my tonsils out, about 1922, I had very few colds until a couple of yrs ago; recently I have been running about two or three bouts of flu per annum, and I dont like it. Incidentally, Helen came down with fever a week ago Sun. I brought her into town from Zamorano and put her in bed. She didnt want me to have Dr Nutter come - said it always scared her to have a doctor come around; so I took care of her as best I could. She ran quite a fever for 3 days (we have no thermometer here) then began to get better; and by the end of the week I was able to diagnose the case, - with the aid of Hughes Practice of Medicine and Gould and Pyle - as German measles or something of that sort.

I'm not at all sure Helen will go to the States. She doesnt look forward to the trip; but we will see. I dont think it would be hard for us to get the 3 kids down here; all they would have to do is to go down to Miami, Fla and let Daisy Bell put them on the Taca plane for Teguci. They cant get off until I meet them at the airport because the plane doesnt stop/

Nancy says Edith doesnt yet know what she is going to do when the kids leave. I have heard nothing further from her about selling the house. But I have made it clear to her that we are bringing the 3 younger kids down here and Nancy is going to Calif.

Fraid I cant help you much re the cherimoyas. My advice is to dig out the tree and plant a new one. When we can get hold of some seed of Dahlia popenovii I'll remember you. Maybe some day I can also get you a plant of Vitis popenovii.

Much love from both of us,



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

4 April 1943

Sir and bro.:

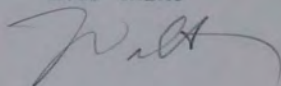
Sunday afternoon, and I have spent the day pounding away on this Remington-Rand, trying to catch up with my correspondence. I need a secretary; but everybody who is any good in this country has got a job with one of the Coordinators at about 3 times the salary we are prepared to pay.

I have just been looking over the dodger from Mills College re summer session: I see it runs from June 28 to Aug 7. Nancy writes that she does not think graduation will be until about June 23. This seems very late to me and would make close fitting for her; though I dont suppose it would matter if she reached Mills after the opening date of the summer session. I also note you are down for lectures or something from June 28 to July 17. That means you will be in the neighborhood, I assume, and might help get Nancy lined up. Am I right? Between the time this summer session is out and the time Pomona opens I assume Nancy could amuse herself some way or other. I dont want her to be a burden on her relatives. If she could hook up with one or more other girls and go into the Yosemite or something of that sort it might be a good arrangement.

Helen thinks the courses at Mills are perhaps beyond Nancy's age. Does this matter? What I would like her to do, is to live in the Casa Pan Americana and get all the Spanish she can. And when she goes to Pomona, I think she should get such courses as may fit her for teaching Spanish in later years if she has to look for a job. It seems to me this would be agreeable to her - she has no very strong leanings, apparantly, and she could come down here after she gets thru school to perfect her knowledge of the language. She really ought to choose her studies to the end that she will be prepared to make a living later if she has to do so.

I'm quite sure Nancy will like Pomona and enjoy her years there. If possible, put her through in 3 instead of 4. And dont forget to give her a copy of Marriage Before and After.

Ever thine



Taguzgalpa, 7 febrero de 1943

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 31 Januray to hand and contents noted. I will see if I can work your scheme on Nancy - tell her I am going to send her out to Calif unless she has a good job in view in the East. I think it will work. Presumably she will not have to register for Pomona - or rather, put in an application for entrance - until summer. If this is incorrect, what shall I do? I would think, with all the boys going off to the wars, they would be glad to get students next autumn, no questions asked.

I wrote bro. Thompson Webb, who sent me his literature, that we would not be considering Hugh for school in the States until Sept 1944 and would at that time give careful consideration to his propn. I like the looks of his student list - quite cosmopolitan and some good families in it, including son of Fred McLain, who was my best friend at Pasadena High. But Webb's price is \$1600 per annum. You dont suppose he would give cut rates, account my bro, being a member of the profesh?

We have had a letter from the head of the Lehnsen school in Guatemala City. The Lewises (Mr L is now manager of the RR there, used to be a Fruit Co engineer) have their children at this school, and think well of it; and I consider Margaret (Mrs) Lewis one of the most intelligent women I have ever known. Lehnsen says he now has high school grades as well as grammar school; has 120 pupils and a few of them boarders. He would take the girls at \$425 per annum per capita, and his school is in a beautiful part of town, only a few blocks from where Dorothy and I used to live, and in my opinion the social life there would be just as good as that of Silver Spring, if not a tiny mite better (Edith is worried about the girls missing their social opportunities if they come down here). I think perhaps we can keep the girls over there for several yrs, and can see them often; but school yr begins here on May 1st so we may keep them with us until May 1944 and drill them on Spanish. They need this language to go to school down here, as the law requires that most of the teaching be done in that language.

Thanks for letter from Mathilde LeBlanc, returned herewith. That must have cost her dos reales, including paper. Did I ever tell you that her grandfather was a French soldier who came over with Maximilian (not personally, perhaps, but in that army) and stayed after the unpleasantness, marrying a Mexican woman?

To make assurance doubly sure, I have just written out another holographic will, not witnessed, and put it in an envelop along with the first one; so you can take your choice when the time comes.

Frightfully busy and both of us feeling a bit tired this week end. Another member of our staff arrived a week ago - E A Rivera, animal husbandman - mit wife complete (she is Venezuelan) and we had quite a job shopping around for household equipment and getting them settled; not to mention two visitors who have been with us, from Washn. We'd like to run off for a few days rest but cant.

21 April 1943

Dear Pablo:

Oⁿ coming in from Zamorano last night we found yrs of 10th instanter, and today came yrs of 15th. The lengthy obituary notice from Yearbook of Calif Avocado Soc was quite a surprise; I did not know any such thing was in the wind and Helen was considerably pleased. But it terminated abruptly; I expected to read "He is survived by a widow and five children" or something of that sort. Sounds to me as though you had something to do with the composition; too may details including exact dates, etc., for them to pull outn the thin air. It was really very handsome of them to publish the write-up; guess I'd better write Bro. Coit and thank him.

Much interested in the news of Dorsett's death. From what DF wrote me several months ago I expected it. He was doubtless glad to go; his last letters to me, during the last two or three yrs, have indicated that he was tired of life. A good-hearted soul if there ever was one.

The news about Mills summer course sounds good. I hope nothing will prevent Nancy's going. You mention her finances; I am quite agreeable to throwing her on her own, with a monthly allowance, provided you have a little money in hand in case of emergencies etc. I think Nancy is fairly good at handling her own finances and I have always felt she buys clothes sensibly. I am now sending her \$15 per mensem as spending money - have been for a yr.

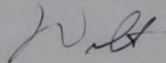
We are sorry to hear that Bets has been laid up. Helen's mother has written, as well as you. Helen's M by the way, is deeply appreciative of all your attentions, as are we. Helen is rather wavering about going up this spring; travel is pretty difficult and it might mean a delay of a month or two in getting back. We may see if we cant get Edith to bring the kids down to Miami and put them on the airplane; they couldnt get off until they reach Teguci as there aint no stop.

I have just rec'd the third solicitation from Who's Who in the Westrn Hemisphere; after having sent in my biographical sketch on the first demand. I guess they dont check up very carefully. I'm using the subsequent solicitations for friends here; if another comes I can take care of Kaiser Wing, our new cook. Quite a boy, Kaiser. Makes more good kinds of soup than are dreamt of in your philosophy.

We dont hear much about Edith's plans and wont. After we get our tribe moved out of Silver Spring maybe we can get down to business. I'll bet a dollar the boys at Garrett Park will tell her this summer, that now she has her M.Sc. she can getva \$1400 job but if she will stay on two ys more and take her \$Ph.D. she she can geta \$2400 job. What will yu bet?

Nice and warm here now; but we have the finest garden at Zamorano you ever saw, and are living high on vegetable salads. A diet which would suit even you - including Wing's peanut soup last night.

Much love to all,



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

22 mayo de 1943

Dear Pablo:

I note yours of Eastef, May 4, and 13 still unanswered; I'll clean them up so there wont be anything on my desk when Helen and I fly to Guatemala next week provided we are not offloaded. Its hard to travel without a priority nowadays; and as far as I have observed I am about the only man who doesnt have one. Hard to take, when all your friends in the govt service come and go al gusto.

We are delighted with the news about Pab's program. He has certainly been well treated by the US. --No I have never actually seen Arbutus canariensis, but now that I know the white buginvillea (as Bailey insists on spelling it) really exists I can take anything. -- Glad to know Dick Bowman swam out of range. That's a good lad and he'll be a credit to the USN. --I hope you encourage John in his horticultural aspirations. I'm hoping I can get Hugh lined up in the same field, when he gets down here. We havent heard anything more from Edith about selling the house; she wrote a couple of weeks ago, but only to say that she needed \$68 to pay the dentist. Nothing about her plans. As I wrote Jim Kempton, I'll bet five bucks the boys at U of Md talk her into staying on next yr for a doctorate. They'll tell her she can get a \$1440 job with an M Sc but it will really be good business to get her doctorate and a \$3600 job. --We arent making definite plans for bringing down the kids until we get back from Guatemala and Costa Rica about the end of June. Unless Edith suddenly writes that she has sold the house and must unload the kids, we'll let them come down in July. Mrs Fairchild has offered to put them on the plane at Miami which will be a big help.

About Nancy: I'll send her sufficient funds to take her to Mills and start her off there; then tell her if she runs short before she has time to communicate with me (which will almost certainly be the case) you will have funds and can fix her up. I'll send you a check before long, which you can deposit to my credit in your pocket. Its going to cost me some money to get Nancy fixed up at Pomona; the others landed down here; and Edith reorganised; and I only hope the bank will see me through.

Enclosed find prospectus of the school; I didnt include the members of the staff, tho I had intended to do so, because several arent definitely signed up yet, and I knew if I didnt have everybody on the list those who come in next month are going to feel hurt. I will publish the list in the prospectus we get out next spring. It is going to bankrupt the school sending out these things, as they must all go by air mail this yr. Helen just came back from the P O and said they wanted Lempiras 14 and centavos 15 only, for one batch we have just mailed.

Encyclopaedia Britannica assigned 8 tropical fruits to me, for re-writing; I have just finished them and mailed them to Chicago. They all had to be done over; the old accounts were too academic and often too British - too many scholarly statements about the introduction of the pomegranate into Rome during the reign of Augustus, and not enough about how pomegranates grow and what they are for botanically.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, D. C., HONDURAS, C. A.

SOLICITUD DE ADMISION

Nombre del solicitante _____

Dirección _____

Edad _____ años. Lugar y fecha de nacimiento _____

Instrucción previa _____

Experiencia Agrícola previa _____

Por la presente solicito ser admitido como alumno de la ESCUELA AGRICOLA PAN-AMERICANA. Solicito, además, una beca completa que incluye instrucción gratuita, alojamiento y alimentación, uniformes, servicio de lavandería, vigilancia médica, libros de texto, herramientas y otros útiles.

En el caso de que esta solicitud sea aceptada, y de que se me admita como alumno, quedo enterado y convengo en que tendré que cumplir con todas las disposiciones y reglamentos de la Escuela y observar en todo momento una conducta que redunde en prestigio de mi propia persona y del buen nombre de la Escuela.

Y convengo, además, en que mi permanencia en el plantel estará sujeta a la voluntad del Director, el cual me podrá despedir en cualquier momento, en cuyo caso me retiraré sin reclamación alguna y entregaré a la Escuela sin demora los uniformes, libros de texto, herramientas, y demás útiles de su propiedad que me hayan sido confiados.

(firma) _____

Esta solicitud debe ser acompañada de dos fotografías del peticionario, del tipo usado en los pasaportes.

También debe ser acompañada de un certificado de salud expedido por un médico titulado — ver el reverso.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

CERTIFICADO DE EXAMEN MEDICO PRELIMINAR

Lugar _____

Fecha _____

Yo, _____, legalmente autorizado para ejercer la profesión de medicina en _____, por el presente certifico que he examinado en el día de hoy a _____ con el resultado siguiente:

Peso _____ Estatura _____

Ojos y vista _____

Oídos y audición _____

Pulmones _____

Corazón _____

Hasta donde pueda, indique si el examinado ha padecido alguna vez de cualesquier de los siguiente:

1. Pérdida de peso _____
2. Hernia _____
3. Diabetes _____
4. Sífilis o blenorragia _____
5. Tuberculosis _____
6. Epilepsia o convulsiones _____

Tiene el examinado deformaciones o defecto alguno? _____

Recomendaciones _____

(firma) _____

Doctor en Medicina

Queda entendido y convenido que éste es un examen preliminar sujeto a cualquiera acción que pudiera requerir el examen definitivo que practicará el médico oficial de la Escuela a la llegada del aspirante a Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Zamorano, 26 July 1943

Dear Pablo:

Yours of the 14th inst. You assume a good deal in assuming that Nancy has kept us fully advised in re affairs at Mills. Nancy still has Holcomb habits of correspondence, so far as we are concerned. I hope she will improve; and maybe a little talk from you before she starts at Pomona would help her to get into the habit of writing me at least once a month. In fairness I must say she has written once from Mills. And as a matter of fact, I don't think it is altogether an inability on her part to write letters; Edith says she has written Silver Spring two or three times each week since her departure. I think it is this: she does not feel very close to us, because she sees us so rarely, and does not find it easy to write. This is something which is not her fault and will be hard to correct for the time being.

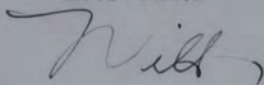
I am glad she is going to stay with you folks between the time she finishes at Mills and enters Pomona. Before the end of Aug I will send you a check for \$500. This should be sufficient to pay the tuition for the first semester or whatever they demand, and start her off. I imagine you can advise her to open a bank account either at Claremont or in your bank at Pasadena, so that she can draw checks as necessary; and I can then send an occasional remittance to keep the account going. What do you say to this? I am sorry you had to advance \$160 at Mills. If you wish, I will send you a check right away to cover this. Pls advise.

Edith writes that she is a bit worried about her own plans; she has three rooms ready to rent but has not rented them yet, and says that she has been toying with two or three prospective jobs but nothing has developed yet. I suppose she will get something soon; I hope so.

We are swamped with work here. I had planned to go to Costa Rica to select students but have had to give up the trip as there are so many things to be done here before we open the school on Sept 1st. We already have 5 students on the ground, who are my guinea pigs. We are trying out uniforms, and seeing how time should be arranged, and all that sort of thing. And we have lots of visitors - ten last Saturday, for example, which keeps me busy in itself. When we tackled this job I had no idea what a tough one it was going to be; but I think in another couple of yrs we will have everything in running order and the next director can sit back in his study and write baccalaureate sermons.

We have just had a letter from Knowles. He has seen the kids several times and seems to have had quite a session with Hugh. On Friday of this week the troupe is scheduled to arrive here; we think we have been busy up to now, but what will it be then? I pause for a reply.

Ever thine



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

10 Aug 1943

Dear Pablo:

Yours of 22 July lately rec'd. Thanks for all you have done to Nancy (as Nicolas Vavilov told his hosts at the Cosmos Club some yrs ago). Before I forget it, I am enclosing a cheque in the amount of \$500 USC, which please use to get Nancy appropriately started at Pomona; and if she doesn't let me know when she needs more, try to make an intelligent estimate yourself and tip me off.

Everything pretty lively here; Not only am I busy lining up 50 studenten who will descend upon us about 1 SEpt, but also, Hugh Marion and Sally have descended upon us, all of which makes quite a difference in our routine as you may imagine; though in all fairness it must be stated that the one who notes the difference most is Keisa Wing, who has been cooking for two adults and can't quite calculate the appetites of these three kids.

They got here right on schedule, which was swell, for I was fearful that they might be held up at Miami and be on the Fairchilds' hands for several days. As it was, they spent two nights and a day there which didn't come too heavy on Daisy Bell. They had to leave most of their baggage behind but it will probably be here this week - there has been no other plane since the one on which they came, 10 days ago. I tell you it looked pretty good to me when they stepped off that plane at Toncontin! They are all in good fettle; Marion growing like a walrus more and more. I thought she was going to be small, but apparently she has her mother's large frame plus some of my height. She weighs 110 already and is as tall as Hugh, who isn't going to be as short as his Uncle Maurice, fortunately. Sal is growing into a mighty bright youngster with some talent (as Edith would say) for drawing. Just about enough, probably to cost me some money for education, but not enough to earn her any.

The kids tell us that Edith closed up the house the day after they left and went to Roanoke to spend the summer. She will come back in time to put her kids in school, look for a job for herself, and look for some roomers. She has bought a new set of mahogany furniture for some of the upstairs rooms, and now has three up there which are furnished and available for genteel young members of the classified service. If she rents these rooms and gets a good job she should be able to make out very well, perhaps even to maintaining the payments on the Ford Sedan which she bought recently, after disposing of the Pontiac.

Mighty glad Karl is out of the woods at last. He has worked long and hard to take care of his parents and get his kids reared. I had a good letter from Herb not long ago. I must try to keep in closer touch with him.

The breakfast bell has gone, as they say in Jamaica, so I must go too, and watch Hugh put down 7 slices of French toast.

Ever thine,

We hope Betty is in good shape again. Helen is pretty
nearly all in; she has been trying to get Dora and organized to
change the 1941 schedule down, run the January, etc. and
Dear Pablo: address the same time being marking and taking

We are beginning to think pretty seriously about getting
off for la Republica Dominicana. Looks like we will get reservations
on Taca to Miami direct, Oct 2, and out of there to Ciudad Trujillo
about the 4 - 5. Two weeks in the republic, then back to Fla, after
which I am afraid they are going to drag me up to Boston for a
few days "conference". I am afraid we shall be away from here a
month at least; which probably means six weeks. We are going to
leave José Membreño et ux in our house with the kids; he is our
accountant here and a very decent sort.

The kids get frequent letters from Edith; news from Silver
Spring has never been so abundant here. She has rented two of the
upstairs rooms to 4 leftenants; one room still to let.

I took the kids fishing Sunday morning: as Sally stepped down
close to the bank I says "Now watch out Sal, dont fall in" to wh
Sal replies "That's what I came down here for". She has the best
sense of humor I have ever seen in a young kid. At 5 mos Dorothy
said she was the brightest of all our children and I guess she was
right. The girls are finding it a trifle dull here, but Hugh is
having a grand time, going on excursions with Prof Valerio's
class in elementary natural sciences; going fishing pms, and riding
the herd with Rivera. A boy's paradise.

Is there any change in Peter's condition?

We had an extremely enthusiastic letter from Nancy, who is
a Pomona convert sure enough. She paid tuppence on it sir - so
I sent her another check for \$200 which ought to take care of
her until next term's bills come in.

We hope Betty is in good shape again. Helen is pretty nearly all in; she has been trying to get Doña Ana organized to change the boys' bed linen in the dorm, run the laundry, etc, and has at the same time been marking and issuing the uniforms.

Much love to all
W. H. S.

The kids get frequent letters from Edith; news from Silver Spring has never been so abundant here. She has rented two of the upstairs rooms to 4 tenants; one room still to let. I took the kids fishing Sunday morning; as Sally stepped down close to the bank I says "Now watch out Sal, don't fall in" to which Sal replies "That's what I came down here for". She has the best sense of humor I have ever seen in a young kid. At 5 mos Dorothy said she was the brightest of all our children and I guess she was right. The girls are finding it a trifle dull here, but Hugh is having a grand time, going on excursions with Tor Alexander's class in elementary natural sciences; going fishing pms, and riding the herd with Rivera. A boy's paradise.

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2 Sept 1943

Dear Pablo et al:

Escuela Agrícola Panamericana officially opened her doors yesterday with 62 students, some 10 more are due to show up and doubtless will do so shortly, their mothers having been gravely ill. We are having a time getting clothes for them, and feeding them, and providing sports, and inculcating the use of the fork, and the fact (fide Sanco Panza) that entre los pequeños vicios de la humanidad, el peor es la mentira. There are not sufficient hours in the day to do all of the necessary things at the moment; and to make it worse, I shall have to go over to Santo Domingo, Antillas, about the end of the month as the Generalissimo has asked Mr Turnbull to send me, for consultation on various and sundry agrl problems. Still worse, I shall probably have to visit Boston before I return here; wh means I shall be gone a month at least. I would like to take Helen along; the Co has invited her to go, but I am not sure we can make arrangements to handle the situation here. Nous allons vois ce que nous allons voir.

Yours of 17 pxmo. ppdo. recd and noted. We are mighty sorry Betty has been laid up, and hope by this time she is okeh as Marion and Sally and Hugh would say. I am glad Nancy seems to be settling into the milieu so satisfactorily. I believe Pomona is exactly the right place - just what the doctor ordered. I am sure she will like it there. We will probably hear from her before long. And I hope you will keep something of an eye on her finances and let me know in time to send her a remittance. Did she open a bankaccount in Claremont or how is she going to handle her affairs? I dont think I have told you that we have recently had in these parts Robt L Pendleton, a graduate of Berkeley who was at Los Baños P.I. for many years with C F Baker; he was with the latter at the end and now has his watch. He spent three days with me at Tegucigalpa some months ago and we talked of Baker in extenso. I was interested to know that during his later yrs Baker ~~had~~ had a Japanese wife at Los Baños (common law) to whom he was deeply attached. Like the rest of us, Pendleton looks upon CFB as one of the great men of his time.

For his birthday last week Hugh had quite a letter from Edith in wh she advised that she has accepted a position to teach science in the Takoma Park Jun Coll, at a very good salary (figures not included) and that everything goes well at SS. If she can now rent out three rooms at prevailing rates I believe she will be on solid ground. I am very glad. I judge her father is doing handsomely in business right now and will perhaps be able to assist in case of need; the kids say the grandparents have been sending war bonds to Chas and Pedro with regularity.

Ruth B Parsons writes that she hasnt heard from you in a long time. Better drop her a line. She wants to come down here as sec'y of the school for \$100 per mensem. I am tempted as it seems impossible to get a good stenographer, male, in these times. She is making \$125 at El Paso and spends \$70 to \$80 for room and board. What do you advise? You have seen her since I have.

Much love from all

910 Cassatt Tower

Walt

and fund.

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON, 5, D. C.

10 October 1943

Dear Pablo,

Congratulations on the approaching
16th.

I have been to Boston and N.Y.
Helen went to Miami from Guatemala
and was waiting here for me, as
we expected to fly to St. Domingo;
but on arrival here all my plans
were changed and it now appears
probable that I shall be sent to
the Andes by S.E.W. to do some
work on Cinchona. As things do
not move very rapidly here I sent
for Helen and she arrived yesterday.
I suspect we shall be here at
least a week - and I'm not certain
as to the next move. We spent
last night at Silver Spring. Edith
seems to be getting along beautifully.

Has 2 rooms rented, one at \$40 and one
at \$50, and - think to rent. She
likes her teaching but it keeps her very
busy. Knowles is staying here at
the Club. The City hasn't changed much -
but meals are expensive, and the BPI
has moved out to Beltsville. I hear
Robert Cook is divorced. And I miss Jim
Kempton. Not very many of our old
crowd are in evidence.

We hope Betty is again in good
health. Helen spent a week with the
Fairchilds and reports them thriving but
without servants.

Ever devotedly

~~John~~

New Orleans, 24 Oct 1943

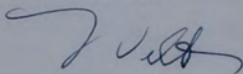
Dear Pablo:

Mr Turnbull and I are here, waiting to hop off tomorrow for Guatemala. Helen is coming down from Washn by train and will go to Honduras by steamer along with 3 other company wives. I will stop in Guatemala for a week or so on Cinchona work, then go to Honduras for a week or so to see how things are progressing at the school, then Mr T and I leave on a two or three month's trip to Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, as official employees of the Office of Economic Warfare. It's a rather tough assignment but if we can help speed up the procurement and production of quinine I don't care. Helen will doubtless keep you informed while I am away. And I shall be on the lookout for people interested in your subjects, as requested in your last.

The day I reached the Cosmos Club, and before I had heard from you, I noticed Ernie Chamberlain's name on the register, introduced by you, and immediately inquired for him, but he had already left and I saw nothing of him. Sorry.

I don't like the idea of being away from the school so much just at this juncture, pero no hay remedio. And travel is not too pleasant these days, because of all the red tape. Tambien no hay remedio.

Much love to all



We spent several nights at Silver Spring, as I have already informed you. And Knowles and I shared a room at the Club for some days. Knowles expects to go back to Calif in a few weeks, but is not certain of his plans.

Bogotá, Día de la Inmaculada Concepción
o sea 8 diciembre de 1943

Dear Pablo:

Here we are, Mr Turnbull y su muy. afmo. y atto. SS, about to depart for southern Colombia, thence, *Deo volente*, overland to Hatún Quito. We have been out in the bush for nine days, and come back with our tummies full of sweated goat (cabro sudado), a dish of which you would scarcely approve nor do I.

It is naturally of great interest to me, to be able to see Cinchona on its native heath at last. If we are able to complete the job and get as far south as Bolivia I will have a pretty comprehensive picture of the whole Cinchona business, what with my experience on the cultural end in Guatemala, etc. All I would then lack would be a visit to Java, which I shall defer until a more propitious moment.

Helen writes that she is having her hands full at the school, trying to help the staff keep the students clothed and fed and washed. I am afraid she is overworking herself.

I have just sent Nancy a check for \$500 which I hope will enable her to carry on for a while. She doesn't like to ask for money, and one of these days may wait until the sock is empty then come to you for immediate assistance. Whenever you see her, check up and tell her she must keep me informed so I can replenish the funds as necessary.

She wrote me a while ago about her plans for next summer. From what she said, I take it the spring term finished early now, and she may have a long summer vacation. I was under the impression that they had speeded things up and were giving three semesters a year now, and that she would be able to go thru in 3 yrs instead of four. If this is possible, I hope she will take advantage of it; if not, ~~then~~ perhaps you can help her plan her summer. She said she would like to get a job, to earn some money toward the following year's expenses, which is allright if the job is the right sort.

On Jan 10 she passes her 18th birthday. I don't know the laws of California, but there is a possibility that after that date she may be able to marry without my consent. I hope she does. I have written her that there are several little items of jewelry that were her mother's, and which are in the lock box at Pasadena; and if she would like to take them over when she becomes 18, she may do so. She is to ask you to show her the things if interested. I do not remember just what I marked for her, but I divided Dorothy's things into three lots and marked them with the names of the 3 girls, the best I could. Maybe it will later be desirable to alter the distribution somewhat, depending on the girls' tastes and interests.

Bogotá is a pleasant place and we are getting quite a taste of it. My only regret is that Helen is not here, for this is one of her favorite spots, the reasons being the prevalence here of emerald jewelry and old silver.

Don't try to reach me down here by mail; I am moving around too fast. Anything you send to me in Helen's care will come through eventually. When we leave here day after tomorrow we will probably be out of touch with mail for nigh onto three weeks. It takes much time, and sweat and tears to get out into the montaña where the Cinchona trees grow. Not to mention the mud. I don't know just why the Creator, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, placed this incalculable boon to mankind so far from the haunts of His creatures. But doubtless He had a

U. S. N. R., and one or two others. Are you
sure they are not out there somewhere?
I seem to recall that I left them
there after Dorothy's death, but you would
say they are not in the strong box.
Could they be elsewhere there? We
thought they might be Antigua but
could not find them there two days
ago. - I am sending Nancy \$500 today
for 2nd semester expenses. Haven't had
a word from her in a long time.
Hugh shot a 160 lb buck with her
22 just before I left. Her getting to
be a crack rifle shot - and her and
3 kids can ride! It's a good life and
I hate to take them away from it.
Maybe they can continue their education
in Guatemala for 2-3 yrs until the
war is over here. - Must go forth
and consume another dozen excellent
breads now.

Ever yrs

Walt

New Orleans, 12 Jan 45

Dear Pablo - I flew up from Guatemala
yesterday p.m. Helen and I had spent 3
days there to go over things at Antigua
and to see about school possibilities for
Hugh, Marvyn and Sally. When the new
school year commences May 1 we are
going to put them in the Lehuson school
in the suburbs of Great City, 3 blocks
from where we used to live. It is plain
but they are good people and a number
of our friends have children there. -
Next week I'll probably be at Lemurray
Lodge near Hammond La, for a long
session with the rifles. Then I'll send
out if I am to go on up to Boston
and Wash DC or no. I'll advise you.
I had several letters from you at
Lemurray wh I have not answered -
I was unable to reach the post few
weeks - I can't figure out what
has become of my diplomas etc -
San Marcos, Chilean and Ecuadorian
medal diplomas, commissioner as Lt.

Ahuacatlan, Jan. 20, 1945.

Dear Wilson:

Your wire from Boston just came over the phone. I am certainly puzzled to know what became of those diplomas. You have the medals, haven't you? I remember distinctly sending them down to you, somewhere, several years ago. I think the diplomas that belonged to them went at the same time, leaving in the box nothing but unimportant diplomas; and I sent the latter on to you a few months ago, when you brought the matter up. I can't imagine where they could be. I believe you laid them away somewhere, so that you'd be able to put your handson them any time you wanted them-- as we all do! You didn't put them in the safe of the Unfruitco at g-a city, or in Boston, did you? They certainly were in the safe dep. box after Dorothy's death, as you say; so were all the medals, and I believe the medals and the diplomas that went with them were sent to you at the same time. I'm not sure about the USNR commission-- that may be there still, since I think you wrote me that you didn't want to have it in C.A. I'll look again next week; but I take it that you still want the USNR commission kept here? Everything else, at least, has been sent to you.

Enc will give you the latest news from Pab, Oliver and Maurice. Oliver is enjoying life, Pab evidently getting pretty much bored, but I presume he will be on the move within a very few weeks. We have heard nothing from Dick Bowman, and others who were along the coast here, for several weeks, so I judge they are on their way.

Homer Brett spent the last week end with us. He is good company-- a well-read and well-balanced man who has, of course, seen a great deal of the world.

Hard and runty Fuertes are selling in the mkts here for 50¢ a lb. I wish we had more of them. The parent tree has never come back into heavy bearing since the big freeze, but may do so yet; meanwhile the 2 buds we took off it are making a grand growth.

Like a lot of others, Parkison has been given notice to move within 60 days, so the landlord can move into the house. His baby is due not much after that. He's very uncertain; only has one student now; he might be laid off at Caltech and have to take a war job for a while.

We surely did enjoy Nancy; I enclose a couple of letters she has sent us since she went back.

What about sending down by boat a box of clothing and etc. for John? Helen mentioned such a possibility but I don't know whether it is also a probability. It will be a bit hard to take down overland a year's supply of clothing for him-- Helen says 12 prs of trousers, for instance. If there is any way of sending down some flets, we'd certainly make use of it. The length of time involved would make no difference.

Wish I could spend a few days with you at the Cosmos Club; it will certainly do me good to see you next summer.

Jan. 20, 1945

Dear Wilson:

After I wrote you this morning, I decided that I had better go down to the bank and make an inventory of the contents of the box, so you would know what was there-- it is a long time since you saw it. Apart from silverware, watches, jewelry, and a few oddments belonging to Dorothy, there are:

Big envelope of documents relative to the house at Antigua-- in Spanish.

Envelope marked "Remembrances of Dorothy",-- contains letters from her to you, her passport, and things of that sort.

pkg of 10 or a doz. photos of Dorothy as a girl-- might be about the time she graduated from college.

2 batches of later pictures of her; 1 of small photos, 1 of cabinet size or thereabouts; as you will probably recall, these are copies that you had made to keep.

Envelope marked "deeds and abstracts of title"; these all refer to Dade county operations.

Envelope marked, "Marriage certificate and misc. doc.s" which includes certificate of stock in Coral Gables, copy of your comm. as lieut. comdr. USNR, letter from Benjamin ^{de} Wheeler designating you as envoy extraordinary, contract with Macmillan for your book, birth certificate of Dorothy, and various odds and ends of no particular importance.

That's the story; everything else has been sent to you at one time or another. I have a vague recollection of something that you said you were going to have put in the Unfratco safe at Boston until you wanted it; but maybe it was not those diplomas. I wish we could find someone who would put you or me under light hypnosis and resurrect the buried memories!

I have none of your important things here at Ahucatlan. I have the ship's clock, wrapped up and put away in the attic, and quite a few old books such as Burton's Travels in the Brazil; and of course there are a few of George Stone's paintings and such-like family heirlooms that belong to you; the only ones I recall offhand are the sailboat on the Dutch canal, and the little water color of yourself sitting in the potato field in front of the Leuenberger estate.--Then there are of course the later, Antigua paintings, that you have on deposit here. I suppose all these things will go to the children as they settle down on their own.--Yours til deth,

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

26 Jan 1945

Dear Pablo - off in the morning
for Miami, Dominican Republic, and
back to Honduras about 15 Feb I hope.
I've had a busy time here since arriving
on Monday. Kneidel came, a great
Treat for me; and for the past 2
days will seem sitting in in the
committee meetings. Two letters have
come from you; thanks for the list
of things still in the string bag. I
can't yet recall where the diplomas
are stored but will probably find
them eventually. About sending a
batch of John's clothes: I don't know
just when I could pick them up as
my route is uncertain. But will
get them down when he comes - it
won't be difficult, and I don't
think he needs as many as 12 coats
anyway: I only have about 6
myself.

Snow on the ground here, very pretty
but cold. I haven't had time to

see all the old friends - many are gone anyway - but I have seen quite a few. I've been making calls on Govt agencies mainly and haven't gotten out into the suburbs very much. It's tiring work and I'm glad to start south, even if I don't be able to get into the living car between here and Miami Fla.

I'm sorry you couldn't be here at this time, for a get. together. Also sorry Nancy had to borrow money from you. I did not know her tuition was due so early. If you can help me off in advance I can get money to her in plenty of time - I don't have any other way of knowing when it's needed.

Much love to all
Will

27 Feb 1945

Dear Pablo:

I got back here from Sto Domingo after a hard trip by plane with 4 connections to make; I missed the first at Camaguey and came shipside the rest of the way. You dont get much sleep on a job like that. And now we are winding up the school yr, and all last week had visitors; so I still havent had time to tackle the big pile of mail which has accumulated during my five week's absence. *Hinc illae lacrimae*.

Yesterday yrs arrived, bringing up the matter of summer plans. We think Nancy ought to come down. She has written - a few days ago we recd the letter - asking if she could come this summer. I can handle the financial end alright.

Our plans on this end are as follows: Helen's mother comes March 10 and we shall go over to Guatemala with her and the children about 25 April, to put the kids in school. I will come back after a week and Heenan will stay over there a couple of weeks longer; and her mother will head homeward from there. Then we shall be here until about July 15 when we expect to leave for Venezuela to attend the Agrl Conference.

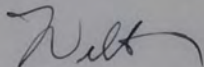
If Nancy wants to come right down after school is out, she could co,e direct to Guatemala about the end of April and join us there; and could go back with you. If she wants to stay up there until you come, so as to come down with you, she could do that. I think it would be better for her to come right from school. We can probably get her a reservation from Los Angeles to Guatemala City by plane, from this end; she will have to get busy on her passport pretty pronto. I'll drop her a line.

As to your plans, you will want to come right thru to Honduras so as to spend your time here first, before we go south; then you can ease over to Guatemala and stay at Antigua the rest of the summer. You will find plenty to do around there and the facilities furnished by Casa Popenoe will save you some money.

You wont want to spend too much time on the way down, because you will need to get here well in advance of our departure for Venezuela so as to have some time with us. Ergo, you may want to fly from Mexico City to Teguci, or from Tapachula. You can figure it out. If time allows, you would probably enjoy the trip overland from Tapachula to Guatemala City. Its rather long and tiring but very interesting.

Go ahead and lipe up Nancy and I'll send her some money at the end of March.

Much love to all,



8 April 1945

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of Pascuas de Resurección came yesterday. The passing of Ernest Braunton takes away just about the last member of the old guard, so far as I am concerned. Interesting to hear that you saw Charley Ballou. He is a good entomologist, and by having little ambition has been able to hang on in Costa Rica and Venezuela when most of the other gringos got dissatisfied and left.

In reply your query, the palms around the campus are - or have commonly been considered to be - *Acrocomia vinifera*, the coyol palm, which you may remember from Costa Rican days when you used to crack the nuts to eat the kernels. But Juvenal Valerio our botanist tells me he thinks our species is really *A. mexicana*. The palm is native here but for some reason a thicker stand developed on this particular piece of ground, after it was taken out of sugar cane some 25 yrs ago, than has developed anywhere else in these parts.

We expect to go into town tomorrow and ask for Nancy's airplane reservation, on or about May first. Just as soon as we get a confirmation we shall advise you and she-all. But this is the important point: she has quite a job ahead of her, getting all her papers in shape. She first has to get her passport, with validation for Guatemala, Honduras, and countries en route; then she will have to get a visa for visiting Guatemala as a tourist; then a transit card permitting her to pass thru Mexico. And only the good Lord can say how many and what kind of photos all this will require. When I left the Rep. Dominicana in Feb the Mex Embassy told me three times that I positively must have 7 fotos, four of them front view and 3 profile; and after arguing the matter I got them, only to find when I went for my transit card that they only took out the full face ones.

But to return to our muttons: if Nancy does not have all her papers in shape in time to take up the reservation we get for her, whatever it may be, she must give notice about two days in advance or we have to pay the fare; and she will lose the reservation and have to come shipside or wait for a new reservation. In this case I would come shipside if they would let me; that is, you go down to the airport every morning an hour before flying time and when they make up the load if they have space for you, they slip you on at the last minute. That's the way I came from Camaguey here, with three changes, in Feb. It is our experience that Panair wont promise you anything, but if you stick around, they'll get you on in about 3 out of 4 cases. If Nancy should be offloaded in Mexico City she should go to the Hotel Plaza and get a room; and eat over at Sanborns or at one of the other restaurants in that neighborhood (you probably know them); and get a look at the points of interest while she is waiting for a plane.

By the way, when you come down we want you to bring the contents of the strong box. We have a good safe here and can just as well store these things as not; and there isnt much left there anyway. The main thing is the silver dinner set wh we will hold here until one of the kids needs it.

Ever yrs

copy to Nancy

April 19 1945

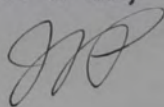
Dear Pablo:

Re yours of the 10th: highly pleased to hear of the arrival of WPP IV. Hope he wont be as hard to wake up in the morning as some other members of the family. -- We have arranged Nancy's trip as per enclosed and all she has to do, now, is to get her passport and visas and claim her ticket at L A. The Panair ofs in Teguci is supposed to have authorised LA to issue the ticket wh has been paid for here, and we have seen confirmation of reservations for May 3 and 4. If Nancy gets offloaded she will simply have to come shipside like the rest of us and in that case your cue is simply to stick right around the airport until they tell you - 15 minutes before some plane or other is going to leave - that they can get you on board. If you get out of easy reach they just dont bother about you. And shouldnt.

About clothing for John: I really dont think I would bother to send down any by petite vitesse or otherwise. We get quite decent blue chambray shirts in Teguci for \$1.75, white ones for \$2.25, and we can get blue denim and khaki trousers made for him in galore. He can wear school shoes as Hugh does, pr \$3.75 only, and he can get linen for nose, socks for his toes, etc. So take my advice and send him down with one decent wool suit for town, etc, and with a suit case full of other trimmings. When I was in the States in Jan I tried to find white shirts for myself, khaki trousers, and shoes, and I discovered that I can do better right here. Helen has the usual woman's idea that you have got to outfit a kid every time he goes off on a trip and for the past month has been outfitting our clan from head to foot, all of which has caused considerable work and great expense; and it is my personal conviction that they could just as well buy things in Guatemalan stores when and as they need them. Speaking of woolen suits, by the way, you can get them made of good woollens in Teguci for about \$45, which is a lot cheaper than similar quality would cost in the States. And Guatemala is the same.

By the way, if Nancy doesnt get off on 3 May as per schedule you might send me a radiogram, via Tropical Radio, addressed to Wilson Popenoe, Antigua Guatemala, saying when she will be coming, and chg to my account. If she comes on schedule dont bother to advise; we will expect her and will arrange to meet her.

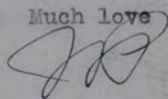
Love to all,



19 April 1945

Nancy darling: Your ticket has been paid for, and you have a reservation from Los Angeles to Mexico D F on 3 May, Mexico DF to Guatemala on 4 May. You should ask for the ticket at Panair in Los Angeles; they are being advised by Panair here. I sent you a radiogram a couple of days ago telling you of the reservation.-- Be sure to get your visas in time and inquire to make certain you have complied with all the formalities - esp. Mexican transit card. You needn't bother about a visa for Honduras or Salvador; we'll get that in Guatemala. All you need is Guatemala, to start. I hope they validate your Am passport for Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras; but if they don't, we can get it fixed up in Guatemala. -- We have suggested Hotel Plaza in Mexico City for your overnight stop unless you have reason to go elsewhere. When you get to Guatemala City, if none of us is on hand to meet you (it is often-times impossible to tell when planes are going to come in, and you might be offloaded somewhere anyway) go on into town with the Panair bus, and if it is during office hours, go straight to office of United Fruit and ask them to get in touch with us. If late in the evening, go to the Palace Hotel, put up for the night, and when United Fruit is open again, ask them to get hold of us and tell us you are there. All this just in case anything slips up. We will try to be on hand at the airport on the 4th, to meet you.

Much love



copy to Uncle Paul ✓

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

TA67

1945 APR 25 PM 12 00

T. NSA157 20 INTL=NS TEGUCIGALPAHOND VIA TROPICAL 25 1130A
PAUL POPENOE=

:2503 NORTH MARENGO PASADENACALIF=

:NECESSARY REQUEST PERMISSION ENTER GUATEMALA FROM CONSUL
SEVERAL DAYS ADVANCE OF DEPARTURE=

:WILSON POPENOE.

*Da 12 pk
Da 12 11 p ju
Da 12 26 p ju*

70319

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Tegucigalpa, 20 May 1945

Dear Pablo:

Helen has just sent over from Antigua yours of the 6th. I came back here a week ago, after depositing the three kids in the Colegio Lehnsen and leaving Helen and her ma at Antigua for the rest of the month. We went into the City the day before I was to fly, and when I was at the Unifruitco office in the afternoon someone handed me a cablegram which I read hastily and stuck in my pocket. It said something about Nancy coming down. After I got out the door I looked at it again and noted that she was to arrive at 2.30 on the 11th; it was then 2.45 on the 11th. I had a date over at the Palace Hotel, went over there, and came right back to Unifruitco and met Nancy coming out of the door, just arrived. It was good to see her. We all stayed that night at the Palace and I flew out in the morning. Helen writes that Nancy likes the old house and is having a good time. We visited the kids the evening before I left; they were delighted to see Nancy of course, and vice versa; and they seemed to be happily settled. Hugh opened up with the remark "We are getting along fine; the grub is good."

It is my understanding that all Western Union offices in USA accept radiograms marked "Via Tropical Radio" (no charge for these words) and send them right. All America Cables is good enough in most cases but they just deliver to addressee in sealed envelop wh may lie until you come back to town; while our folks hunt me up and give me the message right off the bat. Next time you pass Western Union ask if I am correct. Tropical Radio per se doesnt do business in the US.

I still cant figure out what has become of my diplomas. I think I shall ask Ben Morrison to ship to you the small trunk we left at Washn, to wh Edith lost the key. I went to look thru it when up there in Jan but couldnt because of no key, and didnt have time to get a locksmith out. If he ships to you, you can simply have John cut off the lock with a coal chisel (sic) and look thru for the diplomas. If they are there, bring them down with you, if not, dont. Then you can leave the trunk there since it contains mainly things of Nancy's anyhow.

The President has issued a decree naming me to represent Honduras at the III Conferencia Interamericana de Agricultura which convenes at Caracas July 23, so we shall be leaving here before the 20th. You'd better plan to get here well in advance so we can have a good visit before we go. You can then stick around here a while to see John get under way and then go to Guatemala, or you can go right to Guatemala and take over the old house for a month or so. You'll like it there and it wont cost you anything; whereas the hotels in Ga City are now soaking everybody 6 to 8 bucks USCy. per diem.

Let me know about when to expect John. Helen will probably be in Antigua until about June 5. If John comes Via Terrestre to Ga City he might find her there and come over with her; but I assume he wont be coming quite that soon.

Ever thine,

Wilt

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

10 June 1945

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 29 May to hand and contents noted. Probably you are right about budding knives. Anticipating disappointment, we have sent 50 broken hack-saw blades into Fratelli Rosotto, Tegucigalpa, and they will file them down and put some handles on them and we shall have some budding knives for a while. If John gets any, we shall hold them for use of the cognoscenti, including Juanito. The student grind them down so fast they dont last long.

If Ma Shipley unfthawed for a moment, Juanito should be starting out to see the world just about now. Reminds me of the memorable day in 1912 when you and I walked down Santa Anita avenue heading for Baghdad, since when I haint never smoked now chewed nor sworn. I think Juanito can get some good experience here. I trust when he reaches Guatemala City he will put up at the Gran Continental and not the Palace - the latter is now \$6 and \$7 per day, mostly \$7. He wont have any trouble finding the Colegio Lehnsen where he will see Marion who will be quite thrilled. As I wrote you, he should go to Antigua and stay as long as he wants. I am writing Maria per this same post, to look out for him when he shows up at Antigua. The folks at Unifruitco will book him via Panair from Ga City to Teguci if he will call on them. I imagine youll line him up that way.

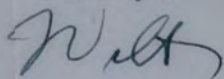
Have you heard anything yet from Ben Morrison re that trunk I asked him to ship you? If it comes, open it and see if you can find therein my missing diplomas. Then let me know, holding them if they are there.

I have written O J Mitchell as per enclosed. Mighty nice of him. You'd better hold the books. No use sending them here as we shall want them at Antigua. We'll find some way to get them down later. I didnt know you were in trouble with the govt, and am glad to hear things have straightened out.

Helen and Nancy are due over here on Wed this week. Mother Barsaloux is probably back in Pasadena by now and has given you all the news. She quite won the hearts of the crowd here at Zamorano. Helen and I are beginning to think of getting off for Caracas on July 20. That will be quite a trip, but wont last long, about two weeks. I understand you have to get permission from Washin direct, now, to go thru Panama.

Mighty busy trying to catch up with back correspondence some more. We got the new school yr started and I am teaching daily two sections of 2nd yr boys. They are a good crowd.

Ever yrs



Taguzgalpa, 24 June 1945

Dear Pablo:

We are expecting Juanito to show up here before long, if he escapes the gumrukji at the Mexican border. They have usually gone through me like a dose (2 ozs. avoir.) of $MgSO_4$. In accordance with yours of 12 June, and with my own best judgment, I think we shall put him up in a neat little cottage we have in the center of the horticultural area, about 400 yds from our house. There are three other small houses close by, all occupied by employees. The house is mighty neat, in fact more complete than our shack at Altadena. It has electric light and a bathroom with shower, inodoro, and wash hand bowl. We plan to select one of the older students who is morally pure as a companion for him, as there are two bedrooms in the house, in addition to a living room and the bath. I believe on the whole he will develop more by living that way than here in our house, and it will put him on a better footing with the studes. If he lives here with us they are always going to be thinking that he is bringing home tales every time he comes into the house. He will eat at the mess with the faculty members (sic) most of whom are Latin Americans. Naturally, he can share our chow whenever he feels like it.

Another reason for not having him stay right in our house is that we go away fairly often and when we do, the cook goes on vacation if she is still here at the time. Helen has been rather opposed to the idea of putting Juanito elsewhere than in our house, on the grounds that you may feel we are shoving him out; but one has to be practical in such matters and I know if I were the one concerned, I would prefer the set-up outlined above.

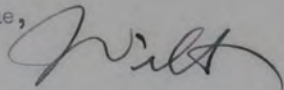
Nancy is having a pleasant time here, and we are now wondering whether to leave her here while we go to Venezuela or send her back on July 15. I got a reservation for her to Mexico City on that date, but could not get one from there to Calif, by air, until July 27. I rather dislike to see her stay in Mexico City, alone, that long; and in case she does go from here on July 15 I think we shall arrange for her to continue by train after about 3 days in the City. But the way things are drifting now I think she may stay on here, under the protecting wing of the Hogabooms.

News from the kids in Guatemala is all to the good. They are enthusiastic over the school and over life in the big city.

About the stuff in the safe deposit box: Leave it there for another year, when you will be coming down. Or we will get it down some other way. It should come with someone who is coming direct; it wont be any cinch to get it by customs in both Mexico and Guatemala. Have you heard anything from Ben Morrison about shipping the trunk to you? I still hope you may find my diplomas in it, tho I am doubtful. It seems to me I took them to Calif. Maybe they wouldnt go in the safe deposit box and I left them with father; but in that case you would probably have run across them. I simply cant recall having brought them down here and we have searched the house for them at Antigua and here. I want them to frame and hang in my office, to impress the cognoscenti.

Sounds as tho Oliver is doing a bit of looting in Germany for his own account.

Ever thine,



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

13 July 1945

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 2 July. We also get plenty of news from you all these days thru the letters John shows us. I am surprised that B Y Morrison hasn't taken any action on that trunk; but I guess he is too busy trying to keep his office from being absorbed by the Office of the Chief or his appropriations transferred to Homer Shantz or W T Swingle for a trip to Africa. In any case, I do not believe those diplomas are in that trunk. My memory is vague about them; maybe they are in Boston. The only reason I haven't thought so is, that when I was there last Jan I asked the office to give me a complete list of papers they had in safe keeping for me, and these were not among them. But maybe they thought I only wanted to know about the securities & that is the list I received. I am writing them to ask if the diplomas are there by any chance. I'll poke up Ben again one of these days and see if we can get him to ship the trunk.

John finds he is one knife short, of the batch you sent; he assumes it went to the Gumrukji, as commission for letting the other nine get by. That's fair and reasonable. Last week we received a shipment from Peter Henderson of 48 swell budding knives, just the kind we want; an order placed about 20 months ago. But the sad part is, that this particular type of knife, which used to sell for \$1.50, is now billed toms at \$5.00 cada uno. Pretty stiff. \$240 for budding knives is quite an item, when you remember that the boys will grind them down to nothing in about three months.

As far as we can see, John is happy here and getting along well in all respects. He is established in his house in the garden with Alvaro Mencia, one of our best 3rd yr students, from Olancho Honduras; a quiet decent boy who was tickled to death at the opportunity to bunk with John and learn more English. John is now working on pruning with Prof. Carlos Rodriguez, a new acquisition to our staff; a Honduran, lately at Texas A&M, who is a good practical school. Carlos specialised in horticulture and seems to know quite a bit. I'll switch John around to various fields of action as occasion warrants. He drops in every afternoon for a chat, and to get his mail, and maybe pick up a half dozen ham sandwiches or a slice from the joint. If that boy doesn't put on some weight here, we are wasting a lot of good grub. He is making a hit here; everyone likes him. He is serious and uncomplaining and in every way a good character. Congratulations to his parents.

Helen and I are getting off on the 20th to Caracas so this will probably be my last for the moment. Yesterday I got back my cutaway, tails and westcuts from the Gran Astreria Anglo-Americana, after having everything let out a bit. The tailor says I saved myself Lemp. 300 by having the outfit overhauled instead of buying new stuff. Jim Kempton writes that we will wear cutaways to Bolivar's tomb on the 24th inst; tails to the reception at the Presidential Palace on the last night of the conference; but the rest of the time it will be simple—just black tie and dinner jacket. Very democratic place, Caracas. I am rubbing up my silk hat.

Hoping you are the same,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

29 August 1945

Dear Pablo et al:

You doubtless think y con sobrada razon, that I have degenerated into a pretty rotten correspondent. Caracas was a pretty heavy job and since getting back here I havent felt up to pounding the typewriter very much. And I assume that John has kept you fairly well informed of doings in these parts anyway.

Last night he brought over your letter reporting the arrival of Nancy. We were glad to hear she got home safely and finally retrieved her baggage. We have a good deal of trouble along these same lines. Had to leave a big suitcase behind in Caracas, for example, containing about \$600 worth of fancy clothes, and it didnt show up for ten days.

John seems to be getting along well I dont have opportunity to give him all the time I would like, due to the pressue of other duties. He spends his mornings at work with the students, from which I think he is picking up a good deal of horticultural knowledge. I have given him several excellent books to read, and if he peruses them assiduously he will get some good theoretical knowledge. I have told him that I think one of the best things he can do while he is down here is to build a good strong body for the future, as it seems to me he is just at the stage when this is possible. To that end he is eating plenty and usually taking a siesta after lunch and getting plenty of physical exercise. I dont think such a program will do harm to any 16 yr old, do you? I hope he makes the best of his opportunity to learn Spanish. If he does, he should come home with an excellent knowledge of the language. He gets along well with the boys and is popular among them. He has picked up particularly with Amado Pelen, who is from Antigua and works here more or less as my secretary; and they go out together on hikes as he doubtless tells you. There is a fine opportunity here to make interesting trips over the countryside and to climb mountains.

We were much interested to hear that Oliver called on the Hughes family. It will make them feel that the Popenoes do not forget them. I have only had one letter from father Hughes in the last 10 yrs but that is normal for him, just as it would have been for CHP, for example. So far as I know, Hugh is the only male descendant up to this time and I would like him to visit the family in England some day if he can. I think likely father Hughes is good for some years yet. They are a hardy race.

We trust you had a big celebration last Sunday. I sent you a radiogram which I addressed to PP to save words but which obviously was for you both from us all. We noted your indication on the invitation, to send no presents, which we construed to mean it was all-right if they were brought, not sent, and we instructed Nancy to bring you one from Mejico wh we trust she did.

Much love to all

Willet

16 Sept 1945

Dear Pablo:

We had a big time here yesterday (see small bills) and I think Juanito enjoyed it as well as anybody, though you would not have approved entirely of the amount of barbecued pig which he put down. We fed 325 at lunch, over under the trees by the dairy. -- We had a letter from Nancy a few days ago, saying she got home all right. ---I have to fly down to Panama for a week, leaving here on the 25th inst. ---Juanito needs more supervision than I am able to give his work, but Mr Heuer, expert propagator from Chapman Field, will join our staff next month and from that time forward John should really have an A-1 opportunity to learn how to grow plants. If he takes full advantage of this he will be fixed for life in that field. He has probably told you all about his present program. He works with the boys in the nursery, vegetable garden, or orchards from 6.30 to about 11; after lunch usually takes a nap and then does what he pleases during the rest of the afternoon - sometimes in the library, sometimes elsewhere. I have asked him if he doesnt want to go in for sports with the boys but he says no; they play soccer, baseball and basketball.

Sin otro particular por el momento,

16 Sept 1945

Dr Paul Popenoe,
2503 N. Marengo Avenue,
Altadena, California.

Dear Pablo:

My colleague and old friend A.L.Bump who is in charge of the Company property on the west coast of Guatemala writes that he wants to grow a few date palms. The climate over there is about as hot as any I know down here, but of course it is not a real date climate. I have seen temperatures slightly above 100 F. at Tiquisate but I suspect the humidity is considerably higher than one would choose for dates.

You and I have been out of the date business for quite a while, but I seem to recall that there were varieties which would mature fairly well at lower temperatures than others; though I don't really expect to see any variety produce first-class dates on the Guatemala west coast. Furthermore, Mr Bump does not want to bring down offshoots. But I wonder if you cannot get some seeds of a variety which is not as exacting as Deglet Nur, for example, and send them to Mr Bump? You doubtless know someone in the Coachella who can supply them.

If you can send Mr Bump a hundred seeds or so, I will appreciate it. And while you are about it, you might as well send us another hundred, so we can grow a few palms here to have in our collection and show the boys when we are discussing date culture in class. I gave them a lecture on this subject just last week.

I'll reimburse you for the air mail expense on both lots. Mr Bump's address is: A.L.Bump, Cia. Agricola de Guatemala, Tiquisate, Guatemala. But perhaps it would be safer to send them to him c/o United Fruit Co., 12 calle oriente num 1, Guatemala City.

Ever yrs,

Taguzgalpa, 5 Oct 1945

Dear Pablo:

Yours of 20 and 23 pxmo ppdo, inter alia. The alia being your numerous letters to Juanito wh he has been good enough to let us read. As the arriba mencionado has probably told you, he is now working with the exmo. sr. prof. Juvenal Valerio R., in the herbarium, mounting plants, an occupation from wh he can derive a good deal of botanical information if he so wills. When our new horticulturist Prof. Heuer gets here from Chapman Field, Fla., probably within 30 days, I intend to put Juanito back in the nursery for a while, as Heuer can teach him a lot wh he can not get from the present incumbent; and tho I have wanted to devote some time to Juanito myself it has so far been pretty difficult.

I went down to Panama for a week, and made a tour with Pres Jimenez and party, the main objective being the graduation ceremonies at the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura. I had an interesting but very sudorific time and was glad to get home again, particularly so since I figured I would now remain unmolested until Xmas; but night before last I got a letter from the American Ambassador in Guatemala asking me to come over and help him prepare a report on the state of the Guatemalan union, so next Tuesday I have to fly over there for a few days; wh of course isnt so bad as it will give me a chance to see all the patojos at Colegio Lehnsen, and perhaps drop in at Antigua for a few hrs.

Allright, send us some seeds of Khadhrawi; that would doubtless be as good as anything, and I dont think anything is going to mature very well in Guatemala or here.

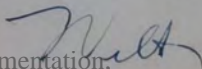
Ben Morrison writes that he is tout a fait desolé because he has not yet shipped the trunk to you, and swears he will do it toute suite. If and when it comes, get, as I told you previously, a coal chisel and cut off the lock, and see if you can find my diplomas in it. If you do, let me know and we will tell you how to get them to us. There is a lot of Nancy's stuff in this trunk so when you have her in Altadena again you might let her see if she wants to take out anything. Jogging your memory, can you recall that you might have sent these documents to John Kelley in NY to be delivered to me when I passed thru there? I doubt it, but the lead is worth considering.

Mother Barsaloux said something, on one of her letters, about Nancy getting a car. I assume Nancy meant simply that she would be able to ride in friends' cars more, now that gas is becoming available. Dont let Nancy buy any cars.

Every time I leave here I realise what an insuperable place Zamorano is for a chap who likes to live in a good climate and eat well. If we could only keep our female servants from becoming gravid every 9 months 15 days! Of course they dont have to go off duty long, but the aftermath, so to speak, is bad; the young children are always getting sick and the servants have to go to Teguci or somewhere - perhaps not always because the children are sick either, but in the interests of more children.

Thanks for the stock market reports. We see we are still making a little money, on paper. We'll lose it soon, but its lots of fun figuring out the profits.

Much love to all, from all



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

24 October 1945

Dear Pablo:

In the rush of events, I failed to send congratulations on your onomástico last week. But maybe you are getting to the stage (as I am) where you dont like to dwell too much upon the passing of the years.

Thanks for sending the copy of John's letter of 10 Oct. I got it this morning; and last evening, before I had it, I was talking with him about sending him back to the field as soon as our new horticulturist Heuer arrives, which should be within a couple of weeks now. Working in the herbarium for a time hasnt done him any harm. I thought it might serve to familiarise him with a few plant relationships and some of our native spp, which it probably has done. But I would not want him to spend the rest of his time on that job - unless he definitely showed a keen interest in systematic botany and was going to follow that line. You write that you hope he wont turn into a systematist; and I dont think there is any danger of that. I cant say as yet, just what may be his ultimate field. I note he speaks of genetics in his letter. This would be alright, I should think. I also note he feels he has mastered the art of plant propagation, which of course is far from being the case; but that's youth. When Heuer comes, I am thinking of putting him at some good hard work for a while; I dont think it would do him any harm. So far he has been able to do just as he pleased, with regard to his daily program; and I think it might do him good to have to buckle down to regular hours and steady work for a while.

I had a good talk with Hugh and Marion and Sally in Guatemala last week. They are getting along well. We look forward to a good long visit with them at Christmas, over at Antigua. Helen and I hope to drive over in the Pick-up, to take a load of plants to San Salvador en route, and then have the car to run around Guatemala a bit. Tires are no longer a serious problem to us and gasoline is getting easier.

It occurs to me that Peter's expense will soon clean up the balance due me on the Altadens property, and that I will have to figure on paying out cash annually. This comes just at the period when I shall have to dig deep into the barrel to finish the education of the kids, as well, but I think I can handle it. I am not sure we will send either Marion or Sally through the regular college course. We will see what interests they have when the time comes. Marion is a good student; Sally bright and quick but not showing much real interest in the musty tomes as yet, as would be expected at her age.

Give me any tips which may occur to you, re steering John into the right lines. He seems quite amenable to suggestions.

Much love to pani huahua,

Wilt

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

Nov. 10, 1945

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Dear Paul and Betty,

Just a hurried note before we go to town. We don't know whether or not Paul is back home yet, but Wilson says he didn't tell him the address in Chicago here I will be.

We would like you to send all the diplomas and documents, the clock, and everything in the strong box. That includes papers, letters, pictures, ~~silver~~, any jewelery and the silver. It also includes Dorothy's diamond ring. Wilson says that it will be all right to send it along with the other stuff as long as it all is well insured.

Address the package to me, care of Miss Helen Parker, 5221 Cornell Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois. And if you can do it right away there will be no chance for it to miss me. We have no idea how long I'll be there - I imagine it won't be for more

Thanks a million - I only wish that I could get out your way to see you all.

Lovingly,

Helen

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

[3 Dec. 1945]

Sunday 2nd

Dear Pablo - Just a note from
the old stand. I left Helen
in N.Y. and came down here
for a two day blunting visit -
I join her on the Piedmont
Ltd. for New Orleans Tuesday
night and we are booked to fly
from N.O. on the 9th. My
stay in Boston was quite
satisfactory and we had a good
time in N.Y. and bought Helen
some ducks. Also ate a lot
of good grub. - Weather pleas-
ant here and the old town
looks like home to me - es-
pecially this evening as it is
Sunday and quiet. I've just
walked from F St to 9th

to remind me of the old Suez.
The Club seems to be pretty
short handed and they no longer
serve meals on Sunday.

I assume Helen wrote you
that she received the things you
sent to Chicago. Thanks. Will
now get my Lago-Sagglers
framed to hang in my office
to Lamouras just like all
other phony doctors.

Hoping you are the same
G. W. H.

Much love to your husband.

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

5 Dec 1945

Dear Pablo - Yours of Sunday
to hand just in time. Helen
and I head for New Orleans
tonight, then on the 9th for
Honduras D.V. I'll see that
Juanito gets his two bucks for
Xmas - he still has plenty of
money in our caja fuerte -
do not seem to have spent
anything since he reached Honduras.

Guess I told you that in
addition to having spent \$1,100,000
on the school already, we
now have a cool million in
our endowment fund, - and are
authorised to spend \$225,000 in
1946.

Though here only 2 days I've
seen lots of old friends and
enjoyed it immensely. Had a

good talk with Johnny Gros here
at the Club last night - the
folks in the National Herbarium
this morning. Every year I find
more of the old crowd missing of
course.

I don't recall L. A. Plumer,
unfortunately. Maybe one of those
who have been to Antigua. There
are many.

I had thought of Dick Bowman
as a possibility for our school.
What do you think? Am not
sure there is enough of a future
in it for him.

Glad to have news of all
the family before we head back,
and especially glad to hear Herb
is getting into his stride. He's
bright and he can do more.

Love to all

Wilt

If anything should happen to me would there be any possibility of getting Peter into some government institution where he would be on a permanent footing? I assume it would be difficult or you would already have made some such arrangement.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

26 Dec 1945

Dear Pablo:

This is to advise that we have survived Christmas once more. And it was a pretty good one too. The kids got here from Guatemala on the 20th, and Christmas eve we all had our presents around the fire, then went up to the Velada Artistica which was staged by the students and which wasnt too hot, but served to pass some of the time between 9 p m and midnight, at wh hour one must be awake in order to eat what you would call a hot tamaly. In the interim between the velada and the tamales we had quite a show of locally-made (tegucigalpa) fireworks, including rockets which exploded in the air and sent our balls of green and red lights. Then yesterday and it Christmas we all had a turkey dinner, and in the vening, since the cook wasnt here, we planned to sup off onion soup but found Hugh and John both needed more so I fried each a big T-bone which they put down with alacrity and apparent ease. They then went out night hunting, with the avowed intention of getting a coyote but came home with nothing. I didnt see anything of John this morning so guess he is still redcovering from the venomous effects of the T-bone.

Helen and I are hoping we can drive all the kids -Hogabooms and ours- over to Guatemala in the Ford Pickup on Jan 4th, but it remains to be seen if the car will run and if I can get away. For the past ten days we have been snowed under. First, as we came thru Guatemala on the way home from the States, J P McEvoy of Readers Digest joined the plane and came out here for two days, with the idea of writing up the school for that mag; then we found awaiting us here a chap from the National Geographic, who spent more than 2 weeks here altogether getting a series of photos for that mag; then we also found here a Mr and Mrs Meeker of N Y doing a book on Latinn America, and they stayed nearly three weeks altogether; everybody being gone from here the day before Xmas. Of course we hope we shall appear as a school, in Readers Digest and Natl Geog. That would be hot stuff.

I guess we have already told you that my medals and they aint many, are all here with us; it was only the diplomas wh were lacking and wh are now being framed to go in my ofs just like a dentist. And I guess I told you to give the stock books of Br Colonial stamps to whichever of your boys needs them most, wh I suppose is David. As for Nancy's things, keep them for her if you dont mind; she should be able to take them over in a couple of yrs or so. And was Aunt Lucy's gold watch among the things I marked for Nancy? It seems to me I had it in the strong box. Grandpa's 7-jewel Elgin wh came down with the rest of the things isnt much good except as a memento.

John is now working with Hon. Heuer the new horticulturist; and I'll see he doesnt get buried among the ~~exsiccateae~~ again.

Animadverting to yrs of 1 Jan 1946, since I got a bonus of one month's pay I think I had best send you \$1000 herewith which you can credit to my account and wh will carry my expenses at that end for the calendar yr 1946 if they remain on the present basis. Have you got all the papers covering the house in proper form -that is, have I signed over all my interests?

Much love from all of us

Boston, Sunday 24 [1946]

Dear Pablo:

Quite a time we're having up here. As I reckon you know, Helen stopped in Chicago to put a lot of her own things and what you were to send, into a trunk she still had there, and ship it down to N.O. She will be in New York in a day or two now, and I expect to get there myself Tuesday noon. I've been having sessions here anent the budget, and more particularly anent a program for investigation the value of little-known foods in C. A. Mr. Zémurray is much enthused over the possibilities of improving the diet down our way and we are probably going to tie up with the lads at M I T, who will do the chemical work here on plant materials which we collect and send up. It looks to me like an interesting proposition.

I always miss the K. M. Bowmans here. But since they left I have always stayed with thw Tom Parbours, which is mighty pleasant and soft - right on the corner of Beacon and Clarendon, where I can walk down to 1 Federal in 15 mins by the slock. I have to appear before the Executive Committee in NY on Wednesday, to tell them why we need \$225,000 next yr; then I want to spend a day out at Farmingdale LI, to see the agrl school; then I plan to go down to Washn for three or four days before Helen and I head back to N O and try to get home. The hardest part up here is getting hotel accomodations, they tell me, so we are going to try to stop where we can put up with friends in the main.

They have given our school another \$500,000 which now makes a cool million in the endowment fund. If good times last a few yrs more we'll be in clover. Also, they tell me we have now spent \$1,100,000 on hhe school, altogether. I never thought I would live

to spend so much money.

I had dinner night before last with the T. Jefferson Coolidges and the Zemurrays; and last night with W K Jackson, one of our vp's, and tonight I am with the Hartley Rowes - my old boss. All was very interesting but I want to get back to Zamorano as soon as I can. Helen has just about talked me into stopping three days at Merida, Yuc. I have never seen the Mayan ruins. Morley is there, and alone, and would take us to the ruins - we saw him as we came thru on the way up. It is rather an unique opportunity; to see Chichen Itza with the man who restored it, and who probably wont be on deck too many years now. If I cant find some white shirts soon, or get some washed (and other appear hopeless) I'll have to go to bed and stay there. I dont think much of the shopping situation in this country. I am trying to get reservations for us to leave New Orleans on Dec 9th; expect to be in Washington, Cosmos Club, about the 1st to the 4th December. Too bad you are not coming back to this coast at this particular time. I trust Hon. John is keeping out of trouble during our absence, and getting plenty of ascorbic acid, niacin and riboflavin.

Wilson

Tegucigalpa, 26 Jan'y 1946

Dear Pablo:

Thanks for the Khadhrawl seeds, which came yesterday. Also rec'd was the deed which we will sign and I will take into the Consulate when I go to town next week, to see if they can do the needful. As for Aunt Lucy's watch, you are following the proper procedure: keep it until someone is coming this way. It is merely a keepsake and as it isn't bulky will not clutter up your strong box too much.

Yesterday we had John over, one day late, for a birthday cake and a discussion of his plans. He had mentioned previously that you suggest a return via Florida and Cuba, and I worked up for him an itinerary, which reminded me of the way FOP used to work them up for anyone who would give him a chance. Here is what I suggest:

On leaving here, let him go by plane to San Salvador, stopping there a day or so to look around. Then go by bus to Guatemala City. Take a tour of the highlands - perhaps going down by train to Retalhuleu and then coming up from the coast by bus to Quezaltenango, and thence through Chichicastenango and the Lake Atitlan Country to Antigua and Guatemala City. About two weeks altogether.

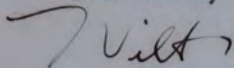
From Guatemala proceed by plane to Merida, Yucatan, stopping two days to look at the Maya ruins which are an impressive sight. Then continue to Habana (the route from Guatemala to Miami is via these two points so you only have to get stopovers) and spend a week looking over the western part of Cuba - down to the Soledad Botanic Garden at Cienfuegos, out to Santiago de las Vegas, Matanzas and a few other places all of which can be reached by bus at reasonable cost.

From Habana continue by Panair to Miami (I don't think the SS service is much good any more; it doesn't go to Key West at all) and spend a couple of weeks seeing the horticulture of S. Florida. Then continue up the peninsula by bus and on to New Orleans by the same means, perhaps stopping at a few places en route. From N O to Calif by the palatial reclining chair cars of the SP or by bus if he prefers.

What do you think of all this, and are you prepared to finance? John thinks \$500 will do the trick and I think it may even be less than this if he doesn't eat too many Cangrejos Moros in Habana.

All well here; we got back from Guatemala after driving the Ford pickup through Salvador at a pretty clip, only to find the mail piled high on my desk and I have not yet been able to dig out from under. Also, I felt that my liver was getting sluggish, since I had not been to England for some years, so asked our Enfermera to fix me up and she sure did; three calomel tablets at eventide followed by 2 ozs of $MgSO_4$ before dawn; the most strenuous situation I have met in many a year. I guess I'll behave from now on. But it sure put the fear of God in my liver.

Ever thine,



Pablo: Presumably there will be more shipping down this way from now on, and we will get steamer mail as in days of yore, wh isnt too slow. Since you have a penchant for making and sending clippings here is a job for you: About once a month, not more often, I would like to see the full report of the N Y Stock Exchange, nec non Curb. In the N Y and I assume also in the L A Times they publish every Sunday a resumé of the week. This would be the ideal thing. And in addition to the Big Board I would like to see the figures on Investment Trusts as I am heavily interested in Mass Investors Trust and State Street ditto. There is usually a separate list of these, four or five inches long, in the same section with the Stock report. See if you can find it and fix me up from time to time. It will be just as interesting as notices to the effect that WPP of Caltech has contributed an important chapetr on fruits to "New Crops for the New World". That book by the way is a pretty bad job. You have doubtless seen it and noted that C M Wilson tells the public that Psidium gñavajava is the kaki (per photo) and that the bacába is a fruit of the deep tropics. Ben Morrison sent Wilson the photos, wh were some I took 20 yrs ago as you dobtless realised; and the bacába, wh is not mentioned at all in my text, is one of the rare Caricas from the very high Andes instead of the deep tropics. The proofreading of the whole book is rotten, but I suppose all the proofreaders were on Okinawa.

10 Mar 1946

Dear Pablo:

Many thanks for your birthday wishes. As far as my wishes are concerned, I wish I didnt have any more birthdays. When you can begin to count the years until retirement age, you dont feel so well.

We have been swamped with work and visitors here for the past mo. But we got thru the graduation business without any major casualties, and tomorrow I head for Panama to act as one of the judges at the Natl Agrl Fair in David; then I go to CR for a few days to pick out students, then Nicaragua ditto; then back here on the 29th D.V. I havent been so tired in yrs as I am right now and I think the trip may do me some good. Nothing orgenically or physiologically wrong, so far as known to the writer. Just senile decay.

Yes, we have a fine trip lined up for Juanito. He thinks of starting out about 1 May and I believe can go far on the cash in hand. I find it costs \$110 to Miami via Habana. That isnt bad. I know he will enjoy the trip immensely. I am now talking about sending Hugh down to Bogota by air next yr and letting him hoof it over the Quindio to Quito, then back by air. Hugh likes the idea.

About Prof Cockerell, as mentioned in yrs of 16 Feb: I dont think the Iowa State project at Antigua is sufficiently advanced to be of much use to him. As far as I know, all they have to date, is some sort of an arrangement with one of the principal hotel operators in Guatemala to get quarters from him. This operator, Mr Carette, is going to build or is building a series of bungalows on a property he owns, some 4 blocks from our house. I believe advanced students from Iowa are coming down to do breeding work on corn, from time to time.

It seems to me the Cockerells might find this an interesting place to work for 3 or 4 mos. Little is known regarding the biology of this region. Maybe it is not a very rich region, but there must be plenty of interesting material in any branch. We are finding it so in botany and mammology right now. I believe we could give the Cockerells an apartment in our staff house for 3 or 4 mos next winter and let them eat at the staff mess, if in return he would make a general survey of economic insects of this region which would be of use to us in connection with teaching and pest control. The climate here is excellent, even better than Antigua. You might sound him out, with the proviso that our end will depend on whether or not we have quarters available next winter - and I rather think we will, if they would be satisfied with something simple. From his extensive knowledge of entomology, the Prof will know whether or not this region would be of interest to him. I am rather anxious to see some basic work done here in all the biological sciences; it will give the school prestige and add to our general knowledge of C A.

No more for today; my desk is stacked high with letters which must be answered before I start for Panama.

Ever yrs

28 April 1946

Dear Pablo et al:

Hon. John sailed for parts unknown via Panair on Thursday last and today should be pacing the streets of Guatemala City. I tried to line him up a bit on what to see in Guatemala, Yucatan and Cuba, but left most of it him, thinking he would probably enjoy it more on that basis. You will be better able to judge, when you see him, just what he has derived from his stay here, Hugh tells me John speaks very good Spanish - I havent had many chances myself to get evidence on the point.

No, I was not instrumental in having the book on yellow fever sent you.

Have you ever taken up with Prof Cockerell the possibility of his spending next winter with us? the more I think of it the more I feel it would be to our advantage, and as aforesaid, we will furnish him board and lodging for self and wife; and if the ships are running at that time I might be able to get them a very low rate from NO to Honduras.

We are wondering if Nancy has yet made any plans for the summer. I hope she will be able to land a job at one of the resorts of something of that sort.

I have been notified that the University of Guatemala has named we Profesor Honorio de Ciencias Naturales and wants to know when I can drop in to receive my diploma. I think the American Ambassador instigated it thru the Minister of Agr; the former asked them to give me an honorary degree, but they dont have any so are making me an honorary prof.

R Dalton Cornell writes that his wife and dau are in Guatemala and the dau may go to the Lehnsen school with our kids. The latter are heading back to Guatemala in a week now.

New students beginning to arrive and old ones returning from vacation. Boy from Nueva Armenia, Hond., wired the other day "Favor avisarme si darán beca. Desesperado". I wired back at 5 p m that he had one and the next day at 2 p m he rode in here on horseback.

Elmer D Merrill will be made a member of our Board of Directors (EAP) to replace the late Tom Barbour. We have a request from the Univ of Miami (Fla) which wants to send members of its staff here for special courses. Very flattering but not very practical I am afraid. S Zemurray writes that will add a Forestry Dept to the school. I was telking Helen thks morning that I think this job is shortly going to become too big for me.

Ever yrs

7 July 1946

Dear Pablo:

Quite a bit of water (14 pies cubicos per segundo) has gone down the Yeguaire since I last wrote you. We have been mighty busy, as the summer crop of visitors is beginning to arrive. Yesterday the Mayor of New Orleans, Hon. Chet Morrison, with a party of 30. Today some 100 señoritas - count them, 100 - are coming out to bailar with our students, ostensibly to celebrate the Glorious Fourth, a national holiday in Honduras. We have been celebrating it since the evening of the 3rd, and this is the 7th - usually system.

We havent heard from our Angel Child since she needed money the last time, but were glad to see the folleto re Fallen Leaf Lodge which you kindly sent. Looks like a pretty place and I hope she gets plenty of tips from the distinguida clientela. I wonder what she plans to do when she graduates next yr? If she has any ideas of conjugating herself she hasnt broached the subject to me. Maybe she will have to get a job until she get fed up to the point where she will accept matrimony as the best channel to a meal ticket.

One of the sons of our sec'y of Embassy here, Mr Faust, told me at the 4th of July cocktail which we attended in Tegucigalpa three nights ago that he met a grand nephew of mine, Charles Popenoe, at Claremont High School this past yr. I suppose this must be one of Egwips? Faust's wife is a Pomona graduate, '27, the only other person I have met here who ever saw Pomona. - I got a note from Osgood Hardy, apologising for not listing me among ex-Tigers who are working in Latin America. I wrote him that I didnt have much of a claim.

We figger you and Betty are meeting John tomorrow Somewhere in Texas. There is lots of room for it. I can imagine Betty's joy at seeing him again. -- Feller from Texas A & M who visited here last week asked me if I am any kin to you; said he heard you lecture and that it was the best talk to wh he ever listened.

I hear from the Cockerells about once a fortnight. They plan to come down in Oct and stay as long as they like it here. I think he can be of much help to us, and that he will probably write numerous notes for Science wh will give us some good publicity.

What's all this business about Mind Digest? The article Herb wrote for it sounds as tho he had got religion - or is it merely a thirst for \$\$\$?

Helen has just phoned that a party of ten from the nearby (74 kms) town of Danli is at the house waiting to be entertained so I must run down and help out. It is the usual thing on Sundays, now that gas and tires are not so much of a problem. Much love to all of you from us both.

Thine,

Wiet

Tagucigalpa, 23 Aug 1946

Dear Pablo:

Enclose statement from Macmillan was sent to me in error. They didnt get yours and mine mixed because I got mine also, but it was only \$44 so I'd rather have yours. I understand my manual is now out of print, but since they credit me with \$40 in this statement, my share on royalty on the Portuguese edition, I gather someone has put the work into bastard Spanish.

We went over to Guatemala for a week and returned last Mon. The kids had one of the bi-monthly vacations wh they get in that happy republic, motivo being the national feria, and spent the week with us at Antigua. I had to work most of the time on a report wh the Ambassador is getting out on guatemaltecan agr, but had time to get acquainted with the kids again and see a few friends. I had expected to be invested with the title of honorary prof in the natl univarsity on this trip but they asked me to come over again about Sept 20 as they want to make the ceremony an incident of the celebration of thw anniversary of the founding of the Univ. So we will go back at that time for a couple of days.

Your note of Aug 4 regarding possibility that Peter's trouble may have been due to German measles. I am afraid I cannot throw much light on the matter. The illness wh she had in either the 4th or 5th month of pregnancy was diagnosed as a toxemia. She was nauseated all the time. There was no mention of influenza or German measles. She got over the attack and when I took her to the medico for an examination in the 8th month, I think it was, he said hae found a case of placentia previa and that it would not be safe to let her go to term. So he induced delivery and afterward told me there were either four or five coils of the umbilical cord around Peter's neck, wh of course may have been of no importance. The man who cared for her was considered to be just about the best in town - he had cared for Daisy Bell, and others of that group. As far as concerns being ill in the first month of pregnancy, I dont recall that she was, at all. I believe she was in good health until she had the attack of toxemia in the 4th or 5th month but of course it is hard now to be sure.

If you see the Bul. of the Pan American Union, look up my article in the July edition English or August Spanish. I'll send you a separate later. Tell John that Vladimiro Castellanos has been offered a fine job with the Co in Santa Marta when he graduates next spring to work on new crops. Father Hughes has written that he wants to come out to America to see Maurice and his family and Gertrude and would like to come down here; but he is having a hard time getting transportation to the States. Jim Kempton has gone north, Dimp also, to see Tini get married - the last of the flock. He is worried that the State Dept is going to cut off some of the jobs like his. - Mr Zemurray told us when here that I may have to go to Colombia for a few weeks before the end of the yr to assist the new president in formulating his agrl program. If it pans out Helen will go along. She ranks Bogotá next to Madrid.

Love to all

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

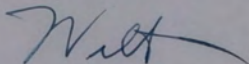
28 August 1946

Dear Pablo:

I have just awakened to a realization of the fact that college will soon be opening and that Nancy will need money to pay her bills. I do not know just where to reach her so I am sending a check herewith in the amount of \$500, which please turn over to her before she has to ask you for a loan.

I wrote you a few days ago so there isnt much new to report. Hugh is celebrating his 17th onomástico today, over in Guatemala City. They grow up pretty fast, dont they? Too bad John isnt going to be here on the 22nd Sept for the big rodéo, barbecue and baile which we are going to attend to celebrate Central American Independence. The boys really pull off a good rodeo.

Ever yrs



12 Oct 1946

Dear Pablo:

Since this, the 2nd anniversary of the Inauguration of EAP, is being celebrated all over Latin America and the USA, we have a holiday here and I time to write, which I havent done in quite some time, so far as you are concerned. Your letter of the 5th came a few days ago - from Salt Lake City I assume from the letterhead, a dangerous assumption as you still seem to mooch stationery wherever you go and carry it to other places with you.

Business first; about visitors at Antigua, I am sorry I have not told you that we had to break down. We tried to close the place to all except those with a card from us, but everybody began to bribe Maria to get in, and we thought we might as well have the whole thing open and above board, so now almost anybody can get in, either with a note from UFCo in the City, or one from us, or by paying Maria 25 ¢ - or something of that sort. I would suggest you give notes to Maria to any friends of yours who ask for them. It looks more and more as tho we shall have to move out of the big house eventually and take refuge in the new one we have built on the lot which opens onto the other street. When we were in Antigua last month we didnt have a moment's peace; people come at all hours of the day, demand to see me, saying they once knew friends of mine in Topeka, or heard you lecture at Gunnison, Colo., or something of that sort. After they read Adamic they know the family history and can build on it. It's a pretty tough propn, now that travel has opened up again and Antigua is on the way to becoming a second Taxco. Several "artists" are buying houses and opening "studios"; one crowd whom we have met, the gal, Mrs Rasmussen, is the daughter of one of the Taylors who used to live at the corner of Santa Rosa and Calaveras, right across from the Allens.

I went over to Guatemala again on the 20th ultimo and sat on the platform while they mademe an Honorary Professor in the University of Guatemala - College of Natural Sciences and (mostly) Pharmacy; afterward went to a big luncheon party with students and faculty and I should think from now on I may get MgSO₄ at cut rates. This coming week Helen and I are going over to Antigua, where on the 19th they are going to have a public ceremony in the Teatro Diaz in honor of my contributions to the welfare of Antigua; they have talked about giving me a medal but I will settle for another diploma to put on the wall of my office here. And at the same time, Carter Barrett writes that the Calif Avocado Society is going to deliver per and pro Pres G. iswold of the Soc, who is coming to Guatemala on a pleasure trip. the Aztec Honor Emblem which they have been withholding until I came to Calif but have now given up in despair ☹ and just as I am about to arrive, to see Nancy graduate) and are sending down to me. After all this, I hope things will quiet down and I can stick to the job for a while.

Thanks for the news of Nancy; we havent hear anything of her, except one letter from her early in the summer; but mother Barsaloux has written that she has talked with her, and that N is now planning to stay on at Pomona for post-grad work. Just like the rest of them. I dont really feel that I should finance any more education for Nancy, in view of the fact that 3 others are yet to be eddicated. What do you say? If Nancy was training for a job of some sort it might be different but I dont figger she is.

I was interested in reading the article by Herb (?0 in

Westways. Either Herb has gone native on us or else he didnt write it. I have just come into print again, this time in American Druggist, with an article wh^{ch} they entitled "Quinina de las Americas? Si, Señor" Getting right down to Herb's level. I wrote the article for the Middle American Information Bureau, which as you know is UFCo, and they ran it in print before making separates to distribute; and I figger they rooked me out of about \$150 as the article is a good one, if I do say it as sho^{ld}nt. I dont suppose you folks saw the write up of the scho^l in Inter-America or the one in Woman's Day, but you know enough about the school already.

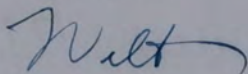
Our kids are all happy in Guatemala. I had a good visit with them when I went over last month and we will have them at Antigua for the week end a week from today. After the ceremony we are goigg to throw an open house for the distinguidos ciudadanos at which I suspect we will have quite a crowd. I failed to mention that when I went to get my diploma as Hon Prof I had to wear cutaway and striped trou and silk hat and when I got thru I put everything on Hugh and the outfit looks better on him than on me and fits better so I guess I wont have it much longer. Hggh is growing up rapidly and looking forward to being with Uncle K^{owles} next yr. I sold my Atlas Corp stock at a profit of 100% over cost and think I will put the money into govt bonds which Hugh can cash as he needs them at Davis. He will have about \$5000 worth which ought to carry him thru, with what he intends to earn up there.

You doubtless recd one of the enclosed; I dont have the address of the sender nor do I remember exactly who she is, except that I think she must be the P^{ence} you turned up, who says orange crush or something like that. Send me the address so I can drop her a note.

I'll try not to be so long in writing again. I sort of got out of step when you went on that tour for the summer.

I am accumulating photos of all the notables in trop Am agr and relations in my office here at the school. Just got one from Leo S Rowe; also have Henry Wallace and L H Bailey and P H Rolfs and Tom Barbour and Eimer D Merrill and D Fairchild and Simon Bolivar and Tiburcio Carias Andino. I've asked K^{owles} for one, wh no doubt I'll get in time.

Ever thine



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

28 Oct 1946

Dear Pablo:

Mebbe my last chance to write you before we hop off for the Athens of Latin America (wh the same, to the incognoscenti, is Bogotá) on the 5th November. We expect to be in Colombia 2 or 3 weeks, then stop a week in Costa Rica on the way home, so we probably wont get back here until early in Dec. All of which will give the staff time to find out how much better things go when I am not on the campus.

Yours of 20 Oct arrived in due course. On that day I (father, we) sat thru two hours of orations by high school students at Antigua, mostly concerned with the need for a Central American Union; then the Alcalde Mayor called me up on the platform and pinned a gold medal on my chest and I tried to make a few remarks, after which we all went back to the Casa del Oidor. The next day we gave a big party at our house, about 125 being present, and Maria and the girls poured four demijohns of Bacardi into 8 dozen bottles of Coca Cola to the evident satisfaction of those present.

On arrival at Guatemala City we found the Pres of the Calif Avocado Soc and a distinguished member of same awaiting us; and after spending a few days at Antigua they came over here with us and I took them up on top of Uyuca to see wild avocado trees which thrilled them greatly; then in the p m we made all of the students turn out while we had a ceremony in Zemurray Hall and they bestowed on me the Aztec Honor Emblem, a nice little gold affair with the Ahuacatlan hieroglyph on a green enamel background representing the Fuerte avocado. Guess I'll have to wear it around my neck on a fine gold chain as I dont have a watch chain.

All of which has left Helen and el infrascrito rather tired out, but we'll recover in time to leave for Bogotá on schedule.

Your note re Nancy's interest in taking PG work at Berkeley is interesting, but unless she has something definite in mind - something more than the wider and broadening experience of going to a University, I think I had better divert the funds to Hugh and the remaining three. Agreed?

Speaking of funds for EAP, S Zemurray has just written that the Hon. Board has voted another half million for our endowment fund, wh now totals \$1,500,000. Principal importance of this, to me, is that it shows they must be satisfied with operations so far.

The article in Inter-American to wh you refer wasnt by me, but by a couple of writers who passed a couple of weeks here last year, Oden and Olivia Meeker. There was recently an article in "Woman's Day" on this school by Louis Adamic. And another in "Hoy" of Mexico City". So we are getting plenty of publicity. I am now working on an article for "Agr in the Americas", official organ of the Office of Foreign Agrl Relations of USDA.

So Oliver is going to Washn for a time! I think he will enjoy it, though the old home aint what it used to be, when you and I roomed with Ma Stoner on R I Ave. I note the AAAS has recently bought a home wh must be very near Similia Similibus Curantur, the Hahnemann statue. I suppose as one grows old he surrounds those old landmarks with a halo of emotion, but I still look back on our early days in Washn as just about the best of my life and am glad we had them.

DF writes that he is getting out a new book "The World Grows in My Garden". He says it is not as good as "The World Was my Garden) which I fear may be the case. DF is constantly suggesting to me that I bring so-and-so down here (at our expense, of course) because he would be a big help to us.

I forgot to tell you in my last that the Cockerells arrived about 1 October and have a nice little apartment and are eating at our mess hall. Both of them are pretty feeble, physically, but not mentally. I believe the Prof will do us some good, by naming all our insect pests. He has several students collecting for him all the time, as he cant get out and do any collecting himself. He is one of the old school, one of the last I shall know, in all probability. I only hope they will both hold out through the six months they plan to stay here. He is pushing 81, I note from Who's Who. Paul Standley is coming down next month to make his Hdgrs here for 6 or 8 mos while he collects plants in Honduras, Salvador and Nicaragua. This place is bedoming a center of scientific work, and will I hope remain so; because we are in a new and untouched field and it is possible to live and work here under fairly comfortable conditions. We didnt contemplate this when we started the place but I like it. I, incidentally, I have asked for \$25,000 of new money, to build an appropriate edifice to house our herbarium, the biological collections, and a research library, which we are hoping to build up. If we get this money we will have a real research center.

Hugh is looking forward keenly to his move to Davis next year. All three of the kids are well and happy in Guatemala, and all three talking about coming back to C A when they finish their education. Vamos a ver y veremos.

Thanks for address of Mrs B J Smith. I'd better drop her a line anent the arrival of the adopted child. Doesnt look as though we would be in Washn this winter; since Mr Zemurray came down here in June I dont suppose they will call me North for the usual talk at the beginning of the year - he plans to come back in January anyway. Helen and I are planning hopefully that we can come to Calif in early June to see Nancy graduate, then go East for a couple of weeks. It is some years - 12 to be exact - since I visited Calif.

Our love to all of you

Wilson

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

19 Dec 1946

Dear Pablo et al:

Just a Christmas note to tell you we shall think of you on that day, and trust you are all enjoying the turkey and trimmings as we expect to do here. Hugh and Marion and Sally are coming over on the Sunday plane, 22nd, and will stay here for two weeks. Hugh will go down to Lake Yojoa with Mr Hogaboom and Dr Carr between Xmas and New Years to do a little serious hunting. Sal will work over the horseflesh here on the farm and Marion will probably spend her time reading up on evolution. All this synthesizes the interests of the three.

We are unconscionably busy here as usual. I never seem to catch up with my correspondence and have just about accepted the idea as something chronic. We are now beginning to look forward to our next graduation, which will be on 4 March; there isn't too much time to get ready for it. Helen has to color the Maya gods on the diplomas and I have to plan the ceremonies and so on. In the meantime, we must get up the annual report of EAP and I must work on a lengthy paper on "Agriculture in Honduras" for the Panam Union.

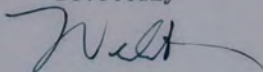
Tell John to give us his address at Davis - or you do it. I might be able to send him an occasional bit of horticultural information. I would also be interested to know, if you have figures on which to base an estimate, about what it is costing John per yr, all in. Kowles wrote me that the basic expense is about \$800 if you don't have to pay tuition; says Hugh will have to pay it the first yr but after that will be a Californiac and not have to do so.

We went into town night before last to dinner at the Secy's of the Amembassy - J B Faust, one of our best friends here. His wife is a Pomona graduate, the only one in Honduras, and her parents have come down from LA for the holidays. The old man, Mr Shaw, has been a judge of the appellate court for many yrs and still is; the talk of Calif (where they have lived since the 1880s) quite made me homesick; they used to live at 2nd and Spring, but that was some yrs ago.

I hope we are going to be able to come up for Nancy's graduation; what will the date be? We have asked her but not likely to get word in time to make plans. The Holcomb blood seems dominant in that quarter. Good thing she has to have money occasionally. But I am pleased at what she writes about her life and interests.

Happy New Year to all of you from all of us.

Devotedly



Tegucigalpa, 8th Feb 1947

Dear Pablo:

Looks I havent written you very often of late. Probably that's the case. We have been fairly swamped with visitors and it will continue into March, apparently. Last week we had three groups here: one day, 14 coffee growers in convention assembled; one day, 20 folks from San Salvador who were over in Honduras to worship the Virgin of Suyapa; and one day, a good will mission from Argentina, touring C A, composed of 23 persons, and accompanied by somewhat more than 75 people from Teguci. It has kept us mighty busy. We had ex-senator Robert M LaFollette and wife here, also ex-senator Clark of Idaho and wife, and Thomas D Corcoran and wife of Washn (he was a member of the brain trust, as you will recall) and many other notables, as well as citizens in carriages, etc.

I had another letter from Helen Rosen Morrison, with more news of the Topeka relatives. The more I think about it, the more I want to visit Topeka once more before I cash in my checks. If we come up to Calif this summer I believe we will try to come back thru Topeka and New Orleans. Our idea now is to fly direct to L A, as I think I have told you. And I dont believe we shall try to go way East this time. I would like to have a good look at Calif once more.

The kids will be home from school again in three weeks now. Also, we have just been getting the annual round of Diplomas fixed up for our grads here; 39 or 40 in all. We shall have a big ceremony on 1 March, with speeches by distinguished visitors, a barbecue lunch for the assembled guests, and a Calle in the afternoon - dance in your language. It is gratifying to feel that the school is a going concern and we are getting used to the annual commencement. I would like to see at least 5 of them before they put me on the shelf. I believe it is going to be the greatest satisfaction of my rather unsatisfactory career - having been able to develop this school and see it through the diaper stage. A guy in Colombia has recently been airing his views in the press about education, with ours as his theme; he thinks the techniques used in North America not adaptable to Latin America and so on. As a matter of fact, we dont have any techniques except labor omnia vincit.

I hope you and pani huahua can come down here while we are still on the job. I dont see why you shouldnt. Father Hughes, who is now with Maurice in Phila, is due to arrive in March to spend a month or so. I am glad to have the kids know their only surviving grandparent.

I return Hon Penning's letter. Those fellows out in Arabia have stuck it out admirably. I wish you and I could go out there again but we cant. I am planning to send Hugh on a long trip, perhaps around the world, after he gets thru college. I dont know of anything which has given me more permanent satisfaction during the past 35 yrs than the trip you and I made. Every young man ought 2 have one. Hugh writes this week that he wants to fly up to Flores in Petén, north Guatemala, before he comes home, and then walk back to Coban and come down to the coast and thence to bed. Pretty good idea. He apparently has the Popence wanderlust.

Thanks for numerous small bills recd, including announcement of Sidney Barton's proximate conjugation. Makes me feel old.

Wilson

6 Mar 1947

Dear Pablo:

We have been pretty busy here for the past fortnight; the graduation is quite an affair and I still don't feel easy about presiding on a platform. Dr Elmer D Merrill now of the Arnold Arboretum and one of the Directors of the school was here for a week and made a speech. Yesterday we said goodbye to the wives of two cousins of Tom Cabot, a director of UFCo, who had been here for three days. And now before anyone else can arrive, Helen and I are hitting out for Olancho, two days by car over a bad road, to see something more of Honduras. The Director of Agr is going with us, to lend lustre to the trip. The two girls are here, Marion and Sal, but Hugh stayed on in Guatemala for a couple of weeks to take a walking trip thru the Cuchumatanes. He is following closely in the footsteps of his uncle and pa. Father Hughes will be here in a week or so, to spend about 6 weeks. I hope Pab still has his shares of Unifruitco. I hear rumors that the company is going uncommon well at present; if he bot ten shares at 15 and now has 30 at 50 he hasn't done too badly, apart from dividends. We are still planning to come up in June. Knowles writes that we should come to Davis first and maybe he can drive us down to So Cal for commencement at Pomona; says he will be mighty busy after that date. Vamos a ver.

Walt

Taguzgalpa, 16 March 1947

Dear Pablo:

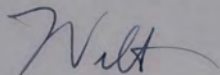
Thanks for your birthday letter. I only have ten yrs to go, before I can resign on a pension which will permit me not only to live in luxury at Antigua, but also to pose as a patron of the arts and sciences, and to support the widows and orphans.

We have heard from Nancy, and from Knowles; the latter says he will be busy after June 16 and wants us to come earlier, so if we come, we may get up there around the 5th, stop a day or two in order to see you before you leave town - as you threaten to do in a recent letter - and then go up to Davis for a couple of days with Knowles, coming back for graduation on the 16th and then a week or so in the Southland. I really don't like to tackle the trip very well; I have done about enough travelling, it seems to me. I feel so especially right now; we have just returned from a week in the Dept of Olancho, to reach which we travelled over some of the worst roads I have ever tried to negotiate in a Ford Pick-Up or other vehicle whatsoever. It was interesting and all that, but --

Hugh is galavanting over the Cuchumatanes mts in northwestern Guatemalan for a couple of weeks; hasn't come home yet since school ended Feb 28. He went to Coban first, for a week. This will be his last chance to see Guatemala so he is making the most of it.

Busy here receiving new students; and about 2/3 of the faculty are away on vacations, other 1/3 going soon, it seems to me. I'll be up to my ears as usual.

Hoping you are the same,



16 March 1947

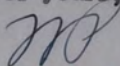
Dr Paul Popenoe,
2503 N Marengo Avenue,
Altadena, California.

Dear Pablo:

Professor Jaime Villegas, who shares with me the job of teaching our classes in tropical agriculture and horticulture, is leaving this week for the States, his main object being to visit interesting areas in California. I am giving him letters to Bob Hagson and Knowles Ryerson, and am also telling him to be sure to look you up, as you can help him get in touch with interesting sights. He ought to go to Riverside of course, and if there is a good agricultural high school in So Calif I want him to see it. If I recall correctly, Chaffee Union was famous in my day, but I don't know the present situation.

Jaime and I have been close friends for many years - I knew him in Colombia long before he joined us, and he has been with us almost since the start. I will therefore appreciate it greatly if you will help him line up his tour of your part of the State. Put him in touch with Ralph Cornell if you think it worth while. I have not heard of Shamel lately but the last news was not good, hence I doubt that he will be able to do much for Jaime, but I would like to have the two meet if Shamel's health will permit.

Ever yours,



Jaime should be showing up at Altadena about 1st week in April. Don't go to too much trouble but lead him on to the right leads.

PP to note

3 March 1947

Stoeger Arms Corporation,
507 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N Y

Gentlemen:

Please refer to your letter to me of 18 February, in re restocking my L C Smith Field Grade E, 12 gauge shotgun. This gun is being taken up to the States by Dr Archie F Caff of our staff, who will see that it gets into your hands.

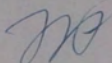
You advise that the cost of restocking, including finishing, will be \$19.45. I enclose my check for \$25, which will cover this and express charges as below.

Please ship the gun by express to

Dr Paul Popence
2503 North Marengo Avenue
Altadena, California.

I assume you can make the repairs and ship the gun within a month's time. I will pick it up when I visit California about June 1st.

Sincerely,



Wilson Popence

cc Dr A F Carr

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

16 March 1947

Dr Paul Popenoe,
2503 N Marengo Avenue,
Altadena, California.

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Ever yours,

Walt

29 April 1947

Dear Pablo:

After hearing from K^{owles}, we have made up the enclosed tentative curriculum. What do you think of it? We shall not ask for the airplane reservations for ten days or so - at least the ones coming back - so there is time for you to tell us if we have missed something. We have to go to Davis first, as K^{owles} will be too busy after Commencement at Pomona. We want to see Davis, since Hugh is going there, of course. If we have planned too much time in Topeka we can cut it down a day; in any event I don't know the time required by the indicated train travel and it may be too short.

Helen leaves day after tomorrow for Guatemala City overland with Father Hughes and the two girls, to be gone about ten days. The girls aren't keen about going back to boarding school; I guess girls rarely are. Hugh has shot two deer in the last ten days and feels his bird seed. He is spending all his time now, trying to make buckskin out of the hides from which he can have a buckskin shirt to wear at Davis.

I have never thanked you for Popineau and the Topapahous, which I have enjoyed greatly. A nice job.

I have promised to speak at Pomona on Alumni Day, June 14, so we will have to get down to L A on the night of the 12th to give me time to get properly scared before the speech. On the way up, we thought you folks and Mrs Barsaloux might be able to meet us at the airport, go into L A with us, have supper at exp of EAP, and then we would take the daylight train to San Fran; unless you think it better for us to come/go north that same evening on the Owl. I am a trifle rusty on travel in California. 13 yrs.

Much love to all of you

Leave Tegucigalpa Flight 502 PAA Tuesday June 3 11.05 a.m. Arrive Mexico City 6.45 p.m.

Look over work of Rockefeller Foundation in agriculture, in accordance with promise made to Dr H M Miller.

Leave Mexico City Flight 584, PAA, Saturday June 7 8 a.m., arrive Los Angeles 1.45 p.m.

Leave Los Angeles by train Sunday morning for San Francisco, arriving that evening, June 8.

Spend one day at Davis, one day with Jim Leeson at Berkeley, and one day in San Francisco.

Leave San Francisco by train Thursday morning June 12, arriving Los Angeles that evening.

June 12 to 26 in southern California.

Leave for Santa Fé N.M., June 27, arriving June 28. Spend one day with the Morleys.

Leave Santa Fé June 29, arriving Topeka June 30.

Spend three days in Topeka.

Leave Topeka July 3 for New Orleans, arriving July 4.

Leave New Orleans Flight 701 PAA, Tuesday July 6, 11.30 p.m., arriving Guatemala City July 7, 5.30 a.m.

Spend two days in Guatemala

Leave Guatemala City Flight 501, July 9, 7.00 a.m., arriving Tegucigalpa at 9.15 a.m.

Tegucigalpa, 5 May 1947

Dear Pablo:

Yours of 27th pxmo ppdo recd and contents noted. I think I sent you a copy of our tentative schedule; I am today asking for airplane reservations and will let you know when we get them. If they are as requested, we shall arrive at Los Angeles Sat afternoon June 7 and had planned to go up to Frisco by daylight on Sunday, but if you and Pani Huahua want us to be there Sunday to meet a few of the brethren we can go up that night on the Owl or something and still be in Davis on schedule. So go ahead and make any plans you want; after we get to L A we will be in your hands and I have no doubt Helen and her ma would be glad to take part in your "informal open house" and you could get us a nice upper berth on the Owl by asking for it well ahead, I spose. Jaime Villegas returned last night from Calif with pleasant memories and \$900 short in the exchequer. Hon. Carter Barrett showed him all the interesting sights around Whittier. I think I told you that I am booked to talk on Alumni Day at Claremont, June 14th, in the p.m. Dont know what I will say but have been requested to talk on "the culture, economy and politics of Central America". That leaves it wide open, but I shall not have time to cover more than the first two subjects. I have a letter from Herb, and we shall be happy to assist at Joan's nuptials. Herb will soon be a grandpa. Helen is over in Guatemala, and presumably put Father Hughes on the train today, as he is booked to sail from Barrios to Baltimore tonight, SS Toltec. All quiet here at EAP. Hoping you are the same,

y con un abrazo caluroso,

1947

Tegucigalpa, Sunday 10 May

Dear Pablo:

Yours of Sunday noon - I reckon last Sunday noon, a week ago today - has come. Yesterday when I was in town I checked up on our reservations and found them in order, como sigue: We leave here on flight 502, at 11 light face figures, 3 June and get to Mexico City that evening, barring acts of God and the King's enemies. We stay there three days, then leave Saturday morning the 7th on flight 584 to Los Angeles directo, salvo en caso de force majeure.

Now as to later arrangements: I have already written that we are agreeable to your having the brethren in Sunday afternoon the 8th, if you think it really necessary; we dont like to have you go to so much trouble, as a matter of fact. But we leave it up to you.

Then as to going on to Davis: you mention flying up, which hadnt occurred to me. If there is a direct flight from LA to Sacto that might be the ideal way to go. If we go by train we shall have to get out to Sacto or Davis on Monday some way or other, and that will consume a bit of time. I wish you would contact Knowles, as you folks like to say, and make arrangements as seem best. We will not want to stay too long with Knowles as he will be very busy just at this time; probably Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, then go down to Boikly Tuesday afternoon and put up for the night with Jim McCron, whom I dont believe you know. He was a leg man for Henry Wallace in the old days when Henry was doing agriculture more than politics, and was down here in connection with the work of Nelson Rockefeller's office. We like him very much and he is a friend of Knowles. Wednesday about noon we might move over to Frisco, after taking a lookat the Berkeley campus and spend the night there; I understand Dr K M Bowman MD wont be in town and we shall miss seeing them which we both regret. We would probably do best to come back south on Thursday's coast line daylight train, so as not to cut things too fine; as I have to be in Claremont on Saturday the 14th as you know. We could rest up at Altadena a little bit on Friday and you could tell me what to say to the brethren on Saturday, as I am not going to attempt a written speech for several reasons, the main one being that they are always dull.

We trust you can bring mother Barsaloux over to meet us at the airport if there is room in your car; if not, we can drop by to see her as we come over to Altadena from the airport. We have just had a letter from Nancy who seems enthusiastic over the commencement business. I have no doubt she can arrange to be in Pasadena on Sunday the 8th. Naturally we are anxious to see her as soon as possible.

Well, it seems as tho we are really about to visit California. I have just written the Plaza Hotel in Mexico DF for reservations there. I must stop there to look over the work the Rockefeller Foundation is doing in agrl research. Helen is leaving Antigua this morning in the Ford pickup with Tom Dunn our business mgr and his wife who runs everything else here - infirmary, mess hall etc.

Hoping to see you soon,

Walt

Tegucigalpa, 14 May 1947

Dear Pablo:

Yours of the 10th just recd. I also have one from Knowles, dated the 9th, re our plans; so I am going to send him a copy of this and make one letter serve for both.

As I wrote you some days ago, we are entirely agreeable to the reunion at Altadena on Sunday, June 8th; and like very much the idea of flying direct to Sacramento Monday morning the 9th, getting there at 9.48 a.m. So if this arrival will suit Knowles I suggest you go ahead and get reservations or tickets for us. Knowles says he can drive us down to LeCron's place at Berkeley Monday eve or Tuesday morning, which will be fine.

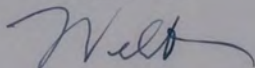
We will then go down on one of the Daylight trains to LA on Thursday. In re your query as to whether or not I want to take on a talk before the agrl dept of the LA Chamber of Commerce on Friday the 13th, I would greatly prefer not to tackle it unless you and Knowles think it is something I really should do. I will have to make a talk next day at Pomona wh wont be an easy one, and then Monday is Commencement, wh wont be easy either.

After Commencement I dont mind 2 or 3 lecture engagements if necessary; I already have one with the Avocado Society at its annual meeting on June 21 - wh I note is the day Herb's daughter is to be married. I hope I can take in both; but if I cant, I will necessarily have to stick by the avocado boys as I have not been with them for 13 yrs and they are counting on my presence.

Knowles suggests that I may want to go to San Diego with Bob Hodgson for one or two meetings of the Pacific Coast sec of the Am Soc for Hort Sci, week of June 16th, after commencement. This sounds attractive and we will see what can be done. Looks like we are in for a lively time in So Calif, all told.

Guess that's all for today. Hugh has just shot his third deer for this season and we had tenderloin steaks for dinner wh he swears were better than any beefsteak he ever set tooth in.

Yours etc



cc Knowles & Ryerson

I have just been advised that the President of the Republic of Ecuador has issued a decree making me a Comendador of the Orden de Mérito Agrícola. If I can only get the Ordre du Merite from Haiti, now, I'll be as well fixed as Chick Lee

Taguzgalpa, 19 July 1947

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of July 3, p.m., was awaiting us on arrival, inc letter from the Sec of the Alumni Assn which was not a request for a contrbn (yet) but thanks for the talk I made that Sat morning. I'll get on the list of contributors before long, however. I should.

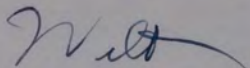
We spent quite a time in Guatemala wh was interesting but rather strenuous. The stay at Topeka was idem. There were more relatives of the new generation than I had imagined. Cousin Mabel is amzing; does not show her years and is a fine solid citizen. I think she enjoyed talking over the old times. Nottawa was very disappointing; looked like Arkansaw. Badly run down, but I en-
jayed seeing it. The old well is covered and with a pump. We were quite impressed with Tom Crosby; a fine lad, see^{ing}ing. I saw Flora Mayo his mother, and recalled that I knew her before she was married to Warren D Crosby- and she will soon be a great grandmother. Makes me feel older. Aunt Lillian Shirer is weaken^{ing}ing sadly; hardly knew who I was at the start and all the way through was very vague about the past. Pinehurst is extremely modernized; air conditioned th oughout and no details except the front hall which remain as I recall them. A pretty swanky place.

I hope you remembered to send a note to Science re my doctorate, just so the boys in Washn - inc Henry Allanson - will hear of it.

Hugh is getting set for the trip north. I do^{nt} know whether or not he should stop off at Altadena, but if you want him to do so and go north with John he can. He will leave Tela bout Sept 5 and go to N O by ship, then by free reclining chair car to Bos Angeles. Prof W H Chandler of UCLA who was here when we arrived talked with Hhgh a lot about Davis and quite whetted his appetite. Chandler by the way says Ralph D Cornell is the outstanding Landscape Arch in Calif if not in the entire west; says he is the only one who has original ideas adapted to the milieu.

We are both mighty happy that we were able to be with youall and hope we were not too much of a burden. I think Betty is positively a wonder in all respects and so does Helen.

Hoping you are the same,



20 Aug 1947

Dear Pablo:

Please note enclosed. If and when the machine arrives dont think it is another present from Victor M. Cutter -though I have no doubt he would wish it to be so considered, were he still in office - but hold it for little Nancee when she shows up down there.

Last night we recd the photos taken at Commencement. Helen is considerably thrilled and thinks the one of myself and Nancee together is pretty darn good. Tell Dave that. And tell him I agree. To show our appreciation, we have sent Prof Herring a sack of Guatemala coffee, fancy washed, extra hard bean. I am afraid he may be away when it arrives - it is probably there now - so I wrote Hubert to check up and see if it could be delivered at the Prof's house, or held somewhere until his return from Sweden.

I must go to the usual Sunday morning inspection of quarters now. so hasta luego.

Walt

Copy

T

Tegucigalpa, 10 August 1947

Mr. C. Mackinney,
United Fruit Co.,
New Orleans, La.

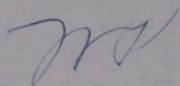
Dear Mr. Mackinney:

The day you took us down to see Mr Gaillard in Maritrop I asked him if it would be possible for him to buy a Royal Portable typewriter for me, personally, and he said it could be done. I am wondering, therefore, if you could ask him to purchase one, not Noiseless, with Spanish keyboard if feasible, otherwise the standard English keyboard, and ship it by express to Dr. Paul Popenoe, 2503 North Marengo Avenue, Altadena, California, all charges to be forwarded against my R o P account at Tela.

This is asking a good deal, but I shall greatly appreciate the favor. If it cannot be done, for any reason, just forget about it.

With personal regards in which Mrs Popenoe joins,

Sincerely,



Wilson Popenoe

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

15 Aug 1947

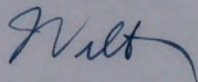
Dear Pablo:

It is getting pretty close to the time for Hugh to depart - he expects to sail about Sept 5 - and it has just occurred to me that we had best check up with you in re his arrival at Pasadena. Since he will come from New Orleans I assume it will be SP, and in that case he will get off at Shorb if Shorb is still there. Does the SP still have a connection there for Pasadena? If you will tell me where you want him to land I will tell him to send you a telegram saying when he will land there.

We are expecting Mr Zemurray tomorrow or next day; there has been a constant stream of visitors ever since we got home. This will more or less bring the season to a close I imagine. Right now we have three Colombians here, all nice fellows, and when they go into town today the car will bring back one of the vice presidents of Standard Oil.

Give me any instructions for Hugh tout de suite and I will tip him off.

Ever thine



Teguci, 28 Aug 1947

Dear Pablo:

Many thanks for yours of the 24th. I am glad to have the confirmation in re Hugh's point of arrival. I couldnt remember the new name of Shorb, nee Dolgeville, geboren Shorb, or vice versa, but figured that is where he would detrain. I will tell him to send you a wire from N O advising date of arrival and train; I suppose it will be Sunset Ltd or Argonaut, and he will step off one of the free reclining chair cars, air conditioned. That is, the car is air conditioned, not Hugh. It will probably take him some time to get the Zamorano ozone out of his thorax.

He is pretty excited about it all, and pretty sorry to hear that the pheasant season is so short. Honduras does those things much better. We are spending quite a bit of time, these days, talking his course and so on. During his six months here he has spent much time in the field with our biologist Dr Carr and his assistant Mr Chable, and I think Hugh may end up in the biological field rather than in agr, but nous allons voir ce que nous allons voir. Naturally, I am not trying to influence him one way or the other; and it wouldnt do any good if I did. Just so we keep him out of the legal profession.

I suppose Nancy may be coming south soon, though we understood at Claremont that she planned to go up to Oregon to visit Cag for a while. We took quite a fancy to that girl and will be glad if Nancy does spend some time with her. As to what she will do next, I figure you will have more to say than we. At long range we cant attempt to advise very much. Personally I would love to have her with us for a while but there is absolutely nothing to interest her here and no men to meet; so I think from her own standpoint it would be a mistake for her to come here for any extended period, dont you? I greatly hope she will find, ere long, a real nice, real nice man. But it's awfully hard.

Quite an exodus from here these days. Several visitors who came for the summer have just gone back; likewise Paul Standley who has headquartered here for 11 mos, and Dr Williams and wife who have gone on vacation. I am planning to meet Wms in Mexico City on 13 October, and we will be joined by Carl Crawford and Harlan Griswold of the Calif Avocado Soc, and all together spend two weeks studying avocados, wild and cult. We hope to find a few in sylvis Orizaba, ex culta fuga - like Donald Peattie with his weeds from Rock Creek Park. I dont believe Helen will go along as I wont have time for anything but avocados and wont be in Mexico City more than a day or two.

Marion and Sal are having a big time socially in Guate. They have joined a gang of young bloods who call themselves the Club Panamericano or something like that and their letters sound as tho they dont have much time for school. Marion made an official debut in Guatemala society recently; at the Guatemala Club. She says the debutantes march down stairs one by one to the ballroom floor and stood in the center a time, for the crowd to admire, and the young men about town (I can easily imagine) to say to each other "que buena carne" and worse.

Walt

Hugh showed he there about the 10th or 11th.

18 Sept 1947

Dear Pablo:

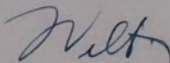
Yrs of 13th just to hand and we are mighty glad to hear that half our flock is safely at Atadena. We are hoping soon to get a letter from Hugh telling us of his train trip. He wrote one from the steamer.

I write this morning - 5.45 a.m. as we are going into town at 6.30 - to bring up the matter of Nancy's typewriter. A few days ago I had a letter from the Maritrop Trading Corp, alias UFCo, saying they had ordered her a Portable Royal but they didnt know just when it would be delivered. I assume she needs a machine ya ya; I therefore enclose a check for \$100. We saw portables on sab at Sears and Sawbucks - I dont recall what brand hut think it was Remington. A man down by the Smoke House had Royals but said he couldnt make delivery right way - however he had a sample or two wh Betty suggested he might sell if you would raise the ante, and she is probably right. Anyway, give Nancy this check and tell her to buy one; and then if the one from New Orleans comes and she likes it better, take it and give Hugh the one she buys; and if al contrario, let Hugh have the one from NO, as I promised Hugh one as soon as I could get it for him. I asked to have the one from NO fitted with Spanish keyboard so she may prefer it, if and when it comes.

Jack Shepherd sent me the stenographic report of the speech I made at Sta Ana and I am now busy re-writing it in toto. It doesnt sound right, as reported.

By the way, if Nancy stays with you I want to pay for her board. You dont need to let her know it, but I do want you to set a reasonable figure and let me pay it. So do so.

Love to all,



Sunday 5 Oct 1947

Dear Pablo:

First time on some mos. I have seen students of the EAP walking around on Sunday with books in their hands. Mid-year exams begin tomorrow. I guess it is in line with costumbre; everyone tells me that Latin Am students dont do much studying except during the fortnight before exams. Then they memorise the textbook from kivver to kivver, pass a good exam, and promptly proceed to forget it all.

Thanks for your letter about Nancy's typewriter etc. I hope she finds what she wants locally for I doubt that one comes thru from NO very promptly. We have had a couple of letters from Hugh since he reached Davis; he does not write long communications but is pretty good about getting them out fairly regularly. He likes it there very much, as we were sure he would. I cant tell you how much satisfaction it gives us to have been to Calif this yr and be able to visualise the present environment of both the kids; for as a matter of fact I was getting a bit vague about Altadena, even.

Apropos de rien, I was wondering the other day if I ought to make out a will. If I recall correctly, you and I fixed up something in Calif many yrs ago, a holocaustic will or something like that, wasnt it? If that is still in existence maybe it would take care of things. It wouldnt matter much whether you became the legal execuctioner of the little infidels or whether everything is in Helen's name; I believe my lief ins has all been changed so she is the beneficiary and the two bank accounts, Washn AS&TCo and 1st Natl Boston, are in our joint names; but there would probly be some delay in getting stock certificates changed over. Give me your advice.

Just occurred to me that you now have a grand opportunity to show whether or not you know your business. Here's Nancy in the marriage mkt and here are you, supposed to be a professional in that business. Let's see what you can do. I regret exceedingly that she would be wasting valuable time by coming here with us for a yr or two; I would be able to use her in the ofs as my secretary but there are no matrimonial prospects in this part of the world, and I suppose it is a question of gather ye rosebuds while ye may --

Helen is feeling pretty triste because I am leaving for Mejico a week from tomorrow, to be gone a fortnight on that wild avocado hunt. I re-wrote the Santa Ana speech and sent it back to Jack Shepherd; and I thoroly agree with you about those verbatim and literatim transcripts of extemporaneous speeches. They sound alright but Oh how they look in cold print. We are getting a few letters as a result of the article in Readers Digest; two yesterday from boys in Surinam who want to come to the school, and I have had 3 or 4 from folks who want Malva seed. I shall try to get some in Mexico but I'll bet that yarb isnt very appetizing. We dont have it in these parts.

Had a good letter from Herb yesterday. I am glad to have seen him this yr; I had begun to feel very much out of touch with his branch of the family; in fact it was high time all around that I got back to Calif for a check-up, even if it was a mad rush from start to finish. Had a letter from Chas W Metz yesterday, now at Univ of Penna, congratulating me on the D Sc. I had lost track of him completely. Dave Crawford is in Mexico City and writes that he is looking for a better opening; he started in business there but says credits are bad, etc. It is a great pity he had to lose out in Hawaii after so many years; it is late for him to start over again. As you probably recall, he and Chas Metz were the two star Bakerites of my day.

The new man from Calif, Don Fiester, whom I interviewed at Altadena, has been here two or three weeks now and looks mighty good. He is whipping the nurseries into regular Calif shape which of course brings joy to my heart. I simply havent been able to give much time to them myself. We are going to have about 10,000 assorted fruit trees to throw away next yr - we simply cant use them all. Seems pretty hard to throw away budded avocados which are worth \$4.50 in most parts of So Calif, \$6.00 chez Armstrng Nurseries.

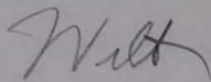
We put in our 1948 budget this past week, and when we get our new appropriations it will bring above three million dollars the amount wh UFGC has invested in this school. Wouldnt that gladden the heart of FOP? We have a million and a half in our endowment fund at present; about \$650,000 in the physical plant, and have spent the rest on maintenance.

Lastweek we had an interesting visitor in the person of J J Ochse of Java, whom DF has inveigled into coming to the Univ of Miami. Ochse was with the Dutch govt as horticulturist for 32 yrs and has written some fine works on fruits and vegetables of that part of the world. We also had Warren Weaver here, head of the Natural Sciences Division of the Rockefeller Foundation. But on the whole this is the dull season for visitors; we probably wont have many until after Xmas. During Aug we had 53 important ones and a goodly number of small fry.

Helen and I rode up to San Antonio de Oriente this a m to see the hideout we are building there. It is a picturesque spot; old silver mine which closed down 40 yrs ago, and our house is right on the mountainside of mine tailings, overlooking the town and about half of Honduras. Elev 4000 ft. We are constructing a masonry house with a nice living room mit fireplace complete, a little kitchen, two bedrooms and a small porch. It is just one hr from here, up a rocky trail. I hope in future yrs to be able to spend a good many week-ends up there, doing a bit of writing; it is not so easy here at the school as there are too many details to handle, night and day. Altho we dont handle many at night. Right after supper I crawl into bed, close all the windows so no lights will show, and read for an hour or so, then go to sleep; as we wake every morning about 5.

Guess I will warm up the Studebaker Commander now and take Helen for a tour of the farm; good plan on Sunday pms, to make sure all the gates are closed and no cattle in the garden and orchard.

Much love to all from us both



HOTEL DE CORTES

AV. HIDALGO NUMERO 85

MEXICO, D. F.

Zamorano, 18 Nov 1947

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 12th instant to hand on todays Baronesa, which the same is called a guagua in Cuba and a bus in your part of the world; tho this is a mixto, as it carries both passengers and frt. That must have been an interesting part with the W H Chandlers and Schroeders. Perhaps the latter didnt tell you he is trying to make plans to come down here next summer for three mos. I agree that Verle L Annis is just about the dryest thing in the world when it comes to lecturing; I have heard him talk plenty in our house at Antigua. But he knows his colonial architecture pretty well.--We have heard from Nancy, to the effect that she is a probationer at the State Dept and if she makes the grade will get into the classified service and be ready to move to Takoma Park if not sent abroad as she expects to be. If they send her abroad as assistant passport clerk in the vice-consulate at Irkutsk or Wellington N Z it will be pretty hard on us. ---Big ? now is, what to do with Marion next yr. She now thinks she wants to start at Pomona and transfer after second yr to Berkeley. That might be allright if she will really do it, but the fratres in urbe will talk her out of the transfer part. I dont know that we can get her in here. What about the girls also, and Lucille has written re some very fine girls boarding schools and co-ed boarding schools but I dont fancy that sort of thing too much; I prefer to put her in PHS or some equally democratic institution. -- Mother Barsaloux and Vivian will probably come down at Xmas time. Helen rightly feels that it will probably be the last chance for one of them at least, so we are going to fix them up to fly to Guatemala City and meet us there just before Xmas, then come over here after N Yrs.---Referring to Nancy again, she wrote that she was staying at #825 R st wh almost made me homesick as I suppose you and I have passed that address a good many times. I think that is better than living out at the Co't House; and I have sent her an authorization to sign chits at the Cosmos Club; I hope she will lunch there occasionally, for my sake.-- Just finished our report on the Mexican trip and sent it to Harlan Griswold at "a Habra; it is billed to come out in the Yr Book in Jany. --I am getting a little vacation from teaching this week as all 2nd yr students have been commandeered or garnisheed or whatever you call it, to get in the rice crop. They cut the rice with machetes and haul it by ox cart to the side of the field and then flail it out by beating it on a wooden grill. Just like biblical times. Some of the remarks sound biblical too.

Much love from us both to all of you

Walt



Tegucigalpa, 13 Dec 1947

Bear Pablo:

We are fixing to get away for Guate one week from today, to return Jan 4 if the Pickup doesnt break down. While over there we will talk with Marion about her plans. I am beginning to think it might be better to keep her down here one more year, letting her devote most of her time to languages (which they teach much better at "ehmsen's than in the US) and then start in right away to line her up for 1949. But I will see what she wants to do. Obviously it is going to be difficult to get her accepted anywhere up there for 1948. It occurs to me that we might get some help from Dorothy Fenzi in re finding a room at Santa Barbara. I still think they might take her at Comona as they are strong on this "tribute" business but maybe they have enough tributes lined up already. And Helen isnt keen on having Marion go there anyway. I would like to see her go to Santa Barbara but I would just as soon see her wait another year as she is pretty young to strike out for herself. Or so it seems to me. And in another yr Sal could go along, having finished HS; in 1948 she will still be in for one more yr of the latter. The more I think about it, the more I doubt that Sal should go in for a regular college course. She does not have the temperament for it and I dont feel sure she will get much out of it. I would as soon let her take a couple of yrs somewhere and call it quits. But we will see.

I've got a little job lined up for John and Hugh at Xmas time when they are down there as I suppose they will be - John at least, and he can do it alone if Hugh doesnt come down. See enclosed.

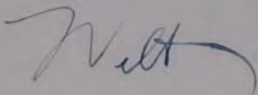
We were glad to have your letter re the Thanksgiving visit of the boys. Hugh writes that he enjoyed it greatly and thinks he got his money's worth at the Smorgasbord. Probably like the time you and I ate gryuere on arrival in Oran, wasnt it?

As soon as I get back from Guatemala and can tabulate my earnings of the yr - which means look at my bank balance - I will send you a M for Peter's account. Maybe it will take a little more, but that will take care of the most of it.

I have written Ralph Cornell to see if he can get us some roses at wholeale rates; our boys are crazy to have some new varieties; they like to propagate them by budding, and give them to their girls. Since the budding part is good practice I want to encourage them.

The Company has given us every cent we requested for next yr, so we are well fixed. We are starting construction of a Science center, to house the herbarium research library, forestry collections and biological collections. It will be for research only, not to be used by the students, and will set us up in business as a scientific center for C A.

Much love to all of you,



Antigua, Christmas Day 1947

Dear Pablo:

We are all alive this morning, after having opened our presents around the fireplace last evening, and having eaten tamales at 11 p m in the most approved antiguano fashion. I suspect it may be some time before 4 Popences of this branch are all together at Xmas in Antigua again. We talked much of you folks and imagined that you might have gone down to Pasadena or somewhere for dinner; though of course with you, Christmas is the day, while here it is Christmas Eve, and on the day proper, everybody is so thoroughly ausgespielt that nothing happens. Though this morning the church bells all rang for the customary 2 h 35 m, and a few lads who have firecrackers left are popping them off in the streets. I note this yr that Chinese firecrackers are back in evidence; they were conspicuous by their absence during the years the Japs held Hong Kong.

We had a big session with the Lehnsens about plans for Marion and Sal. They think Marion could, on the one hand, profitably spend another year with them on languages and math, but on the other hand they think she needs more social contact with girls of her own type; they say she has only one friend here of her own mental capacity and she needs the stimulus of more such. So we pretty well decided to send her up next Sept, and as goes Marion, so goes the nation, or in this case, Sal. Marion has decided she wants to go to the Univ of Calif but does not like the idea of jumping into such a big pool as Berkeley right at the start - she is frightened by the idea; and in any case we do not know that it would be easy to find get her in there, while Knowles says he can handle her at Davis. So she has decided to go there for the first yr, at least, and transfer to Berkeley when the time comes. Obviously there are plenty of subjects for her at Davis, particularly in view of the fact that you have to get rid of a lot of required subjects before you can take anything you want yourself. I dont know how you feel, but personally I have favored Davis right along because it is a small place, Hugh is there, and Knowles will keep an eye on her. Marion is a good student and I think will dig into her work. She leans toward anthropology or architecture or archeology at present; but you cant tell. As for Sal, we

can either put her in a boarding school somewhere in So Calif or let her go to high school. Sal is not a student; rather nervous and lacks concentration just as I did at her age, and unless she really wants to do so, I shall not insist on her going right through college; but would be inclined to let her take what she wants for a couple of years, then quit as I did - only I did it earlier. She is bright and will never appear to be an uneducated person even if she does not get a B.A.

Today we are entertaining at lunch the Agrl Attache of our Embassy here, a good friend of ours, and Bert Muller, another one, Director of the Natl Agrl School. Tomorrow morning we are all climbing into the pickup and taking the girls (and ourselves) for a tour of the west side; we shall go to Tiquisate for the first night, the next at Finca Moca with our old friends the Smiths, then to the Cinchona finca, El Naranjo, for a night, then to Quezaltenango for the last one before coming back here. We will pick up two bags of sphagnum moss on the mountain top above Totonicapan, to take back to Zamorano, come back here for a day, and hit for San Salvador, where we will spend a couple of days seeing things of agrl interest then go home. Quite a program, and I hope the Pickup will stand it.

If Hugh is still there, tell him I ordered his typewriter thru the New Orleans office, to be sent to him at Davis, and he ought to get it within a couple of months. It is a duplicate of Nancy's. We havent heard anything from Nance since the day after she reached Washn but Edith sent a note saying they would be together at Xmas. As you probably know thru Parkie, Edith has sold her Virginia place for \$28,000 and has bought a house in Washn, I dont recall just where but somewhere put toward Western High School I believe. Sounds like a good move for she certainly doesnot have time to run a farm.

Our love to all of you.

Walt

hoy 4 de enero de 48

Dear Wilson:

Best news of the year is that the girls are coming up this summer. I'm sure it's a wise decision. The next few years are in many ways the decisive years of their lives, in fixing their social adjustment. We'll look for them around Sept. 1

I always thought Marion would be well off at Davis but had dropped it from consideration because Hugh and John were so certain that she couldn't get in there due to lack of dorm accommodations. However, Knowles can of course fix that, and I'm glad he was willing to do so.

There will be considerable advantages for Sally in taking her last year of HS at Pasadena. It has high standing and she can go into any college without entrance exam-- if she wants to. They have a strong art dept.-- we understand from Hugh that some of her interests run in that direction; and may be she will also enjoy going to evg classes with Betty. We shall have only one boy here next yr., so won't be crowded. She'll have a good chance to get some practical home economics training that won't involve the slaughter of any of God's other creatures; and David will be glad to have assistance in KP. There are good social opportunities in Pasadena, too, as you know.

Hugh and John went last night to the jr. section of our old folk dance group. It contains some nice girls, in the sense of D. Fairchild; Pres. Du Bridge's daughter was there last night and seemed to produce a favorable impression on Hugh and, I'm sure, vice versa; others are daus. of Linus Pauling, pres. of the American Chemists Soc., F.W. Went the plant physiologist, et id genus omne. The boys seemed to enjoy themselves and I have an idea that Sal would ditto ditto.

Oliver will probably not be here again except for an occasional brief visit; and Pablo ditto after this spring. He is specializing in industrial electronics and wants to step into a job as soon as possible after graduation; and most of the jobs are in the east. He has not made any connections yet but probably will have no trouble in doing so.

Oliver presumably drove back to Antioch today in his new (to him) Crosley. He thinks Nancy has a mighty good layout there, with chance to work in various branches of the state dept. for 6 mos. then get a foreign assignment wh she can more or less pick out for herself. She will undoubtedly choose Europe, as she does not seem to have any irresistible yearning toward Korea or Liberia. So it might be a long time before we see her again, too. We are really entitled to another of your girls now. And of course we expect Hugh and Marion to spend here whatever spare time they have that is not earmarked for more valuable purposes.

Betty joins me, as always, in much love to Helen and yourself.

13 January 1948

Dear Pablo:

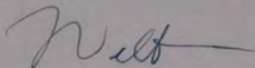
We have been mighty busy since we got back from Guatemala. Mr Zemurray arrived the following day and we had a good visit with him; then two tecnicos from Merck and Co, then Mr Wallace and wife, owners of Readers Digest. And more to come - Milo Perkins and wife tomorrow, for example. To add to the gaiety of nations, about half the staff has been laid up with flu, including Helen for the past three days.

Hugh seems to have had a fine time with youall over the holidays and it was good of you to take him in. We are looking fwd to the return of Marion and Sally in six weeks now, and they will be staying for a good long time. I guess it is settled that Marion will go to Davis unless Knowles runs into some hitch; and as for Sally, I am not going to make up my mind until she has been here a few months and I have a chance to look her over. She is a pretty nervous child and it might be that a year out of school would do her more good than harm. She wants to go to Calif with Marion but we will see.

I enclose my check for \$1200 which can credit to Peter's account. This will gover only the basic expense; I will later send you a check for the incidentals.

Doc Schroeder wrote a nice letter about the visit of John and Hugh. Doc is coming down here for the summer - or plans to. In return he will have to take a special interest in training John. Good thing he is coming, to see the tropical fruits on their native heath, else John would be showing him up in the classroom all the time.

Love to all of you,



His return
to SF

16 febrero de 1948

Dear Pablo:

Well, the big news is that we have not heard from Nancy since before Christmas, but hope and assume that she is still in Washn. Looks like Nance got too many Holcombe genes - or as Carter Barrett calls them innocently, jennies. And speaking of Carter, he will sure be in his element when he escorts those 235 Californians to Mexico in April. Harlan Griswold told me it was not going to be connected - the excursion - with avocados very closely. Just a junket which the Society is fostering and the crowd will visit Atlitxco for a few hours to see where the parent Puerte used to be. Wh reminds me that the budwood we brought from Mexico in Oct is turning up some mighty interesting plants; of course the biggest are only 3 ft high now, but we know what the fruits looked like and we know what the plants are going to look like already. I hope the frost didnt hit the buds which were taken to Calif.

We have been in the throes of trying to figure out the girls' program - even after getting K owles to agree that he could get Marion in at Davis. Lehnsen over in Guatemala thinks Sal would be better off there for another year and we are inclined to agree. In the first place, I dont want to lose her before we have to, as I wont see much of the kids after they have gone North. So we may let Helen take Marion up in late August and keep Sal here for a yr; at which time Hugh and Marion can come down for summer vacation and take Sal back with them.

Mother Barsaloux wrote that hugh was laid up with a cold while at Altadena this last time; suppose he snook down to her house and ate some meat. Also said he climbed Mt Lowe and went to San Diego, both of which are all to the good. We havent yet recd his mid-year grades but are hopeful.

We are getting ready for graduation wh takes place 28 Feb, and final exams wh begin this week, so you wont hear anything more from me until after Mch 1 in all probability. On 16 Mch I am going down to Panama to judge the fruits at the National Agrl Fair then coming up to Costa Rica for a few days. Helen probably wont go as there will be some important visitors coming here during that period, including His Lordship, the Bishop of Honduras, who signs his name "Arthur Honduras".

We have started work on our new Science Bldg, to house the herbarium, the Research Library, the Forestry Collections, the Engineering office et id genus omne, including a place for Paul Standley to work when here. Looks like he might retire to this part of the world one of these days; he is coming down again in Sept this yr to spend some months. We got news of Prof Cockerell's death at San Diego; it took place shortly after Jan 15th, apparently. He was active up to the end and passed out quietly in the night.

Much love to all of you

Will

March 8, 1948

Dear Herbert:

Just a line to congratulate the civilized world on V-P day, March 9, which is probably next only to V-E day and V-J day in its significance for the future of mankind. May your shadow never grow less!

Kwales phoned a few days ago; he is going to meet Wilson in Costa Rica at the end of this month, then they will come back to Honduras together. Oliver attended the ADA convention in Philadelphia as a student delegate and is all set to reform the world, seeming not to understand the fact that, in the very nature of the case, it can be reformed only by Republicans.

Hoping you are the same,

Tegucigalpa, 9 Apr 1948

Dear Pablo?

For some time I have had on my desk the Abbio Canyon formulario wh you want signed by the Amconsul and myself, but I get into town so rarely, and it usually on Sat, when the Embassy doesnt work, that I havent got it fixed up yet. But I will.

I am afraid there isnt a Chinaman's chance of my meeting you at the Cosmos Club May 4-8. I dont intend to go north this year, at least beyond Mexico City. Helen and I plan to go there in mid August; I will get some more avocado buds; then Helen will take Marion on to Calif and I will come home. K Augustus Ryerson hopes to meet us at Mexico City for the avocado hunt.

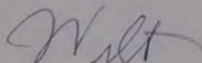
We had an advice of Dick Bowman's marriage. Sounds like he got a high class girl as he should. I have had a letter from Berenice Holcombe Gephart, first in my liftetime, saying a party of explor~~ers~~ is coming from the Milwaukee Museum, including some friends of theirs, but I doubt if they penetrate this far into the hinterland. They are on a Caribbean exploration of some sort. She says her daughter is ~~married~~ to a guy who is interested in agriculture on the island of St Vincent, BWI.

The T Jefferson Coolidges made us a present of a Magnavox radio-victrola so the two girls, Marion and Sal, play it most of the day in one way or another. Nice bunch of records came with it. Best of the lot, Charles Trenet's songs in French.

Next day, 10 Apr: All of us are considerably disturbed this morning by the news of the uprising at Bogotá. Doesnt sound too good. Helen has gone in town this morning to take Margaret Husson to the airport; she is Prof of Spanish at Pomona and has been here three days. Was going down to Costa Rica but we talked her out of it so she is going to Salvador and then home. Hubert Herring wrote me some time ago that he might spend some time here this coming summer. We hope he does.

The first of the week Helen and I took the girls in the Pickup and went over to Cedros, and old town 75 mi north of Teguci, and picked some antique silver which is pretty choice. One old mug, very heavy, is the finest thing we have ever obtained - and probably the oldest. Helen has brought together a really fine collection of antique silver during these past few years. We also got a couple of old paintings to add to our collection. At the end of next week we are hoping to drive down to the north coast and see Lancetilla; the girls have never been there since they were babies and I would like them to know the place before the leave the tropics - perhaps for good.

Our love to all



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

7 May 1948

Dear Pablo:

Finally I got a chance to have the Rubio Canyon paper fixed up, and here it is. The Embassy doesnt work on Saturdays (we dont have a separate consulate here) and I rarely go to town on other days, so it took some time. And they have a new kid on the job who had to destroy the first copy because he didnt put the ribbon under the seal so it took me about 45 min, by the clock to get the paper.

We have just heard from Nance that she leaves Washn on 11th and sails from NY on the 12th, SS America, for Le Havre, thence by train to Geneva where she is going to work. She tells me she gets \$2160 plus a post allowance and something else, all of which mounts up to a respectable sum unless living costs are out of sight over there. I hope the gal makes out allright; naturally I feel it is quite a step for her, but she is 22 and wil l never be able to take care of herself if she cant do it now.

Helen is over in Antigua this week, having taken Sal back to school. Marion and I are keeping house here. No doubt Helen will come back with tales of what the tourists are doing to our house; we never have been able to handle the situation satisfactorily. Either we make it hard to get in, and thereby offend a lot of friends who dont know what is required and who therefore dont get in, or else we make it easy and have a mob there. Right now we are trying the easy way. Maria has become rather mercenary in recent times and we think she has been exploiting the situation all she could - letting people in if they offered a good tip, etc. All in all the tourists dont do any real harm, as a matter of fact.

Getting ready to start the new school yr.

Ever yrs

Just as I finished the above yr letter of 4th from Cosmos Club came in. Having seen Nance, you know more about her affairs than I do. She wrote at a rather late hour saying she needed some cash to finance her trip and I sent her a check for \$400 immediately; I hope it gets to her in time. I wish I could have been with you at the Cosmos Club; that is one of the few places for which I have a deep sentimental attachment.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

28 July 1948

D. Pablo:

I havent written for some time because we knew you and Betty were on a big safari, but I imagine by the time this gets to Altadena you will be back again. Here we are beginning to think seriously of heading North with Marion; we will probably leave about Aug 13th, stop two days in Guatemala, three in Mérida to show Marion Chichén Itzá and Uxmal, then go to Mexico City about the 18th. We will work the avocado country with the assembled brethren - and there will probably be plenty of them. Knowles will come, perhaps with Albert Thille; and Mr Coit and Carl Crawford of the Avocado Soc, and probably Dr Cintron, a puertorriqueño who is working on avocados in Texas, and Art Schroeder and wife from here. The Schroeders are now at Lancetilla and having an interesting time, apparently.

I will go to Denver about Sept 5th, by air, and Helen and Marion will fly to LA, later to meet me at Davis, after wh Helen and I plan to come down to Pasadena for a few days before flying back to Taguz.

Hugh writes that he hasnt had any fletters from us and says John hasnt hear from you at that time. Something must be wrong with the mails to his island. Knowles wrote him about the draft situation and advised him to come back to Davis and start the new school year and await results. So I guess he will do this; he was on the point of enlisting in the Navy before Aug 28 when he passes out of the eligible list I believe.

Marion has just come back from the North coast where she went with Doris Zemurray Stone and batch of company kids, and did some hunting. She got 3 wild turkeys. Marion has learned how to handle a gun and I think it is a useful achievement.

It was interesting to have news of Bert Curry. I didnt know that he was still alive. I enclose a letter from Berenice Holcomb wh you need not return.

Yesterday I got my nombramiento as jefe de la delegacion de Honduras to the conference at Denver on Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources. The other two Honduran delegates are Dr Williams of our staff and Paul Shank our forester. Looks like a packed house. The conference is Sept 7 to 20. It will cost UFCO a pretty penny to send all three of us there.

We are having a passel of visitofs this mo. Last week had 12 deans and directors from agrl colleges in the East and middle west; next week 12 more from the west and south, including C B Hutchison of Berkeley. UFCO is giving them all a junket to Honduras and Guate.

Guess I better get ready now for my class in Elementos de Agr.

Much love to all of you

Walt

EAP, Sunday and ~~at~~ the 24 Octobre [1948]

Dear Pablo and Betty:

We safely arrived as per schedule, after having passed a day in Mexico City, where Helen picked up two huge baskets of Talavera de Puebla to increase our dining room set, a half dozen assorted silver plates, and finally ended up by smuggling out under her coat six clumps of *Laelia anceps*, a Mexican orchid. On arrival at Guatemala City airport, there was little old Sal, sitting on one of the luxurious couches provided by the late Jorge Ubico, and it was mighty good to see her. She will graduate from HS on or about 20 December proximo futuro, and I suspect Helen will go over to presenciate as we would say. I shall not be able to leave as the Hogabooms are going on vacation and I must be here on the job. I am not very anxious to leave here again, anyway; I like to stay on the job most of the time.

Naturally, I found a big pile of mail on my desk when I got back, and it will take me a month to clean it up, what with other things to do, and visitors and the like. At the moment, we have with us over the week-end, Prof and Mrs W W Robbins of Davis. He is head of the Botany Dept there and they are a fine couple - she an Alsatian, the first living example I have ever seen. It makes one more good contact for us at Davis, too.

Though the California part of our trip got messed up a bit, I reflect with great satisfaction the few days I had with you - time to talk things over, and to wander around the streets of Altadena and Pasadena alone, and look at all the plants I have loved long since and lost awhile. And I specially enjoyed getting better acquainted with Oliver and Dave. Pab is now the only one do not really know. On the way to the airport I gave Oliver a long talk re the foreign service; I think he would do very well in it, if it should seem to attract him. I have always said, if I had not been obsessed with the idea of working with plants, I would have gone into the foreign service, after having travelled down here 10 yrs for USDA and getting such an opportunity to see the sort of life people can lead in that service, if they want to. As Nancy writes, a good many of them dont take advantage of their opportunities at all. But as a career it appeals to me because you have a chance to learn a great deal about many countries and can ride a hobby if you have one.

Helen came back from the trip much rested and to my surprise I did too. I dont feel the tension which was bothering me when we left here. It had been a hard year. Both of us seemed to have gained a bit of weight, which unfortunately has settled at the wrong place.

We join much love to all of you.

Ever thine

3 Dec 1948

Dear Pablo:

3 only pkgs books and other literature recd - I guess this covers everything and I appreciate the favor. It is quite a nuisance to take care of jobs like that. I had a letter from Bob Hodgson thanking me for the material Art Schroeder took to UCLA. You can chg the postage on the books you sent to my a/c.

All well here, at least we hope so; I have just finished my 12th injection of QSO₄, touchant souvenir of Capt. Little IMS and the hospital at Maskat. Only, I have had 15 grs daily here and he gave me 40 by inyeccion and 20 by mouth. But he cured me for 35 yrs, and on comparative basis I am only cured now for a little less than 8. However, I am starting tomorrow on a little post-mortem series of Salvarsan injections wh the medicos say kills off the gametes. I suppose it will catch any stray spirochetes which might be hanging about, also. This is the first time I have heard of Salvarsan being given for malaria; must be a new idea, tho the principle is not new - they have always given arsenic after quinine, to catch the gametes.

Anywa~~y~~, I have learned something this yr about the malaria biz. My advice to others is, steer clear of it. My trip to the States this yr was considerably marred by having a low fever a good part of the time.

Hugh writes that he has bot a new gun. Marion that she begins to agree with Allen M. Groves, to wit, "One cant be a man of science and a social butterfly at the same time". Both of them seem to be looking fwd to visiting the Sunny Southland around Xmas time.

Helen was going over to Guatemala next week to be with Sal at Graduation on Dec 16, but we hear that the constitutional guarantees have been suspended and she may not go. This is a euphemism. If you havent any constitutional guarantees, you havent much of anything left have you? What it really means is that martial law has been put into effect and you will probably have to get a passport to go from our house in Antigua to the postoffice.

Now here's a little pedido: When I was at Pasadena mother Barsaloux mentioned that sometimes when I send her a check, Vivian figures out just how they should spend it, and pretty pronto; and she suggested I send the money in some other way. I do not send her money often, but like to give her a lift once in a while as they are sailing pretty close to the wind. She puts the money away in an old sock and has it when she really needs it; apparently Vivian really needs it when she has it, and needs to spend it right now. So here's a check for \$100 and I wish you would cash it when convenient, and some time around Xmas when you are seeing Mrs Barsaloux, pass it to her in the form of \$5 or \$10 williams, on the QT, and just tell her I sent it.

I'll send you a check around the 1st of the yr, when I get my dividnt from Unifruitco. My last check was for \$600, which is pretty good an an investment of \$6000, when you consider it is only one quarterly dividnt. I think they are paying about \$5 per share this yr - and shares are only quoted at \$50. Maybe they are only paying \$4 @ I dont watch things very closely, having enough to do right here, watching 154 members of la juventud redentora.

Much love to all of you

14 Dec 1948

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 7th inst to hand and contents noted. Especially the part wh says Bal due you as of Dec 31 is 28.58 U S Cy. Are you sure I paid you \$1200 last Jan 20? My recollection is that it was \$1000. I hope you are right. If you have any doubt about it, I can probably find the cancelled check here. Anyway, I am acting on the assumption that you are right and enclosing my check for \$1250.00 which will pay the bal due and carry thru 1949 if things go along at the same rate. I have just recd \$825 from UFCo as end of the year bonus so I can pay up my bills now and start the new yr like a good Chinaman.

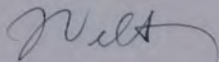
Now about the Will business: I have talked to the UFCo lawyer here, a Honduran, and I wrote to Bill Sutherland, one of the UFCo lawyers in Boston. It seems that the holographic will is no good in Honduras. Our lawyer here says he can draw me up a will under Honduran law, wh according to Bill Sutherland is the kind I need because I am domiciled here. I will get the local lad to do this, then probably send Sutherland a copy to see if the big legal lights in our Boston office agree it is allright. All in all, I will probably get \$200 worth of legal advice free.

What I propose doing, if you agree, is lo siguiente: Start out by leaving everything to Helen, in case of my death; but if we should die approximately the same time, then I name you as Administrator of my estate, same to be handled as you see fit, for the benefit of my children, up to the time Hugh becomes 21, when he takes over on the same basis. This would mean that you would be relieved of responsibility less than 2 yrs from now when Hugh becomes of age, and would cut down the probability of your having to shoulder the job at all. How does all this strike you? When the local lad gets his draft made I will send you a copy so you can kick if not in agreement with the provisions and we can make alterations as required. Bill Sutherland says the job is not a simple one.

I have not seen the report on Fairchild Garden wh you mention. We had a Xmas card and note from John yesterday; says he thinks he likes Latin Am better than Hawaii and may come back here some day. I get my last inyección of 606 next Sat and should then be able to feel that the gametes are cleaned out; but quien sabe. By the way, I dont like 606 (what I am really getting is called Mafarside but I think it is the same as Salvarsan). I only have to take 3, and I understand for Spirochaeta pallida you have to keep it up for many months; it would serve as quite a deterrent if the boys could know how unpleasant the treatment is. I had not previously heard of using it for Plasmodium vivax but now understand it is considered to be the thing for obstinate cases; not used more commonly, probably, because it is such a nasty proposition.

I am sure the kids will have a grand time with you at Xmas and I am glad Marion is going to Kansas; I assume you will like her up re seeing the folks in Topeka. They will be interested in seeing mother's namesake I am sure. Sal comes home next week.

Much love to all



SECRET

Mon. evg., Dec. 20, 1948

Dear Wilson:

This will acknowledge recd of yr chk for \$1250, wh will be put to legitimate use. As to the last will and testament, of course you must call on me for anything that I can do. I'm glad you are going to get this into water-tight shape; and I think the idea about Hugh is just right.

Hugh and Marion got in here Saturday afternoon, and we are mighty glad to have them here. Marion is downtown this afternoon getting her reservation for Topeka; she gets in there at 7 a.m., and doesn't have to be in Lawrence until evg., so she will have a good long day there and I am writing Helen Cornelia to show her the sights. No telling when she will have another opportunity to be in the vicinity of the Pottawatomie Indian Reservation.

Both the youngsters seem to have given a good account of themselves at Davis. John leaves Kapaa on Jan. 2 and will spend a few days each on Maui and Hawaii, then have a week on Oahu, taking into the expt. sta., the pineapple research institute, and other articles too numerous to mention-- free lunch at noon. I think he has enjoyed his visit over there and it is certainly another real addition to the liberal education on wh you started him at Zamoreno.

I have ordered a copy of "Fairchild Tropical Garden" for John's birthday, and will let you know if it is of any value. L.H. Bailey is about to issue a new revised and greatly enlarged edition of the Manual of Cultivated Plants. I suppose we O2 get that eventually, although at the offering price of \$19, I'll wait a little.

We have had some nights now with sharp frost, but no damage except to one of our 3 banana "trees." Interesting, because we have some quite tender things such as bell peppers.

I had a letter today from Roy Lanley in Topeka. He says Clyde died about a year ago. I haven't seen the boys for 44 years but they were good friends of mine before that, as you may remember.

Jack Shepherd of Calavo phoned me this week to ask if you were likely to be in Antigua. One of the directors whom you have not met-- I'm ashamed to admit I've forgotten his name-- has just gone to C-a for a visit.

It's good to hear that you are out of the woods with the malaria. Stay out! This probably won't reach you until after Christmas -- your letter was 6 days in transit-- but we're all wishing happy holidays for all of you.

With much love,

TOPICS

Sept. 29	What is marriage counseling?	Paul Popenoe, Sc.D.
Oct. 6	The first interview.	Robert M. Taylor, M.L.
Oct. 13	Child problems	Mrs. Louis Z. Rung, M.A.
Oct. 20	Adolescent problems (boy-girl relationships, petting, etc. with demonstration of simulated interview)	Mrs. C. Brooks Fry
Oct. 27	Pre-marital counseling (demonstrated by simulated interview with bride-to-be)	Mrs. C. Brooks Fry
Nov. 3	Adjustments in marriage	Mrs. C. Brooks Fry
Nov. 17	Counseling the elderly	Christopher Ruess
Nov. 24	The counselor at work (Laboratory period" in which the members of the seminar will consider typical cases and decide how to deal with them)	Robert M. Taylor, M.L.
Dec. 8	The process of readjustment	Robert M. Taylor, M.L.
Dec. 15	Problems involved in handling husband and wife simultaneously	Mrs. C. Brooks Fry

SUPPORTING MATERIAL....Students enrolling in the Seminar receive the same supporting material as is used in our popular correspondence course. There are 15 unique chapters, average 10,000 words each, which are given to each student for a permanent study, reference and guidance source. The chapter headings are:

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2. General Principles of Counseling.
3. Special Procedures in Counseling.
4. The Psychology of the Male Sex
5. The Psychology of the Female Sex.
6. Problems of Sex in Adolescence
7. Pre-marital Sexual Experimentation.
8. Discussing "The New Morality."
9. Helping Young People to Prepare for Marriage.
10. How to Handle Inferiority Complexes.
11. Growing Up Emotionally.
12. Special Problems in the Field of Sex.
13. Counseling in Family Adjustment.
14. Problems of Heredity.
15. The Meaning of Life

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WRITE OR PHONE (GLADSTONE 5131) TODAY AND MAKE RESERVATION

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

11 Jan 1949

Dear Pablo:

Many thanks for your good letter of the 1st instant, enclosing one from Rev G J Pennings wh is returned herewith. It is very interesting to have personal news from that part of the world after all these yrs. Also glad to have news of Edith; I have not heard from her direct in a couple of yrs and since I have not been to Washn in more than that, have pretty nearly lost track of her. I was also interested in the clipping re death of Harold Landreth who was the fair haired boy of the senior class when I was in Pasadena HS. I havent yet recd my bill from the Cosmos Club but guess I will continue to sit in the game; the Explorers Club sent their bill, however, which has also gone up five bucks, from \$10 to \$15. I tried to resign some five yrs ago but they wouldnt let me.

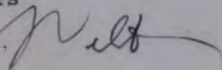
We have had word from Marion re her trip to Kans, which sounds good. Also got a letter yesterday from a gal in Monterey Calif who has just been to Topeka, says she talked with the Tom Crosbys and wants a job down here; she is a relative of Flora Mayo, Tom's mother. Says Flora is better than she was when we saw her more than a year ago.

Hon Abraham Sikaffy, UFCo lawyer in Teguci, is working on my will; hope he gets in done in time. I had another shot of malaria last week, after having finished the toughest treatment I have been thru since Maskat, so I am about to give up. I am now on 30 grs of QSO4 and three plasmochin tablets daily. Doc Macphail writes me to keep up the quinine, 10 grs a day, for a month or more, so I will try that for a change.

We had a heavy session here over the holidays; the Amambassador and wife came out and spent Xmas week end with us; then we attended several affairs in conexion with the inauguration of Juan Manuel Galvez as Pres of Honduras, the last one being the biggest baile I have seen in C A; full dress and decorations and I had a chance to wear the red ribbon around my neck and big gold and enameled star at the botton which attests my position as Comendador, all of wh thrilled Helen and Sal very much. We took Sal along, and that gal is allright; steps right out and does her part. On 4 Jan Pres Galvez entertained out here; we had prepared for 600 but nearly a thousand came. It wuldnt have been so hard, had it not been that the govt provided free buesses (15 of them) and the bootblacks around the plaza in Teguci and everybody else who happend by climbed on and the moment they arrived here, rushed the bar. They almost took it by storm, and idem the lunch counter. But our Cuban cook was able to feed them all, finally. It was pretty tough sledding for all of us here. The special emissaries to the Inauguration came out - from 15 or 20 countries. We all made speeches, HNR broadcast the whole doings, the Barrientos orchestra from Salvador played, and the only trouble was we stopped serving drinks a long time before the crowd was ready to have us do so.

Hope the kids werent a burden to you at holiday time. Youall certainly are good to them.

Ever yrs



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

2 March 1949

Dear Pablo:

Well, we got through another graduation without and major casualties, but it was a tough job. Biggest and best ever - we fed nearly 900 people. But the hard part for me wasn't that; it was presiding on the platform with two Presidents sitting behind me - the President of Honduras and the President of Costa Rica, don Otilio Ulate. Not to mention a special mission from Nicaragua consisting of the Pres of their Congress, their Ambassador et al. Also a group of half a dozen other assorted ambassadors, ministers and big shots. But we survived.

I enclose a copy of my will, for your archives. I don't know just how well it is prepared but I think it will take care of things - at least I hope so, as it cost me a pretty penny - Lemps. 75 or sea \$37.50 of your (I mean my) money. You will only be hailed into court if Helen and I both die before Hugh is 21, and I hope this is a rather remote possibility.

Now to a more delicate subject: Two members of our staff who have been married within the last couple of yrs and already have a child each are pretty anxious not to have half a dozen more at intervals of eleven months and their only hope lies in contraceptives. They went to the medico in Tegucigalpa who takes care of our work and he told them to put pessaries on their respective wives, which the latter do not like at all; and so they have been trying to use condoms which come off the shelves of the boticas in Tegucigalpa where they may have been lying in innocuous desuetude for some months or yrs. I told them to see if they could get fish-skin condoms and they say they can not find them in town. How about sticking three in each letter to me, for a while, like you used to do, and I will pass them along? If you do this, tell me (I have forgotten) what percentage of alcohol should be used to keep them in condition. I will refrain all expenses and collect from them - they will be only too glad to pay up. My only fear is that some night when they have had three jaibolitos (that's phonetic; just like the word jatqueic which I saw on the menu of the Chinaman's cafe in Tampico some yrs ago) they will forget to use them.

Hugh got his jeep as you doubtless know; I seem to recall that he got it in So Calif. Did your boys see it and is it in such condition that it will ever be any good to us if driv down here? I have told him to get it thoroly overhauled and all worn parts replaced before coming down - spare parts aren't so easy here. He says he only paid 500 bucks which taxes my credulity - if the car is any good. Don't know what Marion plans to do this coming summer but anything she wants is allright with me. Herb and Lucile and getting excited about their trip; I think he can give me some real help and I need it. Unless we can work out some standardised tests for applicants there will be a big break in policy when I check out and the next guys will have to go thru what I have gone thru, trying to learn how to pick out good students. - The J. Dewey Hostalere left Sun for Pasadena; we had a thoroughly good time with them and they got a big thrill out of being photographed last Sat with two Presidents.

Ever yrs

Wilt

Return to PP

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

5 March 1949

Dear Pablo:

Sorry to hear you have lost that good typewriter that V.M.Cutter gave me. It was just about getting into its prime. And the news about the escapade of young Charles and his friend is highly interesting. They had a lucky break, and I am mighty glad, for it would have been a terrible blow to Edith. Thanks for the news about Bert Curry; it seems to me there have been a good many deaths by "stroke" in our line. Maybe that is the way we are supposed to go. I guess there is none less painful. I am glad I saw Mabel last year. She looked as though she might be good for some years yet. A grand person. I dont get news from that side of the family very often. When I was there I talked with Helen Cornelia's son Donna about coming to the tropics. He seemed to me a likely lad, but I dont suppose he is much interested. It is a long way here from Topeka, Kas.

One of our new men, Jim Miller of Calif, went in town today to bring out his wife who has just come down from San Luis Obispo; she is a native of Newton, Kansas. We now have three Californians in our group, not counting myself.

I have been intending to tell you that you dont need to spend any more postage sending me the stock market reports. Mr Bursday, the Ambassador of the U S in Teguci, sends us the New York Times after he finishes reading it, and I therefore find out fairly promptly just how much money I have lost.

Marion writes that she would like to come down here this summer and I am telling her to do so. She feels it is going to be expensive (\$300) but I dont mind that; what I like is her desire. She seems to be getting along well at Davis, but is carrying a pretty heavy load of studies. None of my kids are straight A students like you were at Washburn Prep, but they are better than I was at Occidental Prep or Pasadena High, which is all I ought to expect.

We are now engaged in picking out the new students. Just had a letter from a boy in Managua who gives his address as "south side of the Chop Suey". That might do allright in Managua but wouldnt be so definite in San Francisco. I have learned to be gun shy of requests which come from mothers and fathers, who have a boy they want to put in the school; the former are usually women who have an illegitimate son they cant afford to educate and the latter fathers who have an illegitimate son they would like to do something for at our expense. Boy came in from Salvador last week, five days on horseback, and as he came up the steps raised his hand and shouted "I have triumphed". Probably he will turn out allright. Five young Costa Rican mestros de escuelas rurales came in last week for a short course. This keeps us from going stale during the vacation period.

Hoping you are the same,

Walt

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

28 March 1949

Dear Pablo:

In re the estate etc, here is the way I see it: If I die first (before Helen), and the whole business has to go thru the courts, she would get the life insurance money right away, wouldn't she? I believe you have my policies up there, haven't you? And I think she is beneficiary. She would also get my salary for one yr from the UFCo. And our two bank accounts, Boston and Am Sec and Trust Co, are in our joint names and she can draw on them. Dividends on my stocks are paid in to Am Sec and Tr Co. So in that case things would be allright until the estate was settled, even if it took two or three yrs.

But, and this is what you have in mind: If we should die at the same time, where would there be any available cash to carry things (including Peter) until the estate was settled, eh? I dont know how it would be about the yr's salary from UFCo; I think they would and could pay it to you for maintenance of the children but I dont know just how this would be handled legally. I dont suppose they are under any obligation to wait until my estate is settled, do you? That money is not part of my estate. Then, also, I bought \$5000 of U S govt bonds in Hugh's name, with the idea that he would have this money to see him thru school. He has not drawn on it yet but I am planning to have him begin to do so when "ally goes up, as it is pretty heavy keeping 3 in college at once. I suppose the \$5000 is now worth about \$4000, and there would be that much cash available.

UFCo holds all my stock certificates and bonds in safe keeping, and they hold signed proxies so the stocks can be sold. But I suppose in case of my death, they might not be able to seal the stocks and turn the money over to you; or might they? We could trust the Co to do anything to help out which legally can be done. The insurance would be tied up, in case of our simultaneous deaths, until the will goes thru the courts.

Just as soon as Hugh is of age, in Aug 1950, I will make out a new will, leaving you out of the picture, and turning everything over to him in case of our simultaneous deaths - with everything to Helen if I die first. I could have done that now, with Nancy in Hugh's place, but I dont think that wise in view of the fact she may not be in the States. As I think I have told you, there is a mistake in my will, where it says that the children are all minors at present. Maybe we ought to change the whole set-up, but I think we can take a chance for a year, and then make out a new will putting Hugh in as the principal party. I dont see much need of trying to say how much each and every one of the kids should get, unless it might be well to assign it in equal shares; but this would not take care of Peter as he cannot sign any papers and that sort of thing.

All in all, things are not simple if Helen and I should snuff out together; it would be fairly easy for her if I went in advance. Maybe I could solve the problem by putting some more of my assets in Hugh's name right away - for example, my \$15,000 of govt bonds which are now in Helen's and my names jointly. I suppose such a

change could be made, couldn't it? This would leave Hugh with cash to keep the family going for some time, including Peter. I don't want to have any financial burden fall on you, even temporarily, and even if you get rich out of the movies and radio as one of your recently received letters suggests. I sure hope you will hit things right in that line; it would be wonderful if you would feel that you don't have any financial problems from now on, because both you and I are getting to the stage when we don't know just how many more years we can be in active service.

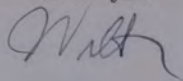
Another alternative: if it is not easy to transfer the govt bonds, I could transfer stocks in one or two investment trusts to Hugh right away, which he could sell if necessary; and in the meantime, he could use the dividends for his education.

If I get killed in an airplane accident (and this is the most likely way in which Helen and I might snuff out together), there would be some special insurance money wh the Co carries for all of us - I believe it is \$15,000. I suppose this would have to go in to the estate in case of simultaneous deaths.

All in all, it seems to me the safest way to provide for immediate financial help in case of simultaneous deaths, would be for me to put more collateral in Hugh's name. Incidentally, Bill Cumberland (Oxy Prep 1909 or so, you remember him) whom is my financial advisor in Wall Street, says I am a fool to have so much tied up in govt bonds, which only earn 2.9% and the dollar is going down in purchasing power all the time. Maybe I should cash in my bonds, and put the money in a good investment trust in Hugh's name. That would make about \$12,000 available right away, in a pinch.

Hugh writes that Edith wants him to bring Charles and Peter down here with him this summer in his jeep. If those two boys were a bit older I would favor the idea, but I feel that it is too big a responsibility for Hugh to take. He plans to cruise around thru Mexico for a month or so, and you know how easy it is for folks to pick up infections in the back country. Hugh has knocked around in these parts and is perhaps prepared to take care of himself, but Charles is not yet 17 and Peter must be only 15, and I don't like the idea of three kids of that age roaming around the Mexican countryside. I have never forgotten the close call you and I had at Basra.

Ever yrs



My secretario was highly pleased with the informative leaflet you sent, wh he is putting into Spanish for the benefit of other members of the staff.

22 May 1949

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 12 instant recd and noted. Especially interesting was the clipping re Cinchona in Guatemala, which contains a few facts and much fiction. Typical case of US journalism.

So Mabel Rosen is now the only link we have with the past! I hope and believe she may be good for some years yet. I was amazed to see how young she seemed when we were there 2 yrs ago. - Glad to have news of Hilton B. Richardson, who worked for a me a yr or so at Lancetilla. A bright lad, he was; never intended to stay down in these parts, just came for the ride I think. He has done well in Calif, as he should.

We are beginning to look forward to the arrival of Hugh and Marion and Herb and Lucile. Marion will come first, by quite some weeks. Her account of the first yr at Davis has made me wonder if we are wise in subjecting Sal to that ordeal, at her tender age. Sal has my temperament; she is not too strong and I wonder if she can stand up to studying every night, - perhaps until 11 p.m. Just today and it Sunday, we talked about the possibility of sending her over to Europe for a yr. Helen has a friend in Aix le Provence, who teaches there (a French woman who has lived in the States some yrs) and might be glad to have her with her for some mos. She has another friend in Granada, España. I am toying with the idea of sending Sal over there for yr, to acquire French and get a little older before she tackles college. She could also stay in England with the Hughes family for a while if she wished. Speaking of the latter, we have just recd a letter from Nancy, telling of a ten-day vacation which she spent in Paris (3 or 4 days) and with the Hughes family in England. It was a great treat and she obviously enjoyed it.

I have been letting Hugh plan his trip without my interference. I would prefer to see him ~~xxx~~ bring another lad with him, but dont know what he is going to do. Hugh is something of a lone wolf. To see him start off thru Mexico in his jeep, alone, doesnt sound too safe; but on the other hand, you and I at ages not much greater than his, took many more chances. If you have opportunity to advise him, do so.

Dont know why I havent recd a request from the Pomona Alumni Assn for a contribution this yr, but I guess there is still time. The latter sure does fly; it wont be long until it will be a yr since we last went to the States. Wont try to do so for another yr or two - tho Jeff Coolidge has been urging us to come up to Boston this spring. Just out of the goodness of his heart. I would like to go back to Washn again and sit around the Cosmos Club a few days, but that can wait.

Much love from house to houses,

Wilt

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

16 June 1949

Dear Pablo:

We suspect that Hugh is today rolling southward in his Jeep, and that Marion will soon be flying in the same direction. We will be mighty glad to see them both.

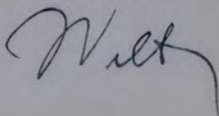
Knowles writes that Dean Hutchison may move to Davis and if he does, Knowles thinks he may not stay; says he has a good offer in Washn, something to do with selection of scientific employes for civil service. DF writes that Ben Morrison retires from USDA on July 1 and will become Director of the National Arboretum, wh as you know hasnt made a great deal of progress in recent years. I should think this would be a good place for Ben. Henry Allison also retires this yr. I was interested in what you write about Herb's situation. I will hear more about it when he gets down here. I hope those two dont load themselves down with too much of a mortgage if they sell their house and buy in Pasadena. I dont like mortgages + guess I inherited it from our mother.

DF says he and Marian are not going to Baddeck this summer. I heard from Mr Ohse, formerly of Java, whom DF brought to Miami where he teaches in the Univ (and who was here recently) that the medicos dont think DF ought to make any more trips for the present. DF says Marston and Nancy Bell with their 4 kids are going up to Baddeck this summer. The Colombian govt boys got the best of Marston, who works for the Rockefeller Foundation, and he had to leave Colombia, as you doubtless know. I got the whole story from Harry Miller of the Foundation, who comes here every yr; sounds as tho it was just local politics.

I think I may go over to Guatemala to meet Herb and Lucile. If I do, Helen will probably have to stay here as it is not wise for both of us to be away at once, right now. Too many important visitors dropping in during the summer. There is no one else to take care of them, and it is a feature of this school's activities.

I am getting doubtful about letting Sal enter Davis this yr. She is not too strong and will find the work pretty heavy, if we can judge by Hugh's and Marion's experience. Dont yet know what we will do with her. Maybe she will stay here another yr and take some lessons in drawing and painting at the Escuela de Bellas Artes in Teguci. That seems to be her line. Right now she is doing a lot of photographan finishing for the studes.

Much love to all of you,



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

3 August 1949

Dear Pablo:

Glad to have your letter of 27th pxmo ppdo, announcing your return to Calif, wh news was confirmed by Herb on their arrival a few days ago. I have not written for some weeks as I figgered you were in the Oriente, as indeed you seem to have been.

Herb and Lucile arrived on schedule and I met them at the airport. Herb has jumped right into his job here and I believe is going to give us some real help. Not being a pedagog myself, it is useful to have someone come who has had a lot of experience in this field; and I believe the intelligence and aptitude tests he is working up are going to beat anything we can get out of the books, as they are tailored to fit our own peculiar requirements. When Allen Arnold showed the boys a picture of an express train last yr, with the smoke stretching out 100 metros ahead of the locomotive, and asked the boys "What is wrong with this picture?" all they could answer was "How would I know? I never saw a railroad train." Fair enough.

In a couple of weeks I plan to drive over to Guatemala with Herb, Lucile and Sal, stay with them a few days there and then send them on to Mexico and thence to Calif. I shall be glad to get away for a little while; we have been swamped with visitors all during July and still they come. It is hard work, but good for the UFCO I hope.

About our plans for San Francisco: They arent much. You probably know that little house and ~~inty~~ lot which Karl bought on the left side of his property, looking down toward the Bay. He bought it to have some space along Mkt St to extend his own house. What he takes out will still leave the other house and a little space, and we are buying it for a song, as a sort of plaything, and with the more definite object (in my own mind) of having a place for Helen to go if anything should happen to me. She likes the San Francisco region and I dont think in case of my sudden demise she would want to stay down here. Dont mention this part in any letters to me but this is the main reason I am making the purchase. The house will take a considerable amount of repairing if it is to be used at all; perhaps it will have to be torn down and another small one built, if we ever want it. We both fell in love with the site and the view over the city, and I like the Bay region better than I do the Greater Los Angeles area, as a matter of fact. Of course Pasadena or Santa Barbara suit me beautifully, but we are not interested in putting in any real money - this deal only involves \$3000 - as there is a very small possibility that we will move up there permanently; more likely, if I retire, we will come up to Calif for a few months each yr and spend the rest of the time at Antigua until I snuff out.

Hugh finally got thru in his Jeep, after having a tough time to stand off the guys in Mexico who wanted mordidas. He didnt enjoy Mexico very much, and just hit Guatemala in time to see the revolution which apparently he witnessed at close range as boys are wont to do. Finally drive in here one afternoon without advance notice.

Wishing you would do the same,

1 Sept 1949

Dear Pablo:

What with Herb and Lucile here, and our three kids, not to mention the usually summer load of visitors, August has been a busy mo and I havent had much time to write. Herb, Lucile and Sal are now at your end of the line, and Hugh and Marion will probably fly up on the 7th reaching there on the 8th; we are now waiting confirmation of reservations. Sunday next we will celebrate the end of the season by entertaining the Camara Junior Internacional wh is holding a grand reunion in Teguci; they phoned yesterday that they will bring out 500 to 600 people which means 800 if they can find enough cars to ride.

Herb worked hard here on the two tests - Intelligence and Vocational Aptitude. He tried them out on 70 members of the 1st yr class, trimmed them down to make them fit, and I really believe we have something. The intelligence test in particular should help us weed out some of the dumbbells before bringing them here; eight lads who showed up badly in this test all failed in the biology exam the same week. Looks like there's something in it.

After he finished his work here I took them in the Pickup and headed for Guatemala. We had a hasty trip over there - about wh they can give you the details - and then I came back in a hurry to be best man at the wedding of one of our profs, a Colombian, wh was held in the Cathedral and was so elaborate it put all Teguci in a dither.

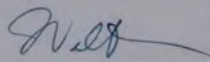
We havent any news yet from Mary Buff but are much interested in the possibility of their doing a book here. If we get a chance we will most certainly encourage it. Naturally, we would be glad to give them free board, lodging and laundry while they are here on the job. We do that with all the visiting firemen. Right now we have Prof MacGillivray of Davis here for several months, and Paul Standley the botanist. Have just heard that the head of the Dept of Ornamental Horticulture at Cornell may come this fall for several mos.

Death of O F Cook takes one of the last of the old guard, as you say. Prof Ochse who was here from Fla some weeks ago said W T Swingle had suffered a slight "stroke" or something of that sort. I dont suppose he and DF can last very much longer; when they go it will leave you and me amongst a generation we do not know. Or at least I dont know this generation, having been away from the States for mighty glose to a quarter of a century.

Helen and I went down to Tela last Friday and stayed two days with Mr and Mrs Zemurray. They were all alone in their big house - right on the site of the one Dorothy and I lived in - and we had a most enjoyable visit. Mr Z sent us back to Teguci in the Co's Douglas DC-3 which gave Helen quite a thrill. She is not used to having a private plane, least of all one of that size. Came up to Teguci in 40 minutes.

Now we are going to begin on Betty and you. We want you to come down next summer. I doubt that I will take a vacation in the States and we could probably squeeze in a couple of weeks at Antigua together, and another couple here. Maybe it would suit you better to come in spring. It would be better for me, too, as we dont have classes in March, April and May. This would leave your summer free for lecture tours in the States.

Much love to all



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

21 Sept 1949

Dear Pablo:

On writing the date above I realize that this is the beginning of autumn but you wouldn't know it if you were in Zamorano, Honduras. The weather, and the irritating round of petty concerns and duties, are just the same at all times of the yr. However, now that His Holiness has recognized you there really is nothing to worry about. I had been debating, night and day, what to do about that matter when I rec'd the consoling news in yrs of the 12th inst.

We had letters from all three of the chacalines (alias patojos, sipotes, chinos, güiros, chamacos and hupabritos) after arrival at Dads where Uncle Kowles met them and took them right home to eat ice cream with him. That's the good old Aggie spirit alright. Incidentally, Marion rec'd a lot of aggie literature here wh I have, and among it is a sheet of the college yells which demontstrate beyond the peradventure of a doubt that times havent changed since the good old days when you and I used to fill our lungs to the bursting point and out with Io Triumphe Io Triumphe Høbem Swabem Rebecca Le Animour Hoop de Hoop de Shella de Verde H - but I can go no further. Maybe you can finish it. I hope so. It would be a shame to lose a classic like that. Incidentally and not so incidentally at that, all three kids have spoken of the fine treatment they had from Betty and your goodself. Sal, apparently, went in for some fancy togs wh I am not sure she needs but then, girls will be girls; and Sal has always been the one of the family who takes great delight in spending money.

Yes, we fully expect to have a visit from you and Betty next yr, or you can make it this yr at Xmas time if you prefer. Now that all of us are pretty nearly out of the woods so far as raising kids is concerned I think it is time for us to see a little more of each other and I particularly want you to see this school.

Yesterday sonnumagun feller came out from Teguci, one Bruce Lamb, a forester who is going down to Turrialba, C R, to do his work on a doctorate, and told me his wife had asked him to tell me that her mother was Helen Shaver of Topeka, and that Helen Shaver and I used to put watermelon rinds on the street car tracks together. Bruce mentioned also that he had heard you lecture on one or more occasions. He comes from Colo. Speaking of Topeka, I havent had any news of the Curry tribe in many months except thru you, and am wondering how Cousin Mabel is coming along. Is she failing definitely? I had a letter some months ago who wanted a job, and she introduced herself by saying she is a cousin of Tom Crobby or something of the sort. Also animadverting to Bruce Lamb, he said Helen Shaver's family of some of them are now living on Ridgeview Farm. I told him I trusted they were not dependent on that farm for a living, and he replied no, they just lived there. I guess the farm is alright for that purpose.

Much love to all,

from a gal

Walt



3 Oct 1949

Dear Pablo:

I dont think I have yet written you on our new letterhead. If I have you, can send this one back and I will use it over again. Cant afford to use them on anything less than heads of expt stations, deans of colleges of agr, and so on. We had it made by Hausler in Washn, who is on 11th or 12th, I forget wh, just below F. The die cost us \$195 so dont get one made of Ahuacatlan.

Thanks for yrs of 22 Sept. I wonder if Archie Havekott (and do yo" remember that Grandpa always pronounced it Haverkott) is now running the store at Berryton? He should be just about my age and still able to sell Lion Brand and Arbuckles XXX. But not at 2 libbits for 25 cents - or was it 3?

Just at this moment I stopped to listen in on the phone. Telegram from Tela, where we had wired for hams to take care of a big party we are going to have here on the 12th instant, our 5th anniversary (of the inauguration; we opened in 1943, you remember). The operator dibbs "No hay jamones por ahora". Our man says "Jamones o jabones?" "JAMONES, says the operator, con jota (j)." So that's that.

Shipped avocado budwood of 25 varieties to Texas today - the new hybrids we got in Atlitxco last yr. They seem to have a hard time trying to grow avocados in The Valley (they never say Rio Grande). Guess it is a bit cool down there. But then, they have had a hard time in Calif, for the most part.

This is the week for final exams, first semester, and I have had an interesting time trying to figure out how to write an exam which the boys cant beat by signalling back and forth, etc. Some of our teachers have used the multiple choice system and this is just nuts for the lads, so all my questions are something like this: How do you think we might be able to produce rubber in CA from our native species Castilla elastica in competition with Pará rubber from the Orient? I tried this system recently and it worked pretty well, only when I asked "If you were establishing a pineapple packing plant, what variety would expect to plant as a basis for the enterprise?" And one lad answered "I am not interested in establishing a pineapple packing plant."

Well, the kids are all started in college and bills paid up to the end of the yr. That's sumpin.

Much love to all,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "W. H. H. H." or similar, written in a cursive style.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

7 Oct 1949

Dear Pablo:

It was good of you to take so much interest in mother Barsaloux, and I appreciate the full report you sent me. Vivian wrote Helen about the matter and I think she did it all very sensibly and intelligently. Of course Helen was considerably upset when the news came, but she saw no reason to fly north. Unless there is something one can do, something useful, these long trips to the bedside of an ailing relative seem to have to have no real purpose. Yet lots of people go in for them.

Helen has told me in past yrs that her mother had been through some pretty serious emotional upsets earlier in life. That is why she took to Christian Science, I believe. "e may have to expect more of them; but the one thing we can and should do, is to relieve her of real causes for worry, in so far as that is possible. The money she is getting from Mr Barsaloux' insurance, \$75 pr month, runs for about six yrs yet. I have sent her small amounts occasionally but I think I should send more, as living costs are rising. I can and will do this. Even if Dewey Hostettler sells the apt house, there are other places to live - even if they cost more. By the time the insurance payments run out, it has been my idea that we might fix up the little house in San Francisco, next to Karl, and transfer the set-up. But that is considerably in the future. There are a good many unknowns in the picture: How many more yrs I am able to carry on here, par example. With three kids in college, naturally my load for the next few yrs is pretty heavy, but I have made provision for it I think.

If at any time the situation is such that Helen should come up, you have only to let us know and she can be there in two or three days time. As a general rule it isnt difficult to get reservations from here to Mexico on the plane; I dont know about it from there on, it may be more crowded at certain seasons. But the planes are large and I think one passenger could almost always be magaged. Let me know, also, if at any time you think there is something I could and should do for mother Barsaloux, to relieve her of worries. Dont hesitate.

After thinking I was free of malaria, I had another little jolt day before yesterday. This is nothing to worry about. I may have to live with the thing for a long time. The attacks dont amount to much: a couple of days and we get the thing under control, and it hasnt had time to whip me down at all. I am back again as good as ever. They are just little annoyances. Not the kind of thing I had in Masqat, by a long shot. I went thru a strenuous treatment early in the year, calculated to clean them out, but I suppose the little rascals are hiding in my spleen or somewhere and we cant hit them.

Ever thine

Wilt



16 October 1949

Dear Pablo:

If you are like me, which Dios guarde you aint, you wont particularly enjoy being reminded of your birthdays any more; but anyhow, as Mrs Edward Simmonds used to say, herewith our best wishes for many happy returns. No harm in that.

I was glad to have the news of Topeka, relayed from Parkie. I must say I didnt recognize the environs of Nottaway Farm when I went out there last; all looked very much changed, tho the old Waters house was in statu quo ante, plus 50 yrs of wear and tear. Too bad Parkie didnt look up Archie Haverkott who should be running the store now.

Mighty fine to know that John has an honorary job at UCLA. As for going to Buitenzorg, I dont thank too much of the idea and would like to suggest Turrialba. Seems to me he might be able to get one of the scholarships which the US must have available there. It is my understanding that all contributing countries have the right to send students there - with scholarships in proportion to the country's quota, or something of that sort; not to mention that we have good friends there and might be able to help. He could get a Master's degree there, which I think is legal and binding; tho I have just advised Hugh to take his at Davis, as they are better equipped in the lines Hugh wants to follow. I think there are only two places in trop Am wh would be worth Hohn's time for advanced study: Trinidad and Davis. If Cheesman were still at Trinidad I would strongly recommend that institution, but they have been short of cash and personnel since the war. He might, by the way get one of the Harvard fellowships to study at the Soledad garden in Cuba. I recd last yr an announcement of annpal scholarships there, part of the time to be put in on the ground, part at Harvard, and I believe you can qualify for an advanced degree under one of these fellowships. We have good contacts at Harvard of course and might be able to wangle one, between us.

We had quite a party here last Wed; solemnizing the fifth anniv. of the inauguration of Zemurray Hall (see above); Helen fed some 200 dignitaries at our house afterwards and Don Pancho fed 200 gals at our mess hall, same (gals) having come out to bailar with the stúdes. Those things are quite a strain; I have to preside on the platform and make a speech and introduce others: this time it was the American Ambassador and a representative of the Pres of Honduras. Latter was here and I have just noted a pitcher in the Diario Comercial of the Pres and wife with Helen in between, which no doubt will please Helen no end.

Ever thine,

Do return



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA
TEGUCIGALPA HONDURAS

22 Oct 1949

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 16th de los corrientes. Pretty fine to be able to look fwd to receiving the benefits of the old age pension in 2 yrs more. Almost as good as my situation - at 60 I can retire on UFCo pension by mutual consent, at 65 by my own volition. In talking with an old Co friend who visited us the other day, he said the 60 yr clause is almost invariably used to get rid of employees the Co doesnt want, and that unless a chap is in terrible physical condition and/or otherwise undesirable he hasnt much of a chance until he is 65. We will see how it works out in my case.

You ask if I know Dr Holman, pastor of the Union Church in Guatemala City. I dont, but I'll wager Marion and Sally do. They used to attend services at that church occasionally, when they were in boarding school over there. I havent had any contact with the missionary group in Guate since the days of Rev Wm B Allison, who went to Oxy on retirement, as you will recall.

One of the profs at San Luis Obispo, great friend of our Don Fiester (whom you will recall I hired after an interview at your house) sent us budwood last Dec of 45 of the newer roses, and they have caused me, many times, to think of the rose show I attended with you and Betty at that nursery in Altadena. Roses in general do beautifully here. "Peace" is just about the finest thing in the collection; I am enchanted by Pinocchio, and a lot of the others are first-rate also. We can give away as many grafted roses as the boys can grow annually, wh is some 3000. I wish we could sell them at Armstrong prices.

My recollection is that Gpa Popenoe said there was always a frost in the Kaw bottoms by 15 Sept, but I may be wrong.

We shall be glad to read the literature on cheap proteins, and thanks for the suggestion re preventing cheating. This would work all-right but makes grading of papers harder, wh wont appeal to some of the teachers. I have solved the problem pretty well for myself by writing an exam wh the boys cant handle either by simple memorizing of words nor by cheating. They call it "examen de criterio" and I do it this away: "If you lived in a climate with 150 ins rainfall, elevation 200 ft, and wanted to grow fancy mangos, what would you do?" The answer is, plant something else. Or "If you wanted to go into the business of canning pineapples, what climate would you choose, what kind of soil, what varieties would you plant, and what spacing?" To this one boy answd "I dont like the pineapple canning business and would not go into it." But in general, my questions require extensive answers wh show whether or not the boy really knows what he is talking about; and I think the system much better than the true or false or the multiple choice system wh some of our teachers have used because it is no work to correct the papers.

Must go forth and make friends.

Love to all



17 Nov 1949

Dear Pablo:

Yr note of 12 del mes en curso recd yesterday. No, the floods did not damage in Antigua and not so much elsewhere as you have been led to believe. We think the guatemaltecos have over-capitalised the situation considerably. The reports, like that of Mark Twain's death, were exaggerated. We hear they are asking for a loan of fifty million bucks now, for rehabilitation. This may have had something to do with the matter. Incidentally, they are trying hard to drive UFCo out of Guatemala - not the guatemaltecos as a whole, but the little group which controls the country, and it wouldnt surprise me if they would succeed. They have gone very far left, over there; but the tide will turn some day, just as it has in Mexico; but it took some 25 yrs or more to achieve that end in Mexico - I hope it wont take so long in Guatemala.

We are delighted to hear of Oliver's approaching conjugation. The only mosca in the unguento is the impossibility of your coming down here next summer. Well, we'll just have to make it the following yr. You and I have led pretty busy lives and it is about time we did a few of the things we have long wanted to do. One of these on my part, is to get you and Betty down to Antigua, and of course, now, to the school; and another is, I wanna see France and Spain, mainly to do a lot of fancy eating in both countries. Helen keeps telling me we must take 3 mos off and go to Europe, but I just cant see how we could leave here for that length of time, at present writing. I am glad we got Herb down here this yr; I think the trip did him a lot of good, and on our side, he gave us some real and valuable help on the intelligence and aptitude tests. We have had a good many comments from the outside on this development, due to the note I put in our Monthly News Letter. It seems to have encouraged the belief that EAP is up and coming.

Dont talk to me about expenses of kids in college. Mine are not extravagant at all, but each and every one (3 count them 3) costs me close to \$1500 per annum, and when I wake up at nights in a cold financial sweat I gasp "How long O Lord how long?" This is not an original remark, but seems very applicable. However, I have laid enough \$\$ aside to take care of the situation and after all it is something which will end some day. Why reminds me to ask you how much I shall send you next mo for expenses of Peter during 1950. I dont want you to have to advance anything and will send whatever you think will cover the bills.

From yrs of 21 Oct last we were glad to see that Hubert's dau Frances has married. The fact that she was 33 encourages me re Nancy. I was just figuring out that she will be 24 in Jan, so I guess she still has hopes. She has written that she expects to come back to the States in 1950 on vacation, and I am encouraging her to stay in the Foreign Service until she gets married. I hope I am not wrong in this. Her opportunity to know foreign countries and learn other languages is wonderful, not to mention the fact that the US Govt pays eighty well these days. Probably you remember Ellsworth Killip,

contemporary of ours in Washn - he was then a young chap in the National Herbarium at about \$1440. Now he is getting \$8000; has taken Bill Maxon's place as Curator. All the guys from USDA who are down here on loan to local govts under Public 63 are getting about \$10,000 including their house allowance, etc.

Helen was worried again a few days ago, when she got word from her mother that the latter was laid up once more. I dont know what may eventuate, but if Mrs B wants Helen to come up at any time I will send her - though she doesnt want to leave me unless she thinks it is really necessary. I dont want you to feel any responsibility in this matter, but if you write me or radio me (via Tropical Radio, please, no extra charge for these words on the message) that you think Helen should come up, she will do so immediately. I think both you and I understand the case; Helen also feels that there is nothing organically wrong, but if Helen's coming would help to relieve the situation she will come.

Hugh writes that he went down to San Francisco for a week-end and did some good eating by his, not your standards. I have been wondering what the 3 would do over the Christmas holidays. They will probably go their own separate and individual ways. I have told Hugh if I were he, which I aint, I would spend a week in SF and a week in the Sierras. By no means do we want them all to land on you - it would be too, too much. So dont let them do it. I dont think they will even suggest it, anyway. Marion is toying with the idea of transferring to Berkeley at the end of the present semester. I am too far away to give any advice; I have told her to do what she thinks best after talking with Uncle Knowles. If she ~~shows~~ shows up in your neck of the woods before that time, give your own good counsel. She says if she goes to Berkeley the best thing might be to get into a sorority house. I dont know a thing about sorority houses, and have no particular desire to increase my knowledge in that field. Here again I have told her to do what she thinks best and I will back her. I imagine Knowles is the one who can help her most in this quandary.

I am surprised that you remembered Joe Thornburg was a classmate of mine at PHS, and sent the notice of his demise. I still remember going down to visit him at their small ranch somewhere near Santy Any.

Now about Meals for Millions. I think you lads have got something. I read the literature you sent; then in this last mail the letter from Ernie to you, and copy of the one he wrote our good friend Kevin Scrimshaw. The INCAP (Instituto de Nutricion de Centro America y Panama) is barely under way as yet; only Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras have signed up so far, I believe. They have built a good lab in Guatemala and as Ernie says the Kellogg Foundation has put up some money to start training men for them in the States. I am not too confident regarding the future - too much cooperation required. But Scrimshaw is alright - we have had truck with him in connection with our own Central American Nutrition Foundation, which has spent \$150,000 in the last three yrs investigating the food value of C A plants and plant products. Results now appearing from the lab of Dr Robert S Harris at Mass Inst Tech who has supervised the work. I wish you would get Ernie to send me a sample of MPF - we might be able to help his program down this way. I would like to try the food personally to see if I think it will suit the palate of our people and how. Ernie is right about Scrimshaw - he is a good bet and will probably stay in Latin America, which few gringos do.

Ever yrs

Wiet

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

3 Dec 1949

Dear Pablo:

I neglected to mention in my last, that Hon. Edward Browne of Ft Lauderdale, Florida spent a day with us some two weeks ago; was on a trip thru C A lining up sights for his patrons. Says he is going to develop tropical American tours in a big way. He gave me all the news of his family, of course, most of wh would not be news to you. Ma Browne may come down to Guatemala in the spring; I have invited her to stay in the House in Antigua if she does.

Sunnumagun feller from Menosha, Wis, came here last week to take movies for a museum up that away; is a great friend of the Curtis Gepharts, who seem to be people of some consequence in those parts. Berenice told him to tell me Parkie had been there recently, wh you had already reported.

I have been hearing from a student at UCLA yclept David Lukens who wants a job here when he finishes school next Feb I believe. Says he attended a mtg of the agrl soc where he met the Pres, one Juanito Popenoe, and he has also talked with Art Schroeder about this place. Sounds like an enthusiastic young feller; I wish you would ask John to get well acquainted with him and give me a full report as to whether or not he might be a good prospect. The right kind of men for tropical hort are so scarce that we never ought to turn one down.

We are getting in the big time stuff. Karl T Compton et ux will be here Monday for a two day stay; and within the week T Jefferson Coolidge expects to come with Senator Byrd of Va, a senator from Ky, and a few other assorted celebrities. All of wh makes lots of work for Doña Elena but is fun never the less.

No more for the moment; too busy.

Ever thine

Tegucigalpa, 19 Dec 1949

Dear Pablo:

Six days until Christmas, but the studees know it and cant think of anything but Christmas; so we might just as well give up so far as classroom work is concerned. In Latin America you have to multiply all holidays by 3; you think the 4th of July is just one day off but it doesnt work out that way. Just like Antigua; one day the church bells were ringing with unusual vigor and I said "Maria, what are the bells ringing for?" And she replied "Senor, the day of San José".? And I said, but San José was yesterday. And she replied, "Yes, and this is the day after San José"

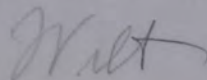
Yrs of 13th inst: Why doesnt John consider the possibility of taking his doctorate somewhere in the East (since you say that is where all good guys have to go) and then getting into the Office of Foreign Agrl Relations, USDA, and coming down to one of their co-op stations in tropical America? I would like to see John land in trop hort, and there isnt much trop hot in Calif according to this same letter of yrs.

Tell John I am still hearing from David Lukens of UCLA who says he is coming down with his parents about March and will drop in on us with the idea of asking for a job if he likes it here. I would like to know what Art Schroeder thinks of this lad, as well as John. The boy says he is intested in tropical horticulture. If he is really promising - and I must say I am favorably impressed by his letters - I would give him a job here to start him off and try to work him into the tropical field permanently, somewhere or other.

Hugh writes that he wants to go in for postgraduate work when he finishes. I have told him previously that I think, before he starts upon his career, he ought to take a wanderjahr like you and I did - only he wont be able to make it pay for itself like we did. I think I can finance it for him, and I would very much like to see him go around the world in leisurely fashion before he settles down to a job. You remember when I came home from Algeria I thought I would get a chance to see Europe in a few yrs more. That was in 1913. And I doubt that I shall ever see Europe. One just simply doesnt have time.

We shall be thinking of youall on Christmas day and wishing we could be with you. It is mighty good of Betty and yourself to take so much interest in my kids and go to so much trouble to take them in. If you want to send Dave down here for a yr go ahead and do it. We'll put him on a diet of rice and beans and tortillas - our lads were kicking about the grub recently and I checked up and found that the 70 first-year boys who have been here five months have gained on the average nine and a half libbits so I told them it cant be too too bad. If it was good enough for Roddy Rockefeller it is good enough for them.

Much love to all



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

23 Dec 1949

Dear Pablo:

Herewith check No 781 on 1st Natl Bk of Boston in the amount of \$1250.00 wh please credit to my account. I dont think it will bounce back on you a/s the UFCo gave us one month's extra pay as a bonus as of Dec 15th.

Just had a letter from Knowles: sounds as if (as we used to say in the Kaw Valley) he might not stay on as Asst Dean. Says he told the Prexy he wanted to step down to his alternate position as Prof of Hort and the Prexy told him to keep his camisa bien pussta, as you would say in English. Maybe he will carry on as is; but from the trends of the last yr or so it seems to me Knowles may be in line for a change of some sort or other. I hope not. He is good at handling people; everyone loves him. I dont think his job is teaching horticulture.

Getting ready here for the big dinner on Xmas eve. Yestredy we had the huerfanos of Santa Teresita out here; 88 little bastards (sic) with eight nuns who care for them, and we fed them from about 9 a m to about 4 p m and think we filled them up fairly well. Never saw a better trained lot of little kids; I only wish our studes would behave as well.

Had a long letter from Ruth Blastock (is that it) nee Holcomb, address Gunnison Colorado, same being first time I have heard from her in probably 35 yrs plus o moins; when she said she was now about 60 it pulled me up by the bootstraps with a jerk. Time is too much with us, late and soon. One of these days I am going to wake up dead and it wont be a nice experience either.

Helen and I lay (not laid) in bed this am until almost 5.45 taking over a possible trip to the USA next summer. We have about decided we will go up to Washn in June, for 4 or 5 days; thence to NY for 3 days; thence to Boston for 4 or 5 days; thence by train to Chicago for 3 days; then we got into a fight as to whether we would fly to Los Angeles or go by train, but I think we can work out that problem with a little time; and anyway if we have got as far as Chicago, you might as well begin to expect us at 2503. N. Marengo.

Beautiful weather here, but No snow, no Santa Claus. Hoping you are the same (it will be cheaper)

Wilt



31 December 1949

Dear Pablo:

Just about to wind up 1949; the boys will burn his effigy at midnight and welcoming in the new yr, probably, by cracking the new school bell which was cracked at the welcome of 1949 - mean to say we cracked the old one then and had to cast a new one, which cost us the respectable sum of Lempifas 250.

Enclosed was sent me by a friend in Wash. If I remember correctly, Gert ude Gro venor got divorced from her husband who was a big shot in the SP or some other railroad; Seems to me I have heard, also, that Lil left Cabot Coville but I am not sure about that. Anyway, the present type of publicity cannot be very pleasant to the Grosvenor clan.

We got thru Christmas without mishap and now have only to wait some 24 hrs to see if we are still alive and operating as a school. Not so easy handling 160 lads through a holiday season. And we have had an unusually large number of visitors during Christmas week; of major importance, a group of 4 men from UNESCO, FAO, one of whom, the Asst Director the Texas Exp Station, fell ill here and is still in the hospital in Teguci; probably sinus trouble, and a bad attack. Helen is in town this morning checking up.

One of our men, Jim Miller of San Luis Obispo and later San Dimas, tells me this morning he and his wife want to adopt a child; they say it is very difficult in Calif and are going to try Kansas, since Mrs M comes from Newton and her brother in law is a Methodist minister and there is a Methodist orphanage there. They say it is pretty hard to get legal authority for adoption in Calif. Any advice?

The kids report a fine Christmas at Altadena - as do you. I am sorry we could not have been there too, as I am sure you had plenty of room in your house for a couple of additional sleepers. Incidentally, I am hoping we can get to Calif this yr; but I guess I have told you about that. Having brot down here most of the family this yr we would like to reverse the order in 1950, in addition to wh Jeff Coolidge urges us to come to Boston and I havent been there in a long time.

Guess I told you we had Karl T Compton and wife here a few weeks ago. Mighty fine people. The bigger they are, the easier they are to entertain.

Dont forget to have John check up on Dave Lukens. I am always interested in getting good young Californians down here. You have to keep on getting new ones to take care of the turnover. Not many gringos are likely to spend their lives in the backwoods of Honduras.

Happy New Year to all

Will