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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.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

5 Feb 1950

Dear Pablo:

I have been holding your letter of 5 Dec ultimo to remind me to watch out for the 2 libbits of MPF or MFM or whatever it is; but hasta la fecha it haint shown up, Same can be said of a number of other items. They have been moving the Aduana in Teguci and the gumrukhjis have taken advantage of the opportunity to lay off work, I guess. Two days ago I recd a pkg of canna roots wh Don Fiester bot for me at Howard and Smiths and shipped from Montebello on 3 Dec. Most of them were still alive, mirabile dictu; but one cant say the same of 18 rooted geranium cuttings wh were in the same pkg.

Getting down to more recent history, yrs of 27 Jan recd and contents noted. We are glad Pab is lined up again and that John is now legally a soy hombre. Many thanks for the invitation to use the house while you are in the East; but at present writing it looks as if (Miss Moore at Oxy Prep used to object to that form, also like as if) we wont get north as early as we had hoped. In fact we may not get there at all. But I think we still have a good chance of getting away from here in Aug and being in Calif about the end of that month. Sorry we cant take in Ollie's conjugation.

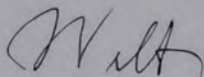
I am not sitting up nights to hear how many wild buorros Hugh killed in Death Valley but I join you in thinking it was a good idea to visit that region. Just like I thot it fine for him to drive thru Mexico tho I doubted he would collect enough aroids to pay expenses. He showed up here with half a dozen straggly things in the back of the jeep which he promptly left under the bench in my plant house.

As for John's trip Eastward taking in the way stations, I dont know many of the agr folks in the northwest or middle west; but I think he would enjoy visiting Fortt Collins, Colo. I believe you have been there. I am impressed by their work on irrigation and a few other lines and Homer Henney, the Dean, is a good friend. If you think John will go there I will give him a note to Homer, who has been to Zamorano as well as Lancetilla.

Knowles hoped I would go down to Turrialba with him. This am I had a call from a friend who had seen him at the airport, vas he passed thru Teguci, wanting to know why I wasnt getting on the plane there. He will be back here on Friday next for two days, according to schedule. I will do my best to buck up his morale as you suggest. From his letters I take it he is very unhappy but I cant figure out just why. Apparently the old row with Dean Hutchison some way or other. I should think as lng as the Dean stays in Berkeley Knowles wouldnt be bothered too much.

I am having all my teeth out, poco a poco, and will get a new batch about the end of March. It is not a pleasant process - I dont advise it. But you wont know me when you see me again.

Much love to all



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

18 Feb 1950

Dear Pablo:

I hope Multi-Purpose Food is worthy of the name. That is, it must be good for everything - even to standing off hunger for two months. The 2 libbitts you sent me for Xmas arrived during the past week. I shall have to try it first in the form of soup, which I see is among the approved uses, fide the inscription on the can; for having joined the Edentata I am now limited to mashed spuds, cream of wheat, et id genus omne. I dont suppose it will cause you any real pain to learn that I cant handle beeSteak for the time being. ~~Without~~ too much stretch of the imagination, I can say that there are a lot of things I could miss more poignantly than Zamorano beefsteak.

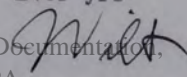
I was interested in hearing your comments about the graduate degree racket. You might tell Hugh about it. Art Schroeder is a good lad but I doubt that he could have obtained a doctorate in England. I have just recd W H Chandler's new book "Evergreen Orchards" which is a desirable addition; the only thing since my book which treats of the tropical fruits. But it is hard slogging. Typical text book material. He tries to cover too much ground - coffee tea and cacao as well as citrus and all the rest in one medium sized volume. It is up to date on the scientific side and I am glad to see it come out, but I wish those scientific writers had a little more imagination and DF's appreciation of good photographs.

I am glad to see "Date Growing" at \$20 asking price. I think it is quite a compliment to you and to me that neither Date Growing nor my Manual is on the table out in the street in front of Lowdermilk's at 50 cents. We have been trying for three yrs to get a copy of my Manual from Stechert and others and it is quite a job apparently.

Presumably Helen has told you all about presentation of the George Robert White Medal to me last Sunday. I seem to owe this to Elmer D Merrill who is a member of the school's Board of Directors. The Mass Hort Soc gives this annually for "eminent service in horticulture" and I am the 41st to get it; among others are L H Bailey and Pernet-Ducher the great French rosarian and Sir Arthur Hill who was director at Kew in Dorothy's time and so on. It is a beautiful medal and weighs 8 ozs of fine gold which I figure could be melted down and sold for \$320 at present market. H Harold Hime of Fla and Knowles happened to be here at the time and we had a lot of speeches from which I learned that I have done a good deal more for horticulture than I had ever realized or suspected.

Finally heard from Nancy; she's a good gal even if she does have a good ration of Holcomb jennies, as Carter Barrett would say. Looks now as tho we wont get to Calif before the end of August. The world is too much with us, late and soon.

Ever yrs



I had a long talk with Knowles about his problems: All in all I think his affairs are working toward the better and I predict he will stay at Davis.

25 mayo de 1950

Dear Pablo:

As far as I can figure, Helen has written everybody except Pres Truman and Uncle Joe Stalin about the new doctorado I am going to receive at Gainesville, Fla, on Monday the 5 of June, when I become an Alligator instead of a Sage Hen. I am working hard on the college yells but I get them mixed up some times, especially when I interpolate to triumphe to triumphe Hoben Swabem Rebecca le Amimor into Hail, Pomona Hail. It is all very, very difficult for a guy like me.

But anyway, in the words of the great Mrs "d Simmonds, we go to Miami on Sunday the 28th, Dio volente, where I buy Helen a few new dresses at Bessie Burdine's Dept store and then we go to Gainesville and then back to Miami and thence to Habana where we plan to spend 3 days count them three eating cangrejos moros, stone crabs in your language when you dare to mention them, and come on home, and thence to bed. This will doubtless be our only excursion into the outer world this year; we shall probably defer our trip to Calif, now, until it is time to come up and see Hugh graduate. Maybe that will be 3 years yet, but he is due to get thru in June '51.

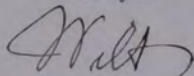
Helen's mother is anxious to come down this summer, so we have suggested she and Vivian come - they are getting along in yrs and may not be able to do so if we put it off too long - and we have also suggested that Marion and Sal take their A't for the summer, unless they get something better to do. What with the two old ladies to figure on, not to mention Hugh and Marion and Sally and Nancy who may come home this summer, or go somewhere else, or may not go at all, it is all a trifle confusing to a guy with no teeth and not many brain cells. But doors will be opened. As my old chief at Tela, Rufus K. Thomas used to say, if you delay a decision long enough you usually dont have to make it at all.

I hope we will find DF in good shape. It may well be the last time I will see him - he is 81. I read recently of the death of L.O. Howard and Oakes Ames of Harvard and old L.H. Bailey fell and broke his hip and is in the hospital and in bad shape. I hope to have 3 days to look over the items of horticultural interest in So Fla before going to Gainesville but will probably spend most of it at Bessie Burdine's.

Our new Asst Director came a week ago - Albert S Muller, whom I met in Venezuela some 15 yrs ago and later encouraged to come to Guatemala, where he has been director of the Natl School of Agr for the past 8-1/2 yrs. A good lad, 49 and a bachelor, which eliminates one problem here for the time being at least. I am planning gradually to turn over most of the local administration to him and devote myself to making the big decisions.

I hope all goes well with you and Pani Huahua. I suppose you will be leaving soon for the East. Did I tell you Mr and Mrs. Warnock of Long Beach were here recently - said they had been in some of your classes, and were a very nice couple indeed. We invited them in for lunch and I showed them around.

Ever yrs



17 July 1950

Dear Pablo:

Havent written you for quite some time, partly because I just didnt bother to look up your momentary address. I have greatly enjoyed your last two letters, both from the Cosmos Club, which of course made me a bit nostalgic for the dear dead days beyond recall. I think it is about time I spent a few days in Washington again, but I dont know when I shall be able to do it. Incidentally, and apropos de rien, I have accepted an invitation to take part in a big conference at the Univ of Florida, my almatmater, December 7 to 9 ptoximo futuro, on the subject of "The Caribbean at Mid-Century" and my subject is Progress and Problems of Caribbean Agriculture. Better come down. My present plan is to fly up there alone and just stay for the conference, then spend a couple of days with the DF^o and come home. But nous allons voir ce que nous allons voir. Helen has just heard that the next Interamerican Conference on Agriculture is to be held at Buenos Aires in December and she has already gotten as far as the Hotel Maury in Lima and will be in Santiago de Chile tomorrow. Actually, I doubt that we shall go, but again nous allons voir.

No, I didnt know Edith was with her folks in N J; we never hear from her. I would like to see her house in Washn. I would like to see a lot of things in Washn. Even including W Tennyson Swingle. I thought you must know that Bill Vogt left the Panam Union. The present director was here, Lleras Camargo, a few weeks ago and I mentioned the Vogt matter. From what he said, I got the impression that it was in large part Bill's advocacy of birth control wh got him out. Bill wrote me at the time that they objected to his writing so much on conservation in the popular magazines. I know Bill pretty well; he is allright. Sometimes he makes a pretty strong case for conservation, and when people tell me that, I reply that when Bill Sunday used to urge you to come to Jesus he didnt paint Hell in very bright colors. Bill is an evangelist in a good cause.

Sorry I couldnt join you at tye New Bagdad Restaurant, but we arent doing too badly ourselves. Our ambassador, Herbert Bursley, was in Turkey for a long time and Mrs Bursley was born in Istanbul of British parents. They come out here often so we stocked up a while ago for such occasions and only yesterday evening we had a pretty decent Levenatine dinner with them here: Shish Kebab (you wont spell it that way of course) and Rahat al Lukum and Baklava (spelling also?) and which I shouldnt tell you, I got a half gallon of arrak from those boys down on Washiagton St in NY last Xmas for the Ambassador and we had a spot of that too.

We have been delinquent in taking due notice of Olli's recent conjugation. As a matter of fact I have been simply snowed under with work here for so long now that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. We are going to send the Ollis a chequecito which they can use to buy a wedding present; probably I will send it thru you as soon as I know you are at 2503 and that somebody else isnt taking the mail out of your box. Or can you suggest something we could get them in this part of the world which would be acceptable? There really isnt much in Honduras and we dont know Laura's tastes either.

Tegucigalpa 13 August 1950

Dear Pablo:

Mighty good to get a letter again from Ahuacatlan, but sorry the trip East sorter put you under the weather for a time. I dont know how you feel about it, but as I get into the sere and yellow leaf I dont enjoy travel as much as I did 35 yrs ago.

I had a fine letter from John a week or so ago; will answer it before long. I am of the opinion that he is going to develop into a good research man and probably make that or teaching or a combination of both, his career; and I am equally of the opinion that Hugh will stick to some sort of practical, outside work such as he is in this summer or perhaps work down in this part of the world with some agrl enterprise like UFCo or one of the exp stations. Hugh isnt too strong on book learning and certainly shows no signs of being a horticulturist.

Mother Barsaloux has been here some time; is taking life quietly (there isnt much else to do at Zamorano) and will probably go back to Calif in a couple of weeks. She has told us all about Marion and Sal - the former seems to be tied up or tangled up with a young chap who flunked out at Davis last yr and who now is devoting himself to the race horse business without any startling success. We'll just let her work things out for herself, of course; maybe the race horse will come in under the wire some day and put the chap on his feet.

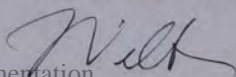
Nancy expects to be back in the States about 1 October but I dont know what her plans will be after that; she will have 60 days leave I believe and we hope she will come down here.

Since we do not have Oliver's address I enclose a chequecito wh I will thank you to forward to them to be used for the purchase of something they want for their menage. And speaking of menages, we had the French minister and family out here yesterday, M. de Francqueville with three of the nicest little French kids you ever saw and of course we heard a good deal of French spoken during the day and dropped in an occasional remark ourselves. Reminded me of the time I first went to Cuba and someone told me if I just sat back and occasiobally dibbed "Como no" and alternated with "claro que si" I could get along fine which I did.

We are finishing up a busy 7 days - started with with wife of one of the Boston officials; then 4 days with the Cultural Attaché of our Embassy in Teguci, sandwiched in with Profs Walter Hodge and I D Clement of USA and Hon. Spruille Braden and wife, then the French Minister and today the Amambassador and wife. Doesnt leave much time for work. Got some interesting sidelights from Braden - you recall he was sent to Argentina to kick out Juan Peron and didnt succeed. I gather the Braçens dont think much of Juan nor of Evita. Mrs Braden told the following on Evita, whose background as you may have heard is rather interesting. Seems that Evita went to visit the Pope and as he met her he said "Ay, carissima" to which she replied "No, Su Santidad, para Ud el precio corriente".

It will be easier to keep in touch with you, now that you are back at the old stand. I dont think you'll like it not having any kids around the house, and Betty will like it less.

Much love to both from weall



Maude Barsaloux got here as per schedule but Vivian was not allowed to come - she would lose her old age pension. It is too bad. But Maude has given us all the news of the two little gals and the best part is that Sal seems now to have grown up and doesn't mind washing dishes and the like. I have always had confidence in Sal, as I have in all of them. On the other hand, we have just heard from Hugh that he has bought another Jeep, right over the veto of his Pa and his Uncle Knowles. I don't guess there is anything you can do about it. But I had seriously hoped he would wait until he got through college. Knowles is strongly against students having cars on the campus.

I agree with your criticism about these honorary doctorates. But they get better and better; that is, the Florida hood is far more gorgeous than the Pomona hood. Knowles says when we come up to see Hugh graduate I can march in the academic procession. Well, I am going to wear the Florida hood and make a lot of Californian gall bladders burst. And talking about coming up for graduation, we are now talking about coming up next June first for that purpose and then buying a new car for the use of EAP and driving back here with all the kids. I am missing them this summer. I rather wish we had brought Sal down, as she is the only one who is not fully occupied for the vacation period. We don't hear much from Nance but hope she will get home some time this year. With the international situation what it is, they may cancel vacations.

I have just had a good letter from DF, the first since we came home. I will tell you frankly that it brought joy to my heart. The day we left him in Miami he was in pretty poor shape; he had just told Helen good bye and said "You will never see me again". I was talking to some visitors; and when I got around to going in to say good bye he was in bed, asleep, and I didn't want to disturb him, and I looked at his good old face a long time and wondered if I would ever see it again. It was pretty hard. You know how good he has been to me. I suppose you will call it sentimentalism, but this last letter makes me feel that I will find him there in December and I hope so. He is getting pretty old.

Ernie Chamberlain has just written me a long letter about MFM and offers to send a few hundred pounds if we can arrange free entry. We could do that easily. And it is an interesting proposition. I want to give it a lot of thought, and when I write him I will send you a copy. The problem here would be, how to get the Honduran to use it regularly, without supervision. The stuff is good; I could use it daily in connection with other foods if I didn't have so darn much butter and milk and eggs and chickens and beef and vegetables already. And no decent teeth to eat any of them. That's the most unkindest cut of all.

Much love to all of you

Wilt

28 Sept 1950

Dear Pablo:

We have just heard from Nancy that she is at last ready to start on her way home, with all her govt papers in hand, and will be in Washington about October 9. Apparently the govt has to give her transportation to Calif, her home state, so she is coming out there and is coming here; I dont know which will be first, but I have suggested to her that she go to Calif, then come back as far as N O on her govt transportation, come down here from N O and go back there to resume her trip to Washn at govt expense. I suspect she may carry out this program and you may see her before we do.

All well here. We have heard from the three kids in Calif that they are all safely installed in college once more, and Hugh says his draft board at Woodland expects to let him finish; they will probably grab him immediately afterward which is probably the best thing, so he can do his military service before he settles down to a job of any sort. He says his boss in the Reclamation Service during the summer has offered him a job when he graduates and I wouldnt mind seeing him take it, tho I have always hoped he would make his career, ultimately, in tropical America, because we need good men down here.

When mother Barsaloux was here she told us a good deal about Marion's interest in Frank - I dont remember his last name. She is afraid Marion is too serious and that Frank isnt the best catch she might make. Marion is the sort of gal who is probably going to marry some guy she thinks needs help. I imagine you and Betty are more familiar with the details than are we, and I wish you would tell me what you know and think. Marion has never mentioned the boy to us. Naturally I wont ever attempt to interfere in her affairs; I tried it once, in a small way, when she was running steady with a young Syrian in Guatemalan City, and I dont think it did any good. They have a curious system over there; in the younger social group you make a deal with a guy that you are his girl, and you are not supposed ever to have a date with anybody else. If you do, you have a big row on your hands.

I enclose the letter from mother which you sent; it is just about 58 years old and I think the kids will be interested in seeing it. We both were. I had a letter from Ruth Holcomb Blackstock the other day; she reported a visit from Parkie and I believe from young Edwin also, whom she thought pretty shy. No great harm in that.

I am writing to DF frequently these days; I feel that there may not be many more years in which I can do anything for him and he loves to have letters about plants. Helen and I hoping to see them again about 5 December, if they carry out that conference in Gainesville at which I am supposed to speak. Two of the jefes from Boston were here last Sunday and the first thing one of them said was "Jeff Cobledge told me to give you orders for you and Helen to come to Boston on vacation just as soon as possible." I told soon as possible would be next May, when we plan to go East for a week or so, then to Calif. I have not been in Boston or Washn for nigh onto five yrs, if I recall correctly. But then, I lived for some 35 without ever having been to Boston so I dont think 5 is too bad.

Much love to all,

Hugh writes that Knowles is going to Siem for a year, to await retirement of Dean H. Johnson, perhaps!

12 Oct 1950 - Dia de la Raza
(What race? as F O P used to ask -
"What, the human race!"

Dear Pablo:

Mighty glad to have your newsy letter of the 4th instant, but both Helen and myself feel pretty badly about Charles H. Popenoe's going into the hobo business. Not from that standpoint, but Edith has worked so hard over those kids, and has no husband to tell her the boy will soon come home again, and I know the business must have caused her a great deal of mental anguish. In such cases I dont see that the boy is taking much risk nor is likely to suffer much; it is the parents.

Helen read in the NY Times yesterday that the Italia would dock a day late so we assume Nance did not get to Washington quite on time. (Quite a stunt to get such news down here only two days late - we get the Monday NY Times on Wednesday - would be a day earlier if we lived in Teguci). Helen had a letter from Ollie's Laura a couple of days ago in wh she said they were expecting Nance to have dinner with them on the 10th. Laura writes a pretty hand and a good letter.

We are wondering if it will be possible for Hugh to leave the US for a couple of months on graduation next June. I rather doubt it. We have been planning to buy a new car for the EAP in Calif and drive down here with the 3 kids; but if Hugh cant come, I dont think we will buy the car up there as I dont want to make that long drive. We can order it thru the Co for delivery here just as easily - provided new cars can be had next yr. If they beging to get scarce we will buy one off the show room floor in Teguci before they are all gone - there must be four or five left in this big city. Guess they never have more than six or 8 on hand.

Thanks for your comments and her "steady" of the past summer. I was rather concerned because of mother Barsaloux's comments; she and Vivian have felt that Frank is headed to become a neer-do-well or something of that sort - that it might be a case similar to that of Dorothy's sister Gertrude if Marion went ahead and married the chap. Gertrude has had to support Justus Deutz most of the time - and I think likes to do it. In fact I think she married him because he was something of a misfit and needed someone to take care of him - and Marion may have some of those same jennies. But Marion's last letter is encouraging. She may have intended it so. But anyway, as Mrs Simmonds would say, she mentioned dates with three different boys in the near future. That sounds hopeful. Speaking of but anyway, my right bower José Membreño, who lived in San Francisco some yrs and speaks good English, starts every conversations with "What happened is this".

I read last night in the Sept issue of "La Hacienda" that I am to appear on the program at the Conference on "The Caribbean at Mid-Century" in Gainesville, Fla, Dec 7 to 9, along with Edward G Miller Jr, Asst Sect of State, and Henry Guggenheim of the Guggenheim Foundation and several other guys, so it looks as tho the conference is going to materialise (I hadnt had any news about it since leaving Gainesville) and if it does, Helen and I will fly to Miami about Dec 3rd; she will stay there to cook and clean up for the Fairchilds while I go to Gainesville; and then we will both spend about 3 days there before coming home. I wouldnt feel free to park ourselves on them were if not for the fact that Helen always jumps in and does all the housework and I think it is really a relief to Daisy Bell. She told us there last; . says it costs \$6000

per yr, basic, for them to live at the Kampong and keep the place going, and they are having to dig into their capital annually- do not have enough income. They pay their one gardener \$7 per day and have one wench who comes in from 10 to 2 daily and cooks lunch, at \$80 per mensem. The place is rather sadly run down and the house not kept in first-class condition. She doesnt know what they will do when DF passes out, but thinks she will stay on and take care of his plants as long as she lives. Thinks the children will not keep the place after she goes. Recently they have air condition one room which makes summertime much more bearable. DF's letters, it seems to me, are beginning to be a bit vague. When I was there I felt that his memory wasnt too good. We cant expect him to last forever.

I was interested in the last number of Arabia Calling, which reached me thru you a few days ago. Those folks certainly stick to the job. Quite a while since Doctor Ben-Hat pulled through typhoid.

Yesterday we had Senator Dermis Chavez and son here, along with the Amembassador. Not many weeks go by without an interesting visitor or two. Tomorrow we are going to have the entire staff of the Amembassy at Teguci out here for the day, with all their children wh means about 35 people in all.

Much love from house to house

Wilt

Tegucigalpa 3rd an 1951

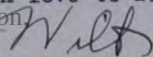
Dear Pablo:

Birdie hopping in his door - and what is the rest? I remember it ends with "safe once more" and that's us. I desire to state that we had a really interesting trip, somewhat longer than expected. When I finished at Gainesville I came down to Bradenton with Norman Reasomer, scion of the family which established the Royal Palm Nurseries in 1883 - the first tropical nursery in the US. I had promised to give a talk before the combined Mens Garden Clubs of Bradenton and Sarasota on 12 Dec and did so, receiving at the same time (big dinner party with 110 present and beefsteak at \$1.40 per libbit) a handsome solid gold medal on a watch fob with an appropriate inscription on the back. Then I came on to Belle Glade on the shores of lovely Lake Okeechobee and stayed overnight and thence to Miami, where after a couple of days rest DF staged a big party at Chapman Field where Col. Robt Montgomery (who finances the Fairchild Tropical Garden) and myself receive the Frank N Meyer Medal. So now I have all the desired medals and have nothing left in life but to die and will them to my respective children.

DF said he hadn't travelled for quite some time and he thought it would be a nice idea for us all to go over to Habana together for Xmas so go to Habana we did, and put up at Ambos Mundos for a week. Walter Schuyler and Isidoro Gonzales of UF Co treated us well - a car at our disposal all the time we were there and several dinners at the Country Club and Yacht Club and I think DF and Daisy Bell really enjoyed it - as we did also. But you have to let DF do most of the talking these days - as he grows older he grows more reminiscent and as you are riding along toward Matanzas and want to call his attention to a magnificent group of royal palms he will be telling you about the time he studied at the laboratory in Napoli. But all that is pardonable, in one of his age. Helen and I ate an awful lot of good grub and are now going on a diet - that is, no more Moro crabs or Calbarian oysters. This makes everything simple.

Glad to find your letters of 17 and 26 pxmo ppdo here on arrival. We stopped in Antigua for three days to look over things at the old house and eat tamales with Maria on New Years Eve. Came here on N Yrs Day, knowing the traffic would not be heavy as most folks would be badly engomados. -- Yes, I remember Howry Warner very well - from our visit to Claremont in 1947. Haven't heard much from Knowles recently. -- Your statement recd and contents noted and herewith check No 913 (hope you don't mind the 13) in the amt of dollars 1250 which please credit to the acct and I appreciate your services in this connection. Nance writes that she has five offers of a job, which is four more than I ever had at one time, and we are waiting to see where she lands; all are in the US, all but one in Washington (no, I'll take that back, one is to come here to Teguci as sec'y to the man who is coming to handle affairs under Pt 4) and the one is at San Francisco. I am giving her no advice. Chacune a son gout (or is it sa gout)? I'm swamped with mail so no more till later.

Much love to all



Tu casa, 19 de enero del año 1951

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 7th instant recd and much appreciated especially by Helen who of course thinks that any wedding anniversary is much more important than the 4th of July or the Quince de Septiembre. But as you say, it is a bit hard, having no youngsters around the house nor any coming back to it in what they call nowadays the foreseeable future.

I too am now meditating on income taxes as the Honduran govt has put in a law on the subject and I shall hav to pay on my salary but only at 3-1/2% and I get some deductions for life ins and dependents. Wont be as expensive as it is in the States.

You mention having met an old fellow who said his wife taught me at Pasañena High School. His wife was Olga Tarbell, sister of Ida S Tarbell, and one of the best gals who ever taught in PHS. You mentioned having met a daughter of hers (the only child, I believe) a year or two ago and you gave me the address of the the ma, and I wrote her a letter but never got an acknowledgment but none was really required. Olga Tarbell and Martha Minerva Winslow were practically my only two teachers at PHS and both of them strictly allright. Martha Minerva died a few yrs ago and I heard from one of our girls, I believe Marion, that a schoolmate of hers is a nephew or niece of Martha M. She had a sister at Sta Barbara I believe.

Apropos de rien, we got a copy of Donald Peattie's new book, The Natural History of Trees, with the author's compliments, a few days ago. Donald has certainly done well.

If you see any of the Greenwoods again tell them I want to write to Olga again and get her address.

We are now diggin in for the winter season. This week we had a little party, luncheon so to speak, for Gen Vaughan who is aide to Pres Truman, Gen Graham the President's private physician, a couple of colonels from Washn, the Pres of Honduras and his cabinet, the dipolomatic corps resident in Tegucigalpa and the press. Soon we shall have Dr E D Merrill et ux with us for a while and we expect H Harold Hume and wife forna a short stay toward the end of Feb. Business is picking up.

We want to thank you and Bets for being so good to our clan at Christmas time. They seem to feel at home at your place, as I hope your hijos will always feel at home at ours. Incidentally, Barbara Fairchild that was, has written me to ask if we could take her Boy Hugues now called Hugh I believe, for a time down here. I have written that we shall be glad to do so, but it remains to be seen if his draft board will release him. He is not any more fond of college than I was at his age but maybe we can make him into a plantsman.

Had a long letter from Polly Crosby a day or two ago. After I have answered it I think I will send it to you. Interesting to note that Flora Mayo who taught my class in Sunday School just about 50 yrs ago is still alive tho in terrible shape. Mable Rosen out with her beau, Polly reports, at the time of writing. Good old Mable. The only surviving member of her generation unless I am wrong.

Much love to all of you who are there

Wilt

31 March 1951

Dear Pablo:

Big excitement here; Nancita due to arrive tomorrow morning via Panair and we shall of course be on hand to meet her. I am sorry she will only have a couple of weeks here at most.

Just had a letter from Knowles, in which he reports laconically that Dean Hutchison is retiring and going to be made Dean of Nevada State Agrl College. Guess that wont hurt the feelings of Knowles or Bob Hodgson. We had been hoping to see Knowles down here this month, as he is a member of the Adm Committee of Turrialba, and attends their monthly meeting; but it has been postponed to July.

Hon. Dave wrote that he had done up Guatemala pretty thoroly; havent heard of his trip thru Mexico; maybe he never got through. He and Hugh dont like to pay the mordidas, you know. They kept Hugh waiting at the US border on his trip down in the jeep, expecting he would get tired of it and come across with the bakhshish, but they got tired first - after three or four days of seeing him hanging around.

Helen and I have made a couple of trips over the week-end lately, one to Comayagua, where Helen picked up several more antique paintings, well worn, and to Danli, where she got a few more things. The only way you can now tell our house from a museum is that it has a kitchen, and come to think of it, most museums now have cafeterias I believe.

We spend a lot of time these days talking about our forthcoming trip to Europe. As I may have told you, we have pretty well decided to fly KLM from here to Curacao, thence via Dakar to Madrid or Lisboa. Rather expensive but the Co is paying my way so I will only be stuck for Helen's part. We hope to leave here about the middle of July.

Most of our staff is away on vacation right now, so I have to double up on a good many things. New students coming in almost daily. I get to the office every morning between 6.15 and 6.30, work until 11; go back at 1 and work until 4, wh it now is and that is why I am at home and writing to you.

R D Cornell writes that Ruthie and a friend are going to Mérida, Habana, Haiti, Jamaica and Pto Rico on a two months jaunt. They are picking a warm time of year for it.

Tom and Polly Crosby of Topeka, Kan., wrote that they would be coming down in late April or early May, and we lined things up for them but havent had any confirmation as yet. Maurice Hughes et ux are flying down from Miami Fla on the 22nd April, to stay two weeks or so.

DF wrote me a long letter asking me to retire from this job and become Director of the Fairchild Tropical Garden. Univ of Florida wants a man withblong experience in tropical Am agriculture as counselor for Latin American studes and I suspect that they were sounding me out, but I cant afford to leave here nor would I want to at this stage of the game. Sorry I cannot carry on DF's work in Fla but I feel this job is more important and thatvI have a real obligation here.

Ever yrs

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

17 abril de 1951

Dear Paul:

Helen started pushing things as usual, and the result - also as usual - is that we are getting off to the US about a week earlier than we had planned. Yesterday we confirmed reservations for SS AZTEC out of Baltimore, 6000 gross tons, sailing from Tela to Baltimore via Puerto Barrios on 25th instant, with cargo of bananas, passengers and mail. We are due to arrive Balto on Monday the 30th I believe; we will go to Washn for a week, probably staying with Edith if she has room, because Nancy is still living with her and we want to be with Nance as much as possible. I would like to spend a few days at the Cosmos Club for the sake of Auld Lang Syne but doubt that it will be feasible. What I shall do, beyond the peradventure of a doubt, is to wander around the streets of uptown Washn - Columbia Road section, dreaming of the dear dead days beyond recall and the girls that you and I have loved long since and lost a while - quite a while. After a week in Washn we propose to go to NY for about three days; I want to spend a couple with the UFCo people on Pier 3 North River; we will stay with Helen's old friend Clara Armitage who has a fine apartment at 1 Fifth Avenue I believe it is. Then we go to Boston for about a week, to talk things over with the UFCo people there and just mill around. Really no need of it, but all the Co people who have been down here have been urging us to come. Our major problem throughout, as a matter of fact, will be to dodge the dinner invitations of people whom we have entertained here and who feel a moral obligation but no strong sentimental desire to return the compliment.

And so to California, via Chicago where Helen wants to stop for a couple of days; then probably Santa Fé all the way to Pasadena, but not on the California Ltd this time - too many windows broken in the chair car. Times have changed. We hope to land in Pasadena about 1 June and stay there a week, then go up to SF and stay a couple of days with Karl and Betty, then to see Hugh graduate, then we will have to high-ball for Honduras if Hugh is to come down with us. He is crazy to come and if he only has two weeks allowed him we will have to come fast; but I will bring him if he can get away for two weeks as it may be some time before he can come again. We are going to buy Panair tickets for all of us, the two girls, Hugh and weall, before leaving here and would then figure on taking the San Joaquin Daylight from Sacto after Hugh gets his sheepskin, reach LA in the pm and fly that same night to Ciudad de Mejico as the old writers have it.

So there you are, all subject to change without notice. Yrs of 1 de los corrientes recd and appreciated. We are glad you and Bets are going to be there until middle June. Figure on driving over to Riverside with us for one day to have lunch with Archie - it might be our last chance. Tell John to get in touch with us at Washington between May 1 and 5 - I want to talk with him. Also we want to see Oliver et ux. You can reach us in care of Edith or at Cosmos Club. I am writing the latter to hold my mail from now on. Sorter in a rush to get things cleaned up here this week, so hasta luego.

11 Agosto 1951

Dear Pablo:

Yours of hoy domingo cinco arrived on ayer sabado 10, and we are delighted to hear the news. We have not the slightest doubt that all goes well with mother and daughter; only hope that Oliver is bearing up bravely. While I regret that you beat me to the honor of grandfatherliness, I cannot deny that it was coming to you.

I have not written much if any since we got home; you were away and I was swamped with work on my return, from which I have not yet dug out from under. I am now trying to work up a treatise on Fruticultura Centroamericana but cant get ahead very rapidly

account of so many visitors. The Pres of UFCo, Mr Redmond, comes this week with some other jefes; a week ago yesterday we flew down to Tela to attend a big party given by the Zemurray's for the said new President Ken Redmond. It was the first time in some years I had seen many of my old colleagues in the Tela Division, most of whom have taken on some 25 libbits since I last saw them. I have done nearly as well, I fear. The Zemurray house at Tela is built on the site of our old house on the beach, and the bedroom in which we slept is not 25 ft from the one in which I slept 25 yrs ago, but it is a better bedroom. They have 8, and a living room as big as all Ahuacatlan.

Cant yet figure out what Sal is going to do next yr; she is seliberating plenty, Scripps and Sta Barbara State College being the present favorites, and if she deliberates much longer there will be only one choice, Sta Barbara. Marion is going back to Boikly. Sal spends most of her time reading the memoirs of St Augustine and other Catholic notables. Guess I will have to buy her a copy

of the Lives of the Saints and Santo Tomas de Aquino. Speaking

of the latter we have a little gag down here, viz. "No hay que confundir Santo Tomas de Aquino con aqui no mas lo tomamos."

No word yet from Don Hugo, which is perfectly normal, but the State Dept sent us an airmail saying he had arrived safely in Bangkok.

When Helen took a letter to the G.P.O. in Tegucigalpa addressed to him at Bangkok, Thailand, she said they didn't know anything about

such a country, but they finally compromised on Siam.

The girls are having a quiet time here, mostly sitting in the library reading (if Sally finishes the Catholic Cyclopaedia, 19 vols, of wh we have a set, she will do well) or playing Tennis or going swimming.

Helen is writing Laura. Let's see, now, who will be the next of the F¹ generation to make one of us a grandfather. I don't see too much hope. We can't figure out Sally's intentions; seems as though she scares her is that Ed says if she does not marry him he is going to become a Trappist monk. Just why he shouldn't, I don't know. There are lots of other Trappist monks in the world. I don't feel that Marion is in any imminent danger. And after all, chacun a son gout, as you would say.

Much love to you both from us both.

Wilt

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8 Oct 1951

Dear Pablo:

Seems like I haven't written you in a long time. Probably is. Every year things seem to get heavier here but Karl would probably say it is just because I am getting older.

The big news from our side is that ten days ago President Gale P. Pizarro of Ecuador wrote that he had requested the UFCo to send me down there for a couple of weeks to help him organize a couple of schools of vocational agr, one in the Andes not far from Ambato, and the other on the coast near Guayaquil. The UFCo approved and Helen and I Helen and I leave today after tomorrow for dear old Quito. Helen is thrilled because Gale Pizarro has written me a couple of personal letters and has sent a couple of radiograms and she expects to be received in style. We hope to get back here around the first of Nov.

Seems to me you are scheduled for a trip East about this time, and may not receive this letter promptly; but hit dent mattah as George B. Cellen used to say. A few days ago I had a letter from Hon. Dave, dated at Yellow Springs O., saying he and a friend were thinking about coming down here at the end of Oct, for five months prácticas. I replied, discouraging him from bringing a friend but encouraging him to come alone. He will learn a lot more if he comes alone, and it has been my experience that these two-man teams don't always work out too well. Hugh tried it, and his correlative quit at Guatemala City and went home. Dave could take it here allright and we would put him in the mill and let him do some real work to pay his way, which the same would be good for him. I told him we might not be here at the end of Oct but to come ahead, and recommended he come by train thru Mexico to San Salvador - or to Guatemala at least - and then come on by bus to Tegucigalpa.

Sal writes that she is very happy at Scripps. You probably know more about this than I do. All summer she talked of U of C, Santa Barbara and Scripps, and like the well known Jennie, could not make up her mind. I tried not to influence her too much. She felt that Scripps would be pretty expensive but I told her not to let that be the deciding factor. We think she has real talent for painting and would like to see her develop it for the satisfaction it will give her in later life. When she left Calif with us she seemed to be pointed toward matrimony in October but I did urge her to finish college first. Personally I doubt that she is really in love, by your standards. Marion less so. What Sal does seem intent upon is the Catholic religion. We had some arguments about it here - she is thoroughly indoctrinated even down to the bedily assumption of the Virgin, so I laid off.

No time for more today, as I am in the midst of cleaning things up to get away and at such a time a dozen important jobs show up which ought to have shown up earlier.

Much love from house to house

Wilt

As return

Nov 7 1951

Dear Pablo:

We got back here last Sunday, after nearly three weeks in Ecuador and El Pefu; and last night recd yr note from the Cosmos Club, wh the same conjured up many memories of bygone days - those dear dead days beyond recall. I think if/when the Club leaves the Dolly Madison house I shall give up my membership. It wont be the same. I do feel, however, that we have been lucky in hanging on to the old place so long, dont you? How well I remember those summer evenings when you and I used to go down there; find the place almost empty, and sit around reading and looking at the elms in Lafayette Square.

Did you hear anything about W T Swingde in Wahn? I recd a letter from DF yesterday in which he says that W T has been sent to St Elizabeths. He also says L H Bailey is failing rapidly and intimates that he is not expected to live long.

Yr letter of recent date recd last night, intimates that Hajji Dawid is about to arrive in these parts. Swell. We shall be glad to see him. Helen has today indented for a couple of sheets and a pillow (not too soft) and he is going to share the little brick house over in the garden with Hon. Roberto Garcia, son of Hon. Bambino Garcia of Costa Rica, the Hon. Roberto being asst to Prof Morcillo of our Agronomy Dept. I bet Dave will take hon Roberto for several considerable rides, hon Roberto not being terribly heavy above the eyebrows but weighing 14 ston and having large feet - the requisites according to the Gardeners' Chronicle of olden times. Horace Clay is going to take Dave in hand and put him thru his paces.

We had a highly interesting trip to Ecuador and Peru. Got quite chummy with President Galo Plaza and saw all my old stamping ground; then Helen and I stole a week of time and flew down to Peru, which the same she was crazy to see. Stopped three days in Lima then flew up to Cuzco and went down to the ruins of Machu Picchu wh you will remember Hiram Bingham brought to public attention thru the Natl Geographic many yrs ago with the assistance of O F Cook, and it is just about the doggonedest overwhelming sight in this hemisphere. More impressive to me than the pyramids of Egypt or Yosemite Vallwy. Simply tremendous, or in the words of Little Dug Collidge, beggars description. We were glad we went. We spent three days arund Cuzco and picked up a few antiques wh successfully got by the outgoing gumrukji, or we the outgoing got by the gumrukji, and here we are. Left Lima by air at 2.45 a m and were in Teguci for lunch at 1 p m the same day. Not like old times.

We are glad you approve of Janina and would still like tom know the etymology of that name. Have you any special suggestions re Dave? To just what is he allergic? I hope it aint rice and beans. One of our grads, a fine lad from Ecuador who went to Florida on a scholarship from here last Sept, writes me that he likes it swell up there but he does miss those free beefsteaks of Zamorano. I hope Dave likes free beefsteaks.

Incidentally, and apropos de rien, just before we left here both Helen and myself made out wills (mine a new one), in the very best legal Spanish, by the terms of which Hugh takes over on my demise, and if he demises before I do, then Nancy takes over, and so ad infinitum. That is to say, in the case Helen and I demise jointly, for of course she takes over in case I demise separately and firstly. All very simple, the main point being that you no longer have any responsibility in the case.

We join in love to you both

Wilt

Friday 16 Nov 1951

Dear Pablo:

Helen tells me you and Bets are due to arrive in Altadena today, and since Helen always keeps track of such things I have no doubt you are already sitting in the patio at Ahuacatlan and assesting that East West Homes Best or the equivalent thereof. I felt the same way when we got back from Ecuador, Peru and way stations. The older I grow the less I enjoy hard travel. I dont like that idea because there are still oportunitites.

Maude wrôte that she and Vivian have been enjoying immensely their stay at Ahuacatlan, especially the mangos. I asked Dave just which tree those came from and he in his ignorance did not know. I in my ignorance dont know either.

This is just a note to tell you that Hon Dave blew in here the other day. I had not recd any word of his arrival, when in came the milk bus, El Lechero, and I happened to be standing out in front of Zemurray Hall. Off stepped a likely young gent and someone said "Here comes another visitor" "Tell him no room" I dibbed. Then went out and shook hands and said to the staff "Who does this guy look like?" and they figured it out.

The boy is strictly OK. Not afraid to tackle anything -min fact he looks for something to tackle. The letter he wrote from College Park Md got here on the same Lechero with himself, undoubtedly due to laziness on part of the PM at College Park, so Dave just simply looked up the Tela RR Co in Teguci and told them he was coming out here and where could he get the Lechero? I put him in the little house over in the garden, same room as John had, and told him he could eat with the staff in the mess hall, but he elected to sit himself down at one of the student tables so he could talk to the boys. The grub is pretty tough there, for a guy from the USA, so Helen and I will see that he gets over to our house occasionally for a big slide of ham steak or a 2-lb T/bone. This pm he was around to get his mail (a letter from you) and told Helen that he found chopping grass with a machete, wh apparently he tackled this morning, alrigh for the first 40 minutes but a trifle boring afterward. We are going to take him up to San Antonio de Oriente on Sunday. He went up Uyuca with Horace Clay this morning. He is hitting it off well with Horace - who knew John and Hugh in Calif, as you may recall - and is working in his departament. He will doubtless write you all the harrowing details, but I just send along this preliminary note in case he delays. It is going to be fun to have him around and we will fix him up to stay in Antigua when he wants to go over to Guatemala, wh the same will not be for a long time yet.

Much love from us all

Walt

2 Dicbre 1951

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 24th proximo pasado recd and contents noted. When I saw the Palace Hotel envelop it reminded me that I have never stayed in that historic hostelry and I think the next time we go to SF we will do so, if I have any cash. All I remember of the Palace is the time you and I were in SF on our way East per SS Korea and walked thru the lobby where China boys in silk pajamas were sweeping the floors. I suppose they now wear rayen.

Yes, we got the announcement of Jean Hillyer's marriage wh the same made we feel pretty sad, for as I told Helen, I remember very well the wedding of that girl's grandmother. I spect you remember it even better.

I dont like to give too much advice, but since you ask for it, I will say that Inbelieve it would be wise for Jdny to move down to Florida in order to be on the ground floor. Just between you and me, they need good talent in Florida. I am already on record to the effect that I think John might have a very good future in that College of Agriculture. And I think John's future, in any case, lies in a College of Agriculture. I have the conviction that he will make a good teacher. And I cannot see many of them in sight in Florida, so far as tropical horticulture is concerned. And Florida is trying hard to get in the front row, also so far as tropical horticulture is concerned. Florida is the right place for it. One can best judge these things by asking, What would Inde if I were in Fulano's shoes? Not knowing John too well but having, at least, more than a speaking acquaintance, if I were in his shoes I would horn in on Florida.

Now as to Hon Hajji Dawid: Seems like he is minding his own business and getting on as well as could be expected. Coupla days ago he came over here quoting the words of Sally Pepenee (now spelled Salley, by request) that he had bugs in his guts. Intold him no, it was just too much mess hall grub, with a superabundance of grease and perhaps Allium sp, not remembering at this moment the specific name of garlic; and after two days and idem nights here he turned up bright and smiling yesterday morning and was able to put down about 1/4 of an ordinary-sized turkey mit trimmings. We decided to have Thanksgiving dinner yesterday and it 1 Dec, so as not to create any complications; I dont like the dictum of the US Congress, changing the date so as to put more money into the pockets of US comerciantes, so we will just have our own from now on. I think Dave is doing alright. I never saw a boy who suffered less from inhibitions and I think he is beginning to realize that maybe perhaps talvez per si acaso you cant do everything here the way you do it at Yellow Springs. For example, the honor system. Dave has a few things yet to learn, probably I have more; but la Juventud Redentera has the upper hand these days and I guess the old guys like you and me had just better lie down and take it.

In re W Tennyson Swingle - I dont take science any more, limiting myself to the Scientific Monthly, so I didnt see the note in reference. I am tired of reading news notes of physical science and obituaries of grand old guys like W Merton Wheeler and Chas V Piper et al. En passant, I have already prepared my own wh they can publish if and when they please. It is a good one.

Ever Yrs

Wilt

16 Dec 1951

Dear Pable:

I have been so busy these past two weeks that I have scarcely been able to keep up with things, but I understand the little gals expect to be with you for Christmas and hence am sending herewith letters for them which pls forward if any one of them does not show up. It is good of you and Beta to take them in at this time - and any time. I have told Nancy and Marien that if there is a possibility of so doing, I would like them to take all of you and ~~Gene~~ Baraleux and Vivian to the Green for one of those npr plus ultra smergasberds at my expense, so if is possible, will you please arrange - and it must be at my expense. If they want send me the bill, you de se. This is in the nature of my Christmas treat for the crowd.

No doubt Hon. Dave has told you all about his comings and goings. The boy decent miss any bets - not if he knows there is any betting going on. I am sure he is going to profit greatly by his stay here. He is finding his Uncle Wilson a pretty tough customer. Dave has been used to a good deal more liberty of action than we have found it possible and practicable to give our lads. The reason is that the student body at Antioch is not exactly the same kind of a student body which we have at EAP. Perhaps something may lie in the fact that I am a good bit tougher than you are. Anyway, Dave is seeing Latin America from the inside, just like John Gunther, with the difference that John spent 24 hrs in Honduras and Dave is going to spend, I hope, a considerably greater number of days.

The boy seems to have your ability to express himself in writing, which the same is by no means true of my Hugh. But we hear that the latter is getting along allright in Siam, working on his job, and coaching the local basketBall team, and leading in the square dances.

This last week end we had with us Hon. T. Jefferson Coolidge Pres of the Board of Directors, mit ux, the Hon. Senator Leverett Saltenstall of Mass. (R) et ux, and Dr George Thorn of Harvard, a highly interesting crowd, who stayed with us for 3 days; then we had Hemy Henney, Dean and Director of Cole State College at Fort Collins, followed by two other dignitaries and now I am sitting on the edge of my chair waiting for Dr Alberto Leon, Director de la Escuela Nacional de Agriculuta, Lima Peru. Thus runs the world away.

Much love and a very Merry Christmas to all of you.

Helen left by car at 4 a m for Guatemala, to meet Karl and Betty Bowman who are due to arrive on the 20th. I expect to fly over there on the 22nd to spend Christmas eve, then we will drive back here thru Salvador.

Granada 29 July '52

Dear Pablo - Just after sending you a pretty
pic. "Having a fine time, wish you were
here" comes your very interesting letter of 24th.
We were particularly anxious for news of Hugh.
I can't figure out just what happened over
there. Inasmuch as from Bob Pendleton I
got several disturbing letters - he thought
Hugh was being drawn into the local
"intra-departmental" situation - petty
politics of the sort we used to have in
the U.S. D.A. - about Nancy's wedding -
I am sorry you will have to stand in
loco parentis but no one could do it
better and of course I want to cover
the expense - whatever it may be. In
hand was this always means \pm case of
champagne, canned asparagus, 1 only Swift
Premium Ham, and canned California
peaches. What would you say about \$500.
I am quite willing to go higher if it
is desirable to do so. I have my
check book with me - let me know
how much to send. you can
catch us at the Embajada de los
Estados Unidos A. Madrid, up to Aug. 20.

We love it here, just simply
do not want to leave. We put Marion
and Kitty on the express for Madrid
last night. They are going to France
to meet a friend of Kitty's. We had
driven in a fine Chrysler, with them
from Lisbon to Coimbra to Stgo de
Compostela in Galicia, to Leon to
Salamanca to Avila to Tol Madrid
to Toledo to Oropesa to Merida
to Sevilla to here. A perfectly
grand trip, and did not work too
expensive, between the 4 of us (of
course I paid for the 4!) But living
is unbelievably cheap here in Spain -
in the 2nd class hotels (our speed) it
is \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day, and good
 grub. Thanks for your suggestion
 Felche - Day after tomorrow Helen
 and I are going by car to Murcia,
 Elche, Alicante, and Valencia, then
 back here again. Nothing like Granada.
 We will go back to Madrid about
 Aug 15 for a few days, then fly to
 Nice, Paris, and reach London about 1
 Sept. Hotel Connaught, Carlos Place,
 W. 1, from Sept 1 to 13.

W.F.

Ahuacatlan, Sunday Aug. 10, 1952

Dear Wilson:

I have just heard a real Voice from the Past: a man phoned who said he had been a member of Marion Bowman's Sunday School class, before she married. He said it was an extremely successful class and that is what I have heard from others. She wasn't much older than the young fellows she taught, I guess. She gave up the class when she married; turned it over to Ella Richards (McLean), and the latter once confided to me that the class then virtually evaporated. They had evidently been interested in the teacher, not the Scriptures! As a parting gift they gave me a copy of Bryant's treasury of poetry, which we still have--badly damaged, I'm sorry to say--probably by little Herbert!--Gladys Gosney Crick dropped in a few days ago. They are living at Grant's Pass, Ore., and enjoying it there. Their son Bob, a paratrooper, is on Kojé Island, helping guard the much-talked-about Communist prisoners; the toughest troops in the army finally had to be called in to clean up the mess made by the high brass.--And speaking of Grant's Pass, I wonder if you remember that FOP continually had that in his fantasies during the long weeks he was delirious with typhoid in Denver. He talked incessantly about going up there to hunt bears with "Grizzly Dan."--Hugh has said nothing to me about any difficulties in Bangkok that might have embarrassed anybody; the story the draft board tells him is that he never did have a proper authorization to go over there; a woman who was on the board at the time (but has since left) gave him permission--wh the draft board now says was illegal and should never have been given. He understood that formal written authorization was to be procured from Washington, but this was never done. All the draft boards are now scraping the bottom of the barrel, and I suppose they figured Hugh had already had a year of grace and it was high time for him to get into uniform. He thinks this will be about Sept. 15; he is still appealing but evidently without any real hope of a stay of execution.--Your offer of \$500 to help the wedding bells wring out is mighty generous. If you want to send it or part of it along now I'll be able to take sudden action if we need to make a down payment on a church, to engage the time; or anything like that. You can be sure I'll squeeze every pes until the eagle cries "Peccavi." The cost of matrimony is too high--not that it isn't worth it, but we ought to fight inflation, and I tried to set a good example when I conjugated; cost me nothing but a box of seegysars to give to the clerk of the court, who recorded the contract. The Mann family probably did not pay out more than \$400 for John's wedding, but it was in a small country town, church probably cost nothing, they made their own dresses very largely, etc., etc. Harry Owen told me he paid out \$700 for Mildred Eager's wedding; and it was not an elaborate one. Incidentally, Alvin had the effrontery to suggest that he would come out and give away the bride. Bill Cawfield, whom Mildred married, is a fine young fellow; has a job teaching in the new Fontana HS while Mildred will teach first grade in the Ontario schools; they have an apt in Ontario.--John and Merry have taken an apt. near the univ.--7404 Rhode Island av., Apt. 4, College Park, Md.; that is a long way out Rhode Island ave. from where you and I used to hold forth. They will probably not really settle there for another month, as the peach crop is now going full blast at Hancock.--Your description of your tour plans makes my mouth water. To see the country with such a guide as Helen, who knows it so well, will really be a treat--cosa mayor, as the Dons say.--Can you give me Marion's address? There is a letter or document of some sort from the gov't, wh I'd like to forward--Betty joins me in much love to both of you.

Mexico, 15 Aug 1952

Dear Pablo, I hope you got (or
got, it went steamer mail) my pretty
p.c. from Felice (good eye hair
stand!). What a wonderful thrill
it gave me to walk among the 75 ft
tall palms - just like Basra! I
had looked forward to buying some
dates to eat - but no Felice dates
do not keep more than a week. I
was told you probably know the
whole story. My guess is that
the climate is not hot enough
to concentrate the juice down to
a point where it would ferment.

But anyhow (Mrs E. Simmonds)
we went on to Valencia and saw
the orange groves (not at all bad)
and the rice fields (splendid),
then back to Granada via Malaga
and Algeciras + Jerez de la
Frontera and Ronda. A grand
trip! The Mediterranean coast
is just 100% better than the
side from S.F. to L.A. on the Coast
Day flight.

I was amazed² to see, in the valley of Almuñécar a few mi. east of Malaga, some 30 or 40 acres of beautiful chermoye orchards. But no avocados. Gent in the Min. de Agr. here tells me there are a few at Torrox near Malaga but avocados have never been like by españoles who have not lived in tropical America.

I enclose a map showing our route by car thru Spain. We are now spending a few days in Madrid (which is quite unlike my preconceived idea - it is a lovely, open, airy city, a glorified Washington) so that Helen can work over the antique shops. Next Tuesday we fly to Rome via Nice; stay in Rome for 2 1/2 days only, then to Paris for about a week, then England. Spain is full of French tourists - not many Americans. The local gente opens up on us in French

and I turn³ Helen loose on
them with here genuine Madar-
lena Spanish and jaws drop
and they say "where do you come
from?" I like Spain immensely.
Interesting country, good people,
plenty of olive oil, cheap living.
at this excellent pension where
we are staying in Madrid we
pay in \$ \$, 2.50 per capita
per diem, sin non compris.
Nowhere has B and L cost us
more than \$ 3 per day, in part
because of exchange, in part
because we do not go to the
hotels he likes, but stick to
those classified as 2^a categoria,
and they are plenty good enough
for us. We prefer to use the
rest of our money to hire cars
(we had a 1934 Chrysler for
the trip along the Mediterranean)
at 10 U.S. cents per kilometer.

4.

Oh I forgot to ask: Did you
hear any of the songs of Andru-
lucia? Pure Raks Baladi Hajj
Ibrahim. Or rather, Arabia with a
little bit of Europe thrown in
for good measure. We went to
the Theatre Carles III last night
to see Spanish dancing and hear
folk music - Soledad Miralles y
Cia. I thought of Betty - she
would have gone simply wild.
There is nothing like it. In fact
there is nothing like Spain - I
love it, and it is so comforting to
be able to talk to people.

Will you send the enclosed to
Hugo if he is not with you? Read
it first. We expect to see
Marion again in Paris or
London. She is having a great
trip. Helen joins in much love
to you Wilt

Paris, le 27 août 1952

Dear Pablo. off for Amsterdam
in the morning (2 days) then to
London on 1 Sept. we will have
had just a week here - flew
from Madrid to Rome for 3
days - then back to Nice and
here by Air France - good line.
I liked Rome - the old ruins
are wonderful and we got in
touch with Franco Fungi who
now lives there and he made
things very interesting. Here in
Paris we have taken 4 tours -
to save money: one around
the city, one to Versailles, one
to Fontainebleau and one to
~~Paris~~ ^{Ghent}. Naturally, I would like
much more time here but
it is not possible. This morning
we went to the Jardin des

Plantes and then to the
Quai de la Meijeuse -
a horticultural delight - where
I called on Valmorin Aubrieux
et Cie. - Marion and Kitty
blew in right before last after
having been thru Brittany and
Normandy in a Drive - it U Rself
which Kitty had. They fled
back to England today.

Travel in Europe is no va-
cation but it is a damn fine
Education. Im sorry I did not
do it 30 yrs ago - or 40, as you sd.
I like France and the French
people. Food is terribly expensive -
everything else normal. We
have a nice little room with
bath at the Hotel de Calais,
right off the Place Vendome,
for \$7.00 per day - cheaper than
Los Angeles I reckon. We set our
good meal a day at about \$2.50 ^{\$3.00}.
Ever yrs Witt



Grosvenor 7070.
Charaigne, Audley, London.

The Connaught Hotel,
Carlos Place,
London, W.1.

5 Sept 1952

Dear Pablo - all OK so far.

Except we are in one of the most aristocratic hotels in the city (£4.0.0) per diem for 2, without breakfast, and Helen is in constant fear of the servants who don't really approve. - In regard of 21 p.p.m., p.p.d., don't fall for Juan de Leon R. As an agriculturist, he was the best football player E & P has had hasta la fecha, and has done nothing worth while since graduation, so far as known to the writer, except to go to La Habana on the all-C.A. team.

We enjoyed Paris and much
especially 3 days in Holland -
such flowers and so many of
them! If you know where Hugh
is in her army tell him
to send us his ad-dress. Marion
returns here from Scotland
Tomorrow. She is making much
out of her European trip. -
Thanks for clippings re Cosmos
Club. It will never be
the same to you and me.
The Hort. Congress convenes all
next week - Geo. Darrow is on
the program, only speaker you
know. I suspect, with possible
exception of you ever
Walt

Hotel Europe

A. KUCHEN-HÄBERLI, PROPRIETOR

TELEGRAMM ADRESSE: EUROPE INTERLAKEN

TELEPHON NO. 75

Interlaken

18 Sept - 1952

Dear Pablo - we got away from London at last - it was pretty hectic and very expensive - \$11.50 per diem just for our room. The Congress was very much worth while and we got to see Stratford on Avon and Kew and Wisley had a lot of places in London itself. You mentioned that you assumed I would visit the headquarters of the RHS. I almost lived there during the days, as most of the mtgs were held there - and a fine flower show was staged for the edification of the Congressists. Kew was the most interesting sight of all - for me. But it is a relief to be far from the maddening throng - we flew to Zürich yesterday morning, then by train in the p.m. to this perfectly gorgeous spot. I think you were here, some 42 yrs ago. We are staying 3 days to recuperate from London, then to Geneva for a night and on down to Avignon and Aix en Provence, and then back to Dijon to call on our relatives then to Paris again to meet my boss T. J. Cooledge for a Conference, then to Madrid and on Oct 10 we fly for home. All in all a very wonderful, interesting, expensive and tiring trip. Very much enjoyed while.

We put Marion on the boat train at

waterloo station a few days ago. She goes to Washn. to stay with K. Beth until she sees if she can get a job in the foreign service. If she is not successful I think she may come down to Honduras about Xmas. Your note about Hugh and John reached me in London. Too bad they don't take the unmarried boys first but god moves in most mysterious ways his wonders to perform.

Interlaken as you know, is a gorgeous place. The view of the Jungfrau from the window of our room (\$3 per diem for 2 persons) is superb. The ride here from Luzern ditto. Just about the most lovely country I have ever seen.

If you need to reach us, we shall pick up Pearl at the Amembassy, Madrid, about Sept 27 and again about Oct 8. Hope to spend a few more days at Granada before going home, Oct 10 from Madrid, going down from the latter for \$8 on the Companhia Internacional das Coches Camasy Caranagens dos Grandes Expressos Europeus (sic) at 18m. per hora. We feel at home in Spain and consequently love it: we thought Holland delightful; and Switzerland beyond words. Living is almost ~~incomparably~~ incredibly cheap in Spain (\$2 per day each, for us): cheap in Holland; reasonable here; rather high in England (about like Italy) and high in France unless you know where to eat and we learned

pls return to P

14 Oct 1952

Dear Pablo:

We got back here yesterday noon, to find a radio from Nancy that the wedding is to be in U A on November 1st. Much as we would love to be there - and much as it is our duty and privilege to be there - I just simply must not leave here that soon, which I think you can understand. Not knowing where Nancy may be I am enclosing a letter to her which I wish you would read and deliver; I say read because I would like you to consult her about a wedding present and see what we can give her which will really be worth while. I would like to go up as high as \$500 on this if there is something she really wants. You and I have already consulted in re the expenses of the wedding and I definitely want to do the right thing. Guess I had better enclose you a check for \$500 which you can use as required, and if you dont need it all you can credit the balance to my acct.

You will stand in loco parentis and give away the bride for me or do the needful in all respects, and a better loco parentis could not be found. I hate most awfully not to be present at the wedding at the wedding of this my first to get married but I must spend some time with the Pres and the Minister of Agr these next few days and also line up the new semester and 1000 other things. This morning, before we had unpacked our bags, two parties from Teguci came out to see me and it will be the same for the next two weeks. I hope Hugh can get leave to come down for the wedding. Sal will of course be there and lots of other Popenos, for which I am glad.

Hastily yrs

Walt

8 Novbr 1952

Dear Pablo:

As was to be expected, Maude was the first one to give us a full account of the wedding, including all details as to the garb of each and every man woman and child. Sal had given us a preview, however, in her last letter. It all sounds very fine - must have been a rather swell wedding. As Nancy doubtless told you, we had the pleasure of talking her over the radio telephone on the early morn of her wedding day - a rather emotional affair for me, as you can imagine. She said their plans are not definite yet. I hope they go to Puerto Rico, as I may have nibbled before. But with the Popenoe wanderlust, it shouldn't matter very much, to her, just where they go.

mt I was glad to hear that Hugh was on hand, and sorry that Marion could be there too; but I think she was wise in not incurring the expense connected with a flying trip (sic/) to California and back. Of course I was still more sorry that we could not be on hand but Maude said you looked very handsome, giving away the bride, and I suspect you did it much better than I would have done.

Now we shall see who will be the next to fall - and I only hope he or she falls into the right arms. I think Nance has set a good ejemplo to the 2 younger girls, by waiting until she found a real nice, real nice man. I was considerably worried about Marion and Sal the last time we were in San Francisco, but I guess both gals have decided that they better wait. Sal would have found life very crab with Ed, I feel sure, and Sal is not the kind to enjoy a crab existence. Ed is allright; serious, hard working and will probably plug along honestly and efficiently as long as time shall last; but he is fanatically catholic which not jibe too well with the Huguenot background of the Papineaus. I dont know how Sal may feel about that, for when she was down here last time she was all sold on the infallibility of the Santo Papa and knew the dogma (and seemed to believe it) from A to Izzard.

Here we are marking and sawing as per costumbre or a little more so. Thursday last four different groups of visitors on one and the same day. One group of 10 insisted on seeing me at once - I was teaching my class the difference between a side graft and a veneer graft and Helen told them that I was busy; but they said "Well, he can stop to talk to us, of course" to which she replied that I stopped my class for only two people, one being Sam Zemurray and the other Jesucristo, or words to that effect. It takes a lot of will power and a very mean disposition - and fortunately I have both - to hold out against the blandishments of some of our callers.

Now we have a busy week ahead of us; tropical forester's convention with some 24 delegates from 11 countries, whom we have to house and feed, and I can already begin to hear the complaints - like that of good old R K Thomas, our manager in Tela when I came down, who used to walk out on the balcony in the morning and shout to the Jamaican houseboy "Ferguson, there's no hot water in the bawth!"

Presumably you will know where to reach Bob and Nancy when they return from the luna de miel, so I enclose a letter which I wish you would pass on to Bob. And speaking of addresses, I still wonder why Hugh does not tell us how to write him at Fort Or instead of putting 2503 N Marengo on all his letters - I say all, which of course means about two.

Ever yrs

Will

Tu casa, hoy 26 de Novbre de 1952

Dear Pablo:

Understand that tomorrow is Franksgiving but we do not celebrate that any more, tampoco el glorioso cuatro, wh use^d to be a national holiday in Honduras but has been superse^d by the Fall of the Bastille. I assume however that tomorrow p m you folks will sit down before your vegetarian turkey with synthetic gravy an^d give thanks for the election of a Republican president.

Di^d you see the enclose^d - which I clippe^d from the NY Times. Do I recall correctly than Anson Henry was a relative of our ancestors? Seems to me there was an Aunt Sally who was his wife or daughter or sumpin. But I am not well verse^d in such things.

Guess I di^dnt tell you that I had a long letter from Ma Browne a few months ago. Remind^ed me of ol^d times.

I am enclosing revise^d Examen de Capacida^d wh we have just prepared for evaluating aspirantes. This is practically in the form presented by Herb, but we ma^de a few changes in terminology, having foun^d that the cubanos di^dnt know what a camote is a boniato, nor di^d the peruanos know that an aguacte is really a palta. Yesterday I made quite a hit with my stude^s by putting the Aztec hieroglyph for Ahuacatlan on the blackboard and explaining it to them. Such things help to keep them awake.

Look over the exam de capacida^d and tell me what you think of it. All in all, it seems to work remarkably well.

Helen and I spent the week-en^d out in Olancho, coming back pretty full of frie^d eggs and frie^d red beans and tortillas. Quite a satisfaction to see the new agrl school built by the govt, entirely staffe^d by gra^ds of our school, and with even a cook who use^d to work here. He fairly busted himself to give us a fine lunch last Sat.

Latest news from Nance soun^ds as if (Shawnee county locution) they are going to Puerto Rico. They will like it there and I will be gla^d to see Bob learn Spanish - almost the universal language, now, of the Popence family.

We are awaiting news of Hugh's next assignment. I imagine he may get a very pleasant job. Of course he will never be satisfie^d with his pay, after having starte^d life at such an extravagant figure.

Much love to all

Wilt

9 January 1953

Dear Pablo:

Quite some time since I have written you, but no offense, intended or expressed. You can understand that our time was pretty busy over the holidays, trying to keep 165 (count them 165) boys in hand, plus which both Helen and I along with a lot of other folks here have had to put up with the flu. Probably a result of eating too much Christmas turkey, not synthetic.

And in the interim, Hugh seems to have landed on his feet & tho much of the time he seems to keep them in Altadena. He is extremely appreciative, in his frequent letters (strange new development) of the hospitality of Pani Huahua and yourself - calls it his California home. I too am appreciative and want you to know it. Nancy and Bob presumably are at Hato Rey - and I am trying hard to remember just where that is. I remember the name, and if there is any poblacion of more than 5000 inhabitants in PR which I didnt visit on my job there some 15 yrs ago I want to know what it is. Sam Zemurray sent Dunlap and myself there to look for banana land. The puertorriqueños had come to Boston and said "Why dont you grow your bananas under the American flag, e.g. in Puerto Rico?" And Sam told them "If you could grow bananas commercially in Puerto Rico somebody would have found it out by now", a pretty good answer. Dunlap and I cruised the island from stem to stern and found just about 250 acres of what we would call first class banana land. But I am mighty glad that Bob and Nance are starting life there; it will be a fine place to get acquainted with the tropics and may lead to further jobs in this part of the world, for which Nance is well prepared.

Sal wrote enthusiastically of her visit to Stockton over the holidays - seems as if (good Kansas) there might be a young male in the picture. Marion writes rarely but we hope she gets her job in Washington this month - but the wheels of the Gods and the U S Govt grind slowly - and I am not so sure they always grind exceeding fine.

Good letter from Knowles, written on Ymas day, like yours; I didnt have time that day to write, ni siquiera para rascarme la cabeza. Knowles still seems pregy sad over having to leave Davis. They had a lovely house there, fixed up just the way he wanted it; but on the other hand, Emma will be happier in the climate of the Bay. I wish Knowles could settle down a bit, somewhere; still seems to be flying around most of the time to committee meetings.

Thanks for statement re expenses of Nancy's conjugation. I still regret we would not be there. Thanks also for statement of Peter's account. Having recd a good bonus from the Co at the end of the year I am able, and glad, to enclose herewith my check for \$2000 to cover expenses for 1953.

The folks in Boston tell me I should come north once per annum and since we did not go in 52 I think we may likely fly up in April of this yr, and if we do so, we shall try to come to California for a short visit. In the meantime, and always

Thine

Wilt

19 Feb 1953

Dear Pablo:

Two days ago we got a letter from Sally which was pretty disturbing. Yesterday morning we went into town and talked with her over the radio telephone. She said she had been to see you the day before, but I didn't think to ask her what you had decided. She said she was not going to start the second semester at Scripps wbut would go down to stay with you until further plans could be made. In her letter she thought an operation would be necessary.

We told her she could stay with Vivian until Maude gets home, if she wanted to avoid bothering you and Betty. I rather suspect she will prefer to stay with you; but Maude will not be going home until the middle of March and Vivian will have plenty of room in the meantime. In her letter, Sal said she was going to submit the findings of the socialist at Pomona to Karl Bowman which I think is the thing to do. I told her over the phone that it would be my advice for her to ask Karl to make arrangements at the Univ of Calif hospital in San Francisco for whatever further examinations may be necessary - if any such are required. I am sure some of Karl's colleagues will be able to advise as soundly as anybody in California.

If there is to be an operation, and it is a serious one, either Helen or I will fly up to be with Sal at the time. I would rely upon your counsel in this connection. As a result of the talk you had with Sal two days ago I suspect I shall be hearing from you shortly - I hope so. I am pretty badly worried. In her letter, Sal said if there was to be an operation it probably would not have to be right away - I think she mentioned that it might be as late as June.

Please make sure that everything is done which should be done.

Ever yrs

W. S. P.

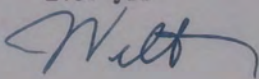
Please see file

24 Feb 1953

Dear Pablo: Yrs of 18th came a few days ago. Yesterday a copy of the report rendered by the urologist at Pomona. As to where Sally has the operation, you are better qualified to say than am I. In my previous letter I was all for having her go up to Karl, but if you think this is not necessary, and he agrees, OK. The long and short of the matter is that I shall leave the whole matter of arrangements in your and his hands. As to the time, I gathered from her letter that there is no hurry. If she is too miserbale, however, I assume we should not wait very long; and if you think at any time the operation should not be delayed, go ahead. If it is not necessary to do anything before the 15th or 20th of March, and if you think it desirable for Helen or myself to come up, we shall do so. I could get away for a week any time after March 15th. Helen could come earlier if necessary. What we would like to do is to bring Sally down here as soon as she can travel after the operation; you mention it might be 4 or 5 weeks. In that case, we would probably not be able to wait around that long, but she could recuperate at your place and then fly down as it is no trouble with the present direct service on Panam.

Our letters will probably get crossed in the mails from now on, but it doesnt matter. The main thing is, I leave you in loco parentis, but if the operation is going to be pretty serious I would by all means plan to fly up myself, if only for a week.

Ever yrs



Sunday 22 March 1953

Dear Pablo:

Seems as if (as we say in Kansas) it is some time since I have written you. But perhaps not so long. But anyhow (Mrs Ed Simmonds) here we are again (as the man says at the circus). I have just finished the Sunday morning inspection of the dorms, and told the new students to keep their beds neater, et id genus omne. Never any end to this business of being a school teacher. Half of my staff are away on vacation and seems as if the other half is going this week. Semana Santa (Easter week) is a pretty serious proposition in America Latina. I was just telling somebody that the three times of the year which are the most joyous for other folks are the least joyous for me: to-wit, viz., the Christmas season, Graduation day, and Easter week.

Karl wrote us fully about Sal's operation and future plans. Good old Carlos, he has been pretty helpful at various times in my life. Apparently Sal is to stay with Karl and Betty for several weeks - cannot leave San Francisco, he says. After that we would like her to come down here if she desires to do so. The x factor in the case, so far as I can see, is the young man Ed. You mentioned him is yours of 23 Feb. I dont know just how serious it is but I gather from what you say, not what she says, that he may be serious and she as well. I dont intend to interfere in the affairs of my kids, but I am glad that Sal got over her case with the Trappist monk. If Sal is willing, we would like to bring her down here as seen as she is able to travel, and keep her here for several months.

Maude is still here and having a grand time. She plans to go home before long but there is no hurry, except that I imagine Vivian is finding life a bit tedious. Maude takes in all the parties and enjoys them - the of course there arent very many parties here.

You mentioned a translation of "Manual of Trop and Subtrop Fruits" per A Perez Tere y A Carvalle A. First I have heard of it, but these mejicanos take liberties with anything which doesnt come under the copyright convention. Maybe even some of these that do. I suspect, however, that what you have in mind is the Spanish translation of the chapters on the avocade and the mango, which was made by Federico Morales of Habana many years ago; I have never heard of any other Spanish translations of all or part of my book. I sent you a copy of my "Fruticultura Centroamericana" by ordinary mail a few days ago; though scarcely off the press, this is already meeting with popular favor, probably because it is free. It costs the school about 55 U S centaves per copy, but we consider it to be part of our general program for improving tropical American agriculture. As far as the present writer is aware, it is the first thing in Spanish to treat the subject.

I had a nice letter from Hubert P on the occasion of my 61st birthday. As you can imagine, I dont hear from the Popenoes of that branch very often. Good of Hubert. As far as I can recall, I have never received a written communication from Edwin.

We have recd official notice that I am to be honored by the govt of Nicaragua with their new decoration, the Medallen de Ruben Darfe; Helen cant wait for us to go down and get it - we have to receive it in Managua. Only two have been given so far, one to Getulio Vargas of Brazil and the other to some equally distinguished gent de cuyo nombre no quiere recordarme, as Cervantes puts it.

Going to town this week for a couple of days, to get my artificial dentures (fide Lucile P) rebuilt; they are so loose I am in danger of blowing them across the floor whenever I sneeze. Dont have them until you have to do so; they a lot of joy out of eating, even vegetarian eating.

Such love to you both

Will

18 Apr 1953

Dear Pablo:

" Pls note enclosed card from Richard Stearns Bowman. Very good news and I am glad they are carrying on the name Thos Elliot.

Pretty warm here - up to 97 on 3 days, highest we have ever recorded, and 95 for a number of days. Lots of forest fires in sight at night and we have had to turn out to fight two pasture fires - both at night. Months of April and May are the hardest of the year, here, because of the weather and the fires and the new students coming in and Easter week and a few other problems.

Yrs of 14th inst recd and contents noted. We hope soon to have news that Sal has been back to her medico and that he feels things are going to turn out well. Glad to have your comment on the 2nd Ed, who has at least the advantage of not ~~not~~ being a Trappist monk. Do you know anything about his religion? Not that I care particularly, but the 1st Ed had Sal en route to Heaven via the Vatican and none other.

I suppose Hugh is in Alaska by this time. He certainly landed a good job in der armee. ~~Wow~~, what a racket Edwin's Charles is pulling on you taxpayers! There just simply seems to be no end to such things. Personally, I would feel a bit guilty to work one of those rackets.

We are getting ready for another big social affair this coming wed. John Moors Cabot, brother of Tom Cabot who is a member of our Board of Directors and a great friend of ours, is making a tour of C A and will spend the afternoon, Wed, and Thurs morning here. You know of course who he is - Asst Secy of State for Latin Am Affairs. We knew him when he was secy of our Embassy in Guatemala, about 10 yrs ago. At the suggest of the Amembassador we are inviting the Pres, his cabinet, the diplomatic corps, and the chicos de la prensa for the day on wed, and Helen will put up a good buffet luncheon, no fear about that. She and I took in our list of invitados last Mon and that we would ask the President to check it with us, so we goes up to the door of the Presidential palace where there are two guys standing with fixed bayonets, and says, if the President is upstairs will you ask him if we can come up? And in about 40 seconds a guy comes down and says Come on up, and we go up and have a very friendly little chat. That's the way to do business. I said to him, of course we should take this matter up with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, but we just thought it would be nice to drop in on you.

Your mention of California spring almost made me homesick. How well I remember those sweet peas I used to have in our garden during April. And lots of other spring bloom. As you say, California is alright at times.

Just got a new student from Nicaragua who did very badly on Herb's intelligence test. I called him in and said, maybe this business scared you. Let's put it on a practical basis. Mamacita says to you, Fernando, go down to the market and buy me four pounds of fish and a dozen oranges. You go down to the market; you go up to la viejita who sells fish, and say mamacita wants four pounds of snapper, how much is it? And she says 20 cents a pound. How much do you pay her. One peso. Alright, now you go to the viejita who sells oranges, and you say, how much are the oranges, and she says three for cinco, and you say give me a dozen; now how much are you going to pay her? Fifty centavos, says the lad. Boy, say I, dont you buy anything more; you hurry right home with what you you have bought already, cause you are going to catch hell when you hand mamacita the change.

Hoping you are the same,

Wick

in Honduras

25 mayo de 1953

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 18 mayo recd and contents noted. We were almost as suprised as you at Sally's wedding; but not quite. Two weeks earlier she wrote me that they were going to be married the following week; they had to wait a week because Ed could not get leave of absence. From the fact that Sal went to his home last Christmas we had naturally and logically assumed that she was pretty interested; but we had not expected such a sudden denouement. A few days before the wedding she told Karl and Betty and Knowles; the latter was the only friend of the family who took part in the wedding, as you know.

Well it's the way kids do things these days, and the consoling part is that she did not marry that rabid catholic at Davis; I know he is a fine upstanding citizen and all that, but Sal would have led a mighty drab life with him and had an awful lot of children. From all we can hear - and it jibes with what you say - the Halley family is allright and as you mention, his family has presumably agreed to finance Ed thru school. We have had little information from Sal, on any point; she has sent one note from Morro Bay where they are now living - but I do not see how he can live at Morro Bay and still be in the army. She speaks about his having to get up early to be on the job, and that's about all.

We came back last night from Nicaragua; quite a trip. Got word from the Ambassador here that they wanted to give me the Orden de Rubén Dario on the 21st, so we flew down there and sent our car overland to bring us back, as we have never driven thru Nicaragua. We got down there at 4 p m, met by the Ambassador; taken to the Presidential Palace at 4.30; all the diplomatic corps and ministros on hand, and in a very formal ceremony General Somosa tied the big medal around my neck - quite a handsome one. I have the rank of Comendador, the highest they can give to anyone except a President, King, or Emperor. We were dined and winded by the big shots and next day right after lunch President Somosa took us out in his car, with a station wagon load of troops with tommy guns right behind, and drove us to a couple of his farms; got in a speed boat at the last one and he ran us down the river Tipitapa for ten miles or so, then back for a big supper of fried fish at a little restaurant by the roadside, and he took us right to our hotel - which everyone says he has practically never been known to do. Helen got a big thrill out of it all. We drove home in two days, a very interesting ride. And now we have to settle down again to the irritating round of petty concerns and duties.

Sorry you wont be in Washington later in the summer. We will have to go to Boston toward the latter part of July and will stop in Washn to see Marion. Will probably not leave here again until we start on that jaunt. I hope we can go via Miami and see DF but I am not sure of it.

Thanks for various clippings, including one which notes that Lucile has ruined a lot of nylons stepping out of her car into the mesquite bushes. Mrs Barsaloux wrote that L was pretty sore that Sal hadnt told her about her forthcoming marriage. My only concern is about Sal's health; but she wrote that the medico who performed the operation told her it was allright for her to get married.

Ever yrs

Wilt

Zamorano, 11 Oct. 1953

Dear Pablo:

Presumably you have noticed by the local press that we have had a change of government here, and as I believe, very much for the better, due to the fact that the communists were really getting in and I was very much afraid we would have a repetition of the Guatemalan experience of the 50s. Out in our neck of the woods, Zamorano (where I am presently resident, as the guy who was sent down by Martz and Lundy of NY to make a survey of fund raising, said after staying here a week) the Fuerzas Armadas took over the civil guard last Wednesday night at 2 a m; ~~Thurs~~ we were incomunicado; Saturday the road was open and I went into Tegucigalpa, to have lunch with Alice Weiss and her 90 yr old father, and at 2.30 the bullets began to fly and we stayed under cover for two days. There was much sniping from the housetops, part of it, at least, by Cubans who didnt come here for their health nor for ours, and we were caught between Scylla and Charybdis. One of the surprising things to me - an old hand at the business, as you can imagine - was to see the excellent equipment and discipline of the Honduras army which remained loyal to its chief (now the head of govt) and which sure did a good job. When they frisked me, as they had to do some 4 or 5 times, they always begged my pardon. Quite a new departure, as far as I am concerned.

This will serve, I trust, to thank Betty for her nice letter wh arrived some days ago. I shall of course go along with any program which you are sure is to Sal's best interest. It is a bitter pill to swallow - letting that guy Ed just sit back and laught at me, knowing he doesnt have to work because he is fully aware I will not let my daughter and my grandchildren suffer if I can avoid it. You seem to think Ed will walk out on Sal one of these days, wh I rather doubt unless he does meet that rich divorcee you mention; but I would rather spend a lot of money caring for Sal and the children than supporting Ed in a life of idleness. One thing I do wish; that Sal would keep in touch with me a little more. Par example, she has not yet told me of the furniture on which I spent so much time, money and hard work; nor does she ever acknowledge the checks I send her regularly. But with exception of Hugh, my other children dont write me more than about twice a year either, wh I suspect is in part my fault, for not having gone to see them more often, but I realise that neither Dick nor Ed wants to see me and this has been a deterrent.

I assume Hugh got back from Africa a day or two ago, and he may come down to Guatemala in November for a few days. If he doesnt, or perhaps even if he does, I shall have to remain here at Zamorano until after the mtg of the Board of Trustees scheduled for 9-10 Nov, then I plan to drive back to Guatemala in dem kleinem Volkswagen, to receive a shipment of trees I expect from Maryland about the end of that month. After that I may fly over to Spain for a couple of months, to dar un empuje to the aguacate business.

Much love to you both, plus congratulations on the proud - for a Popenoe- milestone you will be passing next week. Now dont tell me carrots done it! It looks, and I hope, you are going to establish a record for longevity in our family - tho - suppose you will come back at me with statistics covering Papineaux from Bean and Pierre down to date, showing that three lived to be nonagenarians.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

18 October 1953

Dear Pablo:

Helen and I returned last night from Salvador, after being tied up for a day with a busted car. I went over there to attend a 4 day session of the American Society for Horticultural Science, Caribbean Section (of wh I am now Secretary-Treasurer with no treasure) and Helen took advantage of the opportunity to run on over to Guatemala to see what is happening at the old house in La Antigua. The communist govt has adopted the principle that if you dont live on a property it has to go to the poor and needy and it is within the bounds of possibility that they may take the place away from us one of these days if we dont use it. Too bad that we dont have some poor relatives who would like to come there to live. Do you know of anyone who would like to live in a mild climate, lots of good vegetables, rent free?

Maude has written us about preparations for the wedding, including your swanky luncheon at the Untington, including just what all the ladies wore. I think it was pretty damn fine of you and Betty to do that for Marion - and for us. I wish you would let me pay for it, however, I have felt very guilty about this wedding. Marion has been so lovely about writing us all the details; it fairlly tore my heart strings when we got home yesterday evening and they phoned a radiogram from town, from little Marion, saying she was wearing the little emerald cross I bought her in Granada last year.

Well, now, the little gals are all married; and soon we shall be grandparents. And I think they have all married well. Some folks seem to resent the fact that Sal didnt make a Roman holiday of it. I dont. I couldnt. I married even more quietly and unostentatiously both times than Sal did, and I think after all it is the gal's own business, dont you? Some like 'em in the church, some dont. Dorothy and I didnt.

We dont yet have Marion's new address; hence I will appreciate it if you will seal and forward the enclosed to her if you know where to reach her. We understand Dick got 2 weeks leave for the occasion. We shall try to come to California next summer to get acquainted with the new members of the family; and we may even be able to see Nancy in Puerto Rico in December. I have to go to Gainesville to make a talk at the 4th Conference on the Caribbean, December 3 4 and 5; and I think we could fly from Miami to San Juan and from there back here without much delay.

Again 1000 thanks for being so good to my little Marion, but do let me pay for it. All my salary piled up while we were in Spain and I have a nice fat bank account.

Much love to you both

Mike

10 Nov 1953

Dear Pablo:

Dont recall just when I wrote you last, but do recall that I failed to provide congratulations on your 65th birthday; and my failure was in a sense pre-meditated, for if you feel as I do, you are not longer very happy over birthdays. I like to forget mine and wish other folks would do likewise. "Who at times I feel like saying, when one comes along, "How long, Oh Lord, how long?" I cant take the load I could take 30 yrs ago. Strange.

Guess I havent written since I got back from a second visit to El Salvador, this time as Technical Advisor to the Delegacion de Honduras to the fifth annual Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of Central America, Mexico and Panama. Terribly long sessions of quibbling and unnecessary spe eching. The govt of Salvador put us up at the Hotel Astoria, \$11.50 per diem with myself and the Honduran Minister of Ag in one and the same room. Mighty nice of them, but the beans are just as well fried at the Internacional in the same city, where Helen and I always stay at \$4 per diem. Francisco de Sola et ux - Herb taught Francisco his math at Menlo School - had me out for a night, at one of the most beautiful and expensive homes in C A. They are fine gente.

Not much news from my side of the family since the formal announcement of little Marion. Not to be marvelled at, of course, as I suspect both Nancy and Bob are pretty darn busy. And Marion's silence not to be marvelled at either, under the circumstances. I feel a bit worried about little Sal. I felt she oughtnt to get married so soon after that very serious operation, and now to add to that she is (1) pregnant and (2) her husband has been sent to Korea, presumably until his time in the army is up - wh I believe is another year or close to it. She hasnt written us in weeks; Hugh, who saw her, urged me to write her often and try to cheer her up, wh indicates she is pretty blue. I wish I could do more for her. I would like to see her come down here for a few months and have told her so. If she asks your advice, urge her to do it - unless there are good reasons to the contrary.

Betty wrote that Karl had been laid up with trichinosis. That's what you get for not confining your pork intake to products of EAP.

Helen is hard pressed to get ready for 12 top-flight Journalists who are on a safari at expense of UFCO (I like the journalistic jabberwocky of our Director of Publicity, an old friend of mine). They arrive tomorrow for a late lunch, sleep here, bkfst here, and then go to the ruins of Copan. Some really big shots in the group including editor of Life International.

For several days we have had C A Fleschner, entomologist of the Riverside station, with us, looking for mites on the avocado trees. Says he has several n spp, and others non satis notum. Just as happy about it all as a surgeon who discovers a particularly large tumor. Mighty nice fellow; promises me a lunch at the Mission Inn next summer. With Shamel's, that will make two. Anopheles of that, I fully expect H and I will come to Calif next summer. Cant afford to go to Europe again so soon. I am reading over Tartarin of evenings now; just about the most amusing book I know. And is so nice to be able to visualise the gals who came down from Avignon to see him off for Alger la Blanche, and to visualise him shooting jackasses in the road thru Mustapha.

Must go forth and teach my class in Hort 123-C. Sunnamagun fellers still think we should be able to graft strawberries on milkweeds so as to get strawberries and cream.

Wilt

knows quite from New California Just like Johnny Walker.

Tu casa, 21 Nov 1953

Dear Pablo:

Thanks for yours of 12th instant. Glad to hear Oliver and Laura have a boy - I was beginning to get worried - thought it might be the old alternation of generations wh Martha Minerva Winslow taught us at PHS. After a long silence on the part of Sal, we got word last week that she also has a boy, named Hugh; but you probably know this already. News is slower to reach Honduras, tho not so slow as from Spain to San Francisco; Hugh has just written that he has recd a letter from Helen, mailed in Cataluña two and a half months previously. And speaking of Hugh, in the letter recd from him last night, he reports joyful tidings; seems as tho he is going to have a furlough for some 40 days, beginning in early December, and will come down here. I have just replied that we shall be in Florida from the 1st to 10th of Dec; if he wants to thumb his way to Miami and join us there we will all fly back here together, or he can come down thru Mexico. It will be fine to see him again, especially after what he went thru in Alaska last summer. I still shudder when I think about that.

We have had one fine letter from Marion since her conjugation, but nothing from Nancy since the birth of little Marion, except a radiogram. Not to be marvelled at, however; for I suspect she and Bob are kept pretty busy. Some way or other, I just cant visualise any of my daughters in the kitchen. It wasnt their hobby when young.

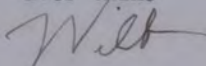
So young Charles has married a Japanese girl! When I think of these inter-racial marriages I always think of an article wh appeared in the Atlantic Monthly many years ago; I believe it was entitled "My Chinese Wife". The author told how happy he was with the girl, but how his children suffered. You remember the stigma attached to those poor "Furasians" in India; and to come nearer home, I would not particularly like to be a mulatto in Mississippi.

Sal says they have no news yet, as to where Ed has landed in the Far East. Hugh, who has just seen Sal, says the Halleys are very good to her and she is fond of them. Hugh speaks very highly of the Doctor himself.

I am just getting back on my feet after three days with Influenza Española, not brought from Spain by me, however. Our medico says it is a somewhat distinct form; I found it interesting but not too pleasant. Starts with a sore throat, goes into your stomach and chest, with quite a cough (from the chest, not the stomach) then you begin to feel like José Cabnal when he had malaria ("Es que me duele todo el cuerpo!") and now I begin to feel that I am coming out of it. Helen and our young medico have put five separate and distinct kinds of medicine into me, including the most expensive one, aureomycin. I simply had to give up. These pilldishes get you down.

We fly on Monday 30th to Miami; one day there with the DF's and then on to Gainesville. Just had news the Prexy Miller of the Univ of Florida died on the 14th, but I dont suppose it will change their plans for the Caribbean Conference - dont see how they can change plans at this late date, not why they should. We had a letter from Daisy Bell two days ago; everything OK at their end. Dont see how DF keeps going so strongly.

Ever thine



28 Noviembre del año despues de J.C. 1953

Dear Pablo:

Glad to have yrs of 22 del mes en curso, and to know that you and Betty went to see Sally et al, including al yecept Hugh - wh name I apprvé heartily. As I wrote the kids the other day, I feel very proud of the way they have all stuck together and continue to stick together. I guess it is just the same with yours. But it may not be the same with all sblings. I am so glad you found Sal looking well; I have been considerably worried about her health, since the operation; I thought that she might not be able to go through pregnancy successfully. Since the time she had what they said was rheumatic fever at Silver Spring many years ago, I have been apprehensive. That's a strange disease - if it exists - and they blame lots of things on it.

I note you write from the Bellevue Hotel - or did you just go in there to collect a little stationery? If you stayed there, tell me what they soak you per diem, dos personas. Helen and I have always stayed with Karl and Betty, as you know, but one of these days we will reach the Golden Gate when they are away from home, or they will get tired of buying oysters for me, and we will want to go to an hotel. In the old days you and I used to have a good little place at about \$2.50; I have forgotten its name and suppose it is now from 7.00. I like the way the airmail edition of the N Y Times, which comes to pauvres indigenes who are thinking of going to NY, carries a whole page of ads of fine hotels where they habla española, and prices always from.

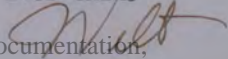
You mention that Hugh expects to spend much of the winter at Palm Springs. Just when did Popenoes get into that stratum? He has recently written that he hopes to come down here for December; maybe he didnt know he was to get a furlough when he saw you, or maybe he has since found out he isnt going to get one. But we shall be tickled to death if he is able to come, and we are already cleaning out the dipfriz so he can fill it full of wild pigeons and quail - do you remember the German immigrant who used to shoot in the block around Greenacre and called them "squall".

Speaking of Greenacre, you have asked a couple of times if I wasnt interested in buying it - with tongue in cheek por supuesto. No, but I do wish I had bought that house immediately south of the Apt where Maude and Vivian live, and which Vivian told us we could get for \$7000 about 7 or 8 yrs ago when "Spencer" moved to the San Berdoe mts. That would have been a good investment, and I've got to be thinking about a place for Helen to live when I am dead and gone to Hell. Wh reminds me, did you see the gag in the last Citrograph: rich Texas oil baron and dies and goes into the great beyond. They open the door for him; he looks in and says "Why, Heaven looks just like Texas" "My dear fellow," says the gent, "this is not Heaven".

So Oliver's new boy is Alan Joshua. Eventually he will therefore be able to sing "My son Joshua went to Philadelphia" I assume. I suspect you and I are going to acquire grandchildren with a fair degree of rapidity from now on. Karl's Betty mentioned in her last that they now have 10.

Well, I gotta pack up my blue serge and a few shirts and get ready to fly to the masculine equivalent of Flastacowo - only I believe they have eliminated that institution since Gainesville has become bisexual.

Ever thine



1 Jan 1954

Dear Pablo:

First act of this new yr, after having spent an hour trying to find out who drove a car right thru the wooden gate of the vegetable garden last night, destroying said gate, is to send our best wishes to you and all the family for a muy Feliz y Próspero, etc. Aqui todo bien, por la gracia de Dios. Holidays are no longer a pleasure for us; just as birthdays are no longer a pleasure for me. But the hardest times of the yr here at EAP are Easter week and the Xmas-New Yrs seasons; Light plant breaks down (operator drunk); kitchen goes on the rocks (some of the help drunk) and one of the students gets beat up with the flat side of a machete. Luckily it wasn't the side which does more damage, and that somewhere didn't meterle hasta donde dice Collins.

Hugh has been with^{us} for some days; went down to La Lima and Tela for New Yrs, our parties here not being sufficiently alegre, perhaps. I am pleased with the lad's technical knowledge and the fact that he doesn't spend 3/4 his time kicking about army life. Doesn't even spend 1/4. I was telling him the other day that it is hard for me to keep these students in line, and still have them like me; and he said "When I entered the army, the drill sergeant said to us, "I am not here to run a popularity contest. I am here to make soldiers out of you guys, and by God, I am going to make soldiers out of you!" By the same tokens, I am going to make farmers out of these guys.

Lots of pretty p c from old friends; that's one advantage of the Christmas season. But Christmas without some young kids around isn't too exciting. Guess we will have to wait for half a dozen grandchildren now, and a good start has been made. We finally got a letter out of Nancy; first news since little Marion was born. Holcomb bleed.

Let me know → I enclose my check for 2000 bucks, which I don't think will bounce back on you, because I have just replenished my funds in 1st Natl of Boston. Probably this will carry Peter thru the year; you can let me know. And incidentally, I seem to recall that you have my life insurance policies. If so, keep them unless you would rather have them out of your safe deposit box, in which case I can ask UFCO to hold them for me; they do this as a courtesy for employees. I am reminded of the matter because I have just finished paying up one of my \$10,000 20-yr lifes and will finish the other at the end of 1954. Nice feeling to have those things out of the way, when you are approaching retirement age. I have another \$5000 paid up some yrs ago, Guy Fawkes 2000 and 3000 in another Co, I forget which. Got to think about these things at my age. Kinder hard to take, of course.

We hope to see you before the end of 1954. If possible I am going to wait until Sept, as there is a meeting of the Am Soc for Hort Sci at Gainesville, Fla, that month, and I would like to attend. Then go on to Calif. Mais enfin, nous allons voir ce que nous allons voir, as we used to say in Aix-en-Provence. C'est une habitude que j'ai prise en Provence, as Tartarin would put it.

Much love from us all to all

Wilt

4 Feb 1954

Dear Pablo:

Despues de saludarlo atentamente, esperando que se encuentre bien de salud, en compañía de su estimable esposa, paso a contarle lo siguiente:

Maude Barsaloux's insurance payments expire in October of this year. While we have lots of information about the Federal Security Act or whatever you call it, of which I am a member, we have an idea that she comes under some California act or other. Probably you are in the same boat. and you wrote some time ago that you could qualify for an old age pension. So you doubtless know all the por cuantos and por tantos. We dont want to bother you too much, but Helen is a little bit concerned about her ma and would like to know how to prepare for the time when the insurance runs out. I dont know just how to put the matter to you - it would probably take a Philadelphia lawyer anyway. But here are a few of the problemas:

- 1) (as they always put it in Spanish). She wont be prevented from receiving financial assistance from us when she goes on the old age pension, will she?
- 2) (also in Spanish) Will she be able to leave the country to come down and visit us, if she shows that we are paying the transportation?
- 3) Helen hears that she wont be able to live in an apartment as expensive as the one they now occupy, if she is on old age pension. Do you know if this is true? We would like to keep the two gals where they are, because (1) it is a nice place, (2) we like to have it to stay in ourselves when we go to Pasadena, and (3) it doesnt matter much to me nor I guess to them, if they think J. Dewey is a tal por cual.

En passant, et apropos de rien, is there a publication which sets forth all the por cuantos and por tantos of the California old age pension business? If so, tell me where to get it and we will indent at once.

So much for that. Everything here in statu quo ante Hugh's arrival. We sure enjoyed having the lad with us, and he filled the deep friz I mean dip friz with wild pigeons for us. I am not able to shoot many myself any more; must be my eyesight is getting poor. Looks as if (Miss Martha M Winslow used to correct us on that) most of our kids will be coming down here this summer, in wh case we wont have time to go to California. Sal writes that she is going back to Berkeley for the 2nd semester. Marion still taking life seriously and wishing she could do something about the welfare of the universo; not much news from Nance, as usual. Park's Katherine has just written to ask if Nance is still alive; hasnt heard from her since October. That Holcomb blood again. Jst got our budget approved in toto, and am now trying to wangle some \$\$\$ from the Rockefeller Foundation for more scholarships for our grads at Univ of Fla. Prognosis favorable. On 6 Marzo pxmo futuro we expect to graduate 50, and have Galon Plaza, ex-President of Ecuador, here to make th leading speech. Guess that will put us on the front page of La Epoca, El Dia, and El Cronista.

Love to pani huahua and you from both

Wilk

Feb. 23, 1954

Dear mahatma:

Before proceeding to the day's program of accumulating merit by the contemplation of the umbilicus (a thing of beauty and a joy forever) I pause, with the permission of Allah, to state that we had a surprise visit last week from Hon. Ollie Popenoe, manpower specialist. He was sent to Seattle on a Presidential Mission (no less) so took advantage of the opportunity to use up 4 days of his annual leave here. Of course we enjoyed it! ---Apparently Maude is not entitled either to social security payments (since I judge she was never under that set-up), nor to payment of Old Age and Survivors Insurance, another and separate Federal project which offers some real benefits to those who have worked and earned certain amounts since 1950-- which I judge she has not, since the minimum requirement is 18 mos. employment since that date. Hence the only possibility is, as you suggest, the Calif. old age pension, wh pays up to \$85 per month based on need. As a result of the rapid increase of the tax burden under this heading, the department has been bearing down harder and harder. If she went on that pension, and still recd help from you, their policy would be to deduct whatever you paid from the amount of her pension. Moreover, they are making very vigorous efforts to have relatives accept financial responsibility even when, as in your case, there is no legal liability. They will continually harass you and her if she gets in their hands; and they would certainly assume that, if you can fly her to Honduras, you are also able to pay for her as is where is. They would probably have not the slightest objection to her living in the present apt.; she could hardly do any better.--If I can get hold of someone who is actually in the administrative side, I'll put a hypothetical case-- the printed regulations don't mean much until you know how they are interpreted and for the last year they have been interpreted as meaning that the taxpayers should not assume the burden if there are any relatives able to do so. This policy will probably become more rather than less strict, since there is such an outcry against the increasing load.--When in SF a couple of weeks ago we drove down to Redwood City to see Abbie Kelsey and Uncle Ned Burleson-- first time I have ever set eyes on him, I believe. He is an interesting old fellow, with lots of pep.---Do you remember Norma Holman, back in Highland Park, Topeka? I'm sure you do. She was the young sister of C.L. Holman, one of father's good men in the Accounting Trust Co.; and he set their father up in a chicken ranch in Highland Park, wh was always losing money. Anyhow, I had a letter from her lately; she is living in St. Louis (married) and had read my colyum in the paper there.--Guess you knew that Karl Bowman has been invited to spend a year, and perhaps the rest of his life, in Manila, setting up and running a psychiatric hospital. They think seriously of ping,-- are already selecting their stateroom on the steamer!--Herb reports that Walter and Joan are moving to San Francisco-- his firm has transferrdd him there; I suppose it is a promotion.--Hope you see the Ladies Home J1; the March issue gives us a big send-off.

Betty joins me in much love to Helen and your honble. self.

Ahuacatlan, hoy 4 de Marzo de 54.

Dear Sir & Bro.:

Please allow me once more (with the permission of Allah) to congratulate the world on your 62d birthday; and may your existence continue! According to the Life Expectancy Tables I believe you are slated for 15 years yet and I trust that each of them will be better than the one preceding.---Ulxiwer gave us a surprise visit, having been sent (as "manpower specialist") to Port Townsend, Wash., on govt. business. He took advantage of the opportunity to fly back this way and invest a few days of his annual leave. you can imagine we were mighty glad to see him.-- David has pretty well made up his mind to accept the draft board's invitation to join Uncle Sam this summer, and not try to get further deferment for graduate work but do that later. He is not yet too sure of what he wants to do in life.--We plan to go to Antioch for his graduation June 19. I am slated for 4 weeks work this summer-- week of June 14 at Lincoln Univ. (Negro), Jefferson City, Mo.; June 28, Alabama College; July 12, Emporia, Kans., state college, and June 19, Univ. of Denver.-- Hugh's outfit was all formed in drill order the other day and the CO called out, "Corporal Popenoe, front and center." He stepped out, a bit bewildered, and the CO read publicly a "Letter of appreciation", in which he expressed his thanks for "the fine caliber of your work as a topographic surveyor during the 1953 survey season in Alaska. At best, the task was a difficult one. Operating in remote areas of the Alaskan peninsula, often far from even the meager comforts of your base camp, overcoming the most difficult of technical problems while confronted with wild and hazardous terrain, you displayed outstanding ability, courage, and perseverance in accomplishing your mission. You may well be proud of your record of performance and may take additional pride in the knowledge that the results of your work will be reflected in cartographic presentations which will be used, not only in support of the mission of the Armed Services, but by thousands of civilian citizens for untold years to come." It was certainly a very unusual performance, and Hugh is so modest that he may not yet have told you about it. But no wonder you are proud of him! A few days later he was promoted to Sergeant, the only draftee to achieve that rank.--Spring is coming very early here and everything looks mighty good. For the next three months California is at its best and no one ought to leave it.--I trust that this birthday finds you in the best of health and that each succeeding one will be better.

Yours ever,

Paul

May I add my little word - It is a very special day - The day you arrived on this old planet - March 9th, and we'll be thinking of you lovingly - as ever, & always,

Paul Luathaa

29 May 1954

Dear Pablo:

Pretty smooth proposition, the Spanish envelop in which I send this letter. It is to be assumed that the postman cant read but knows the flags of all the world, and the directions say just put an arrow toward the flag of the country to which your letter is going, y Zas y Ras! Ya estuvo.

Pretty bad news in yrs of 22nd - Hubert's illness. And about Ernie Chamberlain in yrs of the 13th. I dont like the idea that we are all getting old. Dont seem right. You remember what Theophrastus said when he was about to die, at the age of 84: "What a pity. When I have just begun to learn a few things I have to die." I note that you are trying to get some young blood into your organization, against dies irae dies illa. I have been trying to do the same for five yrs now. Your situation is not as difficult as mine. I'd just like to see you try to bring a live wire into the backwoods of Honduras and keep him here. They come for the ride; or the little wife doesnt like it here; or they have to educate the children; et id genus omne. I feel a bit blue this morning because a man I have lined up in Florida has been reading the papers and writes down asking what does the school do for members of the staff in an emergency? I am telling him if the guatemaltecos walk in with their 2000 tons of new armament (see press reports) just jump in the files; they will never find him there.

We assume Vivian got back allright. Last news was a pretty pc from San Salvador, where she had to wait 3 hrs for a plane connection. We didnt advise you of her arrival at L A because we didnt want to bother you. She was going into the Biltmore on the bus and then take a taxi to 986 N Los Robels, as you call it. Vivian is a good soul; very unselfish and considerate. I must do more for her in the future. She sure did enjoy her trip; first time she has ever been out of the USA. And en passant, I want to mention that I have talked with Maude about the old age pension, based upon your letter of 23 feb pxmo ppdo, and I have told her to forget about it. I am wholly sympathetic with the idea that people shouldnt go on old age pensions, por cuen ta y riesgo del taxpayer, unless they have no other recourse; and I am not able but *only* willing to take care of Maude when her insurance money runs out toward the end of this year. I thank you for having givn me the necessary info regarding the old age business. I think it is abused, and I dont want to be another abuser. I have a social security card myself, as I suppose you do; and I pay a certain amt monthly for the privilege, but I would rather not bother with it. I hope I never have to.

You say your boys accuse you of creeping McKinleyism. Just what is that? I hope it means a certain tendency toward conservatism. But do tell me, since you suspect I have it too. If it is not a tendency away from communism, of which we hear much talk down here these days (as you can judge from the press) just include me out.

Hope you and Bets have a fine trip East. I wish we could all meet at the luxurious new dining room of the Cosmos Club; what a treat that would be!

Much love from both to both

Wilt

Friday the 25th

Dear sir & bro.:

Es que acabo de recibir su grata del 29 May (that's that the man say, wh is good proof that he is still as forward-looking as ever); and in reply would say:

Item: As previously noted, you needn't worry a bit about Maude's eyes. When she is too full of pills her vision is probably a bit blurred; but otherwise she gets along perfectly well unless she wants a subject for conversation.

Item: Remember we're depending on you to come back from g-a via L.A. and spend at least a few weeks here before you go back to the land of alligators.

Item: When you do get back to Gainesville, you must certainly have a woman come in for a while every day, to clean up and cook up, so you will get some well prepared meals that you can enjoy, and so Hugh won't have to put too much time in to such occupations.

Item: I should think you could easily write Sal that it's out of the question for Ed to think of getting a job in g-a for at least some years to come, because of the unsettled political conditions, uncertainty as to what measures may be taken against giving jobs to furriners (vide Mexico) and so on ad infinitum.

Item: Maude has given us to understand that she hasn't touched the \$3,000 or so that she has in the bank; and Vivian confirmed this to me in principle, as the diplomats say. Of course she may have taken a few dollars out of it at one time or another.--She frequently does not think straight or remember correctly, but will always do what you want her to do, I believe.

Item: No more at present from yours truly always on the level (as the late John L. Sullivan, master of the manly art of self defense, used to say)

18 July 1954

Dear Pablo:

Well, by Gosh, you have at last written on the stationery of a hotel where you were actually staying at the time you wrote. I refer to Hotel Broadview, Emporia. Probably too hot for you to make the necessary effort to dig down into your suitcase and get out letter paper from a hotel where you had stayed three weeks previously. Well, I also would be stocked up on hotel stationery if I ever went to any hotels which supply free stationery; in fact I still have a few sheets left from the White House in Gainesville, Fla., where we stayed last December and will get some more if we are lucky enough to go back there in Sept pxmo futuro.

Good letter; much family news; and all welcome. Edith is really a wonder. I dont know how she has managed to pile up her investments the way she has done; but I am glad she has. I guess she was never really happy away from Silver Spring. I thought she had sold the house on Wan Ness (we liked it, and the neighborhood). As you know, we had Pete down here for a summer and it is my profound conviction that the boy is good. He made a good impression here and our folks are critical. I do not know Chuck very well - but we do know that he has made a few errors of omission and commission. But how those U S salaries have skyrocketed!! No wonder we cant keep gringos down here. Oliver at \$6000, John with an offer of \$6000 in Hawaii! We cant start young men here at more than \$250 per mensem, but of course all found, including bothy, and practically no income tax. Even so, we just dont get them. Our best bets are the cream of our Latin American students, whom we send to the Univ of Florida and then bring them back here.

Dick and Marion left here a few days ago, bound for Antigua. They had a break; for the past two months it has seemed improbable that they would be able to go to that country. They expected to spend ten days or so at the old house in Antigua, then go home so as to visit Dick's family in Bakersfield before his leave expires. The change in the Guatemalan situation has been a tremendous relief to all of us. For the past several years we had been expecting that the communists would take over our house, for headquarters of the XVI Commissariat or for some good friend of the regime. It now seems quite possible that private property will again be respected and that the house will stay in the hands of the Popenoe family. As you have also read in the papers, the 67 day old strike in the banana divisions on the North coast has been settled and people have gone back to work. This was an ordeal; the Company suffered and the laborers suffered. Probably the denouement in Guatemala had something to do with ending the affair; there was quite a bit of communism mixed up in it.

You can imagine life has not been too calm for us recently, but we are none the worse for it physically, and not much mentally. We are now hoping to fly up to Miami about 1 Sept; Hugh says he will meet us there and drive us to Gainesville, seeing a few horticultural sights en route; then we plan to spend the week of 6 Sept onward at Gainesville, taking part in the meetings of the Am Soc Hort Sci, add checking up on our graduates who are there on fellowships (quite a group) then I hope we can come back home. There is a possibility that the jefes may tell me to come up to Boston for "conference" but I am trying to talk them out of it.

I hope you saw the relatives in Topeka. I would like to go back there again before I die. I have lots of saudades for the old place.

Much love from us both

3603
3603
1
Hugh's address at Bensenville - end cover Sept 5 to 10, Box 3603

University station.

31 July 1954

Dear Pablo:

Reckon you and Pani Huahua are back in Altadena by now. No news from you at that end, as of yet, however. I have before me as I write these lines three of your letters, and I dont know which or how many I may have answered. June 23 I think was duly cared for. Into the waste basket, to clear my desk. July 15, from Ranch House Motel (only the good Lord knows if you ever paid a bill there; maybe just went in to wash your hands, sensu Zatu, and get some stationery) brought the sad news of Hubert's death. Helen wrote Anna right away. Hubert was as you say, a good man. Perhaps in some ways the best of our generation. As you pointed out in a previous letter, he never did an unkind thing. I believe grandfather Popenoe was one of the same kind. I knew him perhaps even better than you did, though not much (I am referring to our grandfather). I remember so well grandmother Popenoe telling me one day, close to the end of their married life, that he had never said an unkind word to her. I dont know whether I have told you, and I dont remember whether it was verbally or in a letter, but I think in a letter, Hubert told me his life story. He said he had lived to regret ever having left the Agricultural Extension Service. He had a good start; he was in on the ground floor - there wasnt much extension service in those days; and he gave it up in a vain effort to save Ridgeview Farm. I think he would have gone far in the extension service; would certainly have gone to the top in Kansas and might eventually have gone to Washn. M L Wilson, whom I know well, and who has just retired from heading that service in Washn, probably was no greater genius at the job than Hubert would have been.

Helen and I are now getting ready to move northward. If things continue quiet in this quarter, we shall fly to Florida probably on the 24th of August; Hugh will meet us at Miami and we shall drive thru the State to Gainesville, there to take part in the annual meeting of Am Soc Hort Sci, as per previous aviso, and then - I have just read word today - they want me to go to Boston for a "conference". Nothing unusual; it is just company policy that the jefes are supposed to come to Boston once a year for consultation and a few oysters on the half shell. I dont want to be away from here any longer than necessary. This is election year.

Caramba, that rascal Knowles writes from Bohemian Grove at Monte Rio, saying he is now a full-fledged member of the Bohemian Club. I dont know, however, when he will settle down for a sufficient length of time to enjoy it. But it is quite an honor; I dont know whether it is more difficult to crash the gate of that club or the Cosmos; I suspect the latter is not quite as strict as it was in your day and mine. I have been trying to drop out of the Explorers Club, now run by Hollywood artists, but they say I am one of the oldest living members and must stay in, \$15 per annum. I dont get much out of it, except mention in Who's Who, - I dont mean I get in Who's Who because of this membership but I like to say I belong.

As the watchman says every morning at 6 when he comes to report, no hay novedad, por el momento.

Ever yrs
Walt

P. - send please
return - B.P.



Parker House

SCHOOL and TREMONT STREETS
BOSTON 7, MASS.

GLENWOOD J. SHERRARD
President and Managing Director

17 Sept '54

Dear Pablo - about ready to head south but will stop in Miami several days - plan to fly back to Tegucigalpa the 25th. We have interested Daisy Beel in depositing DF's papers and memorabilia in the new Hume library at the Univ of Fla - as you know, Hume was a great friend of DF and he is going to join us at the Kampong next week to see what should be done - it is the last time I shall have an opportunity to serve my old chief in a tangible manner.

We had an interesting stay
with Daisy Bell - who is hold-
ing up wonderfully - and
talked her into going to Hon-
duras with us on the 25th.
She needs rest and I think can
get it at Zamorano. We
stopped 3 days in N.Y. to
see U.F. and Rockefeller
Foundation people - and buy
a few things for Helen as
you may imagine - and came
on here to cambiar im-
presiones with the jifes, wh
we have done to our mutual
satisfaction I hope. The
problem is to find someone
to take my place when I
reach obligatory retirement age
in 2 1/2 yrs. I find I will
have a pension of about p.t.o.



Parker House

SCHOOL AND TREMONT STREETS
BOSTON 7, MASS.

GLENWOOD J. SHERRARD
President and Managing Director

\$7000 a year wh
is more than enough
for Helen and me to live
on in Guatemala and/or
Spain. Hugh is getting
a fine start at Gainesville.
Has at least 4 girls on
his string - a ship off
the old block (head); I am
afraid. - I am going to
call on Milton Rantz in
Miami (again) next week.
His nephew J. Wayne Rantz
is a big shot at the Univ
of Fla and a good friend.

The sadder I get the less
I enjoy travel in the U.S.
Beautifully organized and
efficient, but just too
fast for us niggers. - Two
mages go out to work on
the RR in Mexico under a
gringo foreman named
Willy. As they go along, they
see something. "Mira, un
brazo" "Si, caramba, un
brazo humano". Shortly,
"Vea, una pierna" "Que
le parece una pierna!"
and then "Un cuerpo!"
and then they come upon
a head. "Caramba, es
Willy" and one asks in
English "Whassa matter,
Willy, you sick?"
Ever thine W.

7th octubre del 1954

Dear Pablo: Yrs of 23 pxmo ppdo recibida y contenido notado. Too bad about Ernie Chamberlain. --Also sorry to hear about Bernice Holcomb. Both you and I remember her wedding very well - one of the first I ever attended. Believe Mabel Curry's may have been first; and then there was of course Carol Penfield, but I am not sure I got there.--Tell Betty I am agin those \$11 singles \$12.50 doubles; Helen and I did very well in NY at the old Seville, designed by Stanford White (the only claim it has to fame, I suppose) and it was \$6 (hear me men when I say six bucks only) double; and I think I told you that we went there because PH Dorsett, A D Shamel, and I stopped there when we were on our way to Brazil with Theodore Roosevelt (that feature of our trip has almost acquired a semblance of veracity with the passage of the yrs). ---Just had a letter from Betty Bowman, they are quite thrilled over their forthcoming jaunt; going as far as Djakarta apparently, for Karl to tell sunnunagun fellers how to run a psychiatric hospital.--Daisy Bell with us and seems to be getting along well. It has rained almost every day since we got here, however.

And now will you, sir, as a psychologist etc., tell me why we waste the space in our respective crania with such as the following. Of course I make as my first premise that there is a definite amount of space in our crania, and it ought to be occupied by something useful. But the other day, after 43 yrs come Michelmas, a verse taught me by Dickson Sahib in the boarding house at Bahia Brazil, come over me, in toto. D Sahib was a young limey who had just been moved by this counting house from India to Bahia, probably for cause: The poem should awaken in you a few memories:

Hum very good Bengali babu
In Calcutta I long time estop.
Rm Chunchunder Bose my name is
Rudder Bazar I keep it eshop

Very good Hindu, smoke my hookah
Eat my dhal-bat every day
When night comes I make my poojah
Hear Nautch-wallah on the tum-tum play

Kootch perwani! Good time coming
Sing Britannia rules the wave
Jolly good fellow, take a peg in the morning
Babu then you no more slave

Thanks for picture of Dick Grove's daughter Gwen; a fine looking lass. I wonder what every became of Dick's sister Gwen; I seem to recall the married Spencer Brown, daughter of Lt. Comdr. Brown U.S.N. (Retired). Incidentally I'll soon be able to sign that way myself.

Love to all

21 October 1954

Dear Pablo:

Intentionally I overlooked the 16th of October; I trust you will intentionally overlook all future 9ths of March. I suspect Betty will resent this remark; Helen gets sore every time I mention that I am practically, and to all intents and purposes, in the sere and yellow leaf. The only consolation I have is that I can retire at 65 with a very decent pension, which if we stay away from the US, and confine ourselves to 1/2 of each yr in Guatemala, 1/2 in Spain, will more than suffice to clothe and feed us both. I think I have told you, by the way, that I make the last payment on my Life Ins two months from now, and am then a free man, worth much more dead than alive.

Thanks for clipping from L A Times, quoting speech of our good friend Hon. John D. Erwin in re the communist danger in Honduras. A good deal probably depends upon the final results of the 10 Oct elections. Quite a lot of jockeying for place is still in the offing.

You mention note re Edwin jr in Science; I dont take it any more, having confined myself to the Scientific Monthly. Too much mathematics and physics in Science. I'm awfully sorry about Ernie. Glad you saw Polly Crosby at Sta Barbara. We greatly enjoyed a visit of Polly and Tom down here, a couple of yrs ago; It sure took me back to the old days, and the 1st Congl Church in Topeka where Warren F Crosby was supt of the Sunday School. I remember his face very well.

Sally has just wrote us from Stockton. (Which reminds me; did I ever quote you, and I am sure I have, Effie Rolfs little Florida poem: The spring has come, the snow has went, it was not did by accident. The birds have flew, as you have saw, back north again by nature's law) Sal seems really to want to come down here for a visit, and we really want her. I shall of course be glad to help out financially - (she says she has enough money but one never really has enough money). She thinks she ought not bring Huguito with her; says Betty will be glad to care for the little rascal at Altadena. Now, we dont see any reason why she should not bring Huguito with her. "e think, in fact, she oughter, because we want to know him. If anyone thinks there are physical risks involved he or she should remember that Nancy, Hugh, Marion and Sally were all born in the jungles of tropical America, and are still alive; and segundo, that Zamorano is a mighty clean place. We would not send Huguito to Antigua because we do admit that Tourists Disease, which so far as known to the writer has never killed anyone, but at the same time is unpleasant, is pretty common, as I guess your boys can testify. But I say, send Sal down here mit baby complete, and let Helen have a good time training the little fellow the way all little fellows should be trained.

Personally and privately, I am wondering if Sal has perhaps stayed too long at Stockton? Such possibilities exist. Can you personally and privately tell me anything?

Ever thine

Wilt

Nov. 9, 1954

Dear Pablo:

We finally got hold of a copy of Popular Electronics, Vol. I., No. 1, with your article, which certainly looks good. You are a first-class engineer, if the judgment of all these editors is worth anything-- and they certainly know their business, even if we here are not in a position to evaluate. You are also a first-class man,-- that's a matter which we here are competent to evaluate; and you'll be a first-class husband and father. Keep in circulation.--David thinks he will be spending most of his weekends with you for the next couple of months. Don't let him unload ~~and~~ a lot of other Flower of the Nation's Youth on you.--I'm sure you are going to enjoy jury duty, and I trust your salary will continue just the same! Mother got a liberal education out of it. I have never done more than serve one day on a coroner's jury.--Had a phone call from Ernie Chamberlain today-- he came home last Friday; seems to be cheerful. Thru 6 months in bed he has lost the ability to walk, but pushes himself around in a kind of stroller and will gradually build up some strength, no doubt.--I hope the election suited you at least 50%. We were glad to get rid of Bill Bonelli, but I was sorry to see cousin James Roosevelt get so much support.-- I have just recd. \$90 of new stainless steel hardware-- in my mouth-- from the dentist. Dave hasn't been feeling well since he came down; he just kept going on determination and aspiration for the last week or so up there and has had a hacking cough, but Dr. Scanlon has been filling him up with something. I believe "scouping him up" is the word and he's improving.

With much love,

31 Dec 1954

Dear Pablo:

On this last day of the year of Our Lord 1954 I take my pen in hand to tell you (1) the years are rolling by too fast, and (2) I am getting old too fast, and (3) Hugh left here two days ago with his prof at Florida, F B Smith, a very nice guy. They were with us, off and on, for about ten days, and I think both enjoyed it. Hugh seems to be getting along well at Fla, not Flastacowo (which I believe fortunately is extinct, since Fla took in the coeds) and he seemed to enjoy being back again on the old stamping ground. Still keeps his hand in with the small arms, as shown by the fact that he got 4 pigeons with one .12 gauge shell.

From your last, I note that you will be at Stetson the week of June 20. I am trying to get Paul Standley an honorary D.Sc. at Gainesville and think I may succeed. This would probably mean that Helen and I would have to go up there to take Paul - you remember him in Washington dont you - for Commencement which I suppose will be circa June 10. I wish we might meet in Florida,, It will be pretty warm in Gainesville in June, but Helen has got herself fixed up at the White House Hotel with an air cooled room in perpetuity, so we may get by. I have been invited to deliver one or more Popence lectures at the Univ of Fla annually, no emoluments, which I shall probably accept, and end up by endowing the Popence Chair of Horticulture or something of that sort. How much will that cost me? Sorry I dont get paid for my speeches, like you do; but probably they are not such good speeches anyway.

You mention John getting a Fulbright, and say his jefes think he ought to wait a year or two. I am inclined to agree in that. We have had a similar tho minor problem of the same sort here; send our best graduates to the States immediately on graduation or wait a year or two? and we have decided in general that they shuld wait. Hugh is talking about a Fulbright to go Kenya colony; I dont know that he will ever get it, but I would like to see him work a year or two first in this part of the world. Those Fulbrights, from what little I know, dont have much to do with academic activities; you are supposed to know what you want to do and do it, and not worry about Botany 13 B or Pathology 6 or Social Science 4 A. Apparently and unfortunately, since your time and mine, a Ph.D. has become just about as essential in the US as a certificate of legitimate birth. I regret and resent it but I cant do anything about it; I just think how lucky you and I have been to get doctorados without having to work for them.

All set for the year 1955 here, and we hope to survive.

Ever thine

Milt

21 Sept 1955

Dear Pablo: Just back in time to receive yours of 10th instant. That is to say, we got here on the 15th, having come from Madrid on KLM via Curacao - that's the best airline in the world, bar none. Two weeks ago today we were getting off the luxurious 1898 wagon lit of the Compania Internacional dos coches camas e carruagens dos Grandes Expresos Europeus at Madrid. When we got back there for our last fling, after having said good-bye to Hugh at Paris the day he and I returned Ou Donc? to the Renault Co and got \$731 in payment therefor. We just couldnt leave Spain - or at least I couldnt - without riding the Granada Express so we left Madrid in the evening, got off at Granada at 10.25 a m, did a little final shopping, had a big Paella a la marinera at the Sevilla Restaurant, saw our friends, took the express at 9 p m, and here we are.-- Hugh sent us an itemised account of expense in connection with the baby Renault and our European tour; 9260 miles at a total cost per mile of 6.6 cents USc, which includes loss on resale of the car, gasoline and oil etc etc, and works out at 2.2 cents per passenger mile; not too bad. You and Betty better try it. It is rather fast and fatiguing travel and at times I had the feeling that we had said too much, physically, for our whistle (cf B Franklin) but now that I look back I think it was the most interesting trip of my dissipated career. And of course I got a great deal of satisfaction out of the feeling that we were giving Hugh quite an education, and a very enjoyable one. How that boy ate! Now was the eating overly expensive, for we never stopped in the expensive hotels except in the Hague, where as representative of Honduras we put up at the Hotel des Indes with a room which cost about \$15 per diem for Helen and self, and another for Hugh at 7 bucks. That was our only extravagance. --I think now I have seen Europe, and if we ever go back it will be to spend a few quiet weeks here and there, and we know the heres and theres. --Helen is still bemoaning the fact that she didnt buy more things in Spain, tho we came back with 55 kilos excess baggage, most of it copper and pottery. I was for putting our money in emeralds and got by pretty well. We have laid in enough to take care of the kids when we pass on to our Great Rewards.-- And speaking of that, I was sorry to hear of Amelia's death. That poor girl didnt get much out of life, I fear. I never felt that it would have been very thrilling to live -- but I shall go no further. Again, she didnt get much out of life. Money cant do it. Tell John I am toying with the idea of going over to Florida about the end of Dec, to make a few free speeches (one at Fairchild Trop Garden, others at Gainesville) and if I (we, dear) go we shall want to drop in on the John family. We shall not attempt anything further north than Gainesville nor West than Cedar Key where they have the stone crabs that Hugh and I love so well and have lost long since.--Sorry the best of the original Fuertes has gone to greener pastures and less compact soils. --Helen is quite thrilled because the Guatemalan government threatens to confer on su servidor the Orden del Quetzal, here at the school on 22 octubre pxmo futuro. When we stopped there last week they gave me a button to wear testifying to the fact that I am Director Honorario of the Natl Agrl School. -- All these things temper the sadness wh inevitably arises when one thinks of his 63 yrs.

Ever thing,

Will

11 Oct 1955

Dear Pablo:

I trust this will reach you in time to bring our best wishes for many happy returns of the day. -- Just had a letter from Jim Kempton; Dimple had a serious operation, discs in the spinal column or something like that, but is now allright and they are going back to Caracas. Jim was two months in Washn; was offered transfer to Buenos Aires or India and I dont know whereall, but has chosen to finish his career in Caracas, and I think wisely.-- Mighty few of our old compadres left in the service. -- I see an occasional notice in the Florida hort press re Dr John Popenoe. I sure am glad that lad is going in for subtropical hort. Probably the only one of the family to do so. -- Just got a clipping saying Steffani is retiring as Co Agt of Dade, aetas 70. -- Helen and I have pretty nearly decided not to fly up to Fla for the Conference on the Caribbean at Gainesville Dec 1, 2 and 3. It is to be on Caribbean politics; and I am not interested; and besides, we have travelled a lot this yr and are not anxious to go away again so soon. Plus je vois l'homme, plus j'aime ma maison, et enfin, il faut faire des petites economies.-- Eating lots of mangosteens, rambutans, and pulasans from Lancetilla today; no durians, cause they say the laborers down there have grown so fond of them nobody else can get any. -- Captain of the S.S. Arratoon V. Apar would not agree I am sure. -- I hope we can see all of you in Calif next year. Dont reckon we will travel again to Europe for some time now, since yo conozco aquel continente como la palma de mi mano. I thought of you a good many times over there, when we visited places which you knew 45 yrs ago - par exemple, Cannes (which I liked very much, et le prenom est de rigueur) I didnt think much of the Riviera in general - liked Hyeres and the region of Cannes however.

Yrs hasta la muerte (y que sea tardada)

Oct. 30, 1955

Dear Popenoes:

This is a good year for Feijoa-- wish you were here. Last year we had hardly any that were fit to eat.-- Friday evg I was interviewed on the new Edgar Bergen Hour; it is taped before a live audience and broadcast later. This one will be on the air on Sunday Nov. 6-- ought to reach Alaska. It was the first time the Queen B & I had seen Bergen in action; rather disillusioning; you can get more out of your imagination, hearing the dummies on the radio. He himself is very pleasant and everyone said the interview, wh was quite a long one by broadcast standard (7 min.) was satisfactory.--I have also taped eight short (4'40") broadcasts for the new ABC evening program called LISTEN. These are in the section called "Your better tomorrow", which comes toward the later half of the evg (the program is intended to run from 7:30 to 10, but as it is taped, it varies considerably in different parts of the country, I think. It is a good new format. Two of mine have already been released; another is tentatively set for Nov. 3 and a fourth for Nov. 16.--We had a fine trip to SF over the last week end, though I picked up a bad cold wh I can't shake and wh forced me to cancel a TV program tonight and a radio interview tomorrow morning. (I need an associate to run the AIFR while I give my time to radio and TV! I'm on the House Party again Tuesday Nov. 1.) We went up by Coast Daylight, returned by San Joaquin ditto; pleasant but slow; had Saturday with Pablo and drove to Stockton (with a friend of his, Norma Jaskel) to see Sal, Ed, and Hugh, whom we found in fine shape. Ed is set for the college entrance exams in Dec.; hopes to get into Stanford.--Sun. morn we went to Fresno where I spoke in the evg and to a couple of classes at Fresno State College Monday morn.--Pablo, it's interesting that we were talking about Paul LeFebvre-- hadn't heard of him for yrs; he phoned yesterday. Family trouble. He sold out his business and retired several yrs ago, then he and his wife took a trip to So. America; on his return he took up an invention, Kar Kamp, a camping outfit to go on top of your atuo; lost money on that so his wife is now leaving him. At least, that's his story. --John and Jerry are moving into their new home this week end; address 16941 303d st., Homestead.--Dave has made reservation on the plane to come down Dec. 8, although not yet absolutely certain that he can get away.--Marion is coming up at the end of this week to spend a week or 2 here while Dick has another tour of sea duty.--Xenia, Ohio, Gazette has subscribed to my syndicated column and having heard that I am an old Xenia boy, wrote for particulars. Since the Popenoe family settled there in 1793, I can affairly claim to be a pioneer. The first brick house built in the village was the home of James Popenoe still standing at 127 E. Main st; built in 1815 after he came out of the War of 1812, in which he served as an ensign in Capt. Ankeney's Co., under Genl. William Henry Harrison.--I ought now to get the Morgantown, W. Va., paper, since Peter Popenoe and his wife Elizabeth Martin built a cabin there in 1769, beside aspring wh is now on the grounds of the country club. Little Nancy Popenoe used to play around there while her father was away with the local militia in the Revolutionary War-- he went with an expedition to check the Reccast at Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh. As a reward for his military services he received a bonus of land in Kentucky, moved down there, and was killed by the Indians at Boonesborough-- you have heard all this before but might as well be reminded occasionally. The Queen B sends you all her love.

Tegucigalpa D C (not District of Columbia
but Distrito Central) 3 Novbr 1955

Dr Paul Popenoe
care of Edmond A. Rieder, General Manager
San Francisco, California.

Dear Pable:

Yrs of 30th pxme ppde recd and contents noted. I think you are correct in figuring that they start numbering the Miami streets at the north end of Dade County except that since they ~~xxxxx~~ did this, Dade was split in half and the starting now begins at the north end of Broward, county seat Fort Lauderdale. -- Glad to have news of Johnny; if he can ~~find~~ ^{find} avocado oil in Dade County he can get rich quick. --If Anita Whiting et filia are arriving in Guatemala so soon I fear I can not get word to them about visiting the house in Antigua, but as you have told them, it is open to the public; though the chauffer who drives them over from the City will probably ~~tell~~ ^{tell} them as per ~~costumbre~~, that the house is really closed but that he is a scond cousin of Maria's mother and can get them in if they will give him a quetzal for her, then he the chauffeur will keep the quetzal.--Thanks for clipping from This Week; I think we now have plenty on hand, thanks. --We had quite an affair here last Saturday, with some 150 people out from Tegucigalpa to see the Ambassador of Guatemala tie the Order of the Quetzal around my neck, grado de Comendador. I was especially pleased to have that rank, it is about the best they can do for an ordinary civilian. -- Your mention of Xenia, O., reminds me that I intended to ask you long ago if you have any definite data re the origin of the Papineau family in France. I have always claimed Dijon, wh town I prefer as a family home, tho after having driven thru Normandy this summer I wouldnt mind switching. That's a lovely part of France, that and the Auvergne. We were thrilled to see the grave of William the Conqueror in Caen, a nice town by the way, tho badly damaged in the last war. We had our usual good luck in putting up at a tiny hotel wh was built as a residence probably about the time the Papineaux moved to the US. We love the little old hotels; they are so much more interesting than the Hilton chain, and I might add, not so expensive. Every day about 4 p m Helen would say, Now you start looking for a place to sleep, and I would watch the roadsides in every village, and we rarely went wrong. --Sunday next we are to receive our new Volkswagen, Helen's Christmas present. I think it will be a lot of fun. They only cost \$1400 in the US, I hear, but are \$1700 in Tegucigalpa and are going up when the new lot comes in under the new tariff.--We are of course thrilled that we are to have two count them two new grandchildren in the spring, first Sal, then Nancita. Both gals have duly advised us so we can get the baptismal ceremony arranged.--I hope we can come to Calif late next summer. I have engagements down this way in early March, Easter week, and July. Have just been invited to go to Costa Rica next week to speak at a convention of the Intl Christian Assn or something of that sort, but I dont want to leave here right now. I think I told you that I have turned down two engagements (offered) in Florida, one at Gainesville in early Dec, another at the Fairchild Trop Gdn the end of November. I just cant be away so much from my lads here.

Much love to all,

15 Novbr 1955

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 8th de los corrientes (I guess they mean the days running in this month; I could never see any other reason). Glad to have news again of the Bartlett family; do you have Lucille's address? I would rather like to write a note to her mother, in her care; I have very happy memories of that family. Tell me, has Lucille carried her years gracefully? She was a mighty good looking girl but I havent seen her since one day when FOP took me over to her home, and old Dana Bartlett was still alive. Must have been 20 yrs ago.

Info about the Popenoe family is most interesting. Do you know where we got the impression that they came from Dijon? I have never heard, but it seems I have always believed this; If we ever go to France again Helen and I will go into Deux Sevres and see if we can find any Papineaux in the telephone directories. Did I tell you that Karl Bowman has written recently that an Occupational Therapist of the Langley Porter Clinic, yclept Ruth Papineau, is coming down to Guate and he recommended that we show her the house? He says she comes from the Canadian branch.

I am finding it hard, at times, to dig up news for our Monthly News letters - just like you and I used to find it hard to get material for the Journal of Heredity. I assume you read our News Letters. If you do, can you give me any suggestions as to the sort of material wh is interesting to the general reader who is not concerned with the minutiae of our irritating round of petty concerns and duties? My object in putting out the News Letter is to keep important people interested in the school and in this respect it seems to have been fairly successful and at times to have brought us interesting comments.

We revised our intelligence test this yr, as noted in the News Letter, and I sent Herb a copy on which he made some excellent comments. This test has been a boon to us. I have always been a trifle gun-shy of these modern scientific educational stunts but up to now we have rarely gone wrong in following the indications of thks test. What is your opinion of educational tests in general?

Have you found anybody to take over your job if/when you retire? I am trying hard to locate someone for mine but so far without much success. On 1 April 1957 I can retire on a pension of about \$7000 per annum, wh is enough for us not only to live comfortable in Antigua, but also to support the widows and opphans and serve as patrons of the arts and sciences. Boston says I can stay on here as long as I want, but it is not so much a question of how long I want, but how long I am physically able. This is a heavy job, believe it or not.

We note that Marien is spending a couple of weeks with you. You and Betty are certainly good to my children. "e are planning to come up next summer, probably late in the same, for two or three weeks in California. It is time we all got together again. Helen says her mother seems to be in good shape. If at any time the old lady seems to be failing rapidly, I depend on you to let me know, so that Helen can come right up. She could get there promptly; it is usually not hard to get a reservation on PAA these days.

Ever thine

2 December 1955

Dear Pablo:

My memory is getting poor in my old age. Who is the O J Mitchell who wrote the enclosed letter (no need to return)? I can't remember him. Incidentally, and as you can readily imagine, that article in This Week has brought me a lot of mail to answer, much of it involving lengthy replies. One woman wants a doll from Honduras and sends me a dollar bill. Another wants some Honduran coins and of course several want postage stamps. Another wants a complete account of life in Honduras including religious aspects, tax structure, etc.

Good letter of yrs, that of 19th dec. (sic) which came thru pretty fast. I too wonder where I got the Dijon idea? I have had it in my mind for years and we visited Dijon twice solely because it is the ancestral home - and because the grub there is so good. If and when we go over again (mainly if) we will spend some time in Deux Sevres and see how many Papineaux we can turn up. On this last trip we took in Amsterdam, home of one of Helen's grandparents (the Baron Van der Slyke); we visited Caen, home of another, and St Aignan, Leire et Cher, home of another. Only missed Hamburg, home of the fourth. I was quite surprised and thrilled to find in Caen the tomb of William the Conqueror and his wife. And we landed in a little hotel there in an old French mansion which was exactly my idea of what a French hotel should be - ancient and picturesque and cheap.

Thanks for address and info regarding Lucille's address and family. I will write her one of these days, letter to be sent on to her mother, Just for Auld Lang Syne. Not to say, Of all sad words of tongue or pen ---

Let us know in time to send Pab et ux a wedding present. I feel badly that you were not invited to Frank's wedding. That is carrying petty grudges too far. -- I tho't I had sent you a copy of our new intelligence test. Pls find one enclosed. I consider it the best yet. You mention salaries, in connection with a man for your job. I have just been corresponding with a man who used to be an overseer in the UFC and then married my secretary in Tela whose father drove the old 97 hauling banana trains; he went back to Wisconsin and got issef a PH D and is now in the Point Four program in Panama and is getting \$16,200 per annum plus house allowance. I guess Hugh is right about the Ph D business.

Human nature is a queer think - as Ed Simmonds used to say. And remember DF's love of coincidences? Well, I got a letter from a guy in Chile, a wealthy German named Roger Magdahl. Member of the Cal Arcade Society. Told me he has been in Spain, especially Almuñecar, which is the great chirimoya region on the coast near Malaga. Put me in touch with a guy there. We visited Almuñecar twice, and now Magdahl and Luis Sarasola of the Rancho California, Almuñecar, and myself are carrying on a frantic three-way campaign to get more tropical fruits grown in Almuñecar. I may have to go back there in 1947 to push things along.

Ever thine,

25 March 1956

Dear Pablo:

Thanks for sending me Circular from Claiborne Johnston. Will you kindly indent for one only Personalized Windshield De-Icer (very necessary here), one only New Model Gin Rummy Table, with gin complete, and one only Bosom Friend.

But afterward, Know, O my brother, that Helen flies tomorrow to Antigua and I follow overland two days later to stage the big meeting of the American Society for Horticultural Science, Caribbean Region, wh will last from April 3 to 9 or thereabouts. John writes that his ungrateful Uncle will not send him wh we regret; Hugh will have to hold up the prestige of the F₁ generation I reckon. We assume he is about to arrive in Guatemala, if he got over his disinclination to pay the mordidas in Mexico.

Do you remember the Warrens who were with us in Costa Rica? I have just had a note from Mrs Warren; she says Fred her husband died in 1919; the two children and herself live in Laredo Texas; Harry in business there and MaBelle (sic) an old maid, running a hairdresser's shop. It is hard to believe that Mrs W is still alive; she must be pushing the 80s.

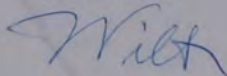
We had a big graduation; left Helen y su servidor feeling a bit flat. Lots of important people here, ~~but~~ everything went off as per schedule. We were able to hold down the speeches to reasonable length, which is not always possible. In talking with T. Jefferson Coolidge it was agreed that I would retire on reaching the regular age, 65, provided they can find someone in the mean time to take over. I am anxious to do this as Helen is feeling the wear and tear even more than I, and we will have an adequate pension on which to live in Guatemala and probably even go to California and Spain ance in a while. The problem now is to find the right man for this job. This is up to the Board of Directors; I have tried and have not gotten to first base. Probably because I am too exigente.

We are glad Sally has another boy and they are going to call him Pete. She asked about the Popenoe geneology and I referred her to you, maxima autoridad en la materia.

Yesterday when I was engaged in learned discussion with a couple of visiting firemen my secretary came in and said "Your sister is out here and wants to see you". So I rushed out, thinking it was about 50 yrs late; and found a couple from San Francisco (he from Riverside originally), yclept Spackman; she said you used to have an office at 6th and Hill Sts and that was extent of our family connection. Just a couple of tourists.

We shall spend ten days in Guatemala and I think it will do Helen a lot of good. We always enjoy the old house and the job here is pretty heavy, especially right now with the new students coming in. And since graduation we have had visitors in the house almost continuously, wh keeps Helen in the kitchen much of the time.

Ever thine



Paul says we are descendants
of these signers of Magna Charta

[1957-1958]

File under
Paul Popense

John de Lacie
Saier de Quincey
Gilbert de Clare
Richard de Clare
Robert de Vere
William d'Albini
Robert de Roos
Roger Bigod
Hugh Bigod

Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, and his son
Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk

John de Lacie, Earl of Lincoln

Saier de Quincey, Earl of Winchester

Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Clare, Hertford, and Gloucester, son of
Richard de Clare, 4th Earl of Hertford

Robert de Vere, 3d Earl of Oxford

William d'Albini, feudal Baron of Belvoir Castle

Robert de Roos, feudal Baron of Hamlake Castle, Yorkshire and of
Werke Castle, Northumberland

All the foregoing were sureties for the Magna Charta.

16 Feb 1957

Dear Pablo:

You are right asusual; I sent you \$1800 for Peter's expense last yr, and I herewith enclose a check for \$2000. I sure appreciate your handling this matter for us.

We got back from Fla a couple of weeks ago and have been mighty busy since. Graduation on the 23rd, right on top of us. I am to retire on 1 April; may hang around here a little longer, but not more than we have to. We will go to Mexico City about 20 April for the ASHS meetings about which I talked with John, and asked his jefe in Washington, thru our Chairman, Dr Richardson of the Rockefeller Foundation in Mexico, to let John come. I hope it works. I had a couple of good talks with John, who seems headed for Arizona (perhaps, not for ~~so~~ long) and then California. All to the good. The boy is developing well and will make his mark in Subtrop Hort. I would like to see him follow Art Schroeder at UCLA. Art was thru here last week, on his way, mit family complete, to Turrialba, where he is going to work for a few months.

News has come of the arrival of Dorothy ~~Marie~~ Hatch, which of course pleases us no end. Got to balance up the number of males in the new generation. Marion is and will continue to be a fine little mother.

We shall be moving over to Antigua as soon as possible, and I already have two temporary jobs in the offing. Dont want a permanent job but would like to do a little exper^eing, as Archie Shamel used to say, for a consideration. Hoping you are the same,

Wilt

Looks like we are going to sell our little lot in San Francisco, to a nurse who has worked with Karl. We would not sell to anyone who did not meet with his approval, but we would nver use it ourselves

Sunday p.m. May 5. 145327

Beloved:

We were mighty glad to get the new photo of John; however, we hope it is one that you were able to send because it wasn't going to be used. We'd like one with your chin up, and a chance to see your eyes a little instead of having them hidden under those big rims.

We certainly hope that Debbie got her dress on time-- otherwise we'll never trust Bullocks again.

We think you want to be sure to ask for another bathroom and maybe even another bedroom to complete your your patio in the new house, since you'll probably have this home for many years and have many people to entertain there; and you must have plenty of room. It won't hurt to ask for those things, anyway. We're sure you're going to want paneled wood walls (Philippine mahogany) so you won't have to paint them all the time.

Wilson wrote after "the luncheon" that Jeri was perfectly lovely, with her hair done by the Salon de Beauté and her emeralds; and that John "looked pretty darned handsome." Water he told us that Jeri couldn't get an appointment but that she was estupenda anyway and never need worry a bout a beauty shop again. Wilson was feeling in very high spirits after it was all over, and declared that whatever gods there be, were still in their heaven.--What dress did you wear, Jeri? The green one?

I'd like very much to have you draw for me a rough the house again, so I can visualize it at this distance.

Paul is writing this to my dictation because I've by shingles; couldn't enjoy the grandchildren while

re; but I'm getting on top again. They are on

the SS Pres. Cleveland at the wharf right now, and in 15 min.
will be pulling away from it and heading for Honolulu.

Love.

Grandmother Bets

13 mayo de 1957

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 2nd instant recd and contents noted - it didnt take long to note them. But it was interesting to hear that the hon. Chas Stearns has done well enough so that he has enough of this world's goods to contemplate a trip to Guatemala. You can tell him and others that we expect to reach there on or about 5 June. Will drive over in the little Volkswagen, right behind our third and last truck load of personal effects. Helen left this morning (it was almost last night) right behind the second load. We have such a lot of old furniture to take over; I dont have the slightest idea where we are going to put it all! I suppose it will end up by Helen buying another house for it!

I think I have written you about our stay in Mexico. It was very fine indeed to have John and Hugh there with us. And I think I have told you that John is getting a very fine grasp of the tropical fruit situation in So Fla. Hugh, on his part, is all tied up with his project on shifting cultivations in tropical America, a very good subject indeed, but a bit worried because he is not sure he will ^{find} anyone to finance his work after he gets his Ph.D. I am not as concerned about this as he is; but unfortunately I will not be able to finance it myself (which I would be glad to do) because when I check out of EAP on the 1st proximo futuro, my income is going to be cut down not considerably, but heavily. I am accepting a position (I like that term, as you know; but it is more appropriate to say taking a job with the govt of El Salvador for a couple of months (as I am sure I have written you) to work up a program for fruit development in that country. If the govt accepts the program I may drop over there occasionally to push it along, but I rather doubt that this will come to pass. Fortunately I dont have to hunt around for jobs, of the sort Archie Shamel used to call Experting. I have agreed to work 2 mos in Salvador, after wh Helen and I would like to head for Spain, and Helen thinks it would be a very nice idea to continue from there to Rome, Athens, Baghdad, Agra, Lucknow, Darjeeling, Singapore, Djakarta, Bali, Manila, Tokyo, Honolulu, and way stations. Well, I guess, todo cabe en lo posible. Frankly, we are both glad to get away from the responsibility of this job. Helen has pretty well worn herself out; I would be in the same condition, were it not for what mother used to say, "Wilson is so wiry". I suspect we will end up by a few months in Europe toward the latter part of the year and then back to Guatemala, where you will find me playing billiards in the Club Antigüeso from 2 to 6 p m and paseando in the parque central, listening to the sweet strains of the marimba during the evenings. Only I want to write a book on my travels with some notes on plants sandwiched in, and I am offered a good contract by Editorial Salvat of Barcelona to write a manual of tropical fruits in Spanish. Well, as Gma Bowman used to say, Doors will be opened. I only hope those doors say "Ausgang".

Wick

Zamorano, Sunday 19 May 1957

Dear Pablo:

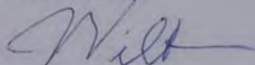
Just got a telegram that Helen has crossed the border into Honduras after having taken another truck load of our junk over to Antigua. She ought to be here in a couple of hours. We are planning the definitive move for the end of the month; and in the meantime are trying to stand off farewell parties as much as possible. Just too bad we cant sneak out unbeknownst to everybody.

Mighty sorry to hear of the troubles in Herb's family. Those poor kids certainly havent led very happy lives since they got married, and Herb is not financially equipped to do an awful lot for them, I would assume. We had a letter from Marion yesterday; she has her hands a bit too full, having attempted to move into a somewhat larger apt over her old one, before Dick gets back. She has made the move but has had a little prob em with Dorothy at the same time, the latter having the intumed feet which seem to have come out in this generation of Popenoes. I dont understand it. Nancy had them and we were worried, and it seems to me one of the other kids did also but not so badly. They have Dorothy's in plaster casts. Due to the fact that my kids came out all-right without difficulty I have no doubt Dorothy will also, but Marion says the plaster casts bother the kid a lot and she will not eat much.

During the past week I had a two day visit from Edward L Browne, son of the former member of congress from the 8th district Wis. We sat around and talked old times a lot. You doubtless know that neither he nor Tom have had any children, tho the two girls have families. Ed says Helen is quite a gal; has a big farm wh is apparently her own, has rebuilt an old house runs some sort of restaurant, and so on. Also has a lot of Guernsey cows. I guess her husband is doing well also - I didnt get so much news about him. Ed is really making money; he says his travel agency grosses two million a year, wh I assume means they sell that many tickets, and the commissions must be good tho he says they are not high on domestic travel - on foreign tarvel they get 6-1/2% which interested me because I always wanted to know what the gal in Tegucigalpa got when she sold us our first tickets to Europe. The cost was about \$1800 for the two. Of course you dont pay any more to the travel agt than you would pay the carrier.

Just had a letter from the Jim Kemptons - or rather, Dimp. She says Jim has been told he must leave Caracas at the end of this yr but can have five yrs more service at Washn if he wants it; she says they dont think they want to live in Washn and are seriously considering Mexico as a place to settle. I will ask Helen to send you Dimp's letter when she has read it, as it contains a good deal of Kempton family news. I wonder how much money they have saved in Caracas? I imagine not very much but Jim, when he moved over to State, got things fixed I believe so his USDA service counts toward his pension wh I suspect may be as much as seven or eight thousand a yr. You can live mighty handsomely in Me ico with that much money.

Ever thine



Altadena, May 22, 1957

Dear Popenoes:

It fell upon a day/ in the merry month of May/ as the poet has it, that Pablo was born 35 yrs ago. Read the appendix of Modern Marriage for the details.--And down in Zamorano they're getting ready for the big move; the house is already virtually stripped; the staff will give 'em a farewell party about the 29th; and they'll be in Antigua by June 5. Wilson has a couple of months work in San Salvador, as soon as he can get to it; but the old order changeth, giving place to new, as another poet has it.--We are organizing our summer; looks as if we might fly East on Thurs. July 18. Do you expect to be in Phila. around that time, Dave? If so, we might come up and spend the week-end with you, then the following week in Silver Spring. My workshop at Bridgewater, Va., begins on Mon. the 29. If the Queen B could be of any help in taking care of children so that Ollie and Laura could take a vacation away from home, she'd be glad to stay over in SS as long as desired; otherwise she'd go to Bridgewater with me. At the end of the week we'll have to fly immediately back to L.A., as our workshop here begins on Aug. 5.--We drove to Riverside last wk for a lecture; stopped to see Sadie on the way; then Millie; then Phyllis and Ward Woodbridge (Anna was absent at Claremont.) Phyllis is expecting to make another eugenic contribution in a couple months; her youngest is now 10 yrs old so this was probably not wholly planned. Isabel is working days for some govt. agency in Pomona; Edwin sr. is with Sears store there. Frances (who married Al Wood) is living on a ranch near Eureka.--We saw Josephine Fisher, Betty's aunt, and her dau. Barbara, who live in the outskirts of Riverside; had dnr at the Mission Inn with friends; gave a successful lecture (John's friend Dr. Zentmeyer of the experiment sta., and others came up and spoke to us); drove back next morn. Mission Inn wh was bought by a NY outfit, is getting a face lifting and I'm afraid it is for the worse; some that they have done to modernize it is in good taste, others are jarring notes.--We visited the Coolidge nursery gardens lately to see the epiphyllums; the place is run down as if they planned to sell the land and didn't care much what they did in the meanwhile.--Frank Popenoe is down at the beach; says he feels much better where it is quiet; talks of spending the summer in Yosemite and has applied for re-entry to UCLA in the fall. Joan is going to have to fly back to Virginia for her divorce and the court said she'd have to bring the babies; they'll try to get Robbie exempted on a physician's certificate; he has some catarrhal trouble in his ears,-- something like that wh Herbert had, wh led the Popenoe family to move from Kans. to Calif. in 1905. The court will allow only \$20 a week support for the children, wh isn't a very liberal allotment from Walter Parks' salary.--- While I think of it, I believe all our boys have, or did have, keys to the side door of Ahuacatlan. Pablo should keep his, but if the rest of you can find them and want to send them back they'll be handy for us to have here, and we'll return them whenever you need them!-- Lately I ran into Harold Ryerson, older bro. of Knowles. He is a great specimen-- quite unstable; has been mar. 3 or 4 times, I believe; always about to make a fortune: "Man never is, but always to be, blessed", as another poet has it. I see him every 8 or 10 yrs, accidentally this way. He was in Baja Calif. for 7 yrs; was making a fortune, but his partner double crossed him so the profits of the deal were wiped out together with a quarter of a million dollars, that Harold had put into it from other previous ventures of his (that's what the man says!) He is just starting for Tahiti, for 2 or 3 yrs on another big venture; big chief there has given him, I forget whether it's an acre or a thousand acres, but they plan to put up a big resort hotel. Meanwhile he has an interest in oil exploration in Guatemala; if that pans out it is good for at least seven figures, not counting decimal points; et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, as the King of Sims has it. He has a son 15 and dau. 16 whom he got away from their mother, his last year, and they travel with him.--The Queen B is up to her ears in paint (bathrooms here); and I'm up to my ears in paint up at the AIRP: if I were a drinking man

PP

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

30 May 1957

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 25 just recd. Yes, I am pretty sure Ed Browne said that neither he nor Tom has any children; I thought it peculiar because the girls have done pretty well. Ed said that Helen's husband is a very successful physician; the interesting feature is that Helen has stepped out and is doing so much on her own.

We are almost packed up; it is a tremendous job and Helen is feeling it. We had planned to get away tomorrow; had to postpone it because we could ^{not} get ready, and now the Guatemalan ambassador wants to give a farewell reception for us next Monday ~~we~~ we probably wont get away for nearly a week yet. The Salvador ambassador gave us a very fine farewell reception last Sunday. Those affairs always give one a fine opportunity to cambiar impresiones.

A week ago we got a letter from Sal, bringing the regrettable news that Ed flunked out at Stanford; they had to leave just after moving in to a very economical university housing project of some sort, and they are now back in Stockton. She didnt say what Ed proposes to do, except that he is being tutored by a Dr Goldman there, a friend of the family. Sal is expecting a baby in August, as I believe you know, and asked if it would not be a good plan for her to come down to Antigua with the two present offspring and stay with us until after the baby is born. I am inclined to doubt the advisability of this because there is no adequate medical attention in Antigua, and there would be not only the problem of maternity but also the likelihood that the two little kids would get the usual tropical ailment and probably some parasites besides. The suggestion on Sal's part makes me feel that she is rather up against it and I am wondering just what we ought to do to help. Will you give us your advice?

Looks like you have a fine program lined up for the summer. I shall have the month of June in Antigua; then perhaps two months in Salvador - not certain yet as it involves the approval of a contract by the govt and you know what that may mean. I am not very keen on the job except that it would give me a chance to do some good work in plant introduction, which I have always loved as you know and to which I shall devote quite a bit of time from now on.

As for your springing your Latin on me, I can come back by saying Morituri salutamus.

Ever thine

Just got a letter from a boy who wants a beca, because he says he is in an atrophied moral state.

21 Avenida Roosevelt
San Salvador, El Salvador C A

6 July 1957

Dear Pablo:

Pls note above address, effective so far as I am concerned, until the end of August. I came over here a week ago, with a two months contract at \$1000 per month with the govt, to work up a program of fruit improvement and go over their new agri school. Helen stayed in Antigua, where we arrived on June 9. Kitty Coolidge came down about the 20th to stay six weeks. We have not yet been able to get the house and garden in good shape but will do so eventually.

I am today sending Sal a check and will help her out as required. I am sorry their situation is so ^{difficult}; it wouldnt be so bad if it was momentary but I have a sinking feeling about the future.

by now you probably ^{have} the EAP June news letter, wh I wrote before leaving (I also wrote the July issue, and I wonder what will happen after that?) from wh you will see that Dr Paddock has been appointed to succeed me. He is a Ph D from Iowa State, who has been in Guatemala about 4 yrs on corn breeding work, latterly with Point Four. A pleasant chap of about 38 with a wife and two kids; no experience in teaching. He is going to be up against a tough job but I hope he can swing it. You mention Paul Standley: Louis Williams has been trying for several years to make me push him out of Zamorano but I would not throw him out in the street and could find no satisfactory solution until he agreed to move into the Viera hospital in Tegucigalpa, where they gave him a rate of \$100 per month (he only has \$160 altogether) and where he has people to talk to and where the beer is not so handy. We saw him several times after the move; he seems satisfied and in good health. He is an awfully good soul and a rather tragic case, and Louis Williams didnt make his life (nor mine) any easier. Wms moved to Washington, my old office, to search the literature for promising plants. I encouraged him to leave Zamorano; he is a badly warped character and can be pretty hard on people he doesnt like.

Hoping you are not the same

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

21 Avenida Roosevelt, San Salvador
21 July 1957

Dear Pablo:

I dont want to hear any more gripes outa you about that typewriter which Victor Cutter asked me to give you so long ago. I wish he had asked me to give you this one instead. I have had it since before I married Helen wh is 16 years ago, perhaps quite a bit longer. If I can make it hold out until I finish this Salvador job at the end of the August I am all aru.

Getting along well with the work. Will turn in the report on the fruit improvement program to the Minister by the 1st of August; then, since the Fiestas Agostinas come along from the 3rd to the 5th, ostensibly, it probably means full week or more, and I wont be able to get any work done, I propose to fly over to Antigua for a week end if Helen can get my passport over to me; I had to send it to her so she could get the car matriculado. And incidentally, the govt has given me a Volkswagen to ride around in here and you cant beat it.. This town is lousy with them; they cost about \$1800 each wh is a lot higher than they are in Germany, mais was wollen zie?

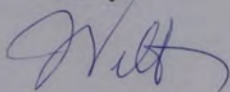
Both Helen and I have written Sal recently and sent her some money. It certainly is good of you all to plan to have her come down to Altadena about November. I wish we could bring her to Antigua for a while but I am afraid to tackle it.

Dont remember just when I last wrote you or what I wrote; I have written a stack of letters recently, most to people who either congratulated or commiserated. Of course it was awfully hard to leave Zamorano, but the time had really come; in fact I am sorry in some ways that we did not leave a year earlier. I have had no assistant director for five yrs and the load was telling on me. I havent lost all my strength by any means but I aint the man I was 25 yrs ago, in fact I never was. And now I have time for one or two more jobs like the present one, and wemay take a long trip. I stepped into KIM the other day and they quoted me \$1556 for around the world, Guatemala to Guatemala, with all the stops we want except that if we go to Tel Aviv we cant go to Baghdad; no Arab state will receive a guy whose passport has been stamped at Tel Aviv.

I had lunch at the Hotel Florida in Santa Ana last week; just as good as ever. I am glad you look back with pleasure on that place. It really is the most purely Central American of them all, and the best grub. I first stopped there when Jim Kempton and I were chasing teosinte, in 1934 I think it was. Did I tell you that Jim and Dimple are planning to settle in Mexico, probably in the Cordoba region, when he retires at the end of this year? With the retirement of Geo Darrow (I hear he is going to live in So Florida) and Jim all our old gang is through.

Kitty Coolidge at last minute decided not to attempt the Peruvian trip, and at last report was booked to fly to Yucatan on Friday 19th. For Helen's sake I am glad as she would have had to make all the arrangements on the trip and hence would not have had much time for fun. I am trying to get Helen to fly up to California about August 15 to see her mother, and be on hand if she could help Sal during the early days after the new arrival. If Sal would ask Helen she would be tickled to come; she thinks Sal's in-laws might resent it if she came without asking.

Ever yrs



21 Avenida Roosevelt (neo non Teodoro)
1 agosot del957

Dear Pablo:

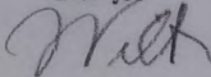
If I can make Victor Cutter's last gift behave (your typewriter being the penultimate, I want you to understand) I will write a few lines to tell you that I agree with yourself and Jim Kempton that the Cosmos Club aint what it useter be. As Jim says, there were giants in our days, and just think of all the good dinners we had with W E "afford! But it is hard to go to the Club, as I did last January, and not even see a familiar face - not even that of Paige who was behind the desk.

I am flying over to Guatemala tomorrow to spend the week end with Helen - we are in for a week of Fiestas Agustinas here anyway, and I wont be able to navigate far from my pensión because the chauffeur isnt working. Not that I cant drive, but I am afraid to drive in this country, especially during holidays; the roads are so crowded with gente on foot, some of them not on foot all of the time. You get what I mean?

I am trying to get Helen to fly up to Calif about the 15th or 20th. She is lonely in Antigua (and there would be nothing for her to do over here); she would like to spend a week or so with her mother; and she would like to help Sal around the time the new one arrives. She has an idea that the Halleys may be resentful if she comes up - with them right there on the job. I rather doubt that. I think I have put the case to you already, but if you havent done or said anything, and think Helen would be welcome in Stockton to take care of Ed (maybe he would prefer to eat at home for a week ortwo, I mean his parents' home) drop her a line to that effect; and maybe I ^{can} ~~talk~~ talk her into going up to see her mother even tho Stockton is out of the picture. Helen is not in too good shape; the move from Zamorano was hard on her, emotionally as well as physically.

Your letter gave us the first news re Dick's return, and the trip to Maine for Bob and Nancy. Both pleasant reading.

Ever yrs



Next day, 10th: Recd yours of 6th before mailing this - obviously. Glad to know that nothing has gone wrong with Maude; Helen was worried because Maude usually writes frequently. The info re Sally's plans: you are good to keep in touch with her and help. I now assume as you suggest that Helen need not stay up there to receive the baby nor go to Stockton at all. You 21 Avenida Roosevelt, San Salvador and Helen will make the right decisions. 9 August 1957

Dear Pablo:

After waiting uncertainly for several days, to see if it would be possible for me to go over to Guatemala around the last week end - and after having given up the idea and so advised Helen by telegraph (cost 20 US cents from here) I finally got over there by airplane and spent three days in Antigua, coming back here to be on the job when the Fiestas Agostinas ended; in fact when I arrived there were still quite a few feligreses who did not realise the fiestas had ended. The mails have started coming again and I have your letter of the 2nd from Bridgewater, Va., with the sad news of Betty Bowman's death. This is pretty tough. Karl having retired, and the possibility of their spending perhaps ten years enjoying life together! Your letter was the first news we received - or I received - and I sent Helen a telegram saying it is probably too late to send a radiogram to Karl, to be appropriate, but I am writing him; and Helen is leaving day after tomorrow for Calif and will get in touch with Karl.

Helen had not planned to go to Calif, but when I found that she had not heard from her mother in three weeks (perhaps due to irregularity of the postal service in recent weeks) and when I remembered that Helen and I might leave for Europe this autumn, and when I recalled that we still cannot get any news from Sally as to what she would like us to do, I said to Helen last Monday when we were getting my reservation to come back here, "You hop on the plane and go up to California; see your mother; and find out if you can be of any help to Sal." We are so much in the dark as to that poor little kid's problems! She asked to come down to Antigua with the children and have the baby there. Marion says she did this thinking it might relieve Ed of their presence and he could study harder. Then she wrote Marion that she and Ed must be there together when the baby is born. Helen wrote that she would be glad to come up and help for a couple of weeks. Sal wrote to Edith asking if she could not come out. Edith can not get away. Both Helen and I have sent Sal money; we have had no acknowledgment. But the money will help her. The point now is this: you will get this just about the time Helen reaches Pasadena. She will depend largely upon your advice. Sal has never really liked Helen; an emotional anti-stepmother matter I assume; you will probably understand better than I do. The Sal and Ed came down to Honduras, I could see that Sal was thinking mainly of Dorothy's part in the development of our particular branch of the Popenco family.

When Sal knows that Helen is in California she will probably come through with some information. I look to you to give Helen your advice which will be all to the good. My own reaction right now is that it will probably not be best for Helen to go to Stockton and try to help Sal and Ed through the two or three weeks which are almost certain to be heavy ones for them. I will send more money as required to get them thru this crisis - I call it that because they are really up against a difficult period in their lives.

All goes well here - and I found everything lovely in Antigua; Helen has done a wonderful job on the house, including the putting of electric lights in the sala and the three bedrooms, so skillfully hidden that even Doctor don Luis de las Infantas Mendoza y Venegas couldn't object - in fact he wouldn't even see them. It is raining hard in Antigua - has been for a couple of weeks. But how we ate green peas mit butter and artichokes and guacamol and apple sauce and fresh plums!

Art Schroeder and family spent last night in this city, en route back to Westwood; I was with them all morning. He has been at Turrialba for 6 mos, counting time out for a trip to Peru and Ecuador. Guggenheim fellowship, but seems as tho the two young kids came in for a good deal of elementary education.

Ever yrs

Pablo: Our cousin from Ohio Mrs Stevens et ux were here yesterday afternoon
he the Cocoa Cola man as you know, a nice pair and I think the gal is
fine. Tell me her background; she mentioned an Edith Popenoe who was I
believe her great grandmother. Antigua 10 Oct 1957

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 6th just rec'd; and incidentally we would like you
to tell us once in a while how long our letters take to reach 2503. As
with yours mentioned arriba, 4 days is about right from Calif here,
knowing that a day is lost from the city to Antigua; but Hugh complains
that ours sometimes take 10 days to reach Gainesville. I would think
6 days delay in Gainesville would be just about normal. -- Objeto de
la presente is to express brotherly sentiments anent the 16th pxmo
futuro. I don't know just what to say, but in my own case I would like
folks to congratulate me on still being alive. Did I tell you what
mixed emotions the necrological notes anent my retirement gave me? Pri-
marily an idea that it would be a fine thing if everybody could have
his necrology printed in time to read it himself. Every time I read, in
the Cosmos Club News Letter (not quite up to the dignified literary
standard of the old days, it seems to me) a biographical note about one
of our erstwhile clubmates I wish he could have read it himself. It was
very nice, for example, to read a letter from Dwight D Eisenhower addressed
to me and signed personally, congratulating me on what I have done for
Latin America and international understanding. Makes one feel better
every time he stops to reflect that his salary now is just 33-1/3% of
what it was last year. And it is also nice to think as Helen and I did
one hour ago, that Presidente Batista was in the Crystal Room of the
National Palace presented me, in absentia, with the Orden del Merito
Agricola e Industrial, grado de Gran Oficial. That makes seven, tho
not all of them gran oficiales.

Sorry you have had to go thru Asian flu, even tho mild. I am
using that excuse every time I have a stomach upset; and let me tell
you, my dear sir, I hope when you get your false teeth (artificial
dentures, in Lucile's language) you will have something to hang them
on. On my lower jaw they just float around when I eat soup, and fly
out the window when I come down to the rice and beans. -- Mighty
sorry to hear about Homer Brett's daughter. I don't know what's the matter
with us folks these days; either we go crazy or we die of a coronary
thrombosis. -- Sunnunaun feller came in yesterday and asked to see the
house; I forget whether he heard you lecture in Little Rock or Oshkosh.
We are holding down admittance to the house, now, to people who are
really interested or are friends - and what a host of friends you have
made for yourself, and this house! Don't let it worry you; send anyone
you want to send, but just give him, her or them a little card, not
necessarily a pretty pc; When they come without it we will show them
around anyway. It don't cost nothin.

I am glad to hear Oliver and Laura are moving to O'town, provided
they have bot one of those little houses which I have always wanted
to own. If I had a fortune I would have one right now, even if only to
spend 30 days pr annum in it. -- No, I am afraid we cannot get off to
Spain before early in 1958; they are howling for me to expert around,
and I have decided I have an obligation, and I better do it free as I
lose my \$108.50 Social Security if I earn any money from now on. I am
not too happy about this part of the pro-gram. --- Have just hear from
Jim Kempton that he and Dimp except to be here Dec 1, for a few days,
and after that they will go to San Francisco Calif to live there for
a while because his mother, who is 92 yrs old, is there. I bet they
make Jim an honorary prof at Berkeley or something of that sort and he
stays in Calif. Not a bad idea at that. -- Good story about the boy
who flunked in his classes; I can use that in my biz, and shall.

Helen joins in much love to all.

Wick

Hoy 16 de octubre de 57/

Dear Wilson & Helen:

We had a little scare about Maude last night, which fortunately blew over rapidly. Along toward the end of the afternoon Vivian phoned that Maude was in bad shape, couldn't walk etc. We went right down, and stayed for a couple of hours until the doctor came-- M.D.'s take their time nowadays; It was evident that she wasn't in too bad shape-- she could walk perfectly well, but was dizzy and uncomfortable. Dr. Benjamin examined her carefully, said there was nothing organically wrong. She had a spell of high blood pressure brought about by some sort of emotional pressure-- that made her dizzy and with a feeling of congestion in the head, but it was nothing serious. He gave us some prescriptions wh I went up to the chemist's shop in Altadena and got filled-- mainly Serpasil, Mahatam Gandhi's old stand-by, derivative of Rauwolfia serpentina, said he would come by again in a couple of days. Betty went down again today; Maude was still a little dopy from sleeping medicine he had given, and was a bit emotional, but fundamentally all right.

Well, Wilson my boy, you and I are finally going to get adequate recognition from the Cosmos Club. Details of proposed changes in the by-laws probably went out by surface mail and may not have reached you. With more than 30 yrs of membership, you become a Senior Member and only pay $\frac{1}{2}$ the regular dues. With more than 40 yrs, I am Emeritus and pay no dues at all; but we both still get all the privileges, together with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto appertaining.

Anna Popenoe's granddaughter Julie (I.abel's dau.) has produced the first pair of twins in Popenoe family history, so far as I can remember.

Noting "This day in history", I find that on Oct. 16, 1886, boarding house keepers in NYC tried to meet the rising cost of living by agreeing that they would serve not more than 4 prunes to each boarder. I'm glad we came along in a happier time of Republican prosperity when restaurants were rpoud to display a placard in the window, "Six large prunes, 5¢." Them was the happy days.

Hoping UR the same,

Oct.20, 1957

Jerry dear:

Enc will be self-explanatory in the light of the mimeographed material. Your scores are all well within the normal range. The nervous and cordial could stand a little improvement. "Aggressive" is not too high-- Dr. Johhason now thinks it can be anything up to 90 without trouble if it is well balanced by other traits, especially self-,astery.

●Yours ever,

JOHNSON TEMPERAMENT ANALYSIS PROFILE

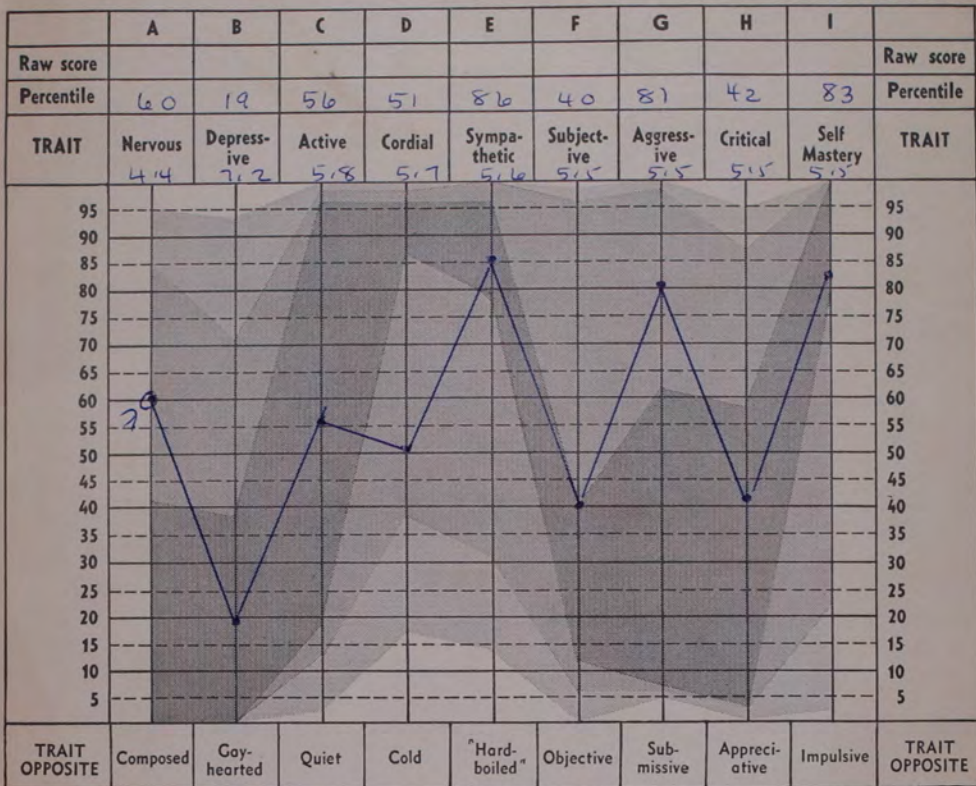
Profile Revision of February, 1945.

F.P.
(copy)

These answers describe "X" (F) called S
as of 7 (date)

Answers were made by: (Self), or
who is a: husband, wife, father, mother, brother, sister, or of the person described.

→ 44 mids



100=Highest tested 50=Middle person tested 0=Lowest tested

Excellent

Acceptable

Improvement desirable

Improvement urgent

TRAITS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Nervous - fidgeting, nervous tension, tics, tremors, apprehensiveness, etc.</p> <p>Depressive - being too sad, relative to the circumstances, too much of the time</p> <p>Active - energetic, undertaking many tasks, lively, etc.</p> <p>Cordial - expressively warm-hearted</p> <p>Sympathetic - feeling with others and acting accordingly, responsive to the joys and sorrows of others</p> <p>Subjective - poor ability to act logically, because so swayed by prejudice and one's own qualities</p> <p>Aggressive - attempts to push ahead of others, enjoying domination</p> <p>Critical - criticizing to get the satisfaction of the superior feeling produced by it</p> <p>Self-mastery - control of impulsiveness in the interest of planning</p> | <p>OPPOSITES</p> <p>Composed</p> <p>Gay-hearted</p> <p>Quiet</p> <p>Cold</p> <p>"Hard-boiled"</p> <p>Objective</p> <p>Submissive</p> <p>Appreciative</p> <p>Impulsive</p> |
|---|---|

No very important decision should be made on the results of adjustment trait scores alone; confirmation by other means is desirable.

The percentiles are not to be considered as accurate to the nearest unit. The profile should be read as if the percentiles were rounded off roughly by tens in the middle of the scale and progressively less toward the extremes.

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Published by California Test Bureau
Los Angeles 28, California

Sealed SEP 18 57
FH

Casa del Oidor (actualmente del Oyente)
Elecciones Presidenciales, 20 Oct 1957

Dear Paul:

Thanks for yrs of 16th instant - important day in your annual calendar but I suspect you may achieve ten more of them since you dont eat kalbfleisch or anything like das. Your sent me a little slip quoting Fulano de Tal to the effect that it wont be long before nobody eats flesh. I am inclined to think that guy may be right. My reason for so thinking is that I have gone offn, almost entirely, beef, pork and fowls of all sorts; I stick to the sea food which I like very much; there will soon be a kitchen midden around this house. Yesterday had Moules a la Bordelaise, canned, from France, wh are pretty darn good. Of course I still eat fleisch when I have to but I dont care for it any more. Maybe too much free biftek at Zamorano.

I was extremely sorry to hear that Maude has been thru another session. I havent told Helen about it - will wait for Maude to say what she wants in her next letter. Then we were in Coconut Grove last Jan Helen talked with Vivian over the phone and found Maude was laid up and Helen was for leaving that night for Pasadena; I asked to wait another day wh she did, and found it wasnt necessary to go. Helen tells me Maude had a nervous breakdown at age 26, 3 or 4 yrs after she was married. I think we all understand her emotional temperament and will do all we can for her. But I wish she were nearer us so that the burden would not fall on you and Betty. You are both extremely kind to her - and therefore to us. Any expense to which you go in connection with medicines, etc., I wish you would quietly include in my annual bill for Peter under heading "Incidentals".

One reason for not telling Helen that her mother had another bout is that Helen herself has not been well, at least as well as we would like, these past few weeks. Same sort of trouble, I reckon. People hammer at the door all day - "No quiere comprar carbon?" - "¿Hicestá la niña María?" - "I have come to take the basura" - "Dont you want to buy some nice orchids?" - "Is this the Popenoe house?" (this one happens pretty often) "well, I have read Adamic's book and have come all the way from Penobscot just to see this place". It is getting Helen down and I am glad we are heading this week for Salvador, where I must spend a few days going over the work I started (or thought I had started) in August, then we drive on and on and on (not sail) to the Silver Hill, where it is time I spent a few days at the school and paid my local income tax and was on hand to receive the Orden de Vasco Núñez de Balboa, which the señor Embajador says will be celebrated on 3 Nov. We will come back here about Nov 10. I have to fall back, oh so often, on that old gag "Dont tell me that, I have a cracked lip" because I keep on getting letters saying I know you are enjoying the good and well earned rest you are now having" un so weite.

I am using your story about the school boy who wasnt sure his bad grades were heredity or environment; and just to add a light touch to this letter, which probably needs it, did you hear about the nun who was in the confessional, when the priest said through the grill, smelling what he took to be C₂H₅OH: "Sister; what is this; what have you been doing?" To which she answered, "Three fathers, feather".

Brother, never go on a pension: it cramps your style irreparably. Remember Aunt Lucy's song, "What's become of the once fat pocketbook?" Change the last word to bank account and you have it.

Much love to you both

Just checked up: I have 2 yrs more to go before I get the half-rate at the Cosmos Club. Do we get half-rates in the dining room?

MEMO FOR WILSON POPENOE

James Popenoe built the first brock house in Xenia (still standing at 127 E. Main st. and occupied in part, when I saw it 15 years ago, by Kennedy's Grocery.) In this house most of his children were born, among others our grandfather, Willis Parkison Popenoe, and his sister Cynthia Ann Popenoe. She was one of the older children, born Apl.7, 1815. On Mar.17, 1840, she married Amiel Rodgers (b.July 18, 1814), a bricklayer, and contractor and builder in a small way. He did a good deal of work, later, on the Soldiers & Sailors Orphans Home, which is still standing. "Aunt Cynty" died on May 30, 1848.

Among her five children was Elizabeth Rodgers, b. Apl.24, 1846, who married David Voorhees (b.Sept.7, 1841), and they had nine children, one of whom, Edwin Aden Voorhees (b.Aug.24, 1880) was our second cousin. His daughter, Helen Anna Voorhees, married Lee L. Phillips and reared three children, the eldest of whom (b.June 22, 1933) was Helen Louise Phillips. She married, on June 6, 1956, Henry A. Sp Stephens, and they are now living in Guatemala City, as you know.

She is our second cousin twice removed, and her mother, Mrs. Helen V. Phillips, living at 1745 SW 17th st., Miami, is our second ~~XXXXXXXX~~ cousin once removed.

PP

Oct.22, 1957

-Antigua, 10 Dec 1957

Dear Pablo:

Jim and Dimp Kempton left here yesterday before dawn on their way to San Francisco, where they plan to take a small apartment and live for a while because Jim's mother who is, I believe, 93 is there. When she passes on they are thinking of moving to Mexico, somewhere in the Córdoba region. They had a wonderful send-off in Venezuela with lots of expensive presents. Jim really did a grand job there in his 15 yrs, and they have asked him to come to the Washn office to sit in State and give advice but he says, rightfully I believe, that he isnt interested in a purely bureaucratic job. He will have a pension of more than \$7000 per annum and if Dimp survives him she gets half of that until her death. So they are comfortably fixed.

A few hrs after they left we had a visit from Jeff Coolidge and wife, very interesting and enjoyable and probably the last time we will see them here as Jeff is retiring as Chairman of the Board early in the year; most of other jefes are retiring also, including Hartley Rowe and Walter Schuyler of Cuba and Joe Montgomery of New Orleans. It practically cleans out the old gaurd.

Jeff told me that he plans to call a meeting if the Board of Trustees of EAP sometime in Feb, at Boston, and I will be expected. This sort of crystallises our own plans, if it comes off as scheduled. We would not return here; probably spend a week or two in Washington with the kids and then fly over to Europe. Helen isnt keen on Europe in winter but I tell her if we go right down to our job in Almuñecar on the Mediterranean, where they grow sugar cane and bananas, it cant be much colder than it is here right now. Of course we may have to change our plans, but Helen is determined to spend Holy Week in Seville where we have some good friends, and I want to attend the Intl Hort Congress in Nice from April 10 to 20. Nous allons voir ce que nous allons voir.

I am enclosing a check in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars. I am sending this right now for two reasons: it will line things up for Peter for the coming year (I hope) and I wish you would take out \$1000 in ten crisp ten dollar bills and slip them to Vivian some time on the QT. I am not kicking about the affairs of Maude and Vivian - we send Maude a check every month, and this goes to the joint account of Maude and Vivian (with her old age pension) but I happen to know that Maude pretty well controls the purse strings and Vivian has no money at all of her own. I have referred to this previously. So when you render me an account, just lump this hundred bucks in with Peter's expenses in the form of incidentals or Miltown pills or damage to school property or what we call in UFCo "petty cash".

The Kemptons stayed a week with us; other guests coming this week-end and we shall probably have the Russells from Zamorano over Xmas. We keep pretty busy without getting anything done! Assuming you are the same, and with stacks of love to both,

Wilt

1968-1969

Dear Sir & Bro.:

We came in via Santa Fe's California Limited Monday morning and were surprised to find Hugh awaiting us at the station. He had come down, to our great satisfaction, while waiting for what the diplomats call clarification of his status with the draft board. He has made varias observaciones to them but isn't too optimistic about any action from them except an order to report for duty-- wh they tell him wouldn't be before October!--Pab passed his civil service exam, as expected, so I suppose he is fixed in the Public Utilities Commission at SF for some time to come.--We really enjoyed our stay at Emporia; weather was almost perfect. If Kansas summers were all like that it would be a mighty poor corn-growing state but a grand summer resort. I was glad of the opportunity to spend a week there,-- the longest time I have been in Kansas in 47 years. The women are a little more beautiful, the men a little more manly, the pie crust a little flakier, and the voters a little more solidly Republican than in most other states.--Things looked mighty good here at Ahucatlan, however, except for the need of a little more irrigation, wh is a standing-in-type description at this time of year.--We had a right smart temblor on the morning we arrived; were in the yards at Barstow when the car began to roll. No damage to amount to anything in L.A.County but everybody got quite a scare.--Mr.Paul has sold Tambo for \$12,000 cash, wh is about \$4,000 more than it is worth. He is going to move to Chico, get a larger place where he can do subsistence farming when the atom bombs put this part of the country out of business. It is all predicted in the Bible. He has just passed his 90th birthday; if you and I are as lively and enterprising at that age we'll be a credit to the family.--Hugh has gone with a friend to the Concert under the Stars at Hollywood Bowl tonight. Yesterday he went to UCLA to see Art Schroeder et al. Art invited him to come over tomorrow night to talk to a little group of serious thinkers and show some of his fine collection of colored slides. They will probably never again have an opportunity to see such a good pictorial record of various important phases of agriculture and horticulture in the Far East.--Nancy's plans are not yet too definite due to uncertainty as to when Bob will get out of military service but that will presumably be within a very few months and I believe they then plan to marry at once,-- very likely down here somewhere, since this is his home. I assume that it won't be possible for you and Helen to be here. Perhaps Herbert and I can act as locum tenens for the parental generation; and this brings up a matter for delicate diplomatic negotiation which you will understand without further discussion if you read (or saw the movie), Father of the Bride. In plain English, necesita un poco efectivo. Or if not necesita, it is at least what you might describe as costumbre del pais for the bride's family to carry some of the overhead expenses of the enterprize as a going concern. I don't know what your ideas would be on this point, or whether you would want to authorize me to disburse a little of the con que for that purpose and debit your a/c withal. If so, maybe you will give me an idea of how far you want to go: one, two, three, four, or five figures (all inclusive of decimal point, of course.) Maybe you will have some other idea or arrangement of an entirely different sort, in wh case I know you won't hesitate to say so-- you and I are practical men, as the elder Roosevelt wrote to the elder Harriman when he was trying to raise some contributions for a political campaign.--John and Jerry are enjoying life at Hancock. Oliver and Laura plan to fly out here with Little Paradise (that's the Arabic meaning of Janina) on Aug.21, and will have a little more than two weeks.--In answering your last letter I have a vague impression that I forget to reply to your inquiry about Elche., The huerta of Malaga and that of Valencia are both of a good deal of interest to the subtropical horticulteur and I think you would find it quite worth while to take a run over to Elche if transportation is good; also see Orihuela and some of the other citrus growing areas. I'd certainly like to be with you on that trip.--Everybody here sends heaps of love to Helen and yourself.

Ahuacatlan de los Angeles, hoy 24.

Dear Sir & Bro.:

We came in via Sta Fe Monday morning and were surprised to find Hugh awaiting us at the station. He had come down, to our great satisfaction, while waiting for what the diplomats call clarification, from his draft board. He has made varias observaciones to them but isn't too optimistic about any action except to tell him to report for duty.—Fab passed his civil service exam, as expected, so I suppose he is fixed in the Public Utilities Commission for some time to come.--We really enjoyed our stay at Emporia; weather was almost perfect. If Kansas summers were all like that it would be a mighty poor corn growing state, but a grand summer resort. I was glad of the opportunity to spend a week there.-- the longest time I have been in Kansas in 47 yrs. The women are a little more beautiful, the men a little more manly, the pie crusts a little flakier, and the voters a little more solidly Republican, than in most other states you will visit. —Things looked mighty good here at Ahuacatlan, too, except for the need of a little more irrigation, wh is a standing description at this time of year.--We had a right smart temblor on the morning we arrived; you might even have read of it in the continental press. We were in the yards at Parstow when the car began to roll. No damage done here but everybody got a bit of a scare.—Sr. Paul has sold Tambo for \$12,000 cash, wh is at least \$4,000 more than it is worth. He is going to move up to Chico and get a larger place where he can do subsistence farming when the atom bombs hit the rest of us. He just passed his 90th birthday; if you and I are as lively and enterprising at that age we'll keep things moving.--Hugh has gone with a friend to the Concert under the Stars at the Hollywood Bowl tonight. Yesterday he went to UCLA to see Art Schroeder and others.--Nancy's plans are not yet fixed due to uncertainty as to when Bob will get out of the military service, but presumably within a very few months and I believe they plan to marry at once,-- very likely down here somewhere, since this is his home. I assume that it won't be possible for you and Helen to be here. Herbert and I can as locum tenens for the older generation; and this brings up a matter for delicate diplomatic negotiation which you will understand if you read (or saw the movie) Father of the Bride. In plain English, necesita un poco efectivo. Or if not necesita, at least it is what you might call costumbre del pais for the bride's family to meet some of the overhead expenses of the enterprise as a going concern. I don't know what your ideas would be on this point, or whether you would want to authorize me to disburse a little of the con que and debit your a/c with it. If so, perhaps you would give me an idea of how far you want to go: one, two, three, four, or five figures (inclusive of decimal point, of course.) If you want some other arrangement, I know you won't hesitate to say so-- you and I are practical men, as the elder Roosevelt said to the elder Harriman.-- John and Perry are enjoying life at Hancock. Oliver and Laura plan to ply out here with Little Paradise (that's the Arabic meaning of Jenina) on Aug. 21, and will have a little more than 2 weeks.-- Everybody here sends heaps of love to Helen and yourself.

Siempre tuyo,

Sunday the 14th [1958]

Dear Wilson & Helen:

Ed Halley and his father came down last night and we talked over Sal's situation at length. She will probably need several months of treatment. We phoned Ducky and learned that Karl is back, had flown to Washington, but would be back in SF in 3 days. They therefore took Sal back with them and plan to see Karl as soon as he returns, and hope he can get her into Langley Porter. If that is impossible, they will follow his recommendation as to where she can be treated most satisfactorily up there.

I'm returning your check, Wilson, as I'm sure it is not desirable to give it to Sally, in the circumstances. There will be opportunity or need, some time in the near future, no doubt, to help out in some effective way.

Yours ever,

I'm eligible for Social Security benefits now if I do not earn more than \$1200 a year. Unfortunately, I earn a little more than that. In 2 yrs more, i.e., at age 72, I can get the benefits (about \$115 a month, I believe) regardless of my earnings. It's nice to have something to look forward to!

Tuesday Sept.17

Dear Wilson & Helen:

Sal and Ed phoned us last night. After arriving in Stokton they lost no time in getting in touch with Dr. Alexander Simon (I believe that is his name), Karl's successor as director of Langley Porter Clinic. He remembered Sal from the days of her kidney operation; told them to come right over today. So they are not waiting for Karl's return tomorrow. There is every reason to hope and expect that they will take her right in. Sal knows she is in need of help, and goes along resignedly if not exactly willingly. She will have the best there is, and if you people were here there's nothing in the world that you could do for her that won't be done anyhow. Naturally you're deeply concerned, as are all of us. From what Dr. Halley and Ed told us Sunday, there has been evidence for several months that she was getting into difficulties-- more perceptive people would have recognized the significance of this and seen that she got help sooner. Both of them, however, have rather risen in our estimation by the way they have met this. Ed has been giving abundant evidence of his great feeling in the matter.

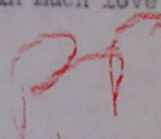
Yours ever,

Altadena, Sunday the 14th [1958]

Dear Popencos:

Ed and his father drove down last night and we talked over Sal's situation at great length. She will probably need several months of treatment. I phoned Murdock Bowman and he said Karl is already back from abroad, but had flown to Washington; would return here on Wednesday-- i.e., to S.F. We all agreed that Langley Porter would be the best place for Sal, and she went back with Ed and his father; they will try to get Karl to get her in there and if that is impossible, will follow his advice as to where she can best be treated around the bay.

Nancy writes that Dick and Marion are going to move on Nov. 1.--Letter from Wilson and Helen tells of their visit to the Canary Islands; they had a most interesting and satisfactory time. They will go to Germany in a couple of weeks, to get that Volkswagen.--Groucho Marx' show, "You bet your life" is running over its old films as summer replacement, and on Thursday evg the 18th will show mine-- if you didn't see it the first time, and want to see how easy it is to earn (?) \$2,000 in 4 minutes, tune in on it.--Betty joins me again in much love to all of you.



Antigua, 19 Jan 1958

Dear Pablo:

I suppose I ought to be down town voting - and would if I were a guatemalteco. The political campaign has been tremendous; so much so that everybody seems a bit happy that the cars wont go by any more with loud speakers telling everybody how to vote. I dont suppose the result will be prompt; unless one of the 3 principal candidates gets 51% of the total vote the matter will be thrown into Congress which has the obligation of deciding which of the two highest gets the job. This system did not work well in Honduras last time. I suspect everybody in this part of the world may go back to the system that the man who gets more votes than any other candidate, wins.

Helen and I practically packed up; we leave at the end of this week (Sat 25) for Miami to spend a few days with Daisy Bell, then we go to Gainesville as I am sure I have told you, then to NY for the meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP, then probably to Boston for a few days, then to Washn for a week or so, then we plan to fly to Lisboa ans stop there a few days to change some \$\$ into Spanish pesetas at the very favorable rate available there; then to Spain, with immediate objective Almuñecar. We have arranged with Mrs Martha Sussmann, who used to be Secretary to the Ambassador (personal sec, not 1st Sec of Embassy) in Tegucigalpa, to take care of our mail in Spain. We will keep Martita informed of our whereabouts so her address, AmEmbassy Madrid, will always reach us fairly promptly. Then too, we will have our GHQ at Rancho California, Almuñecar, Granada, España; where Don Luis Sarasola, in charge will look out for our affairs. Of course I will keep you informed from time to time regarding our plans. I rather think we shall take in the Canaries and Madeira, then go to the eastern Mediterranean, Greece and Israel; I am toying with the idea of writing up something on subtropical fruits (avocados et id genus omne) in that part of the world - from the Canaries to Rehovoth. Nous allons voir ce que nous allons voir. I have been saving money for this trip for some years and have enough laid by. The problem is, how far East. If we both keep in good health we will probably go round the world. If something happens we wont go beyond Palestine.

We expect Hugh to take over here in March; he has that Rockefeller grant wh should keep him in northern C A, Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras I assume, for at least a year. He will, I hope make his base here in Antigua to keep an eye on the old house. We expect to see him in Gainesville next week, to line things up; and are delighted that you and Betty expect to be in Gainesville in Feb; I'll tell Hugh to be sure you meet Prexy Reitz wh you will do anyway, and I would also like you to meet Dr Hume the grand old man of Florida horticulture. Not so surprised that you havent heard from John since the freeze, as that you havent seen headlines in the Star News "Son of Dr Popence Frozen to Death at Homestead Florida" The freeze hit the citrus crop pretty hard - I get it from such high authority as Wayne Reitz.

In NY we will stop at the Hotel Seville as usual, 29th and Madison Avenue because Dorsett Shamel and I stopped there on our way to Brazil in 1913 and because it is cheap (\$7 for double room); in Washn we can be reached thru Nancy at 10148 Dallas Ave, Silver Spring Md, or at the Cosmos Club where we shall try to get some cheap meals to equalise my annual dues; tho I cant get oysters on the half shell any more because they dont have enough business of that sort (you will be glad to see) to justify hiring an oyster shucker full time and according to Union rules none other can shuck oysters in a public place. O Tempora, O Mores!

Helen joins in much love to all

Net

Pablo: My suggestion that we come to Calif direct from Spain in December is duepfeTTY much to Helen's concern over Sal. She thinks if we could be there it might help. I am not so sure of this and I doubt that you and Karl are either. It is my feeling that the thing for us to do is to return to Guatemala at the end of the year; wait until Karl thinks the time is ripe; and then come up to California, which will be somewhat easier for us than to go from here to Calif via New York; and I really would like to get home to Antigua as soon as possible as there is quite an accumulation of matters which need attention - but can wait if necessary.

Walt

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
23 March 1958

Dear Pablo:

Helen says you are back in California, but not the Rancho. This is a pretty darn fine place and you would love it, for it comes about as close to being Arabia as anything I have seen. The town was at one time the seat of the Moors' treasury; the old castle stands right above the town, which is 20 minutes walk from our lovely little apartment (hot and cold running water, and C and F do not stand for cold and fire on the faucets as they do in most places over here) and electric stove which works. In the words of Henry Nelson Coleridge when he got home from his six months in the West Indies, "it is good, very good, to be here".

We are about 20 minutes leisurely walk from the center of town and we go down every noon to get the mail and do our shopping. The people of the lower classes seem to me to have more Arab blood than they do in Granada where I thought we might expect it. The town is very Arab in appearance; I love it. And this morning I walked up the valley half a mile from the Rancho California to see at close hand a dozen old date palms which are heavy with fruit (which wont ripen here) but which make me homesick for the Shat-el-Arab. Helen says we have already found ourselves here; we go into town with a hamper and load up with the finest oranges you ever ate and some green peas and string beans and, and Oh and, ARTICHOKEs, which we love and which are abundant here and cost about 3 cents each with our rate of exchange. We got a nice batch of pesetas in New York, all the law allows, and they are sure coming in handy. We could live here on my pension indefinitely, and live like princes. Of course we spend a little money - I blush to relate - on fish and mussels and clams, and yesterday we even blew ourselves to a kilo of mutton which cost 50 cents, the best part of a leg. May Allah forgive us.

Our plans are in general as follows; We leave here next Friday for Sevilla to spend Holy Week, I dont quite know why because it is going to cost us \$5 per each for board lodging and laundry in a house which belongs to the daughter of a friend of ours; then we go back to Madrid for a week and then back here to do some more work on the avocados. I think we can begin to do some grafting in May. I am now working up enthusiasm, or trying to, with Art Schroeder and Knowles and other friends, to get things going over here. We need some help and I believe we are going to get it. This is a labor of love so far as I am concerned and is going to cost me some money, but in the words of Who was it? How can man die better than by facing fearful odds for the ashes of his fathers and the temples of his gods?

For months I have been trying to get lined up on Social Security. Finally I found that I might get about \$50 per month for Peter as a permanently disabled dependant child. They write me from Boston that this is being taken up with Social Security in California. I am writing that you know the story and can give them any information necessary. They will probably require some official documentation which I am sure is in order and I hope will not cause you any trouble. Write us in care of Martha Sussmann, American Embassy, Madrid. She is an old friend of ours from Honduras, now private secretary to the second in command at the Embassy, and we shall keep her informed of our whereabouts at all times. This is rather important because

the work here in Almuñecar cannot occupy all my time. We will come and go, as the work requires. In June we will probably head over to the eastern Mediterranean, taking in Istanbul, Greece and the hort work in Israel; then back here again and then to the Canaries and Madeira. I would like to visit Algeria again before I die, but I don't think the climate over there is very good right now. It looks at present as though we may pick up our new Volkswagen in Hamburg in November, drive down to Rotterdam and sail home on a banana boat to Guatemala, but all this more anon.

I am interested in knowing more about Mosca domestica. Ours are just like the ones in Busra. But we have screens which they did not have in Busra in your day and mine except perhaps in Beit Chalk. I suppose Pasha Chalk has long since gone to his great award among the houris. But Pablo, how I wish you and Betty could spend a few weeks with us here! Helen has gone completely native and I am following close behind, and we would feed you on artichokes and they even have plenty of dates from the other side of the Mediterranean and we might even let Betty and Helen have a roast leg of mutton, which Helen always calls lamb; I think she considers that a lamb remains a lamb until he dies of old age. But just think of us, back in the land of the date palm, which you and I have loved long since and lost awhile.

Much love to you both from us both,

Wilson

My dears -

All my married life I have wanted a little house, & we had to come to the south tip of Spain to find it. No visitors, nobody knows us, we can dress as we want & gorge on Spanish food & scenery. It's a beauty spot & is doing so much good for Wilson - he's so full of enthusiasm & better than I've seen him in years - no more zanzibar problems - will be over here some long time - if only you could make it!! Love to you both,

Helen

Mittwoch 18 April, or so says our
Volkswagen calendar

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 10th, Dienstag, according to same, duly read and mighty sorry to have the news of A D Shamel's death. As you say, it was not altogether a surprise; and the surprise is, that I thought his wife Fay had died a year or two ago. Don't know where I got the idea. I note that Archie was 77; that's a reasonable age and I don't suppose I will live to attain it.

It certainly is surprising to learn that Frank Popenoe is suing for divorce after three months of matrimony. That's too bad. When you have the details, What are the grounds?

Sunday last I had some visitors (Helen had not yet returned from Guatemala): Amembassador, et ux, and new Brath Minister et ux, and three others from the Diplomatic corps. Not to mention four Germans in the morning and the Guatemalan Ambassador and wife in the afternoon. We take all the e things in our stride, and feed them on filet mignon wh costs is 20 cents per libbit and wh seems to go down well. But anyway, as Mrs Simmonds would say, the British Ambassador, a Mr Jackson, has been stationed in Baghdad and knew intimately John Van Ess, whom he thought one of the finest men who ever walked this planet. He also knew the Gran Tigris Hotel (job Franzul!) which I suppose must be a different bldg from the one in which we shivered during the baghdadi winter, but wh, as he described it, is in the same place.

Helen returned yesterday from Antigua, with her two aunts from Chicago who arri ed just at the end of our sessions of the Am Soc Hort Sci, Caribbean section; we had quite a time for a week. Some 45 brethren, including 8 from Florida, three from Mexico, Doc Coit from California, a goodly number from Central America and two from Cuba. I was sorry John could not be there. The affair was something more on the sightseeing than the technical side, wh I think was fine; we can read the papers later. The meetings were held in our house, in the grand old sala wh was all dolled up by Helen for the occasion, but antique silver and old tapestries; and the farewell dinner, 62 plates, was served at the Hotel Antigua by Indian girls in Cobanera costume to the accompaniment of one of th best marimbas you ever heard, \$5 per hora. We were able to muster enough transportation, including 3 cars we took over from here, to take the crowd thru the Highlands and down to the south coast, and had it not been for the usual number who were hors de combat for a day or so with Tourists Disease, alias Tropical Trots (four out of five get it) the whole show would have been perfect.

Don Hugi is ensconced in the house now, and will work out of Antigua while doing his stuff for the doctorado. We expect him over here toward the end of May, for a few days, after wh he will have to go up to Gainesville for a short time, or so I understand.

We are settling down to the quiet life again after the session in Antigua. Forthy delegates to the V Congreso de Agentes de Extension Agricola Centroamericana y del Caribe will be out for the day on Sat; and then we have the Triodistas of Central America, some 200 strong, who will spend a field day out here early in May, to get us in shape for the big Congreso Leytistico on May 20; there will depart from the Cueva de los Leones en Tucigalpa on that day aproximadamente 600 delegates from all Istman who will spend the day out here; and I suppose there will be a goodly number of tuercerabos (figure that out, tail twisters incolunt vocan r) among them. Thus runs the world away.

Ever,
hine,
[Signature]

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
13 May 1958

Dear Pablo:

Yrs of 3rd instant recd, in two copies one via Madrid, and contents of both noted. So you've gone and done it! And I should think you would be fairly safe in getting just exactly the cabin you desire, not too close to the engines, by booking now for next March. Well, it all sounds pretty fine except for the fact that you are coming to Spain and Betty will not see the Prado, which to my way of thinking - which of course is not very authoritative - is by far the finest collection of paintings in Europe. Maybe you will change your minds - I have a hunch you will - and fly down to Madrid for a few days. You might even find us there, for the longer we stay here the less we are inclined to go home. Remember Arthur K Wyatt - "Don't send me home, please don't send me home"? When you can live well on two bucks a day per capita, you can't really afford to go home anyway. But don't forget, Betty would adore the Prado, and some of the old cathedrals. I have for often just what sort of an itinerary you mentioned, but it seemed to me you were planning mostly on northern Europe, with the southern part, South Bend and Rensselaer, for another trip - and my advice is just stay longer on this first trip and see it all. I envy you the trip on a fine steamer; nothing like it, except that they will probably put you at a table with a few US widows who will bore you to death. We have just returned from 3 days in Córdoba, where the govt put us up at one of the swankiest hotels in Spain (far too rich for our blood) and at the next table sat a group of tourists, one of whom said in stentorian tones "There is nothing to see in Spain except Madrid and Barcelona. The rest is just a waste of time." Speaking of Córdoba, you would love to see the Jumma Musjid there and read the inscriptions in arabic on the walls, mostly to the effect (they tell me) that Allah is the only conqueror, which seems to me pretty sound doctrine on the basis of our recent recent in war. We had a pleasant time in Córdoba where I lectured to the 4th yr boys from the ag college in Madrid who are down there on a three months field experience. Good lads, and I think I enjoy lecturing almost as much as you do. The govt wanted to pay me for the lectures but I wouldn't take it; they were stuck badly enough by our hotel bill, so I told Helen several times: "Here we are, shocked by the fact that this is costing the govt \$16 per day for the two of us, and here are these American tourists who are saying, What a bargain. We pay \$16 per day just for a room in NY and here we get all this wonderful grub free." And the grub really was good. About the only beefsteaks we have ever seen in Spain.

I am interested in what you say about Johnny. Incidentally, he has been awfully good about sending me avocado scions and citrus seeds. If I could choose for him I would most certainly take the asst prof of pomology at Davis. Tho his field is subtropicals, I can't get over the feeling that Davis is one of our great agrl colleges whereas UCLA with its great opportunities in the line of field work with avocados etc, doesn't have quite the serious outlook that you find at Davis. I have hoped that both John and Hugh might land at Davis eventually but I don't really know much about affairs in your part of the world and I may be entirely wrong. In any case, Doors will be opened.

I wish you had told me more about your visit from Marion. I am a trifle worried about her. Unlike Sally, she has no financial problems, but she takes life so seriously that I am afraid she is not really too happy. Because she is in many ways so much like her mother I had felt sure she would be as philosophical as Dorothy was, but on the basis of our stay with Dick and herself in Washington it seems to me she is letting her obligations - which are not more heavy than those of most other young mothers - get her down. Marion by nature is, I believe, a student, as Dorothy was; but she seems to have no time for intellectual pursuits because she feels that must devote absolutely all her time to the baby, which I doubt is good for the baby and certainly is not good for her. Edith, who is a pretty sound and well-balanced person, told me that she has no trouble at all with little Dorothy; it is just a matter of getting her in line which only takes a day or so.

You mention Sal's problems; you say she has lots of them and needs lots of help which she probably can not get at Stockton. Sal is a brave little soul, really wonderful. I suppose her problems would all be solved if she had plenty of money - or would they? What do you think. I have tried to help her financially from time to time but the extent to which I can do this is limited by my heavy obligations elsewhere, and of course I have always felt that it is up to the husband to support his family. But Ed so far has not seemed prepared to step out and make a good career for himself. He has tried several things. Hugh feels that Ed has now probably gone into the right field - but in any case it will take some years for him to prepare himself and reach the point where he can earn a decent living for a family of five. We like Ed; he is a very personable young fellow. What do you think I can and should do?

Hugh has just written from Peru. He is pushing ahead well, and I am quite sure they are going to do all they can to keep him at the Univ of Florida. It is up to him. They are short of good men at Gainesville, but the general intellectual atmosphere at the Univ is not, to my mind, equal to that at Berkeley or Davis. I suspect you will agree. But I don't want to give much advice any more than you will tell John where he ought to go. Neither of those kids needs any help from you or me. Both of them are going places and I am happy that there are two Popenoes in the Fl who are going ahead in the same general field to which I have devoted my own life.

Apricots have just come in to the market. Loquats still in season. And we have a fine basket of avocados we gathered up on this last trip. You would live well here - but I shall not be completely happy until the Valencia melons show up. Of course the muscat grapes are not to be despised either. Meet us in Madrid next spring, tho if necessary we might go to Paris where you will find us at the Hotel de Calais, cinq rue des Capucines.

Elena joins in much love

Wiet

Rancho California, 20 May 1958

Dear Pablo:

Will you kindly add at the foot of the enclosed letter, the official name and address of the Seeman school and mail the letter to Washington in the enclosed envelop. I have finally been able to get my Social Security matters (Old Age Pension) lined up and they have paid me for 10 months, total of \$1085.00; I have claimed appropriate benefits for Peter and believe I will get them; I dont know how much but think it may be at least half of the monthly charge of \$150 at the Seeman school. This would be quite a help. You can keep the enclosed copy of the letter to Mr Sadd; I have held one here.

We were very glad to have your note of 11th juin (this must be the French word for May; maybe they are using the Gregorian calendar); and especially to note your comments about Sal. She has been very much on my mind recently. A few weeks ago I sent her a check for \$100 which she has acknowledged with thanks. Perhaps Ed has at last found the thing he wants to do - Hugh felt this way when we last saw him in Florida. From what you say I gather that the proximity of the elder Halleys doesnt make things easier for Sal. This is the first intimation I have had. Poor little kid; she certainly has had a hard time of it.

Here we are getting along well; just got some scions from "the Valley" Texas, which brings the number of avocado varieties we have introduced above 12. Let us hope they all grow. Next week-end we go over to Malaga to graft some trees for a very nice family, N M Davis and wife; he is from Maine I believe and she appears to be British. Mr Davis said he knew of you, had heard of you through his friend C C Little who if I recall correctly was at Cold Spring Harbour.

Ever yrs

Walt

I am not certain about the date of Peter's birth; I do not have it here (I do in Antigua of course) and I might be wrong about it. I dont suppose you have it either; if you do, please check and change my figure if necessary. I dont suppose they will check it Washington anyway, the important point being that Peter is over 18 yrs of age.

Please advise me promptly when you have recd this letter and sent along the one to Washn. The matter should not drag. They wrote me in care of Am Sec and Trust and as you will note they wrote on 4 April. The letter just got here.

Copy

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
SPAIN. 20 May 1958

Mr Victor Sadd, District Manager
Social Security Administration
814 H St NW Washington 25, D C

Dear Mr Sadd:

Replying to your letter of 4 April, which has just reached me here, the only safe address for me during the rest of this year is care of Martha Sussmann, American Embassy, Madrid, Spain. I am doing some horticultural work in this part of the world and will be travelling a lot, but Mrs Sussmann, who was for many years in the American Embassy at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and is therefore a good friend of ours (I worked in Honduras for many years before my retirement in 1957) has kindly offered to take care of my mail and see that it gets to us promptly.

Now as to your questions: My disabled son is

PETER POPENOE

Born at Washington DC, 27 July 1924 (I was at that time an Agricultural Explorer of the U S Dept of Agriculture). Peter is entirely dependent upon me for support. He suffered a pre-natal accident and is completely incompetent mentally; he cannot talk, he does not even recognize people in general and has not been able to do so since birth. It is costing me about \$2000 per annum to keep him in the private institution in California the name and address of which appears below. I have had to ask my brother Dr. Paul Popenoe, 2503 North Marengo Avenue, Altadena, Calif., to give you the post office address of this "school" because I do not have it with me here. My brother handles matters for me in California, where I formerly resided. I lived in Honduras and Guatemala, where I have always been duly registered at American Consulates, from 1925 to last year when I was retired by my employers the United Fruit Co. for having reached 65 years of age.

So far as I know, Peter has never had a Social Security number, for reasons which you will understand from the above information.

Sincerely,

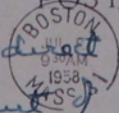
WILSON POPENOE
(Frederick Wilson Popenoe of your records)

(SEEMAN SCHOOL, 4949 Hallowell ave., El Monte, California.)



FAIRBANKS HOUSE, BUILT 1636, DEDHAM, MASS. "PATRIARCH OF AMERICAN OLD HOUSES"

POST CARD



EFFECTIVE JULY 1959
MINIMUM SIZE
FOR ENVELOPE
2-3/4" X 4"



You are a direct
descendant of
this Jonathan
Fairbanks,
whose home
we visited today
PP

Nancy Guillow,
10148 Dallas av.,
Silver Spring
Md.

ARTVUE POST CARD CO., 225 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y.

ARTVUE



HOTEL ASTORIA
FIRENZE

Almuñecar, Granada,
11 August 1958

Dear Pablo:

This letterhead just to show you Helen is almost as good a swiper of hotel stationery as you are. But not quite.

Yrs of 6 August about Social Security for Peter has come today. I sure appreciate your efforts - Dios se lo pague, as we say, May God pay you. Speaking of this sort of thing, reminds me to add that I was interested in hearing Inshallah and Mashallah over in the part of the world recently visited by us, and every time the Jews meet they salute by saying Shaloom which I understand is the equivalent of Salaam, and when they leave they do the same; we got pretty tired of hearing Shaloom and of eating sliced tomatos and cucumbers twice at each meal. Not that I have any inherent grudge against either sliced tomatoes or sliced cucumbers.

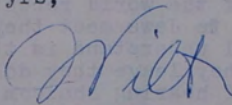
I imagine Social Security will eventually pay the benefits due me for Peter; the case seems to me clear. And I assume they should pay from the time they started my own benefits, which was a yr ago, but they may say, now that it appears they are going to pay to you and not to me, that they will start only when the matter is approved. What I dont quite understand is why they have to pay you, when you are ^{not} legally Peter's guardian. Do you? I told them, as you know, that you were in charge of Peter because of my absence from the country. I wonder if anybody will be able to collect after you have passed on to your Great Reward? We used to think you and I would outlive Peter but that no longer seems at all likely. I wish Hugh could be brought into the picture but I suppose it is not possible. You will tell me, when everything is in form, just what we can expect in the future.

I am busy, trying to answer all correspondence which has accumulated during our two months' absence. We went over to town this morning to get a couple of

melons. Temp only 85 but humidity 72 and I have rarely come back as dripping. I think I like the climate of Capernaum better.

You would be surprised to know how often I am accepted in turistic circles because I am a brother of yours. On our last day on the famous Semiramis cruise of the Aegean, I was standing on the forrard deck, right abaft of No. 1 hatch, when I fell to talking with an elderly gent who finally asked me if I knew the famous Doctor Paul Popenoe; appeared he was a gynecologist from Pittsburg; and the other day when we were waiting in the airport at Tel Aviv we fell into conversation with Bill Barker, a Presbyterian preacher, who also acquired a high opinion of me when he heard I am your bro. And so it goes.

Ever yrs,



This morning we wrote Sevilla asking for seats on Iberia airplane to the Canaries on 22nd instant.

Sept. 11, 1958

Dear Wilson & Helen:

Betty and I have just returned from putting Sally in the Kimball Sanitarium in La Crescenta. She was not gaining as she should, with us,-- would not eat, and wandered away,-- or started to,-- several times. Most of the time she was perfectly natural but then she would show signs of confusion. Betty could not watch her 24 hours a day; and it seemed unwise to try to keep her here. Dr. Halley had, from the time she came down here, been urging that we put her in a sanitarium. We hesitated to do so, for obvious reasons, but finally there seemed to be no alternative. We'll keep closely in touch with her,-- and with you; and we hope that she'll respond quickly and favorably to the environment and to the medical treatment which she will get. It wasn't an easy decision for us to make; but we had no alternative.

Yours ever,

Rancho California, Al Muncab, 12 Sept 1958

Dear Pablo:

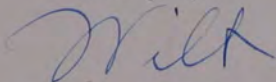
Yrs of 7th instant just to hand. We had been awaiting it rather anxiously, for we had a letter from Maude three days ago saying Sal was in the hospital, but she didnt say why; and of course I was thinking of that kidney trouble shehad just before marriage, which was pretty darn serious. But I told Helen not to worry; that I knew you well enough to feel perfect confidence in your handling of affairs, and that you would send me a radiogram if there was anything to worry about. I am rather sorry to be so far from my children; it is not a good thing. In the first place, it is loading you and Betty with some of the burdens which logically be mine. You are certainly good about it, both of you.

There will be some expenses in connection with Sal's hospitalization und so weite. Luckily, I sent you a check for \$200 - in her name - in my last letter. Let me know what further funds she will need. And we would like to know what Ed expects to do - is he staying at the elder Halleys with the children or did he go back to school or what? You must know by this time and I would really appreciate a frank prognosis from you. As for my precious little Sal, I want her to know that I stand ready always to help her in any way which she thinks is best. The fact that you have put her in touch with one of your psychotherapists sounds as tho she must be emotionally pretty low, and that is perhaps worse than being physically low. The poor kid certainly is up against it. Please keep me advised as to what I can do at long range.

Glad to have John's address. I shall write him before long. I feel that he and I have a great deal in common, he and Hugh are the two who have interests in my field and I think I am luck to have that many. Havent heard from Hugh since we went to the Canaries, but will probably do so any day now. We didnt know that Dave was planning to conjugate himself. That is all to the good - I have no doubt he has taken time to make a sound choice. I had a letter from Allan Burleson the other day; said his father, aetas 86, got the idea that maybe he should go to the Hospital de Invalidos or what you call an Old Folks Home, so looked over two or three and said "I'd rather be in Hell than in one of those". Sounds like a Burleson, alright, and I agree with the spirit. I think you would be wise to sell off the rear part of Ahuacatlan if you can get a fair price. You will never need it now that the boys are grown and otherplaces to park their respective cars.

Helen is putting a new lining in the Harem coat which I bought her in Istanbul. As she sits across from me, sewing in the lining, I keep reminding her that it would be interesting to know just which member of Abdul Hamid's entourage wore it last; it is really a beauty, royal purple velvet with lots of gold embroidery. I was interested in the ad you sent, showing the two girls from San Antonio de Aguas Calientes weaving at May's. Helen said right away, "Oh, there's our old friend Marruca".

Ever yrs,



Sorry we did not get to see Karl in Spain: we got back from Canarias the day before he had to fly from Barcelona, and in any event it is two days travel each way from here and we could hardly attempt it.

Rancho California, Almuñecar, 18 Sept 1958

Dear Pablo:

Your letter of the 11th reached us yesterday afternoon and of course it made us feel pretty sad. I had thought - and hoped - that Sally's trouble was nothing more serious than overwork and nervous strain; in the light of what you now tell us, I have looked back over the years, and feel that the present situation throws much light on occasional curious manifestations. Perhaps I am wrong. But she has always been so devoted, so courageous - with however an occasional curious flare-up which I did not understand.

I wish you would tell us how Sally views her situation. Did she feel that she wanted to go to the sanitarium? In her lucid intervals - which I assume are most of the time - does she realize that she loses her self control occasionally? We would like to hear from you as soon as possible - in fact, you will probably have written us before you get this letter. I am sorry the burden has fallen on Betty and yourself so heavily. Tell us how Ed is facing the problem, please. We feel so far out of the picture, and little Sal means so much to us! And we have never been able to establish close contact with the Halley family; Helen tried hard to do it on two occasions, but she felt she was looked on as a passing guest rather than a member of the family. I wish Dr Halley would write to me, as Sally's father, giving his views and recommendations as a medico; but I suppose it is, in part at least, our being so far away which deters him.

When we got your letter, Helen was all for heading right back to California but on mature deliberation we did not see that this would help very much. For the moment, I suppose the thing to do is to leave Sal in the sanitarium and see how she comes along. I have a strong feeling that it might do her worlds of good, once she is in shape to get along on her own, to come over here and join us for a few months. The problem, to me is this: would she be willing to come so far from the children? I believe travelling around in this part of the world would interest her and get her mind off her problems. Give this possibility more than a passing thought. I am prepared to take over at any time. We shall be here in the south all winter, either Almuñecar or Granada; she could take a plane from New York and we could meet her in Madrid. The trip would not be difficult. I don't know what the Halleys would think of this idea.

Another possibility would be for her to come to Guatemala next spring and join us for a time. There we could take care of the children, all or any of them she wanted to bring. You can judge better than we, whether this would be a desirable thing and whether or not the Halleys would accept it. We are very much in the dark; we do not know much about the situation at Stockton. Nancy who has been there recently has told us nothing. You have given us a few comments but not enough to have us feel that we are prepared to make any decisions or form any sound judgments.

I assume you will need money to handle expenses there; I enclose my check for \$500; tell me when you want more and how much. We will be leaving Almuñecar Oct 1st for Madrid and then Stuttgart to get our Volkswagen; I think I have told you that mail to arrive after 1 Oct should go to Martha Sussmann at the Amembassy in Madrid; we will keep her advised as to our whereabouts from week to week and radiograms sent to her will be passed on promptly. I cannot tell you how very very deeply we appreciate all that Betty and yourself are doing.

Ever yrs

Wilt

Rancho California, Al Muñecab (they say it was)

Dear Pablo:

Twas off the blue Canary Isles, one glorious summer day, I sat upon the quarter deck and whiffed my cares away. Mighty nice trip, from Sevilla by air across the Sahara, then back by SS Cabo San Roque, out of Buenos Aires, bound for Genoa with about 500 pasajeros; First class was sold out so we took the "Economia" (they dont call it 2nd, which might offend the delicate sensibilities of some gente). New ship, air conditioned thruout, pretty fair grub, and only \$22 from Tenerife to Algeciras as against about \$60 by air. Pretty cheap for a steamer trip of about four days!

Canaries very interesting; puro southern California, except for the occasional mango tree and a coconut palm in full bearing in the edge of Sta Cruz de Tenerife. We spent 10 days in a perfectly lovely little hotel at Puerto de la Cruz, next door to Orotava; five bucks a day for the two of us, plus 15% service tax as usual, and the grub was absolutely excellent. The Jardín de Aclimatación de Orotava, 2 kms from our hotel, is a classic. Founded in 1788 by Carlos III (and some folks were heard to say it was the only good thing he ever did) and continued without interruption to the present time; it is small and crowded by some magnificent specimens - sure to delight the heart of any real plantsman. We brought back 300 avocado seeds, West Indian race, to grow here for rootstocks. There arent too many avocados on Tenerife (which is the largest and most interesting of the Islands); perhaps 2000 in all, and practically no orchards, but one man has 110 grafted Fuertes and another has just planted 200, mostly Fuerte. We all cuss out Fuerte for its uncertain production but when we get through cussing we just go ahead and plant more Fuertes. Cavendish bananas are the thing in the Islands; they ship 300,000 tons every yr. If a fellow only has a city lot, 50 x 100 ft, the rear 50 are in Cavendish. Most of the land beautifully terraced and can you believe it, they build walls of dressed stone, 10 ft high, around plantings of half an acre or so, to prevent wind damage. The most intensive banana culture in the world.

Now we are back at base, to find yrs of 17 and 24 pxmo ppdo, and a lot of other mail. Some of wh will probably alter our plans for an early return to the New World. Salvat Editores of Barcelona are urging me to prepare the Manual Práctico de Fruticultura Tropical, wh I would like to do. There is nothing in Spanish on the subject; I just have to lift most of it out of Manual of Trop and Subtrop Fruits, and it would probably be the standard work for Spanish America for the next 25 yrs. And I am sort of cooling off about the offer from El Salvador, to come there and take over the Directorship of their new Agrl school. I dont need the money - the salary would not be terribly high anyway. And govt jobs in Latin America have oftentimesplanted problems, as we say; políticos of the opposition are going to ask ^{why} they hire a gringo when there so many excellent nacionales available, and why do they pay such high salaries to foreigners, and they would probably capitalise to the maximum my every mistake - and who does not make them? Not to mention that I am a little toolold to tackle many new jobs. One of these days I may wake up in the morning dead, as we say in Spanish. Incidentally my old boss Arthur Pollan, of whom I was very fond (he was a straight shooter, tough at times, but a straight shooter) retired a few yrs ago; he kept coming to the office however, until one day recently when he was sitting there, talking to some of

his old colleagues, he just keeled over without saying a word.

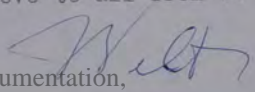
Your letters are most interesting. I am a bit sorry ^{Betty} has been loaded with so many of my descendants; she is terribly good to take them all in. Helen and I feel sure Nancy and Bob have their feet squarely on the ground (I have a standard gag, on taking leave of my Spanish-speaking friends, 'Mantenga sus dos pies siempre bien plantados en el suelo; which always gets a laugh) and I think little Nancy is doing a fine job on her kids - tho of course Bob must have 50% of the credit. I am extremely fond of little Bart; we get along famously together. Marion takes life awfully seriously and sometimes does not seem able to cope with it, tho she and Dick are the best off, economically, of the three families. And now you bring up, quite properly, Sal's problems which are many. I found here a letter from her, the first in months. She never complains, she never talks about problems. I have the feeling that she and Ed are happy together, but that Ed doesn't take his responsibilities too seriously - and they are heavy responsibilities. Marion has suggested that I should give Sal more money, for her to spend on her own, i.e., the way she wants to. But the last time I sent her a check it went into a new suit for Ed - which is of course a very legitimate expense. Sal has not sent her address, so I don't know where to reach her, but I wish you would pass along the enclosed check to her (you must know how to forward it) and just mention that I want to write her, as soon as I know her address. She said they would probably go to Dillon Beach but I don't think ^{that} is sufficient address for a check. I will do anything you think advisable, from the financial angle, but I don't want to put them on a regular allowance for fear it may encourage Ed to think he can count on it indefinitely. I feel it might discourage him from getting busy. I have felt that his father had the obligation to finance Ed's education, which seems not yet complete, just as I have financed my kids.

Sounds to me as tho we will get the proper allowance from the govt for Peter, and it may well be retroactive; when they finally approved my application for the Old Age business I got 8 mos back pay. It is \$108.50 per mensem as I think you know. Don't you come in on this, yet? I rather assume not for they tell me I will not get it for any month during which I receive from work more than \$80. They don't dock me for my UFCO pension tho I have to pay income tax on it.

We shall probably stay here a fortnight, cleaning up correspondence and doing some more articles for the Encyclopaedia Britannica (most of what they pay goes for airmail on the MSS and the copyright releases they send, about wh they seem to be in a terrible rush). I sure wouldn't bother with that crowd were it not that I would like to be responsible for most of the material they publish on tropical fruits.

My good friend and erstwhile colleague Martin Connelly - who always handled EAP business at Boston and who did it very well until he retired last yr - is coming over to Europe with his wife and will have the last quincena of Nov in Spain; Helen and I may try to take them for a little tour in the Volkswagen and beyond that I don't yet know just what we will do; maybe go home, but there are no banana boats for Guatemala right now, the fruit having been destroyed by winds, and I don't know just when they will have any sailings. If we have to spend the winter in Europe we will probably stay here on the sunny Mediterranean, somewhere. All this for your personal information; we are not passing around our program because it is too uncertain. Better use our Madrid address as Martha Sussmann knows where we are at, as we say in Kansas, and is very good about forwarding mail; Rancho Calif will be good up to Oct 1st only.

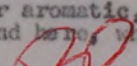
Much love to all from us both



Ahuacatlan, Sunday Sept. 21, 1958

Dear Popenoe:

I had a long phone talk with Karl Bowman last night and with Dr. Halley the night before. Sal is very comfortably established in the hospital; is cheerful and cooperative, and Karl is very optimistic as to the outcome. She will certainly be there for several months and frequent letters will be most helpful; merely address her in care of Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute, First and Parnassus, San Francisco. Karl has an office of some sort there and will drop in and see her every day. Pablo and Norma plan to call on her tomorrow night, and there are enough other friends and relatives around the Bay so she won't be neglected. I wish we were closer; but we won't be getting up there for at least a couple of months.--Pablo was down here for two nights this last week, while taking part in a hearing in L.A.-- Dr. Halley says the children are in fine shape; his wife has gotten a woman to start tomorrow, coming daily from noon to 7 p.m. to help with the children, and that will ease up the situation considerably, since they doubtless have a regular cleaning woman in addition.--The elder "alleys" have been planning a two-month trip to Peru, starting in October; I don't know what they'll do about that.--Betty and I took in the annual art fair, in the open air around the city hall, yesterday afternoon, and decided that it was getting worse each year. There are some good things shown, of course, but as it is wide open to anyone who has a yen for self-expression, it is loaded with junk.--About 45 years ago, when editor of the Journal of Heredity, I offered a prize for the best papaw, thinking that if we could find some superior wild ones they could be propagated. We got some very fair specimens and I sent seeds of the first prize winner to POP, who planted them, and we have had the tree here now for 45 years, flowering but never setting any fruit. As I was walking by it day before yesterday I saw a papaw on the ground under it. I was about as astonished as Robinson Crusoe was when he discovered the well-advertized footprint. I had never seen a fruit on the tree; but I don't suppose anyone shipped it in and "planted" it there to fool me. It was small but of very good flavor; I'll send you the seeds, John, and let one of your students try a project. I still think, as I did 45 years ago, that something ought to be done with this. I heard of several nurseries in Missouri and elsewhere that sold a good strain, but never could find a fine one. I thought ours might need cross pollination and was told of a man in the dept. of hort. at Cornell who was interested and had some stock. I wrote him and he said he was indeed interested in the fruit, had some selected seedlings, and sent me several. Alas, when they got a little older John recognized them as not papaws but Virginia persimmon. I don't know just what this proves about the Cornell hort. dept.--Figs are just about going bad but feijoas coming, to provide me with homegrown fruit for breakfast; and of course sapotes are in at their best,--whatever that means.--My TV program in NY has been sponsored by Il Progresso Italian foods, just about the right kind of a sponsor for me; Kellogg's PEF cereal is considering it on a Chicago station.--The AIFR has lately received gifts of cash totaling more than \$11,000,-- not much money by your standards but a whole lot by ours.--That's about all the news I can think of at the moment, and I believe the Queen B has some peanut butter sandwiches and Muscat grapes ready (the name has nothing to do with Muscat in Oman, Eastern Arabia, where Wilson and I formerly achieved heroic proportions; but from musk perfume, i.e., perfumed or aromatic, which is largely imaginary but they're the best grapes around here, whatever you call them. She joins me in much love to you all.



Ajuacsiab, Sat. Sept. 27. 1948

Dear Wilson:

We just recd a letter from Norma, who writes (and when she writes Paul you can read Pablo, for greater clarity): "Paul and I visited Sally Monday evg. We were both greatly impressed with the relaxed atmosphere of both the war and ward staff at Langley Porter. She's on an open ward. I understand they do have one closed ward for women, and this seems a good sign for Sally that she is on the open one. We had a good visit,-- for us, anyway,-- though it was somewhat brief as Ed had just arrived also, from a trip to Stockton and had much to tell re the kiddies-- said they were gaining weight etc.; we left earlier than we had planned, to give him the floor. Paul will be able to visit her after my delivery, but I'll try to get up some afternoon meanwhile, if this seems indicated by the staff and if it seems that Sally approves. She seems very well pleased with the occupational therapy; is making toys for her kiddies and starting some weaving, which is new for her. Karl Bowman had mentioned to Paul that she needs to eat more; we took her a few chocolate mints and will try to take her some salted nuts etc. My baking is almost nil now, together with a lot of activities. My impression is she is getting about the best kind of care she could get in this area, as there are many drawbacks to the private hospitals in this area and even though these private hospitals charge much more, LP has more well-trained staff per patient, more activities, interest, etc.. I think maybe they will take Sal on trips to museums, as at Golden Gate Park; and a Van Gogh exhibit is also coming soon. I would guess that the group experiences should be particularly helpful for Sal, who has been tied down so much with the kiddies and responsibilities at home. She seemed much interested in the other patients-- one from India; and I gather is making an excellent hospital adjustment."---- I also wrote Knowles suggesting that he visit her; reply from Emma says he is in New Caledonia but will return in 2 or 3 weeks.-- Don't you want me to send that \$500 bck to you and then notify you later if and when some money can be used to particular advantage?-- As you will infer from the above, and probably remember anyhow, Norma expects a baby in October but is getting so heavy that she is beginning to think it may come most any day. Mothers with their first babies are likely to have that idea!----Much love from both of us to both of you.

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
3 October 1958

Dear Paul and Karl, with copy to Hugh:

Letters from Paul of Sept 21 and 23; from Hugh of 24; and from Karl of 26. I cannot express our gratitude to Karl - having him in the picture means a great deal. Which reminds me how Karl has helped materially in several other family crises. -- As I have already written Paul the present breakdown explains quite a few things which have occurred in earlier years. I believe Paul is right when he says "the strain, both physically and emotionally, probably brought to light a weakness which was constitutional".

Now the problem is, from our angle, what to do? Helen and I have been on the point of taking the first plane to San Francisco, feeling that perhaps our presence might give Sal help of some sort. Then, looking back, I remembered especially the case of John Belling; I was taking care of him at Miami, doing my best, when he came home one afternoon and asked why I had phoned the soda jerker at the drug store to put arsenic in his lemonade. -- But this is beside the point. What we want to know from you, Karl, and you, Paul, do you think it would be of my help if we came to San Francisco and stayed for a month or two. I must say that I have the feeling right down deep, that little Sal believes in me and my presence might encourage her; but in her present state of mind this may not be the case. In any event, I want you to tell me frankly what you think we should do. I have already suggested to you, Paul, that Sally might come to Guatemala and stay with us for several months and you have said you did not think she would consider it.

Helen is inclined to feel that I have been negligent in not giving Sally more financial help. I am afraid she may be right. But as I wrote you, Paul, I did not want Ed to get the idea that he did not have to work; that his folks and Sal's folks would pay the bills. I think you, Paul, are probably quite right in suggesting now that when Sally gets back to her family, I finance the necessary physical help for her. I shall be glad to do this; but we will have to be sure the person hired is paid through some indirect channel - most probably by my sending this person a check made out in her name.

What do you assume Ed will do if/when he gets his BS degree? There seems to be a feeling in the air that once he is able to pass the necessary exams and get his degree, things will be alright. I don't know what kind of work he expects to get, and probably you don't either. There is another matter: it seems to me that in a crisis like this, close cooperation between the elder Halleys and myself is definitely called for, but we have never been able to develop any such cooperation. As you know, I brought Ed and Sally down to Honduras and Guatemala in the hope that we might build up family ties but nothing came of it.

We have decided to sit right here in Almuñecar for the rest of this month, until we are able to figure out our next move. We were leaving tomorrow for Stuttgart to receive our new Volkswagen. We have cancelled that. Most probably we will head back for Guatemala when things clear up a bit - unless you think it would be useful for us to come to California. What worries me most of all is the feeling that Sal's breakdown is not a momentary thing; that it is something which has been developing through the years. But on the other hand, John Belling snapped out of it and did a lot of useful work after his breakdown at Gainesville. I am encouraged by Karl's optimism significant because he has had such long experience professionally in this particular field. Address me here until further notice.

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3 October 1958

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Helen is inclined to feel that I have been negligent in not giving Sally more financial help. I am afraid she may be right. But as I wrote you, Paul, I did not want Ed to get the idea that he did not have to work; that his folks and Sal's folks would pay the bills. I think you, Paul, are probably quite right in suggesting now that when Sally gets back to her family, I finance the necessary physical help for her. I shall be glad to do this; but we will have to be sure the person hired is paid through some indirect channel - most probably by my sending this person a check made out in her name.

What do you assume Ed will do if/when he gets his BS degree? There seems to be a feeling in the air that once he is able to pass the necessary exams and get his degree, things will be all right. I don't know what kind of work he expects to get, and probably you don't either. There is another matter: it seems to me that in a crisis like this, close cooperation between the elder Halleys and myself is definitely called for, but we have never been able to develop any such cooperation. As you know, I brought Ed and Sally down to Honduras and Guatemala in the hope that we might build up family ties but nothing came of it.

We have decided to sit right here in Almuñecar for the rest of this month, until we are able to figure out our next move. We were leaving tomorrow for Stuttgart to receive our new Volkswagen. We have cancelled that. Most probably we will head back for Guatemala when things clear up a bit - unless you think it would be useful for us to come to California. What worries me most of all is the feeling that Sal's breakdown is not a momentary thing; that it is something which has been developing through the years. But on the other hand, John Belling snapped out of it and did a lot of useful work after his breakdown at Gainesville. I am encouraged by Karl's optimism significant because he has had such long experience professionally in this particular field. Address me here until further notice.

Ever yrs

Wilson

Oct. 9, 1958

Dear Wilson & Helen:

Karl sent me a carbon copy of his letter to you, and yours arrived here; and I have just come from a long talk with Karl on the phone. He says Sal is making satisfactory progress; hasn't had any more "episodes", though this might well be due to the fact that she is an open ward, with others around and probably a nurse on duty. My main purpose was to talk with him about how to answer your letter, so we wouldn't be at cross purposes. He thought, somewhat guardedly, that it might be helpful to Sal to have a short visit, perhaps not too soon, and that it would be helpful for the future if Wilson could get better acquainted with the older Halleys and with Ed, as you suggest. Of course we'd always be glad to see you here, and Maude (who is apparently in excellent health and fine shape) will welcome a visit with Helen and vice versa. But everything that can be done for Sal is being done and it's just a matter of time now.---Betty and I had to go to San Bernardino day before yesterday and stopped to see the Claremont people with whom we unfortunately don't have very frequent contact. Betty thought Anna had aged greatly; I didn't notice it so much. Edwin was retired by Montgomery Ward for age but has occasional fill-in jobs and was on one at the moment so we didn't see him but saw Ruth. Edwin has his social security pmts and enough odd jobs to keep comfortable; they say he has aged a good deal but is feeling quite contented now.---We called on Julia, Isabel's daughter, whom we hadn't seen since she was a child. She married very early at the age of 15 or 16 to get away from a tyrannical father, but fortunately seems to have jumped in the right direction; her husband, William E. Dowse, is apparently a sound and steady fellow; partner in a business that handles plastic tile; the books in the house indicate good education and taste. About 1½ years after their marriage they became converts to Mormonism, so had another wedding "in the Temple." They have four children (she is only 20 now!); the last were twin boys born just a year ago. She is an attractive and fine girl, a real dear. You'd be proud to have her in the family.---John and Jerry predict another eugenic contribution next April. We're expecting to hear from Pab and Norma any day.---Ed's future seems very vague. He has 6 mos. now to try to get the final 6 units needed for his B.S. If he gets them, then the assumption seemed to be that he might stay on at the Dillon Beach lab.; but he told me he really had no idea what he would do next. It would be a blessing if we could get them 10,000 miles away from Stockton.---Yrs,

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada) SPAIN
16 October 1958

Dear Paul and Karl:

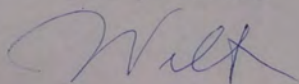
Paul's letter of 9th instant has just come and is much appreciated. It is mighty good of you both to take so much interest in my little Sal; I don't know what we would do without you.

I note that in your telephone conversation, Karl thought it might be helpful to Sal to have a short visit, not too soon, and that it would be helpful for the future if I could get better acquainted with the elder Hallays and with Ed. I am sure you believe that I will leave no stone unturned to help get things onto solid ground. The point we would like now to bring up is this:

We are planning to return to the Americas about 15th December. Would it be best for us to come direct to California, spend whatever time you think desirable in that region, then fly down to Guatemala; or would it be preferable for us to go direct to Guatemala, and come up to California when Karl thinks the time is ripe for a visit with Sal? Either way will be perfectly simple for us, and apparently there is no need for us to come right away. And as I have said, in any event we plan to leave Europe about the middle of ~~November~~ December. You can reach me in care of the American Embassy in Madrid (care of Martha Sussmann) during the month of November. We shall be leaving Almuñecar about the 25th instant; will spend ten days in Cataluña; pick up the Connelys in Barcelona on 10 November, take them to northern Spain, be in Madrid about the 15th of November, and back here again for a couple of days right after the first of December; then, if plans don't change, we will go up to Madrid and line things up to fly to the New World somewhere around the 15th to 20th of December.

So please just give me your instructions and we shall try to carry them out implicitly. I am enclosing for Karl's information a letter which has just come from Sal - the first she has written since before she went to Pasadena. She seems to have hung onto her sense of humor. It may pull ~~her~~ through. In troublous times I always counted on it. Helen has just brought up a point which I think worthy of serious consideration. Sal has real talent when it comes to drawing and painting. It was her outlet at various times. Because Helen felt it meant so much to Sal, she was instrumental in giving Sal that year at Scripps, which seemed to be a great success. Now, would it help if Sal were encouraged to do some painting where she has time and nothing else in her official program - for we do not know of course just what the médicos feel would be helpful. My reaction is that it might do Sal a lot of good - but I am not the one to judge. What I will say is this, if Karl and Sal's médico think it a good idea, go ahead and buy her everything she can use. You have the money in hand, Paul.

Ever yr devoted



Dear Pablo, We got in here yesterday after
a long trip by hired car through Catalonia,
etc. The Connollys from Boston are with
us since Barcelona a week ago. The 18th
we drive southward to Sevilla and Granada.
Rec'd here yrs of 1st and 2nd. Mightier
had it too came then with U.S. 1947.40.

The continued monthly instalments will be
a great help - I think I told you to hold
the \$500 I sent for Sal - if not necessary
for her it can be used for Peter - Karl
writes, suggesting we come to see Sal
next month. I am suggesting January.

Frankly I am apprehensive because of
the complex Sal has had about Helen. I
don't think Karl fully understands that
side of the case - We will probably
fly KLM to Guatemala late December
then see how things line up. It is so
easy to get from there to Calif.

We are thrilled about your new
grand daughter. I hope you are making

Some real money out of those all night
TV sessions. I would require at least
\$100 per hour to cut up and talk after
all this. Jolly, whether or not from
Langley Porton, nothing since. I
think it is going to be a matter
of ups and downs and Karl writes
that it is going to be a long time
job.

Continue to use our Madrid address.

We shall probably not be staying
at Almona in future.

Even though
~~the~~
but think that help in matters that
side of the case - We were probably
fly K.M. to Guatemala late December
then we had things line up. It is so
easy to get from there to Calif.
We are thinking about your own
grand daughter. I hope you are working

Ahuacatlan, Sunday noon,
November 30, 1958

Dear Wilson & Helen:

We just had a brief call from Dr. and Mrs. Halley, who have been in LA at a medical mtg and were on their way North. We were glad to get very favorable reports on the children, and more detailed news from Sally, who is over there with the family at Stockton while they came down here.

Things are moving very slowly with her. She has gained six pounds, and is eating more, but still hears the voices. When she was with us she said she could not decide whether they were from God or the Devil; she is beginning to suspect that they may represent Satan rather than God, which I hope we may interpret as a step in the right direction. She still won't wear any jewelry-- refused a pin that Dr. Halley brought back to her from Lima, where he attended a conference last month.

They gave us the enc photo (which please return as soon as convenient), taken at Hugh's birthday party. At that time Sal was still pretty much aloof from the world and from the children. She was down again or rather out or up again-- to Stockton-- for Thanksgiving and much more outgoing; seemed to take an interest in the children, wanted to hold them in her lap, read to them, etc., which she has not done for a long time. Her attitude toward the children when she was with us, and ever since, was a sort of disinterested one; yes, they were there, but they had nothing particularly to represent in her life.

Pablo also wrote of a good outgoing spirit on her last visit to them; described her as "quite chipper". I sent you the photos he took of her and little Ellen; she seemed to take much greater interest and pleasure in Ellen, than she has in any of her own children for some months past up until Thanksgiving at least.

Sally is now "secretary of the ward"; they have a sort of "student self-government", the occupants making their own rules and policies very largely.--Since no one is "committed" there, a patient can leave any time she pleases, and Sally has not wanted to stay; only Karl's influence and strong insistence has kept her there. This might become a real problem.

They report that Ed is enjoying his work at Dillon Beach and will probably be there all of this academic year, at least. I did not press them as to the quality of work he was doing! Perhaps they wouldn't know. If he keeps up his grades, with all the time he is away, seeing Sally two or three times a week, they say, and going back and forth to Stockton, it will certainly be very gratifying.

With much love from Betty and myself,

When we came up on the Granada Express last week, Enrique the agt of Thos Cook e hijo said "You are lucky, you are going on one of the new sleepers". We got on board and it was nice, more roomy than the old ones we have ridden. I looked at the brass plate and found it was built in 1928!

Madrid, 16 Dec 1958

Dear Pablo:

Looks as if we are about to jump off for Guatemala. We have reservations to fly on the 19th, due in Guatemala City late afternoon of the 20th. I think it is best for us to go by that route rather than to fly to NY and thence San Francisco. In the East we would have a number of people we would just simply have to see; and we have a lot of baggages to handle; and it is time I got back to Antigua and straightened up affairs at that end. So what we plan to do is lo siguiente: Get home, wait to receive our Volkswagen which is supposed to be now on the high seas, per SS ANITA, and then come up to California if the moment seems propitious. Sally writes frequently; her letters are quite normal, but she does not say much about herself or her problems of course. She seems to go out with Ed for dinner frequently and to go down to Stockton to see the kids. It is a curious situation, as I suppose is true of anything psychiatric. I assume you have been in SF this past week, and perhaps I will have a letter from you in thesedays - if not, at Antigua. I depend a great deal on your guidance in this very difficult situation. When we come up to California it will of course be a matter of several weeks for we shall have to visit around a bit - including, Helen says, the Hatch family at Bakersfield. I dont think Dick cares very much for me but that doesnt matter.

The monthly stipend for Peter, as mentioned in a recent indent from you, is not as high as I had expected - I thought it would be half of my own, but undoubtedly they have done the correct thing. It will help. As for your trip and the indumentaria therefor, we will talk it over when we get up therein January, but Helen and I both say Betty should have one long dress and it should be black. It is surprising how little they go in for colors over here, and if you are in black you are always right. Just like Henry Ford used to say, you can have your car any color you want so long as it is black. You will of course need your Tux or Smoking as we call it but if I were you I wouldnt bother to bring full dress. I didnt even bring a Tux on this trip and havent missed it, as we have not been doing anything socially or officially. I assume you will be doing some lecturing or public speaking.

Going over my papers with a view to dumping everything possible before paying \$5 a kilo excess baggage I feel rather satisfied at what I have accomplished in our 9 mos over here - satisfied only because I am supposed to be retired and doing nothing. Now the job is that Manual Practico de Fruticultura Tropical. I am not going to make any money out of it - I have the draft contract in my hands - but I think it will be very much worth while. There is no longer a need for a Revision of my Manual of Tropical and Subtropical Fruits, but there is need for a good manual in Spanish. I only hope my physical strength permits me to finish the job. I am agreeing to deliver the MSS by the end of 1959.

Helen and I sure look forward to see youall, and that soon.

Ever devotedly,

Wick

Antigua G, 23 December 1958

Dear Pablo:

Must back on Ye Olde Stamping Grounds and the first job is to get used to the Remington after having written for a year on that excellent Tippen portable which we call Tippy and which has stood us in good stead, even though when I want to split up the words it insists on writing, for example, Missionarystrawberryplants.

We got home night before last pretty tired, after 36 hrs in the air: from Madrid to Lisboa, a fine airport and place we like vefy much. Then to Sta Maria dos Azores because the weather was bad via the Bermuda route. A very long night, 13 hrs to Caracas, an airport I dont like: for a fifteen minute stop you practically have to produce a birth certificate, evidence you are not living in sin, and swear that you believe in the present government of the country. Then on to Curacao, where they treat you very decently; then to Panama then San José de CR and then we flew right to Guatemala where the guys at the airport recognized us and didnt eve n poke into the baggage. And how pleasant to get back into our own patio and find things just as we left them a year ago, and the pato Pascual sitting on the edge of the fountain thinking about nothing; he jumps into the pool for divers reasons and comes out again for sundry purposes. We have just about caught up on our sleep, now, and are gettinf down to business. Today we dedicate (as they always put it in Spanish) to sending off Christmas telegrams.

Found yrs of 13th instant here . As I have written, unless there seems to be some urgent reason for us to come to Calif sooner, I want to stay here until our Volkswagen arrives from Hamburg about the middle of Jan. Then we plan to buy round trip tickets Guatemala to Los Angeles on Pan Am. Come to see you folks and Maude, and after talking things over, ride the Daylight to San Francisco. Your letter confirms my feeling that I should be briefed, as they like to say in Washn, before I head into the situation in SF. If not, every time I open my mouth I will put my foot in it. I shall write you again in a week or so - by wh time I will probably know when our car is due to arrive at San José de Guatemala.

I forget to answer your query about laundry in Europe. It is sometimes a nuisance; the hotels wont always agree to return your shirts in less than 5 or 6 days. But the chambermaid always has a sister or a widowed aunt who will do the job for you in 24 hrs. Almost all American men these days, however, travel with a couple of those new fangled shirts - mine are Sears Roebuck 65% Egyptian cotton and the rest Nylon, and their respective wives wash them out at night. One big factor is the limit on weight if you are in the air and tourist class. You only get 20 kilos. When we came back from Spain this past week I paid \$140 dollars and I mean dollars excess baggage .

Ever yrs

Walt

airplane fare from

Madrid to Antigua \$40 each. Ouch!

Antigua, 31 Dec 1958

Dear Pablo:

Since I wont be writing you again until next year, I take this opportunity to congratulate you upon having received the Orden de Ruben Dario with rank of Comendador in 1953, and the Orden del Quetzal in 1955. Rather strange that we both should have received these decorations the same yr, but Who's Who in America, 1958-1959 edition cant be wrong. Incidentally, I have sent in my datos biograficos for the next edition but I am afraid they are going to relegate me to the limbo of other emeriti by putting my name and with a symbol which says see 1958-1959 edition. I note this has happened to a number of my old friends. I have done my part, anyway, by sending my check for \$19.75, as I assume and hope you have done.

We went to the City yesterday, first time since we got home. Spent most of the time in the Supermercado from which Helen can only be ejected by a fire alarm. Got a nice cellophane bag of fresh mushrooms for fifty cents - first time I have ever seen them sold here. I could hardly get Helen off the Calle Real either - you can buy anything here if you have the spondulicks. The reason I mention it is because in Spain your opportunities are limited to things made in Spain, such as the Gillette razor blades which are made by a German who lives in Barcelona and makes them out of Swedish steel. Laet issue of Time carries an article about financial troubles in Spain wh is very interesting: you wont be able to buy that issue in Madrid. If things go on, we may have to go back there in 1960 to take advantage of the exchange rate for dollars. But hombre, what a lovely and lovable country! And did I tell you - I hope that I did - that we finally got to Eche when the dates were ripe and I filled my belly with good ruttabs.

Have definite word that our Volkswagen is on the high seas and will reach Guatemala about the 11th of Jan. As I have written you, we will have to get the car and pay the duty and all the stamp taxes and six photos and certificate to show we have paid the school tax and so on, then we will come up to Calif. Yesterday we dropped into Pan Am to inquire: the fare certainly is reasonably, tourist class, only \$257.00 round trip to L A, plus local tax wh I believe is 12%. The sad feature is that we arrive at L A, barring acts of God and the King's enemies, at 1.15 a m: and I believe the best solution to this problem is for us to go into L A on the bus and then get a taxi and go out to 986 N Los Robels as you call it, and wake up Maude and then catch a little sleep. Helen cant sleep a wink on airplanes, tho I can and do. Tell us if you want anything from this corner of the world - this applying more particularly to my pani huahua. Helen is taking up two libbits of black beans to fix up a dinner for Sal at Karl's place: I have the feeling that Sal has many saudades, as we brasileiros say, for her old home in Guatemala.

I shall probably have to get a woolen suit at Sears Sawbuck and Co on arrival at Pasadena, for when you see me that first day I shall probably be in Hugh's Eisenhower jacket and a pair of trousers made for me in Quito by that tailor who did such a good job for you on that overcoat in 1919. Incidentally, I wore throughout the cold months in Europe my overcoat bought in San Francisco - my name is Foreman - for \$35 and you know that wasnt in recent years - you can tell that

Ever yrs

Walt

* J. Elias Endara, if I recall correctly.