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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.

YALE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FORESTRY
NEW HAVEN · CONNECTICUT

November 19, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala.

Dear Popenoe:

Your letter of November 16 is received and I am delighted to hear from you again. As a matter of fact I have been hearing about you from various sources, for example, Tom Gill and Paul C. Standley.

I am nearing completion of a comprehensive work entitled "Timbers of the New World," and I have looked into it to see what I wrote about Cupressus Benthami. I find very little, but that little is wholly laudatory, so I see no reason why you should not go ahead with your propaganda. Meanwhile you might write me what you know about the tree for my ignorance is large.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Record

Antigua, Guatemala, 15 Dec 1940

Prof. Samuel J Record,
New Haven Conn.

Dear Professor Record:

Your letter of 19th November, regarding Cupressus benthami, reached me some days ago. Just as soon as I could find time, I talked with the man in Guatemala who should know most about the commercial value of this wood - Don Fernando Pullin - and then I sat down and wrote up what I had on the subject. This morning, by accident, I ran onto Paul Standley, when we were both attending ceremonies at the Agricultural School in Chimaltenango, and between renditions by the departmental band I asked him to read over the enclosed. He did so, and said he agreed that C. benthami is a fine thing and ought to be grown more widely.

If you think it worth while, I would like to publish the enclosed. I have thought of "Tropical Agriculture" in Trinidad as a good medium, likely to reach the people I want to reach - if they will take it. It may not be fitting for an "agricultural" magazine. What do you suggest? Is it worth publishing at all?

I will be obliged if you will give me your august opinion as soon as possible, for I shall probably be leaving Guatemala about January 10th, and don't know where mail will next catch up with me.

Best regards always.

Sincerely yours,

You need not return these notes; I have made additional copies.

YALE UNIVERSITY
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December 23, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
United Fruit Company,
Antigua, Guatemala

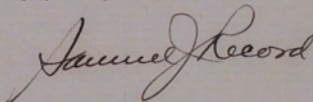
Dear Popenoe:

I consider your paper on Cupressus Benthamii well
worthy of publication and should like to use it in the March
issue of Tropical Woods.

If this is agreeable to you, please give me your
title in U.F. Co. Also, I trust you will allow me to make
some minor editorial changes.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Samuel J. Record". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Sincerely yours,".

Antigua, Guatemala, 2 January 1941

Professor Samuel J Record,
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Professor Record:

Yours of the 23rd ultimo is at hand, and I hasten to advise that I shall be delighted to have you use my note on Cnidoscolus benthani in "Tropical Woods" and you are of course at liberty to make any changes in it you wish. As for my title in U F Co, I really dont think I have any. I am agricultural assistant to W E Turnbull who is in general charge of the tropical banana divisions but I dont think that would sound very well in print, so I suggest you just ignore the title business altogether.

Since Mr Zemmurray took over the general direction of Company affairs we havent been so strong on titles as we were in the old days, and I think perhaps it works better that way.

If you are in the habit of furnishing separates of papers in Tropical Woods, and could send me 100 of this note, addressed to Antigua, Guatemala, I would be glad to scatter them around in circles perhaps not reached by the magazine. But I doubt if you would want to bother with separates in the case of so brief a note as this.

Best regards always, and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

YALE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FORESTRY
NEW HAVEN · CONNECTICUT

September 8, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala.

Dear Popenoe:

Your letter of August 14 is received. I hope that ere this the reprints of your interesting article have reached you and are serving a good purpose. The three dollars pay for a three-year subscription to Tropical Woods. If you want the complete set of back numbers we can supply all but five.

In Standley's paper on Guatemala in the September issue he mentions some trees that are common there but are not represented in our collections. Standley is allergic to wood samples, it seems! I am wondering if you could help out. The two principal ones needed are: Chiranthodendron, called Kanak or Mano de Leon, dominating the humid forest on some of the volcanoes, particularly Acatenango; Astianthus viminalis, known as Chilca, a tree with willow-like foliage and bright yellow blossoms along stream beds of the Departments of Zacapa and Chiquimula. I saw the latter in flower^s from a train window, but I had no chance to collect it. Suppose you see what you can do about getting us wood samples (hand specimens) of these, together with enough herbarium material to make sure of the identity. You can have some of your banana scouts keep their eyes open for an opportunity.

I should like to visit Guatemala again, but I do not see much prospect of doing so. Tom Gill says we three have a date in Antigua some fine winter's day, but we did not decide on the year!

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Record

Antigua, Guatemala, 12 Oct 1941

Professor Samuel J. Record,
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Professor Record:

On returning from a hasty trip to South American countries which I undertook for the U S Dept of Agr, I find your interesting letter of 8 September. The separates of the note on *Cupressus Benthami* are also here and I am sending them out where I think they will do the most good. I have had one or two interesting letters from people who read the note in *Tropical Woods*; one man in particular warns regarding the possibility of disease attacking this tree, which is a new slant to me. Many thanks for sending the separates.

I know both *Chiranthodendron* and *Astianthus* - or think I do - and will try to line up wood samples for you sooner or later. It may take me some time as I have been moving about so rapidly I have done little except travel. I rather think they are going to let me slow down a bit from now on, which may give me an opportunity to do some real work.

Do come down and see us again one of these days.

Sincerely yours,