



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

TR- COMERCIAL- TEGUCIGALPA DC FEBRERO 1 DE 1955 10:27AM

UNIFRUITCO BOSTON

REDMOND TENTH GRADUATION FEB 18TH WONT BE COMPLETE WITHOUT YOU AND
MRS REDMOND

WILSON POPENOE-AMM

CHARGE ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

OK CMLJZ

CML60- TGMI 35 MIBN58 B24 BOSTON 93 1 1604

POPENOE TEGUCIGALPA

DEEPLY REGRET WE UNABLE BE WITH YOU ON TENTH GRADUATION DAY CON-
GRATULATIONS TO YOU AND YOUR STAFF UPON THE COMPLETION OF A DECADE OF
INCREASING SERVICE TO PAN AMERICAN AGRICULTURE STOP ON THIS IMPORTANT
OCCASION YOU SHOULD FEEL JUSTLY PROUD OF THE SCHOOLS ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND THE HIGH ESTEEM WITH WHICH IT IS REGARDED THROUGHOUT MIDDLE
AMERICA SO LARGELY THE RESULT OF YOUR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND
CONSTANT DEVOTION TO THE IDEALS OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE INSTITUTION
MRS REDMOND JOINS ME IN SENDING YOU AND MRS POPENOE OUR WARMEST
PERSONAL REGARDS

REDMOND

BKE67- AND -CML-AMM- EN FEB-1-55-
OK-6-7

Boston, Massachusetts
February 11, 1957

Personal and Confidential

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I wired you on Saturday that R. M. Beasley was being sent to Zamorano to act as Assistant Director.

During your absence we received reports of shootings and other incidents at the School that clearly indicated that discipline had collapsed. It therefore is obvious that you need vigorous help in restoring control and that the new Director, when he arrives, will continue to need assistance until he has been long enough on the job to be sure of his ground.

Beasley is the only man presently available who has the necessary prestige, experience and authority to be of material help, and he has been in the tropics a long time and understands local conditions and Latins. I am sure that with his help you will be able to restore the situation promptly.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours

M.H. Redmond

Boston, Massachusetts
March 1, 1957

Personal and Confidential
Dr. Wilson Popenoe, Director
Escuela Agricola Panamericana
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

It is unfortunate that we did not have an opportunity of getting together during your recent stay in New York. I had hoped to discuss with you certain matters pertaining to the School, and talk to you about your wishes regarding retirement.

What information I had was strictly secondhand and was to the effect that you desired retirement on April 1st next, but for certain personal reasons you wished to stay on until June 1st.

Since talking to Bob Beasley yesterday I am now informed regarding your wishes and I hasten to thank you for your willingness to assist the new director in getting the new school year under way. We are all pleased to know from Bob that things are going well and that you both feel some rather minor problems can in time be adjusted satisfactorily.

If the June 1st date is entirely agreeable to you it will be very much appreciated here, and allow a bit more time in which to select your successor. Our greatest concern is in the selection of the man to succeed you.

Your administration of the School from its inception has given it a reputation and character which must be vigorously maintained. Under the circumstances I am sure you appreciate the difficulty of making a choice and the need of exercising our most careful judgment in the matter.

I hope that I may have the pleasure of visiting you in the near future and of having the benefit of your advice on some matters important to the School's future.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerely

K.H. Redmond

March 6, 1957

Personal and Confidential

Mr. K. H. Redmond
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Redmond:

Many thanks for your good letter of the 1st instant. I have no personal reasons for wishing to carry on beyond my normal retirement date, which is the first of next month, but knowing that the months of March, April and May are the hardest ones of the year from the standpoint of our staff — we have to line up our graduates new jobs, we have to work through 500 to 600 applications and pick out about 70 new students, and we have to plan the teaching program for the new school year which commences June first — I thought I might be helpful to the man who takes over by staying through this period. A good deal of responsibility during this time falls, and probably will continue to fall, upon the Director, who would be handicapped without some background.

The situation right now, fortunately, is not quite the same. The arrival of Bob Beasley has brought into the picture a man who not only knows Latin Americans, but also one who knows how to make them like him, and who has long Company background so that he is not perplexed daily by administrative problems. If I had to check out of here tomorrow morning leaving Bob in charge, I would sleep soundly of nights. In a very short time he has familiarized himself with our set-up, our operations, and of course he already understood pretty well the philosophy of this school.

Which brings me to the main object of this letter. After having devoted the last fifteen years of my active life to the development and operation of EAP, you will understand that its future lies very close to my heart. We have built this school on the solid foundation of Mr. Zemurray's genius and philosophy, as set forth in the handsome Cunningham Award which was given to Mr. Zemurray and myself last year. The program must not change. It has been successful to the extent that other schools throughout Latin America are copying it, and our graduates are in such demand, as extension agents, teachers in agricultural schools, and the like, that we could this year have placed three times as many as were available.

Mr. Redmond

- 2 -

March 6, 1957

If a Director is brought in from the outside, unless he has worked for a considerable time in tropical America, we run a considerable risk. I have long hoped that the Company would bring in somebody from our own ranks. It seems to me that Bob Beasley is exactly the right man for the job. I know him, because we have been good friends for 30 years. I would continue to give him the benefit of our experience, without interfering in any manner whatsoever. If he wanted to ask questions, he would be free to do so. If I am given the honorary title of Director Emeritus, of which Doris spoke seriously when she was here a week ago, there could be no objection to my being consulted if and when the new Director so desired.

I hope you may be able to visit the school before things are definitely lined up. If it is desired that I stay on duty until the first of June I will be glad to do so, but only if it is to the interest of the school.

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe
Director

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, 80 FEDERAL STREET
BOSTON 10, MASSACHUSETTS

KENNETH H. REDMOND
PRESIDENT

March 26, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe, Director
Escuela Agricola Panamericana, Inc.
Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

We are scheduling a meeting of the Directors of the Escuela on Friday, April 5th, in Boston and it is my warm pleasure to inform you that the purpose of the meeting will be to appoint you Director Emeritus of the School following your retirement on April 1st.

Cordially yours

KH Redmond

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POPENOE TEGUCIGALPA

BEASLEY ARRIVING ZAMORANO SUNDAY OR MONDAY HE IS AUTHORIZED TO ACT AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL UNTIL THE APPOINTMENT OF YOUR SUCCESSOR WHO WILL TAKE OVER UPON YOUR RETIREMENT APRIL 1 1957 I UNDERSTAND YOU DESIRE REMAIN AT SCHOOL THROUGH JUNE FOR PERSONAL REASONS AND THIS ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY NEW DIRECTOR NOT YET SELECTED BUT WILL ADVISE YOU BEFORE FIRST APRIL NAME OF YOUR SUCCESSOR COOLIDGE HOPES BE PRESENT AT GRADUATION AND WILL ADVISE YOU DEFINITELY NEXT FEW DAYS REGARDS TO YOU AND MRS POPENOE

REDMOND

CFM APRIL 1 1957

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, 80 FEDERAL STREET

BOSTON 10, MASSACHUSETTS

KENNETH H. REDMOND
PRESIDENT

December 26, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

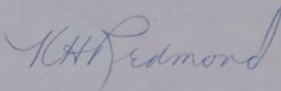
Mr. Purcell has advised me that you have turned in your United Fruit Company steamship pass on the theory that since you are retired you are no longer eligible to hold it.

It has been our custom from time to time to continue to grant passes to certain retired employees and their wives. In view of your long outstanding service with the Company and the Escuela Agricola Panamericana, I take pleasure in returning to you your pass No. 127 and I am also enclosing pass No. 565 for Mrs. Popenoe.

You will note that these passes are both issued for the years 1956-57, but according to Mr. Keating's circular of November 8 (copy attached) they will be honored during calendar year 1958.

I take this opportunity to express to both you and Mrs. Popenoe my best wishes for a very Happy New Year.

Very truly yours,



Enclosures (3)

Antigua, Guatemala, 16 January 1958

Mr K H Redmond, President,
United Fruit Company,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr Redmond:

That was a pretty fine thing to do! Send back my annual pass on Company ships and include one for Helen. I cannot tell you how deeply we appreciate this courtesy. I would not accept it were it not for the belief that I can continue to be of service to the Company from time to time, more particularly perhaps, in the field of public relations, for I am pretty sure to do some lecturing and writing, ever and anon.

Mr Coolidge has asked me to come to New York in early February to attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Escuela Agricola Panamericana. I hope and expect to see you there; and in any event, I think we will run up to Boston for a day or two, just like the chickens who go home to roost.

With hearty thanks and best regards,

Sincerely,

Wilson Popence

Copy to Ed Whittman