



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.

Antigua, 13 January 1961

Dear Fred: (Sheehy)

Many thanks for your Christmas card. Since you mention the "painting of your house" I want to relieve your mind. A month or so ago we told the occupants it must be given the usual and periodic coat of whitewash, just as we give ours one every two or three years. They did it and whitewashed some of the inside walls also. You needn't have any fear that ^{we} will ever let anybody put color on your walls; if some day you want to do so, that will be up to you, and you can choose the color - like Henry Ford told the public "You can have a Ford car of any color you want, so long as it is black". I would say the same of white, here.

The people in your house are good middle class Antiguēnos; the woman is one of Maria's daughters, the man is a clerk in the "City Hall" or cabildo. They have two small children. We go into the house every month or so, to make sure everything is in order.

Unfortunately, construction costs continue to spiral here, and at the moment \$10,000 would not go any further than \$5,000 would have gone ten years ago. I am glad we did our building early in the game. For example, cypress lumber for which we paid 6 cents is now 12. And Arturo the mason who got 85 cents a day when we rebuilt, now gets \$2.

Your property is now valued by fellows who are in the real estate business here, at \$7500 to \$8000.

Helen is pretty sore that we can't be in Japan next summer at the time you are. But I think we will go back to Spain for a few months to see how our avocados are growing. We join in affectionate regards to all of you.

Sincerely,

Antigua, Guatemala, 6 June 1963

Mr Fred Sheehy
Tela Railroad Co., Tegucigalpa.

Dear Fred:

When I was in Salvador with don Francisco de Sola, we received the news of Paul Standley's death. "Chico" suggested that a note be prepared for publication in the Central American press. Obviously, don Vicente Machado Valle is the man to do this. I have prepared a few notes in English which I enclose herewith. If you agree to asking him to prepare a brief write-up and send it to the proper daily papers, please pass the memo along to him.

The note which Vicente sent to the papers in San Salvador, regarding the election of don Chico to the Presidency of the Board of Trustees of EAP was very well received. It came out in three papers, the principal ones, and I heard many favorable comments.

Best regards to all of you.

Sincerely

Wilson Popenoe

blind copy to don Francisco de Sola

TEGUCIGALPA. Paul C. Standley, outstanding authority on the flora of Central America, died here on June first at the age of 79 years. He was buried at San Antonio de Oriente, a small town close to the Escuela Agricola Panamericana which is noted as the home of several men who played prominent roles in the history of Honduras. During the many years he spent at the Escuela after his official retirement in 1949, Mr Standley had made many friends in San Antonio and it was his last wish that he be buried there.

Dr. Standley was a native of the state of Missouri. After working for some years at the National Museum in Washington, he transferred his activities to the Chicago Natural History Museum, where he was Curator of Plants from 1937 to 1949. During his long service in both these institutions he made many trips to Mexico and Central America to collect plants and obtain information for the publications which made him famous. Among these some of the most important are "The Trees and Shrubs of Mexico", which has become a botanical classic; the "Flora of Costa Rica", in four volumes; the "Flora of the Lencetilla Valley, Honduras", which is practically a flora of the Atlantic coast of Central America; the "Plantas de El Salvador", in collaboration with Dr Salvador Calderon of that republic; the "Flora of Panama"; and the "Flora of Guatemala" of which some ten volumes have appeared up to date.

He was a Comendador of the Orden del Quetzal (Guatemala). He was a tireless worker in the field, and a most prolific writer as is suggested by the above-mentioned major works. He was never married.

Tela Railroad Company

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Apartados Postal 155 y 521
Tegucigalpa, D. C., Honduras

F. P. SHEEHY
Representante

Tegucigalpa, Honduras
June 12, 1963

Refiérase Archivo No.

File: 140-2

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

I passed your note of the 6th on to don Chente and he, in his usual well-oriented newspaper mind, has prepared the attached release for all Central American leading newspapers. He has mailed notices direct to his various colleagues and I am sure this justly due post-humous recognition to a great man will be given. You will be interested to know a very similar notice appeared on the front page of the "El Día" for June 7th and attached is clipping for you to read.

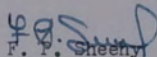
I received a note from Mrs. Stone soon after you left which has me worried as she seems to have made up her mind not to accept membership on the School Board. I sure wish she would reconsider.

A few days ago our Boston Office replied that it would be wiser not to move Jacobo Zelaya into our office and I have accepted their reasoning. When I see you next during August, please remind me to explain in detail.

Have a good rest while in Antigua and come back here ready to assist us with your vast store of know-how.

Best regards and once again thank you for the mangoes.

Sincerely,


F. P. Sheehy

Enclosures

FPS/al

MUERE EN HONDURAS UN NATURALISTA NORTEAMERICANO QUE ESCRIBIO VALIOSAS
OBRAS SOBRE LA FLORA DE CENTROAMERICA

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, junio - Ha fallecido en esta ciudad el notable naturalista norteamericano Paul C. Standley, gran autoridad en la flora de Centroamérica. Entre sus numerosos trabajos figuran "Plantas de El Salvador", "Flora de Costa Rica", "Flora de Guatemala", "Flora de Panamá", "Flora del valle de Lancetilla, Honduras" y "Los Arboles y Plantas de Mexico".

"Plantas de El Salvador" es una obra que escribió el Dr. Standley en colaboración con el Dr. Salvador Calderón, de este país centroamericano.

El Dr. Standley ha fallecido a la edad de 79 años. Sus restos fueron sepultados en el pueblo de San Antonio de Oriente, próximo a la Escuela Agrícola Panamericana. El había expresado su deseo de que al morir su cuerpo debía ser llevado al descanso eterno en aquel pintoresco lugar. Allí contaba con numerosos amigos, a sí como logró conquistarlos a través de toda Centroamérica.

Nativo del Estado de Missouri, Norteamérica, el Dr. Standley trabajó durante algunos años en el Museo Nacional de Washington, de donde fue trasladado al Museo de Historia Natural de Chicago. En este Museo fue curador de plantas desde 1937 hasta 1949. Mientras trabajaba en las dos instituciones mencionadas, el Dr. Standley realizó varios viajes a México y Centroamérica, en busca de plantas y de informaciones para las obras que le hicieron famoso. De 1947 a 1957 fue curador asociado del herbario de la Escuela Agrícola Panamericana y botánico emérito de ese centro educativo desde 1957 hasta el día de su muerte.

En la república de Guatemala se le otorgó la condecoración de la Orden del Quetzal en el grado de Comendador.

Fue un hombre de ciencia dedicado exclusivamente a la investigación y al estudio. Escribió tantos libros y tuvo que trabajar tanto para escribirlos, que no le quedó tiempo para pensar en la fundación de su propio hogar. El Dr. Standley murió soltero. Su novia eterna fue la ciencia, y en brazos de ella ha bajado al sepulcro.

Antigua, Guatemala, 19 June 1963

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr F P Sheehy
Tela RR Co, Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Dear Fred:

Many thanks for yours of the 12th, with the excellent notice of Paul Stanley's death which don Chente prepared. This will be widely read throughout Central America, where Paul had many friends and admirers. The Natural History of C A, here in Guatemala City, has held an in memoriam session recently.

No doubt Boston has excellent reasons for not wanting to see EAP move back into your offices just at this time. I hope the situation may change one of these days.

I received a pretty hot letter from Doris about the news release regarding election of Chico de Sola to the Presidency of our Board of Trustees. Doris cannot understand that I suggested this release solely to protect her. The situation was this: most members of the staff at Zamorano were there during the last administration, and were indoctrinated with the idea that Doris is an enemy of progress and that it is impossible for anyone to work with her. These staff members come from every country in Central America. Being indoctrinated, they were likely to write home, putting the resignation of Doris and election of Chico in the wrong light, and this might easily get into local papers. I felt and still feel that the best way to avoid unfavorable comments was to get out a release putting the change in a routine light - change in administration, just as occurs every once in a while in every corporation. Doris complains that she and Ronnie have resigned and should not have been mentioned as being members of any committee. They were elected to these committees at the meeting, and have not yet officially resigned. I felt it would help materially to show that Doris has not broken with the school, if the release showed that she and Ronnie were both on important committees.

The fact of the matter is, the "Old Guard" - Mr Zemurray and his associates and friends, are no longer in a majority on the Board of Trustees. We might as well accept the situation and just do our best to help steer things along the right lines. I am sure the more important members of the Board believe in the sort of school Mr Zemurray founded and planned, and they welcome all assistance given in the right spirit. They passed a clear-cut resolution at this April meeting, saying that the school is continue along the original lines. This is really all that Doris and I and the rest of the Old Guard could ask and expect.

I have written Doris a long letter, asking her to remember the words of Commodore Perry at Lake Erie, "Dont give up the ship".

Warmest regards to all of you.

Faithfully yours,

TELA RAILROAD COMPANY
Tegucigalpa Agency

Tegucigalpa, D. C.
September 18, 1963

File: 115-A

Dr. Wilson Popence
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana
El Zamorano


Dear Dr. Popence:

The truck with the roses, cannas, and other plants has just arrived and thank you for sending them to us. I have not had an opportunity to decide on the distribution but I will do so before the end of the week and will let you know.

I am writing this hasty note to satisfy your truck driver but will write with more detail later.

Regards.

Sincerely,


F. P. Sheehy

FPS/al