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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.

COMPAÑIA BANANERA DEL ECUADOR

GUAYAQUIL - ECUADOR

DIRECCION CABLEGRAFICA:

"BANANERA" - GUAYAQUIL

APARTADO 1293

R. H. GOODELL

GERENTE

November 22nd, 1939

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
c/o Tela Railroad Co.
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Mr. Atherton Lee showed up here last week, accompanied by Mr. Charles L. Luedtke, a Foreign Service Officer of the State Department, and presented your letter of introduction.

I was very glad indeed to meet these gentlemen and we had a very interesting visit from them. They spent several days on one of our largest cacao properties with R. H. Davis, which I am sure was of mutual benefit.

When are we going to have the pleasure of a visit from you?

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

R. H. Goodell

Guayaquil, Ecuador
January 22nd, 1940

Mr. Wilson Popenoe,
c/o Tela Railroad Co.
Lima, Honduras

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

Can you give me information about how to combat
"Gummosis" affecting citrus ^{trees} ~~fruits~~?

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

R. H. Goodell

R. H. Goodell

PS - My recollection of experience Tela is that there is
no remedy for Gummosis, but it has occurred to me to
ask you about it, thinking that something may have been
developed in the years since my experience in Honduras.

R. H. G.

San José de Costa Rica,
30 January 1940

R.H. Goodell Esq.,
Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Dear Mr. Goodell:

Yours of the 22nd has just come forward from La Lima. You are quite right in believing that there have been no important developments in the treatment of gummosis of citrus since our days together in Honduras. The treatment which Jefe Davis was using at Port Arturo is about the best which can be recommended, and as we all know, it is not a cure. In Trinidad, where they have studied this subject as much as they have anywhere, they are now recommending budding on sour orange stocks at two feet above the ground. This is better than having the sweet orange or grapefruit trunk from the ground up, since sour orange is more resistant and the disease usually attacks close to the ground at the start. It is not a new method of course, but seems to be gaining in popularity.

I had a long letter from Atherton Lee after his visit to Ecuador, and he was very appreciative of all that you and Jefe Davis had done for him. He sent me copies of some of his reports to the States Department. In one he spoke favorably of the possibilities of abacá in Ecuador, and he seems to think we ought to try it. As you know, we have a fine plantation of 1000 acres at Almirante, but have not yet worked out satisfactory methods of extraction. The boys are still working on the problem. If economical methods of machine extraction do not develop, it may be impossible for us to produce high grade fiber with our expensive labor at a price which will

enable us to compete with the East. But I understand Mr Rowe is still confident we can develop the right sort of machine, given the necessary time.

If this shouldnt work out, then it occurs to me there might be a real opportunity in Ecuador, with your cheaper labor. I dont know that your soil and climate are suitable, but I suspect they are. We are finding here that abacá needs the best banana soils and good drainage. It does not like heavy soils. The vega lands such as the Uluá river bank are the thing, provided they are in a climate which has good rainfall and needs no irrigation. In fact, it begins to look as though lands which have without irrigation produced in the past 10 to 13 hand fruit are the thing for abacá. Of course they dont have to be old banana lands! You know what I am driving at - abacá wants light soil with good drainage in a moist climate.

We have had some bad results here in Costa Rica on heavy soils not sufficiently well drained. The planting in the Changuinola valley, on the other hand, is probably finer than anything of comparable size in the Philippines and is mature.

I am spending a few weeks here with G.P., seeing if we can like up some sort of a program for the small farmers on the Atlantic side where Panama plus Sigatoka has put them out of the banana business.

With best regards always,

Sincerely yours,

Guayaquil, Ecuador
September 13, 1941

Dr. F. J. Pound,
Department of Agriculture,
Trinidad, B.W.I.

Dear Dr. Pound:

We are very much interested in doing something to rehabilitate our cacao plantings at Tanguel. It has seemed, from my talks with you and with Professor Cheesman, that the best thing would be for us to commence by propagating some of the individual trees in Ecuador which have attracted attention because of their resistance to Witchbroom and other desirable qualities. We have selected Thomas D. Grieve to handle this work because of the fact that he has had good training in plant propagation at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh.

In order to start him off right we are sending Mr. Grieve to Trinidad for a few weeks and will greatly appreciate it if you will assist him in getting a clear idea regarding the requirements and possibilities of the work he is undertaking. Mr. Grieve has not previously worked on cacao.

Professor Cheesman at the College has kindly offered to show Mr. Grieve what he is doing at that place and if you will give him a similar opportunity with regard to your own activities we shall all be deeply grateful. We shall further appreciate it if you will see that he gets copies of any publications of the Department of Agriculture which would be useful to him down here.

With kind personal regards.

Yours very sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

cc: Messrs. A. A. Pollan - Boston
W. E. Turnbull - La Lima
Thomas Bradshaw - Kingston
R. H. Goodell - Guayaquil

Guayaquil, Ecuador
September 13, 1941

Professor E. E. Cheesman,
Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture,
Trinidad, B. W. I.

Dear Professor Cheesman:

Since talking with you regarding the possibility of sending a man to take up experimental cacao propagation here in Ecuador, we have made definite plans to put Thomas D. Grieve on this job.

Mr. Grieve, who will hand you this letter personally, was trained at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh and has for several years been working with us in Jamaica. We shall greatly appreciate it if you will let him spend enough time with you to grasp the details of growing cacao from cuttings. We are also telling him to use his spare time going over the more important cacao literature in the College Library. Perhaps you will be good enough to suggest some of the more valuable things for him to read.

Any suggestions you care to give Mr. Grieve, regarding the work he is to do down here, will be appreciated by all of us and we greatly appreciate your giving him an opportunity to see your technique of propagation.

With kind personal regards.

Yours very sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

cc: Messrs. A. A. Pollan - Boston
W. E. Turnbull - La Lima
Thomas Bradshaw - Kingston
R. H. Goodell - Guayaquil

Guayaquil, Ecuador
September 30, 1941

Mr. A. A. Pollan,
Vice-President,
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Pollan:

Referring to correspondence of 15th ins't., of
which copies were sent to you, I enclose herewith copy of Dr. Pound's
acknowledgement of my letter to him.

Yours very truly,

R. H. Goodell

R. H. GOODELL

enc.

cc: Mr. Thomas Bradshaw
Dr. Wilson Popenoe ✓

C O P Y

Agricultural Department,
St. Clair,

24th September, 1941

AIR MAIL

Dear Mr. Goodell:

I was rather surprised at receiving a letter from you from Ecuador. It was only recently that I was wondering whether you were still in charge of the Ecuador office and also whether all the people I know at Tenguel were still in existence:

2. I am interested to learn that the United Fruit Company have decided to do a little serious work with cocoa on Tenguel. Here in Trinidad we have had a storm raging on this question for nearly two years. The storm centres around the fact that for the last 50 years planters have not been able themselves to find a solution to declining yields and other troubles in cocoa and when the scientists are called in to find a solution their remedies are not received with favour because they involve a certain amount of careful work and supervision which is more than has been given to cocoa estates in the past. Then, of course, there is the problem of Witchbroom and in some districts this disease has become so rampant that estates have literally been abandoned.

3. I think that your Mr. Grieve will find that we can give him a sound education in cocoa matters when he arrives here and I should have been very pleased to help him out even if I did not owe you so much for your hospitality in Ecuador.

4. The incident which very nearly made me write to you a few weeks ago was a letter from the British Consul at Iquitos who wrote to say that he had been able to discover five of the trees which I had located near Iquitos and which in 1938, were, as far as I could judge, completely free of disease in spite of heavy infection on the surrounding trees.

5. These trees, he reported to be still free of Witchbroom and as a check that he could still recognize Witchbroom he mentioned casually in another paragraph that he examined many of the surrounding trees and found them well infected.

6. If this is the case then we have two checks on the trees; one which I made in 1938 and one which he has made this year.

7. As a result of this I am returning to Iquitos around next May or June to propagate material from any of my listed trees which I find still completely free of disease and it is our intention to bring back to Trinidad a small number of each as budded plants.

8. Among the seedlings which resulted from the pods collected in Ecuador in 1937, and in the Amazon Valley in 1938, I have fields of cocoa which, now that they are just coming into bearing, remind me very much of the fields of young cocoa in Ecuador inasmuch as some of them show a good deal of infection and others show absolutely none.

9. There are only a few of this latter class but there are a large number of trees which have, up to the present, so little infection that, for all practical purposes I would consider them sufficiently resistant to be grown as a commercial proposition.

10. We have not had any of the trees long enough to be able to propagate them for general distribution with certainty. I should be much happier if budded trees from those which appear in the Amazon to be immune to Witchbroom could be grown here in Trinidad for a matter of two or three years to prove that they are also immune under our conditions. If I had that material I could considerably short-cut much of our work and that is why I am going back to Iquitos next year.

11. I expect to pass Guayaquil on both journeys and when I know exactly the date on which I am arriving I would be very glad to have a chat with yourself and Miguel Aspiagu about this cocoa.

12. Meanwhile I will give Mr. Grieve all the assistance which I can.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

F. J. POUND

Cacao Agronomist

Guayaquil, Ecuador
October 14, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Agricultural Assistant,
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I am today in receipt of yours of 10th inst.

If you have not been advised, Grieve got away from
Jamaica on 7th ins't. and was due to arrive Trinidad on October 9th.

When acknowledging receipt of Dr. Pound's letter of
which I sent you copy, I advised him:

"With Grieve here we shall be working to some end
as yourself; and I shall be glad to keep you posted as well
as supply you any material you may care to have from this
country."

With kindest regards to Mrs. Popenoe and yourself.

Very sincerely yours,

R. H. Goodell

R. H. GOODELL

Guayaquil, Ecuador
November 18, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Truxillo Railroad Co.,
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I suppose I have you to thank for various pamphlets with articles by you which came in last mail from Guatemala. I am very glad to have these and thank you for remembering me.

Grieve had 10/12 day delay Trinidad because of foolish mix-up in connection with his visas, but finally arrived here on 14th and will get to work as soon as possible. Of course, it will be some time before propagating bins required will be ready but meanwhile I will have him get around to get acquainted and see different farms from which material for his work will have to come.

As you will see by attached clipping, invasion by Department of Agriculture people continues on the up grade.

Kevorkian is busy but does not seem to be accomplishing much of anything. And there are indications that all may not be going well with him. I say this because a Minister asked one of our men for information about him -- what we know about K. and our opinion. Of Course, our man said nothing against him -- did not know anything against him in first place.

Yours very truly,

R. H. Goodell

R. H. GOODELL

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Antigua, Guatemala, 30 November 1941

Mr R H Goodell,
Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Dear Mr. Goodell:

Your letter of the 18th, with clippings, is most interesting. In the same mail I received one from Kevorkian, who did not seem too happy. He said, in the first place, that there had been something of a row about location of his experiment station. Two sites have been considered, as you know: Vinces, and the Naranjito region. When I was there, they were talking of a station at each. I was in favor of picking out one, and getting busy. I further felt that Vinces was more centrally located for cacao, and that it offered the best soil. Kevorkian seemed to prefer Naranjito. He now says that Aspiazu has been boasting for Vences (as is natural) but that Boaz Long won't hear of it, and they are starting work at Naranjito.

His second worry seems to come from the fact that the local people want him to devote all or most of his time to the saneamiento of cacao; while he has other projects which he considers important - abacá, rotenone-yielding plants, Cinchona etc.

You probably know all of these things. Personally I feel discouraged. I consider that Kevorkian should have gotten out in the field right at the start, instead of hanging around Guayaquil waiting for funds to be available. Someone would gladly have given him a quarter acre of land where he could have started cacao experiments; or at any rate he could have been getting together lots of information from a field study of existing trees.

All of which is none of my business, but I feel more and more that if anything continuous and worth while is done about cacao it will be done by someone like yourself. Don't you agree? My hope is that Grieve will be able to handle the mechanical part of the work - that is, the propagation - satisfactorily. That is the end where everybody else has fallen down, to date. Local cacao men know of many individual trees which are worth propagating - but no one has propagated any of them.

The job is simple: it just means getting down to business, and growing trees. The refinements, the high-brow stuff, can come later - if necessary to come at all. Pound has studied the whole subject and knows what should be done: and he is going to work, propagating promising trees by the cutting method.

Probably you have heard something about UFCO's plans for an agricultural school in Honduras - to be called the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana. Papers have just been signed, covering a tract of 1500 acres in the Zamorano valley, between Tegucigalpa and Danlí, at 2000 ft elevation with water for irrigation. They have built a fine new road to Danlí from Tegucigalpa and the site is just 35 kms - one hour by car - from Tegucigalpa. Boston has set aside plenty of money for buildings and equipment. They have made me Director of the school and it will probably take most of my time from now on. I go over there this week to start work on building plans, etc. I intend to include a fine lot of experimental plantings of fruit trees and all other useful plants which will grow in that climate - something on the order of Lancetilla. We will have the advantage of a better climate - mangos, avocados and citrus, which never did well at ~~Lancetilla~~ought to be happier there. The idea is to take ~~in~~ 5 or 6 boys annually from each of the Central American countries and Panama, and give them 3 or 4 years practical training - a little book learning, but just as a background for what they learn in the field. Later, if things go well, we might expand to take ~~in~~ boys from a few other countries.

But don't forget that I am very much interested in your cacao project and will be very grateful if you will keep me informed of progress. And if I can be of service at any time, better still.

Helen joins me in best regards.

Sincerely yours,

EL TELÉGRAFO

1884 El Diario con más años al servicio de la Patria 1941

Guayaquil, Ecuador, Lunes 17 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 1941

SUBDIRECTOR: A. R. Castillo

DIRECTOR: M. Eduardo Castillo

CERENTE: J. Santiago Castillo

NUM. 20.410

LA INVERSION DEL EMPRESTITO SE RESOLVERA LUEGO DE INFORME DE TECNICOS AMERICANOS

ESTOS ESTUDIARAN CONDICIONES DEL ECUADOR Y POSIBILIDADES AGRICOLAS

En cooperación con el gobierno, los técnicos formularán planes y presentarán proyectos a fin de realizar vasto programa de producción

EN EL SANTA LUCIA LLEGARON LOS TECNICOS

En la mañana de ayer, a bordo del turbo-eléctrico SANTA LUCIA llegaron a nuestro puerto los cinco restantes miembros que completan la misión de técnicos agrícolas norteamericanos que vienen al Ecuador a estudiar las condiciones de nuestro suelo y en especial las posibilidades agrícolas más eminentes de los productos exportables que tiene el Ecuador. Particular atención prestarán a la producción de artículos, tales como, algodón, kapoc, caucho, fibras, aceites vegetales y lana para alfombras. En cooperación con nuestro gobierno, la Misión formulará planes y presentará proyectos para el comienzo de un vasto e importante programa de producción.

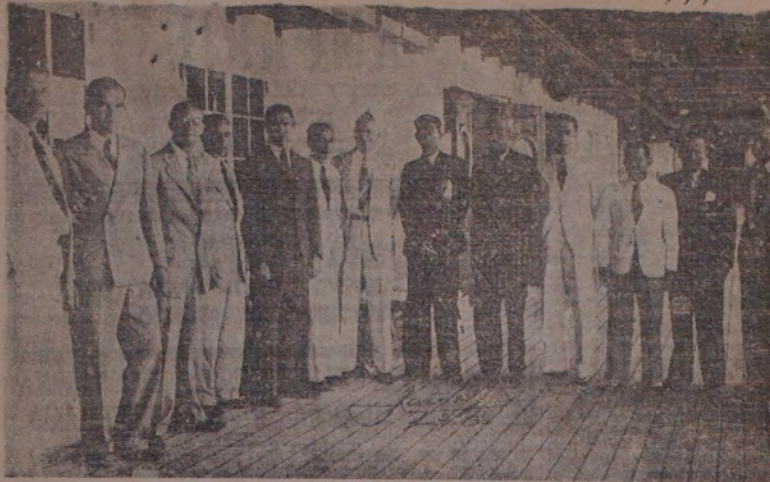
La presencia de esta importante Misión de Técnicos Agrícolas en el Ecuador, es una contribución del Comité de Relaciones In-

teramericanas que preside el señor Néelson Rockefeller.

Del dictamen que de esta Misión, que ha venido al país como resultado de las gestiones realizadas en los Estados Unidos por el Ministro de Hacienda, señor Vicente Illingworth, dependerá la formalización de un valioso empréstito, para invertirse en la agricultura, obras de irrigación en el litoral y la construcción de carreteras y otras vías de comunicación.

Los cinco miembros de la misión de técnicos que llegaron ayer a Guayaquil, son: Doctor Ernest G. Holt, Jefe de la División de Biología del Departamento de Conservación de Tierras, de los EE. UU. Mr. Holt ha permanecido por muchos años en Venezuela, Brasil y otros países de América Latina y en el pasado año, (Sigue a la página cuatro)

LA INVERSION DEL EMPRESTITO SE RESOLVERA , , ,



En la fotografía aparecen todos los miembros de la misión de técnicos agrícolas norteamericanos que van a hacer una intensa labor de estudio y divulgación de nuestras posibilidades agrícolas. Aparecen los señores doctor Holt, Kinner, Hines, Cooper, Birdsall, Larnar, Schreiber y Kevorkian, rodeados por los señores Ayala González, Peñaherrera, Rosero, Jara, Ing. Molestina y nuestro redactor Marco Antonio La Mota. La foto se impresionó a bordo del Santa Lucía.

(Viene de la Primera Página)
 asistió como miembro de la Fundación Rockefeller al estudio de la jungla amarilla en el Brasil. Mr. Edward R. Kinner, ingeniero jefe del mismo Departamento de conservación de Tierras de los Estados Unidos, quien también ha hecho estudios en Canadá, Cuba y El Salvador. Mr. Lee Hines, patólogo y especialista cauchero de la Misión. El experto en granjas de animales, Mr. John M. Cooper, a quien corresponderá hacer estudios en el Ecuador de los factores principales que afectan a la producción de lana.

A estos distinguidos técnicos se les unió en Panamá, Mr. Benjamin Birdsall, quien ha sido de-

signado por la United Fruit Company para que labore con la misión.

Fueron a recibir a los viajeros las siguientes personas: señor Alfredo Peñaherrera, Subsecretario de Agricultura del Ecuador; los señores Walter R. Schreiber, William A. Larnar Jr. y el doctor Kevorkian. El señor Arcadio Ayala González, Director de Agricultura y su secretario señor Rosero; el Ing. Ernesto Molestina,

el señor Víctor Elías Jara, del Departamento de Agricultura del Guayas y nuestro redactor señor Marco Antonio La Mota que los saludó a nombre de EL TELEGRAFO.

En la mañana de hoy tendrán una reunión previa a sus actividades en el local de la Cámara de Agricultura. Asistirán el señor Ministro del Rsmo y el señor Lado, Urgelés Caramba.

Los miembros de la Misión se han hospedado en el Hotel Metropolitano.

ADEMAS DEL ANOFELES EXISTE OTRO