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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.

San Jose, Costa Rica
January 24, 1940

VIA AIRMAIL

Dr. E. N. Bressman
Office of the Secretary
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Bressman:

After having spent the holidays at home in Antigua I have come to Costa Rica to assist in formulating a program of rehabilitation for the banana lands of the Atlantic Coast which because of Panama disease and Sigatoka are no longer available for the cultivation of bananas. We are casting about for other crops which can be grown commercially in this area.

I recall that you told me there is a market for Cassava starch in the United States. It seems to me cassava should be a good crop from the growers' standpoint. Can you give me any further data as to the possibilities of the marketing end? How big a future is there for this crop, and what prices are paid?

We would welcome any other suggestions you may have to offer, regarding products which can be grown in the banana zone and which are needed in the United States. We are of course keeping abacá in mind, but we shall have to perfect cheap methods of extraction before this crop can be advocated for wholesale cultivation here. I have recently gone over the Goodyear people's experimental rubber plantings and feel very hopeful regarding the future of this crop, but it is still a long way off. We would particularly like something which the small farmer can grow, something which will give him a living even if it does nothing more.

Address me in care of the Compañía Bananera de Costa Rica, San José; and I will appreciate it if you will send a copy to G. P. Chittenden, General Manager, at the same address, so he will have the information promptly if I have moved on. I have a full schedule for the next six months and shall have to keep moving.

While in Guatemala I had opportunity to go over the Cinchona project in detail with George W. Perkins and I feel very hopeful regarding the future of this crop. The experimental plantings of Ledgeriana look very well, where they have been made on the right soils in a moist climate free from winds, and it seems to me the only problem now is the selection of the right strains for grafting. I believe this industry can be put on its feet within the next ten years.

With best regards always,

Sincerely yours

c: G. P. Chittenden, Esq.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington

April 26, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
United Fruit Company
Kingston, Jamaica

Dear Popenoe:

Many thanks for your most instructive letter of April 18 and the confidential memorandum to the American Ambassador, in regard to Venezuela.

I was particularly happy to note what you have to say in regard to Tom Fennell. We have received the same reaction all down the line, and we feel that he stepped into a rather difficult situation and is handling it just about right. I see a fine future for him if he is able to carry on for another year or two. The chances for our getting the \$35,000 for this work in a regular appropriation July 1 look pretty good right now. Although the amount of money is not great, it will crystallize this work and put it on a different and permanent basis.

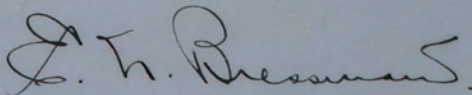
I am very sorry that you will be unable to get up to the Scientific Congress. I will make it a point to see that you get the various papers that might be of interest to you.

I am very glad to have your memorandum on Venezuela. I have always felt that your estimation of its agricultural possibilities was just about right. I was influenced greatly by what I had heard you say about it at the time I was passing through. That, in addition to the high cost of living there and the fact that I felt some significance might have been attached to my stopping over

and that I could have stopped there only a few days - not long enough to make any real evaluation of their agriculture - made me decide against it.

We are always happy to hear from you. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Doyle have recently returned from Guatemala and made a most enthusiastic report. They enjoyed Antigua and the opportunity of seeing your house.

With kind regards and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. N. Bressman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

E. N. Bressman
Scientific Adviser

Antigua, Guatemala, 15 July 1940

Dr E N Bressman,
U S Dept of Agriculture,
Washington, D C

Dear Doctor Bressman:

It was a source of great regret to me that I was not able to attend the American Scientific Congress at Washington in May. Just at that time I finished up my work in connection with the British government's campaign against Sigatoka disease in Jamaica, and Merck and Company were waiting for me to fulfil my promise to give them some assistance in connection with their Cinchona project here in Guatemala. Since May 15th I have been devoting all my time to this work, and shall probably continue on it for another month or two.

Now that I have been in close contact with the Cinchona work perhaps this is a good moment to summarise the situation as I see it, with regard to the three crops which our government is interested in establishing in tropical America - the three crops, at least, which have been most in the limelight.

Para rubber. Last spring I had opportunity to see the work which has been done by the Goodyear people in Costa Rica. This is one of the best pieces of tropical agricultural research which has ever come to my notice. I am particularly impressed by the judgment they have displayed in selecting lands for their rubber development. I do not believe more favorable conditions are to be found in northern tropical America.

They have introduced high-yielding strains; they are handling the propagation skillfully, and it looks to me as though they have South American Leaf Disease whipped. With the develop-

ment of clones which combine high yields with resistance to this disease I do not see anything to prevent the rapid expansion of rubber cultivation in this hemisphere. The only point on which I feel we must now exercise caution is the selection of the best areas on which to concentrate commercial production at the start. There are some splendid rubber lands in Costa Rica, Panama, and (in my opinion) around the Gulf of Urabá in Colombia. Of course there are other areas; these are simply the best which have come under my personal observation. I would be in favor of pushing rapidly the commercial planting of desirable clones in these areas; carrying on at the same time experimental work to determine the possibilities of other regions where conditions are not so obviously favorable. I have always been shaky about the Amazon valley. I don't know the region at all, but the entire North side of South America from the Sierra Madre de Santa Marta in Colombia eastward is such tough stuff that I am predisposed to question its agricultural future in nearly all respects. You know how I feel about Venezuela. Since talking with you I have spent more time in that country and my feelings are intensified.

Abacá or Manila Hemp. In February I had occasion to see our first commercial planting of one thousand acres in Panama - near Almirante or Bocas del Toro. It is a beautiful block. Our man Joe Permar who is in charge of it says he did not see a finer stand of plants anywhere in the Philippines. I am convinced that there will be no difficulty whatever in producing all the abacá the U.S. consumes in Panama and Costa Rica. The problem now is purely an economic one - cost of fiber extraction. We are working on mechanical means of extracting fiber of the best quality at a reasonable cost. I do not know just how we shall come out. But

if worst comes to worst, you folks can get all the abacá you want from tropical America, by paying a price which will enable us to clean it by the more primitive methods, paying the labor on the tropical American basis rather than the Asiatic basis. In my own opinion, this is what you ought to do. Luckily, it will not take long to expand abacá production to any point you wish. ~~IN~~ this respect the situation is fortunate. I wish the same were true of rubber but it is not.

Quinine. Five years ago Merck and Company commenced experimental planting of Cinchona in Guatemala. A good quantity of material has been brought together, from the best sources. The time has come when we are beginning to get results. Some of the trees are showing excellent quinine content amply sufficient to justify their propagation on a commercial scale. We have found that Cinchona of the finer types grows vigorously on certain soils and in certain climates here; and we have found that it can not be successful on other soils in other climates. The time has come when commercial plantings can be built up as rapidly as the natural limitation on grafting material will permit.

In addition to the selection and grafting of desirable types, an effort is now being made to hasten commercial production by planting large numbers of seedlings of good Calisaya types from South America, which probably will not produce such high percentages of quinine but which, with luck on our side, should prove wholly satisfactory. These two lines of attack should, it seems to me, enable Guatemala to produce all the quinine needed by the United States by ten years from now, provided the work is pushed vigorously.

So much for the summary. These notes may be of interest to you, and they may not. No harm done, at any rate.

Dr Brandes has just written that the Department will shortly be sending down several parties to investigate further the possibilities of Pará rubber production in tropical America, and to select sites for one or more experiment stations north of Panamá. He has asked for my comments and I have written him regarding our experience with this crop in northern Honduras. If, when the técnicos arrive in these parts, I can be of further service to them, I hope they will call on me. So far as I can see, I shall be in Guatemala or Honduras for the next several months.

When are you coming down this way again? I have been wanting to come up North to talk with all of you, but it has seemed to me that I can serve my country better right now by staying down here on the job.

With best regards always,

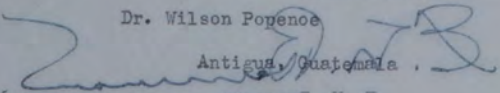
Sincerely yours

of your office. Just the other day I was talking to
Doctor Bennett of the Soil Conservation Service, and he indicated the importance
of setting up a permanent service to help the farmers of the Western Hemisphere
of setting up a permanent service to help the farmers of the Western Hemisphere
I agree that you can best serve the country by staying down
Washington
there on the job.

With kind regards to both you and Mrs. Popence, I am
July 24, 1940

Very truly yours,

Dr. Wilson Popence



Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popence:
E. N. Bennett
Scientist

I wish to thank you for your interesting letter of July 15,
summarizing the situation as you see it with regard to the establish-
ment of rubber, Manila hemp, and quinine in tropical America.

I am very happy to have these helpful comments, particularly
at this time when there is so much clamor about what we might do.
We do not have nearly enough of this sort of information. I shall,
of course, keep your comments confidential when I am called upon to
discuss these matters, but it is very helpful and reassuring to me to
have them.

I take it from your letter that you know about the appropria-
tion we received to carry on rubber surveys and investigations in the
Western Hemisphere. This work is just getting under way. For your
information I am enclosing a copy of the President's message to Congress
regarding this item. It was passed exactly as sent up, with the excep-
tion that the \$1,000,000 requested was cut to \$500,000. It is my hope
that later we shall be able to get funds for work on crops other than
rubber and get a real organization developed for all these activities.
With the \$500,000 actually appropriated, however, it looks as though
our work is becoming more of a reality.

I hope to be able to get down to tropical America again this
fall. If I do, I shall make it a point to spend some time with you.
I should like very much to see the Merck and Company plant in Guatemala.
I have heard that they are interested in taking on Mr. Pennock from our
Puerto Rico station. I have been greatly impressed with his work and
feel that if they do hire him they will be getting one of the best men
available for the job.

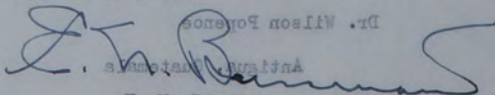
For your information, I am enclosing a copy of the law passed in
regard to Barro Colorado Island. I think this will be helpful in putting
the work on a permanent and well organized basis. In addition, there has
been set up a committee on inter-American agricultural education.
Knowles Ryerson is chairman and I am executive-secretary. The other
members are Dean Lee of the University of Louisiana, Dean Hume, University
of Florida, and Dr. Thomas Barbour, Director, Museum of Comparative Zoology,
Cambridge, Mass.

(Over)

We speak of you often. Just the other day I was talking to Doctor Bennett of the Soil Conservation Service, and he indicated the importance of getting assistance from you. I do not have the least idea how we might do that. I agree that you can best serve the country by staying down there on the job.

With kind regards to both you and Mrs. Popenoe, I am

Very truly yours,



E. N. Bressman
Scientific Adviser

I wish to thank you for your interesting letter of July 18, summarizing the situation as you see it with regard to the establishment of rubber, Manilla hemp, and guanine in tropical America.

I am very happy to have these helpful comments, particularly at this time when there is so much clamor about what we might do. We do not have nearly enough of this sort of information. I shall, of course, keep your comments confidential when I am called upon to discuss these matters, but it is very helpful and reassuring to me to have them.

I take it from your letter that you know about the application we received to carry on rubber surveys and investigations in the Western Hemisphere. This work is just getting under way. For your information I am enclosing a copy of the President's message to Congress regarding this item. It was passed exactly as sent up, with the exception that the \$1,000,000 requested was cut to \$800,000. It is my hope that later we shall be able to get funds for work on crops other than rubber and get a real organization developed for all these activities. With the \$800,000 actually appropriated, however, it looks as though our work is becoming more of a reality.

I hope to be able to get down to tropical America again this fall. If I do, I shall make it a point to spend some time with you. I should like very much to see the Merck and Company plant in Guatemala. I have heard that they are interested in talking on Mr. Penock from our Puerto Rico station. I have been greatly impressed with his work and feel that if they do hire him they will be getting one of the best men available for the job.

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of the law passed in regard to Barro Colorado Island. I think this will be helpful in putting the work on a permanent and well organized basis. In addition, there has been set up a committee on inter-American agricultural education. Knowles Ryerson is chairman and I am executive-secretary. The other members are Dean Lee of the University of Louisiana, Dean Howe, University of Florida, and Dr. Thomas Barbour, Director, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.

(over)

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR THE FISCAL
YEAR 1941 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN THE
SUM OF \$1,000,000

MAY 22, 1940.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be
printed

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, May 22, 1940.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year 1941 for the Department of Agriculture in the sum of \$1,000,000.

The details of this supplemental estimate of appropriation, the necessity therefor, and the reasons for its transmission at this time are set forth in the letter of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, transmitted herewith, with whose comments and observations I concur.

Respectfully,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D. C., May 21, 1940.The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year 1941 for the Department of Agriculture in the sum of \$1,000,000, as follows:

Rubber investigations: To enable the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct investigations directed toward the development of rubber production in the Western Hemisphere, including production, breeding and disease research; surveys of potential rubber-producing areas; establishment and operation of experiment and demonstration stations in suitable locations; acquisition of land for such purposes; construction and equipment of necessary buildings; travel; purchase, maintenance, operation, and repair of motor-propelled and horse-drawn passenger-carrying vehicles; employment of guides, translators, and other assistants by contract or otherwise; medical services; books, periodicals, and newspapers; rent; printing; and for all other necessary expenses, including personal services and means in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, fiscal year 1941, \$1,000,000, to be immediately available and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer such sums as he may deem necessary to other Government agencies cooperating or assisting in such investigations (5 U. S. C. 511, 512) ----- \$1,000,000

The foregoing estimate is submitted to provide funds for a 3-year effort to establish a solid research foundation for the development of rubber production in the Western Hemisphere. The indications are that such production is to be expected principally in Central and South America, supplemented by full development of apparently good possibilities in the United States in the warmer parts of Florida and along the Gulf coast. In order to insure effectiveness of the program, it is proposed that the fund appropriated be made available until expended.

The foregoing supplemental estimate of appropriation is made necessary by reason of a contingency which has arisen since the transmission of the Budget for the fiscal year 1941. I recommend that it be transmitted to Congress.

Very respectfully,

HAROLD D. SMITH,
Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

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[PUBLIC—No. 711—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 516—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 8919]

AN ACT

To authorize the setting aside of an area within the Canal Zone to preserve and conserve its natural features for scientific study, for providing and maintaining facilities for such study, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President is authorized and directed to set aside within the Canal Zone an area in Gatun Lake known as Barro Colorado Island in which the natural features shall, except in event of declared national emergency, be left in their natural state for scientific observation and investigation.

SEC. 2. The purpose of setting aside such an area is to preserve and conserve its natural features, including existing flora and fauna, in as nearly a natural condition as possible, thus providing a place where duly qualified students can make observations and scientific investigations for increase of knowledge, under such conditions and regulations as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of War, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the President of the National Academy of Sciences and three distinguished biologists of the United States of America, appointed by the President of the National Academy of Sciences with the approval of the Secretaries of War, Agriculture, Interior, and the Smithsonian Institution, shall constitute the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area. The President of the National Academy of Sciences shall be the chairman of the Board and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution the vice chairman. The biologists of distinction appointed by the President of the National Academy of Sciences shall each serve for a term of three years: *Provided*, That of the three first appointed, one shall be designated to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. Vacancies in appointed membership occurring from any cause shall be filled in the same manner as the appointment and for the same period. The members of the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area shall serve without compensation but subsistence and travel expenses incident to attendance of called meetings of the Board may, on appropriate action of the Board, be paid from funds available to it.

SEC. 4. The Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area shall (a) meet in Washington, District of Columbia, at least once in each calendar year to consider policies and procedures for carrying out the purpose of this Act; (b) determine the policy, prescribe conditions under which studies may be pursued within the area, and promulgate regulations for carrying out the purposes

of this Act; (c) be responsible for the construction and maintenance of laboratory and other facilities on the area provided for the use of students authorized to carry on studies within the confines of the area; (d) deposit into the Treasury of the United States sums donated or subscribed or collected to be expended for carrying out the purposes of this Act; (e) in its discretion, fixed charges that may be made for use of laboratory or other facilities provided students authorized to make observations and investigations within the prescribed area and provide for the collection of such sums for deposit into the Treasury of the United States; (f) make such disposal of any moneys donated, subscribed, collected, or otherwise provided as in their judgment is to the best interest in carrying out the purpose of this Act: *Provided*, That sums contributed or appropriated for specific purposes shall be used for such purpose only; and (g) through its chairman submit to the Congress of the United States not later than the 15th day of each January a report of activities and operations during the preceding year.

SEC. 5. At each annual meeting, or at special meetings should occasion so demand, the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area shall appoint an executive officer whom they may authorize to carry out functions of the Board. With the approval of the Board the executive officer may select and designate a resident manager to assist in carrying out the policy, conditions, and regulations approved by the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area in compliance with the purposes of this Act. The executive officer and the resident manager shall receive such compensation for their services as may be allowed by the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area.

SEC. 6. All moneys received by donation, subscription, fees, or otherwise, except the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 7, for carrying out the purposes of this Act shall be deposited into the Treasury as trust funds and are hereby appropriated for such purposes. Disbursements of such funds shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury through the Division of Disbursement on requisitions or vouchers signed by or on authority of the executive officer of the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area.

SEC. 7. There is authorized to be appropriated annually, from money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, not to exceed \$10,000 for expenses necessary in the administration of this Act and for the maintenance of laboratory or other facilities provided for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Approved, July 2, 1940.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

July 30, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Care of United Fruit Company
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

The bearer, Mr. Cameron Hervey, Assistant Editor of *SUCCESSFUL FARMING*, Des Moines, Iowa, is a close friend of mine. He plans to make a trip to Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. I have told him about you and your house at Antigua.

Mr. Hervey and his associates have been unusually helpful to me in many ways and at many times. I should deem it a great favor if you could be helpful to Mr. Hervey in connection with his trip. I understand that it is to be a vacation jaunt but that he wants to learn as much as possible about the agriculture of these three countries. He is not particularly interested in the usual tourist attractions.

Sincerely yours,

E. N. Bressman,
Scientific Adviser

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 14, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

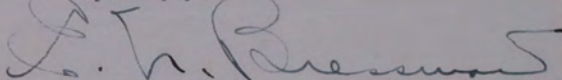
I have your letter of September 30, from La Lima, Honduras, in regard to a scholarship for Vicente Velasco.

I remember Mr. Velasco distinctly and recall how much impressed we were both with his work and his personality. I will take up his case with three different groups -- the Cultural Relations Division of the Department of State, Nelson Rockefeller's Committee on Coordination, and Knowles Ryerson's Committee on Inter-American Cooperation in Agricultural Education. With our strong recommendation, I feel that we should be able to accomplish something, but doubtless it will take considerable time.

Our Committee on Inter-American Cooperation in Agricultural Education, appointed by the President, will meet here in Washington on November 7. Knowles Ryerson, as you know, is chairman, and I am executive-secretary. Tom Barbour also is a member. If you have any ideas on agricultural education, please let me have them, and I will see that they are presented to the Committee on November 7.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,



E. N. Bressman
Assistant Director

Secretary, Committee on Inter-American
Cooperation in Agricultural Education



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

October 25, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

Thanks for your letter of October 13 from Honduras. I am glad to know that Mr. Hervey got to see some of your work.

It is a pleasure to hear from you from time to time and get your interesting comments on such things as cinchona and rubber. I was deeply impressed with what you said in regard to the rubber nursery work. If you have any other comments in regard to rubber work I would be glad to have them at any time.

I have received one reply in regard to my inquiries concerning the possibilities for a scholarship for Mr. Velasco. Nelson Rockefeller referred my inquiry to Mr. Henry Allen Moe of the Guggenheim Foundation. It appears that Mr. Moe is handling much of the Rockefeller Committee's work on educational matters. Mr. Moe raises the following question: "If I may take Dr. Popenoe's letter to mean that Mr. Velasco could manage with a tuition scholarship, I shall be glad to see what may be done about arranging for one at a first-rate university: will you please let me hear from you about that?" You can either write directly to Mr. Moe in regard to the matter or send the information to me. I feel that if we keep pushing, we can work out something for Mr. Velasco.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Popenoe, I am

Very truly yours,

E. N. Bressman
Assistant Director

What do you know about the
British Honduras Co., Ltd.?

AIR MAIL



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

Many thanks for your very interesting letter of November 4. I am delighted to have this first-hand information on tropical products. Such information as I am able to obtain on them here is quite sketchy and often academic, and I am in position to realize, possibly better than anyone else here, the need of direct contact with men in the field. I certainly wish we had a couple of good tropical men like you and Atherton Lee to work with us full time. Do you have suggestions as to tropical horticulturists with both formal training and experience in the field who would be available? I feel that we cannot make any real progress until we can secure the services of such men.

Right now, it appears that we shall make some agricultural surveys. As you may know, there has been a Cuban Mission here in Washington, endeavoring to swing a large loan from the Export-Import Bank. Some of their projects--not many--involve agriculture. Before we can pass intelligently on their requests, it is felt that we should look into these specific projects first-hand. They involve irrigation engineering, growing new tropical crops, resettlement of stranded sugar workers, and considerable economics. As I visualize it, we would require the services of four good men for about two months. I am just working up a project, which will make provision for obtaining travel expenses and per diem for these four men (salaries to be paid by this Department or the Agency that furnishes them). Do you suppose that the United Fruit Company would be sufficiently interested to allow you to participate for a couple of months? I know that they have holdings in Cuba, and indirectly, at least, work of this type would be of benefit to them. Right now, the project is not definite, but I have every reason to believe that we can make it so within a month. Let me have your general reactions to this, and if you are interested, give me an idea as to the procedure that we should follow in getting your valuable services. For many reasons I should like to have you participate in the specific project being carried out by the Department.

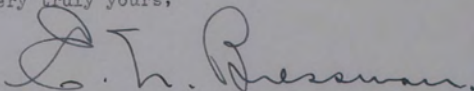
AIR 3P
MAIL

Thanks again for all the trouble you have gone to to give me your ideas about cinchona and rubber. They are more valuable than you can realize, and I can make good use of them.

In regard to Vicente Velasco, I feel that your slant as to the kind of work he should have is correct. Possibly, since it is not a formal course that Mr. Vicente Velasco desires, the attached copy of a letter from Mr. Thomson of the Division of Cultural Relations may not be applicable, but at any rate, I am passing it on for your information. At our meeting here on November 7 of the President's Committee on Inter-American Cooperation in Agricultural Education I mentioned Vicente Velasco's desire. Dean Hume of Florida gave some indication that there is great need for just such a person as he. Possibly you might write directly to him, addressing him as follows: Dean H. H. Hume, College of Agriculture, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., concerning the young man's qualifications, etc. It is my strong feeling that we will be able to work out something.

With kind regards and best wishes to you and Mrs. Popenoe, I am

Very truly yours,



E. N. Bressman,
Assistant Director

Enclosure

AIR ³²
MAIL

Antigua, Guatemala, 26 Nov 1940

Dr E N Bressman,
U S Dept of Agriculture,
Washington, D C

Dear Doctor Bressman:

I have been holding your letter, to discuss with my chief, Mr Turnbull, the possibility of cooperating with you on the Cuba survey. Yesterday I had an opportunity to take this up with Mr Turnbull. He is very anxious to meet your wishes in the matter. The only point is this, When must the work be done? There is another job for me in the offing - further cooperative work in Colombia - which may be urgent, and may eventuate promptly, and may not. If we knew just when the Cuban work must be done we could figure things out, just as soon as we know definitely about Colombia.

This all sounds a bit vague and unsatisfactory, doesn't it? Mr Turnbull is sending me a memorandum today or tomorrow, on basis of which I will answer your letter officially; but I am going down to the West Coast and may not get to do so for another week. Hence I am dropping you this note to let you know how things stand; and if you can do so, I wish you would send me an airmail telling me the one thing we need to know, - Must the Cuban work be done at any specified time, and if so when?

I'll write further about the other matters in your letter when I get back from this trip to the Coast and have a few minutes. I'm still on the jump.

Sincerely yours,



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

December 2, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

I have your letter of November 26, in regard to your participation in our proposed agricultural survey in Cuba.

I am delighted to know of your interest and that apparently it is agreeable to your chief, Mr. Turnbull. Since I last wrote to you, the project has taken more definite shape, and I believe that there is no question that we will get the work under way soon. Week before last Mr. Pollan, Vice President of your Company, was in Washington, and I spent considerable time with him, chiefly in connection with abaca. This gave me an excellent opportunity to discuss the Cuban situation with him. I did not tell him that we had written you to sound you out about participating, but I asked him if you could be made available. He definitely indicated his desire and that of the Company to cooperate with us. It would appear, therefore, that Mr. Pollan, as well as Mr. Turnbull, is in full agreement with you as to the desirability of this, and that the important thing right now is to make the Cuban project fit into your time limitations.

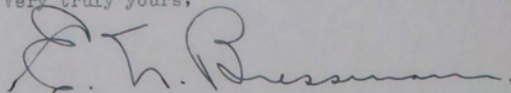
It is my hope that we can get the work started right after January 1. We feel that it is important that you come to Washington before leaving for Cuba, so that we may get together and discuss the matter in detail. I see no reason why this should require your being here more than a few days. It is my understanding that the State Department is interested in making some surveys in addition to one on agriculture. Whether our work will be entirely separate or a part of their program I do not know as yet, but am sure that we must organize the agricultural work there. It is my feeling that you should head up the agricultural work and that we should send two or three men with you. Possibly a good agricultural engineer familiar with irrigation, an economist, and someone with experience in resettlement work should accompany you.

If you feel it desirable, I shall be glad to make a formal request for your services to Mr. Pollan or Mr. Turnbull. Let me know about this point. In the meantime, I wonder if you could be

4
- 2 -

shaping up your plans, provided everything goes right here in the next couple of weeks, so that you could come here shortly after the first of the year, with a view to proceeding to Cuba to spend a period not to exceed two months after a few days of discussions with us.

Very truly yours,



E. N. Bressman,
Assistant Director

AIR 3P
MAIL

Antigua, Guatemala, 8 December 1940

Dr E N Bressman,
U S Dept of Agriculture,
Washington, D C

Dear Doctor Bressman:

Yours of the 2nd reached me yesterday. I am glad that you have seen Mr. Pollan. As far as I am concerned personally, I would be delighted to tackle the Cuban survey, and I will be able to get away from here about January 10th, but not earlier unless it is extremely important for me to do so. Mr Perkins of Merck and Company, which as you know is backing the Cinchona project, is coming down here on January 6th and would like to discuss this whole subject with me if possible. I have told him I would do my best to remain here until January 10th.

Undoubtedly the best thing for you to do, is to take up the matter of my cooperation direct with Mr Pollan at Boston, since he is close at hand and much delay will be eliminated. He can discuss the matter by Tropical Radio with Mr Turnbull if need be. I understand there is a possibility I may be wanted on a Company job shortly after the first of the year but this is still rather indefinite and perhaps will not eventuate for a month or two anyway; so I am hopeful that it will be possible for Mr Pollan to tell you that I can do the Cuban job first. I know he will want to do so.

On my own part, I will work on the basis that you may want me to come to Washington about January tenth and then go to Cuba. I hope things will work out that way.

Hastily yours,

Copy to: Dr. Popence ✓

December 13, 1940

Mr. Arthur A. Pollan
Executive Vice-President
United Fruit Company
One Federal Street
Boston, Mass.

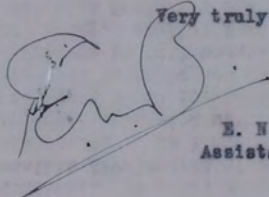
Dear Mr. Pollan:

You will recall that I discussed with you, a couple of weeks ago when you were here in Washington, our desire to have Dr. Wilson Popence of your company to assist with an agricultural survey that we are planning in Cuba beginning January next year. At that time you indicated that you would make Dr. Popence available to us.

It is our plan to have four agricultural experts to make this survey and base much of their work on the recent request for a loan to develop their agriculture. We would expect Dr. Popence to handle the work on the possible development of new complementary agricultural products for that country. As I explained, too, we have funds for paying such expenses connected with the trip as travel and per diem, but do not have funds for paying salaries. The other members of the party will be employees of this Department. We would like to appoint Dr. Popence as collaborator for about two months and have you carry his salary. We feel that this work in Cuba is of great importance and also feel that the job can be well done if we have someone like Dr. Popence connected with the survey.

Will you kindly let me know if he will be available under the above conditions?

Very truly yours,



E. H. Bressman
Assistant Director

ENB:ms

P.S. We would like to get under way as soon after Jan 1 as possible - 10⁰⁰ to 15 seems to be O.K.

Antigua, Guatemala, 26 Dec 1940

Dr E N Bressman,
U S Dept of Agriculture
Washington D C

Dear Doctor Bressman:

Thanks for sending me a copy of your letter of the 13th instant to Mr Pollan, in which you make formal request for my services in connection with the Cuban survey. I am waiting for further news, but in the meantime am making plans so that I can get away from here promptly if I hear that I am to take part in this job.

George Perkins of Merck and Co. is coming down here on January 7th and I have promised to wait for him, so that I can go over the Cinchona work with him on the ground. This will take about three days. I would therefore be able to get away from here somewhere around the 11th or 12th of January. You had best let me know what plans to make after that. In one of your letters you said you would want me to come up to Washington for a few days before going to Cuba. Normally I travel back and forth to the States by steamer; but if you are in a hurry to get the Cuban job started, and still think I must come to Washington first, shall I come by air? You realise I can travel from here by steamer at no expense to you; this will not be true if I come by air.

If I should go to Cuba direct from here, we have steamers from Barriles to Habana every Tuesday.

I am leaving for the West Coast this morning with Dr Albert Muller of Venezuela, who is here with me for a few days to look things over. I will get back to Antigua New Year's Eve at the latest. In the meantime, if any news comes from you Mrs Popenoe will pass it along by telegraph, as she will know where I am each day.

If you decide that I am to come up to Washington before going to Cuba, let me know about how many days I will have to stay there and by what route I will proceed from Washington to Cuba, so I can plan my luggage properly.

With best regards always,

Sincerely yours,



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations

AUG 16 1941

August 11, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Care of United Fruit Company
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Wilson:

Many thanks for your letter of the 2nd, enclosing a copy of one to Doctor Rands.

I do not believe that you need worry about intruding in any way on the rubber project. I feel sure that without someone like you to stimulate them there would be no progress in Colombia.

I appreciate the situation in Colombia in regard to technical assistance. Possibly the resignation of the Cabinet of that country may have changed the whole thing by now. A new Minister of Economy may have a still different program.

The Institute of Tropical Agriculture is now taking shape. We had some interesting conferences with the Vice President, the Under Secretary of State, Nelson Rockefeller, Laurence Duggan, and others. It appears that the first step is to examine the various sites offered for the location. These offers have come from El Salvador, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Ecuador. We have been requested by all concerned to make a strictly agricultural survey of the sites and Mr. Rockefeller is making the funds available for the necessary travel and per diem. At this time I want to sound you out as to possible participation in this mission, which will require 3 or 4 weeks time. In the next day or two, I plan to phone or wire Mr. Pollen to ask for your services. From our standpoint, I feel that it is almost essential to have someone of your standing and knowledge of tropical agriculture accompany the party. The other two men will be Mr. George Boyd, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, who is qualified to look at locations from the standpoint of construction, buildings, etc., and Mr. Ralph H. Allee of this Office, who is thoroughly trained in agricultural education and research.

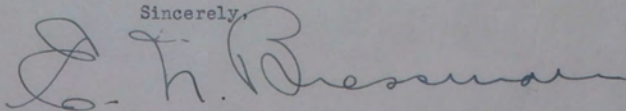
It is my feeling that it will not be necessary for the mission to spend more than 3 or 4 days in any of the countries involved and that probably you could meet the party in either El Salvador or Venezuela if proper arrangements can be worked out through Boston. I am writing to you rather fully at this time, so that if the Boston office contacts you after hearing from us, you will have some idea of what it is all about. I certainly hope you can help us out on this.

AIR MAIL

- 2 -

Mr. Fennell left the other day, after completing all details in connection with the Corporation in Haiti. He has a unique and very interesting corporation, which I expect will prove to be the answer in many places where it is impossible to get commercial concerns interested at the present time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. H. Reseman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Assistant Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
WASHINGTON

DIVISION OF
BUREAU ACCOUNTING SERVICE

ADDRESS REPLY TO
CHIEF, BUREAU ACCOUNTING SERVICE

REFERENCE:

FL-2

Mr. Wilson Popenoe,
Collaborator,
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

I transmit herewith 5 Transportation Requests numbered A-~~737646~~.....
to A-737650..... inclusive, for use under your Letter of Authorization
No. 15-(FAR)..... dated 8/14/41..... The Requests should be issued in
numerical order, beginning with No. A-737646..... and any spoiled in course of
preparation or for other reasons unused should be immediately returned to this
Office for cancellation.

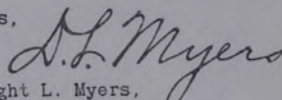
CARBON COPIES OF TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS MUST BE detached when the re-
quest is exchanged for tickets or scrip books, and MAILED IMMEDIATELY TO THE
BUREAU ACCOUNTING SERVICE, OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE, Washington, D. C., in envelopes provided for the purpose. DO NOT
HOLD THE COPIES as they are the basis of settlement of the transportation
companies accounts, which are verified by the copies.

Use typewriter, stiff fountain pen, or hard indelible pencil, in preparing
Requests. It is essential that LEGIBLE carbon copies be furnished the Bureau
Accounting Service.

Care should be taken to SEE THAT EACH REQUEST AND COPY SHOW PLACE AND
DATE OF ISSUE; THE CORRECT CHARGE for tickets AND THE COMPLETE ROUTING, WITH
JUNCTION POINTS, of the journey (using initials only) together with a clear
description of the service furnished, using the spaces provided, and numerals
to indicate "Class" "Number of persons" - "Standard upper berth", etc.

IMPORTANT: Coach fares, coach and first class; coach and intermediate;
intermediate and first class; intermediate. Transportation is now being
offered by carriers at reduced rates classed as above. It is incumbent upon
officials issuing transportation requests to ascertain the lowest fare of the
class that will adequately furnish the desired transportation and to show
definitely upon the face of request the class of service received. (See
S.G.T.R., Appendix VII, page 58).

Very truly yours,



Dwight L. Myers,
Chief, Bureau Accounting Service,
Office of Budget and Finance.

Enc.

SURVEY OF PROPOSED SITES FOR THE
INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE

Two approaches are being planned for determining which of the sites proposed is best suited to facilitating the research and leadership development activities foreseen.

First. Collection of technical data which can be so handled as to produce numerical indices for the pertinent factors. When these are weighted according to consensus of opinion as to their relative importance, grades can be established for the respective sites.

Second. Presentation of a narrative report covering those items not subject to objective comparison.

A general outline of factors will be used to achieve logical completeness in the data collected. Copy of this outline is attached.

Criteria Suggested for Rating the Sites Proposed.

1. Accessibility.

Under this item the accessibility of the site to the various countries concerned will be measured. To simplify the task, an equal volume of traffic from all countries is assumed.

Data will be collected to determine the mean cost in dollars of a one-way trip for one man, including \$10.00 per day for time involved in travel from the principal ports of exit, plus the mean cost, in dollars, of transporting one tone of freight. The index number for each site is to be an inverse proportion with the lowest site as 100.

2. Importance of the principal complementary crops in the agricultural economy of the area and the range of possible development.

The importance is to be determined by reference to deficiencies in the hemisphere economy. Range of possible development is to be determined from the results of surveys conducted.

The index number is to be computed as follows: The mean of the percentages of each of the various crops in the agricultural production of the area under consideration is to be multiplied times twice the index of possible development and this product divided by 3.

The crops are to be measured in hectares, dollars, or tons, as is most appropriate for each crop, but with no variation from area to area.

Attached is a suggested list of products with hemisphere deficiencies. These are given in the order of their dollar value. They will require rearrangement according to their importance from the standpoint of research and production. (Also additions)

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

<u>Products in order of importance.</u>	<u>Approx. Hemisphere deficiency in</u> <u>U. S. imports.</u>
1. Rubber	183,000,000
2. Silk (raw)	105,000,000
3. Tea	20,000,000
4. Cocoa and cacao beans	18,000,000
5. Tung oil	15,000,000
6. Coconut oil	13,000,000
7. Olive oil (edible and inedible)	11,000,000
8. Palm oil	10,000,000
9. Sisal and henequen	7,000,000
10. Tapioca	6,000,000
11. Manila or abaca fiber	5,000,000
12. Cashew nuts	4,000,000
13. Kapok	2,000,000
14. Ferilla oil	2,000,000
15. Peanut oil	1,000,000
16. Cinchona bark	700,000
17. Coconuts	250,000
18. Hemp, unmanufactured	200,000
19. Retenone bearing roots (disc. Barbascio and cube root)	131,000

3. Degree of importance of both subsistence and commercial economy.

The attempt here is to measure the extent to which the area has achieved a balanced economy. The index is to be derived by multiplying the percentage of workers engaged in subsistence agriculture in the total workers of the country times the percentage of workers engaged in commercial agriculture in the total workers.

4. Suitability for organization and administration.

(a) Cost of living. The index is to be derived by dividing the cost of living of the medium-income group in the country with the lowest cost of living by the cost of living of the similar group for the country under consideration. This quotient is to be multiplied by a hundred to obtain a comparable index figure. The cost of living in each case is to be expressed in its dollar equivalent.

(b) Distance to experimental areas (the index number to be used by each of the following items will be derived by techniques similar to those indicated above and only the data required will be indicated here).

Cost of round trip for one man including \$1.00 per hour for estimated time required.

(c) Health and efficiency.

Temperature - 20 degrees Centigrade (mean temperature)
to equal 100. Reduce for proportion above 20 degrees.

Size of sanitation problem in dollars - estimated
original cost plus one year's operation.

(d) Availability of services.

Supplies, food, clothing, personal necessities
Service personnel
Recreation facilities
Medical services - doctors, nurses, hospitals, medical
supplies
Repair shops - garage
welding and forge work
carpentry
radio and electrical equipment

(e) Building costs and utilities

(f) Educational and research services (auxiliary)

- (Laboratories
- (Basic courses
- 1. (Research libraries
- (Statistical services
- (Societies or associations
- 2. (Opportunity for development
- 3. (Access to outside services.

(g) Facilities for housing delegates to congresses and
conferences-- number of hotel rooms available.

5. Local contribution - approximate amount in dollars.
6. Rate of exchange - currency unit
Fluctuations, etc.

FACTORS FOR RATING THE PROPOSED SITES OF THE TROPICAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

1. Suitability from the standpoint of representativeness for biological research on plants and animals of inter-American importance.
 - (a) Range of climate - temperature, altitude, moisture, precipitation, winds, sun.
 - (b) Range of soil types - fertility, physical properties, acidity.
 - (c) Range of soil conditions - topography, cover, drainage.
 - (d) Present agricultural products: commercial, subsistence.

2. Suitability for institutional administration and organization.
 - (a) Availability of auxiliary institutions and services (accessibility, extent to which supplementary and complementary).
 - (1) Basic training
 - (2) Professional experience
 - (3) Materials
 - (b) Healthfulness
 - (1) Cost of sanitation
 - (2) Climate and other factors affecting the efficiency of participants.
 - (c) Earthquakes, volcanoes, tornadoes.
 - (d) Building costs and maintenance costs.
 - (e) (Cost, adequacy, proximity) of utilities, transportation and communication, food, service personnel, hospitals, medical service, nursing service, pharmaceuticals, biological products, repair shops, personal effects, recreation facilities.
 - (f) Taxes: Institutional, imports, income, other personal.

3. Suitability for agricultural and social organization extension activities and requisite investigations.
 - (a) Ecological investigations.
 - (1) Typical communities (human laboratory) -
Economic structure - markets, land use, farm management, government.
Social structure - distribution as to race, rural and urban occupations.
 - (2) Opportunities to conduct agricultural extension and social organization projects.

- (b) Opportunity for national action and regulation and control projects.
4. Suitability for technological research
- (a) Availability of material
 - (b) Adaptation to different kinds of research.

Non-technical items

Certain items of a political or legal nature are of importance to the welfare of a research and educational institution. However, these probably cannot be investigated directly by a technical commission. Some of them would be as follows:

1. Reliability of those requesting or promoting the request for the establishment of the Institute, present standing, long-time personal influence, relative disinterestedness of civic-mindedness.
2. Trend of opinions among government classes and public at large concerning collaboration with the United States and its citizens and with other American States and their citizens. This should include, among other things, attitudes toward racial, religious questions, as well as toward political and social problems.
3. Educational law, social legislation, and other legal features of significance.
4. Political and social stability - including trade-union activities, inter-class conflicts, changing position of the middle classes.
5. Prevailing policy or trend in governmental action toward income taxes, visa fees, customs duties, delays in transit of commodities, exchange restrictions, quotas and other trade restrictions on the movement and activities of non-nationals.

Draft of Graphic Representation of Proposed Sites for Institute of
Tropical Agriculture

Accessibility
Complementary products
Balanced Economy
Cost of living
Distance to Experi-
mental areas
Health & Efficiency
Service and Supplies
Building costs
Educ. & Research
services
Rooms for Delegates
Local Contributions
Human Laboratory
Strategy of Location
Political Stability
Social Stability
Collaboration
Legislation
Tax Structure

Space evenly on horizontal axis.

Use coordinate paper.

Plot all sites on this figure using
distinctive lines for each:

Site No. 1 _____

Site No. 2 - - - - -

Site No. 3 ____ = ____ - - - -

Site No. 4 * * * * *

Data Check Sheet - Institute Site Survey

Site No. _____ Ar. _____ Lv. _____ Hrs. on study _____ Items pending: Nos. _____

Contacts (names, titles, addresses)

1) Boat \$ _____ days _____ ; Air \$ _____ days _____ ; \$ _____ days _____ . Rate freight

2) Crops
3) Potentialities

4) No. workers _____ Subsistence _____ Com. _____ Industry _____

5) Food imports

6) Cost of liv. med. inc. grp. \$ _____ Highest ()% _____ Lowest ()% _____

7) Level of Consump.

8) Races

9) Rural _____ Urban _____ Mobile _____

10) Av. holding _____ Has. _____ No. holdings _____ Owner-operated \$ _____

11)

12) Local contribution

13) Exchange unit \$per\$ _____

14) Freq. fluct.

15) Site Information Climate: mean temp. _____ Max. _____ Min. _____ Altitude _____

16) Soils, topog., irrigation, exploitation cost

17) Dist. to exper. areas

18) Sanitation cost: insect control _____ Water _____ Waste disposal _____ Available investigations _____
Sanitation staff _____

19) Food _____ Clothing _____ Per. necessities _____

Service per. _____

20) Social rec. _____ Church _____ Theaters _____ Sports _____

21) Hospital beds _____ Nurses _____ Doctors _____ Labs. _____ Bio. prods. _____

22) Garages _____ Welding & forge _____ Carpentry _____ Radio & elec. (volt. cycles) _____

23) Bldg. costs _____ Utilities _____

24) Basic courses _____ Statistical services _____ Catalogs recd. (_____

25) Research libraries _____



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations

August 15, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Care of United Fruit Company
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Wilson:

I presume that Mr. Pollan has gotten in touch with you. Yesterday I wired him as follows: "Confirming telephone conversation regarding survey party, our members Allee and Boyd arrive Lagaira, Venezuela by plane August 24 at 1:20 p. m. Desire Popenoe arrive about same time as schedule calls for only three days there. Remaining schedule and reservations by plane to Ecuador, Costa Rica, and El Salvador are made for all three members of party. Total time required for survey is three weeks. Popenoe still Department collaborator. We pay Popenoe's travel and per diem. Will send him necessary papers direct."

In order to expedite matters, I have taken out of the book of Transportation Requests assigned to you two requests, Nos. A737,646 and A737,647 and am forwarding them herewith, as you might need them for your trip from La Lima to Caracas. Mr. Allee will have your book of requests with him for the rest of the trip.

Mr. Allee will have full information in regard to what is desired. I am sure that you will find both Allee and Boyd learned and congenial. I am delighted that the Fruit Company is making you available for this trip and I am sure that it is the beginning of a very important phase of our program of cooperation with Latin America.

With best wishes for a successful and enjoyable trip.

Sincerely,

E. N. Bressman,
Assistant Director

Enclosures

AIR MAIL

"Via Tropical"

Servicio radiográfico al mundo entero, inclusive vapores en alta mar

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EXACTO
SEGURO
A TODAS HORAS

TROPICAL RADIO TELEGRAPH COMPANY



"Via Tropical"

A disposición de Ud. para ponerlo en contacto con
CUALQUIERA PERSONA
DONDE SEA—
A CUALQUIER HORA

Se transmite y entrega el siguiente radiograma "Via Tropical" con sujeción a las condiciones al dorso, las cuales acepta el remitente y obligan de igual manera al destinatario.

WILLIAM E. BEAKES, PRESIDENTE Y GERENTE GENERAL
ROBERT V. HOWLEY, VICE PRESIDENTE Y GERENTE COMERCIAL

NR 11- 33 WASHINGTONDC AUG 20 1941 422 PM

OK 7 45

DOCTOR WILSON POPENGE UNITED FRUIT CO LALIMAHOND

SPECIAL PASSPORTS CAN BE ISSUED ONLY IN WASHINGTON

MAKE APPLICATION NEAREST CONSULATE AND PAY AIRMAIL

STATE DEPARTMENT PASSPORT WILL BE MAILED YOU CARACAS

E N BRESSMAN

AUG 1941



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations

September 17, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Care of the American Legation
San José, Costa Rica

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

I was informed yesterday by Doctor Michael that your
passport is ready and is being forwarded to you, care of
the American Legation in San Salvador.

Very truly yours,

E. N. Bressman

E. N. Bressman
Assistant Director

A. E. Dwyer

AIR 3P
MAIL

COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 21, 1941

Doctor Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Wilson:

Thanks for your kind letter of October 13.

I am sure that the statement in the July issue of "Agriculture in the Americas" is well deserved and that it is but small recognition of the many fine things that you have done for us. Enclosed is a copy of a letter I am today sending to Mr. Pollan, thanking him for the loan of your services for this Institute mission, and I want to take this opportunity to formally thank you for the sacrifice that you must have made to join the mission on such short notice.

Both Allee and Boyd were over here yesterday and discussed some of the details of the work, and were loud in their praises of your important part in making the mission a success.

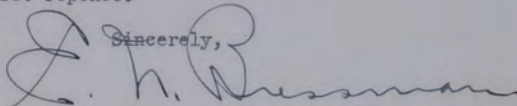
It would be nice to have you here in November for the Educational Committee meetings, but I agree with you that it might be asking a little too much. If you can send up a few suggestions in writing, however, it will be very helpful. We plan to devote one entire session to the Institute.

I am interested in what you say in regard to the young chap from Guatemala that went up to Gainesville on the Burpee scholarship. It would be nice if you would let us have his name and background, so that we could give him a write-up in "Agriculture in the Americas".

I presume that you know that I have moved over to the Office of the Coordinator (Nelson Rockefeller) in order to expedite matters on the Institute. Atherton Lee from Puerto Rico and Robert Nichols from the Virgin Islands are joining our staff right away, and I hope to get some other efficient helpers. Do not be surprised if at some important stage of this Institute program we request some additional help from you.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Popenoe.

Sincerely,



E. N. Bressman,
Director

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

October 21, 1941

Mr. Arthur A. Pollan
United Fruit Company
One Federal Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Pollan:

I want to thank you for once more coming to our aid at a critical time in our Latin American work by letting us have the services of Doctor Wilson Popenoe.

Ralph Allee and George Boyd, the two members of the mission that we sent up to look at sites for a Tropical Agricultural Institute, were in my office yesterday and were loud in their praises of Doctor Popenoe's important part in the mission.

It is a comfortable feeling to know that a man of Doctor Popenoe's caliber is available to us at any time to assist us.

I want to let both you and Doctor Popenoe know how grateful I am and take this opportunity to send my formal thanks.

Sincerely,

E. N. Bressman,
Director

E. N. Bressman:nr

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

October 28, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Wilson:

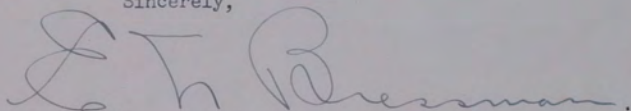
This is to introduce Mr. Dudley T. Easby Jr., Principal Attorney of this Office. Mr. Easby plans to spend a short time in Guatemala and I have urged that he go to Antigua and, if possible, spend a night in the "House at Antigua."

I am sure that you will find Mr. Easby very congenial. Anything that you can do to add to the enjoyment of his stay in Guatemala will be much appreciated.

I am suggesting to him that should you not be in Guatemala (and you hardly ever are) that he get in touch with the people in the tea room in Guatemala City. It is my understanding that they could make arrangements for him to go to Antigua and give him a note to Maria that would insure his welcome.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Popenoe,

Sincerely,



E. N. Bressman
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

October 30, 1941

Doctor Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Wilson:

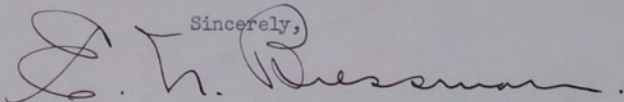
This will introduce Dr. Paul Hanna, Professor of Education of Leland Stanford University, California, who plans to be in Guatemala at Christmas time, and is desirous of spending a night in the "House of Antigua."

Anything that you can do to add to the enjoyment of Dr. Hanna's visit to Guatemala will be much appreciated.

I am suggesting to Dr. Hanna that should you not be in Guatemala when he arrives, that he get in touch with the people at the tea room in Guatemala City, as it is my understanding that they could arrange for him to go to Antigua, giving him a note to Maria to insure his welcome there.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Popenoe.

Sincerely,



E. N. Bressman,
Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL RESOURCES PLANNING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

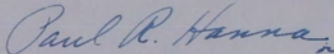
November 10, 1941

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

My wife and my two children, ages 9 and 11, are spending the last two weeks of December in Guatemala with me. Part of that time we will be in Antigua, possibly stopping at the Hotel Manchen. I should like very much the pleasure of meeting you and talking with you.

Sincerely yours,



Paul R. Hanna
Consultant

Antigua, Guatemala, 30 November 1941

Dr Paul R Hanna,
National Resources Planning Board,
Washington D C

Dear Doctor Hanna:

It is a great pleasure to hear that you are bringing your family to Guatemala around Christmas time. I am leaving this week for Honduras but plan to come back here ~~for~~ Christmas. Mrs. Popenoe will be here when you arrive, if I am not; and in any case I hope to have the pleasure of finding you in Antigua on my return. We want to be of service to you here in any way we can.

You speak of staying at the Manchén. I wonder if you know that it is on the Black List? We think you and your family would be comfortable at the Alcazar, which occupies a very interesting old colonial building; or if you would like to get a taste of simple Guatemalan life of the better sort; are not interested in having hot water in your room; and would like to get by as inexpensively as possible, then the Rojas is the place for you. Not knowing your taste, I hesitate to recommend.

I believe you will find Antigua interesting around the holiday season, and I am glad you are prepared to stay long enough to get the feeling of it.

Sincerely yours,

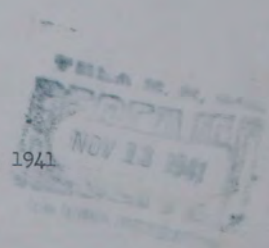
Wilson Popenoe

COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 5, 1941



Dr. Wilson Popenoe
c/o United Fruit Company
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

Mr. Wayne Darrow, Chief of the Information Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, is a high official in the United States Department of Agriculture, who is leaving shortly to visit some of the islands and most of the countries in the Caribbean area for the Department of Agriculture in connection with their program of cooperation in the field of agriculture. He plans to be in Honduras about December 7.

Mr. Darrow has been very helpful to us in arranging for exhibits and information for farm audiences in this country. I have suggested that he get in touch with you when he is in Honduras. I feel sure that any time you might be able to give him will be well spent, and I personally would appreciate any courtesies that you might extend to him.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

E. N. Bressman
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 2, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Poponoe
C/o United Fruit Company
La Lima, Honduras

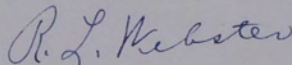
Dear Dr. Poponoe:

At his request we are enclosing a revised itinerary for
Wayne H. Darrow, Director of the Division of Information
of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Mr. Darrow is scheduled to arrive in Tegucigalpa, Honduras,
on December 10 at 2:05 P. M. via Pan American Airlines, and
plans to leave on December 11.

Anything you may do to assist Mr. Darrow in his work for
the United States Department of Agriculture will be deeply
appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



R. L. Webster
Acting Director
Division of Information

Enclosure

ITINERARY FOR MR. WAYNE H. DARROW
Director, Division of Information
Agricultural Adjustment Administration
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

PAN AMERICAN AIRLINES

	<u>1941</u>		
Arrive San Jose, Costa Rica	December	6	11:15am
Lv. San Jose, Costa Rica	"	8	11:30am
Arr. Managua, Nicaragua	"	8	12:45pm
Lv. Managua, Nicaragua	"	10	1:00pm
Arr. Tegucigalpa, Honduras	"	10	2:05pm
Lv. Tegucigalpa, Honduras	"	11	2:20pm
Arr. San Salvador, Salvador	"	11	3:10pm
Lv. San Salvador, Salvador	"	12	3:25pm
Arr. Guatemala City, Guatemala	"	12	4:15pm
Lv. Guatemala City, Guatemala	"	16	8:00am
Arr. Mexico City, Mexico	"	16	12:40pm
Lv. Mexico City, Mexico	"	21	1:20pm
Arr. Brownsville, Texas	"	21	4:30pm

Antigua, Guatemala, 30 Nov 1941

Dr E N Brossman,
Office of the Coordinator of Interamerican Affairs,
Washington.

Dear Earl:

Thanks for yours of 30th October, announcing the visit of Dr. Paul Hanna. I have dropped him a line. If at all possible, I want to see him when he comes. I am going over to Honduras this week - after considerable delay, waiting for final papers to be signed - and will not be coming back here until just in time for Christmas. Helen will stay here, however. I expect to get temporary quarters for us fixed up in Tegucigalpa and take her back there with me immediately after New Year's.

When sending people down here, if you are doubtful about our being in Antigua, just give them a note of introduction to Mr. M.V. Molanphy, Agent, United Fruit Co., Guatemala City. When we are away from home, he tries to see that all interested people visit our house. I will speak to him before I leave here, telling him that anybody with a note from you is to be given special consideration.

Best regards always.

Sincerely yours

Wilson Popenoe

We have bought the tract of 1500 acres 35 kilometers from Tegucigalpa which to my mind is the best site of all those we examined in Honduras. It lies at 2000-2500 feet, in a beautiful valley which has a good climate for agriculture and water for irrigation. The folks in Boston have appropriated a handsome sum for buildings and equipment and have decided to call the school "Escuela Agrícola Panamericana". I had suggested a name with the word "Centroamericana" but they sent notice that we might want to expand some day to include non-Central American countries, which pleases me as it looks as though they expect us to make a big thing of the school. I hope we can do it.

Please keep me informed of progress re the Tropical Institute and let me know if I can be of service at any time.

With warmest regards always,

Sincerely yours

I am finishing up the paper on Cinchona for "Agriculture in the Americas" and will send it up to Laguardia in a week or so.

Antigua, Guatemala, 22 Nov 1941

Dr Earl N Bressman,
Washington D C

Dear Earl:

Many thanks for your letter of October 21st, with copy of one sent to Mr Pollan. You mention the "sacrifice" I made to join the Tropical Institute mission on short notice. Let me tell you it is never a sacrifice to assist you in any way I can, with or without notice. And one thing more: I have never travelled in more pleasant company than that of Messrs Allee and Boyd.

I will get together data requested regarding background of Joaquin Moncrieff, the Burpee scholar at Gainesville, and send up as you suggest. At the moment I do not have full information re his previous education. He was in Cuba for a year or two, some time ago, at the University of Habana I think. Two days ago, when I had finished a brief talk on Cinchona at the National Fair in Guatemala City, Moncrieff's (whom I had never met) came up and told me how deeply he appreciated the opportunity we have given his son. In spite of his name, the old man seemed to be 100% guatemalteco and a very decent sort - as they all are.

Mr Easby showed up one evening not long ago, making a hasty trip through the highlands. We were immensely pleased to see him, as we will be to see Mr Wayne Darrow when he arrives. I shall almost certainly be in Tegucigalpa at that time, but if he passes through Guatemala I hope he will call at the house in Antigua as Helen will be here and will take pleasure in doing anything she can for him. I am sitting on the edge of my chair, waiting for the final papers to be signed in Tegucigalpa covering the purchase of land for our school. I think I shall be going over there this week.