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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Antigua Guatemala, 30 Sept 1957

Dear José:

Many thanks for your very interesting letter of the 16th. It was good to have so much news of the school. We have to remember that it is new, and that you have neither sufficient teaching personnel nor adequate equipment with which to do all the prácticas. I will remember the troubles we had at Zamorano during the first year or two, especially the lack of sufficient teachers!

I would very much like to see some more Zamoranos on the teaching staff at San Andrés, especially as many salvadoreños as possible, for I realize that in general it is better to have nationals than forasteros; but for some time to come it will probably be impossible to staff the school entirely with competent nationals. I have just had another letter from Simon Malo, who as you know is with STAN in Managua, and is not very happy there because he can not get sufficient support for his work. If he should decide that he has to leave there, I very much hope he might be considered for San Andrés. We know him pretty well, and I believe he is capable.

I think it will be fine if the Universidad de El Salvador arranges to accept all of the San Andrés graduates who are bachilleres and give them two years University credits, as Florida has done and is doing; but as you know, Florida will only do this in those cases where the student has had at least a B average at Zamorano and is strongly recommended by the Director of the school. Bert Muller writes me that they are having many more applications for the College of Sericulture than they can accept, and it seems probable that they will have to make more rigid selection in the future, especially as regards those students who are given, or who expect to get after a semester or two, credit for two years University Work and graduate in two years at Gainesville. He says quite a few of the Zamorano graduates who did not come with our recommendation and our becas have not done very well scholastically, and the problem seems to become more difficult every year.

It seems quite probable that Mrs Popenoe and I will run over to Salvador in the little Volkswagen toward the end of October to see how the fruit program is coming along, and if we do, we will of course be seeing you and the school. The FAO is asking me to do a few small jobs for them, so I don't know when we shall be able to go over to Spain as we plan to do. It is hard for me to leave work here which I think may be useful!

Best regards always, and looking forward to seeing you,

Sincerely,

Calvo

San Andrés September 22, 1958.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Almuñecar, España.

Dear Doctor:

I received your letter some days ago, just before leaving on a trip around the country giving the tests for admission. We stayed 15 days giving those tests in each one of the heads of department; that is 15 days for the whole country. There were about 700 applicants. They were given only the General Ability test and then, those who qualify will come to the school for the rest of the exams and a personal interview. From those who come, the school will select 60 boys who will start next April.

Things at the school are somewhat mixed up right now because of various reasons: 1) Dr. Ortiz is in Switzerland in the "Atoms for Peace" conference, after that he will go to Holland where he will represent El Salvador at a conference on "Fuerza Endógena". Dr. Ortiz was denied permission by the Ministry (or by Mr Pacheco) to go to Europe. But his permission was denied just three days before leaving and he could manage to leave anyway.

2) Mr. Plá was absent during 15 days giving those tests with me. I told you before that Plá was the director, but now I have realized that he is the director only when Dr. Ortiz is here.

3) Mr. Olmedo was left as acting director and he took advantage to put in practice all his ideas, which are antagonistic to those of Mr. Plá.

I forgot to tell you that the last 22 days were the recess between the first and second semesters and that I hope normality will return soon after satisfaction is given for the changes and Mr. Plá's ideas come again to rule. This will happen not because they are better but because he has the strength and stubbornness to put them through. After all I am almost convinced that the best ideas are the ones whose owner can put to work; at least we will have some order to follow. I don't know if I make myself clear.

Mr. Pacheco was present at one "concejo de profesores" the other day. We never have concejos, but he said he wanted to see one, so we had one just for him to see it. The discussion about the curriculum (it might have been any other thing) went very satisfactorily in my opinion. It showed me that Mr. Pacheco sticks to his ideas. I also noticed that Mr. Pacheco did not show much consideration to Mr. Olmedo (Dr. Ortiz said not a single word).

Some days ago Mr. Olmedo took the school budget to the consideration of the Minister (Mr. Pacheco is really the man) and he was very disappointed (Mr. Olmedo) when he came back, he says that he had to defend the budget as if the school were his property, fighting every issue. The idea is that they don't have much regard for the school at the Ministry. The budget was cut one third, including the amount destined for houses. That worries us since we might need them; you know.

then again, I don't know. I suspect nobody really knows.

I should mention that Mr. Pacheco ordered the construction of a \$30,000 colones panela plant out of our budget in the Agronomy Department. That money was needed for some more important things, but he has given his protection to a project prepared by the ICATIL, and so he ordered its construction here.

I have seen the project already; they gave it to me and asked me an inform on it. I said the truth about the project as I see it. It's only a big old trapiche, only more expensive. The kind of panela it gives is inferior to any one you find in the market at San José or any other town in Costa Rica. The kind of research they did was not research properly but a recognition to the old methods used. The building is rather fancy, and the quality is not better. This plant should mill 20 manzanas of sugar cane milling daily during 5 months. It costs much more than the 20 manzanas, but that is not the case, the case is that we only have 3 manzanas of sugarcane!

Mr. Olmedo has told me that whenever Mr. Pacheco wants to discuss something related to the school, he produces your inform and bases his argument on it. I don't know if you said something about certain facilities like trailers, tractors, storage, housing etc. which are rather scarce. It would be very convenient if you studied something about this in your next visit to El Salvador and if you could make some recommendations to the Ministry.

I also think that we should have more relationship with the other vocational schools of Agriculture in Central America. I dare say that since Zamorano is the leader on Ag. Education, they should start alternating with us. I know they probably don't want to be misunderstood, but there must be some way of helping us without giving the idea of interference.

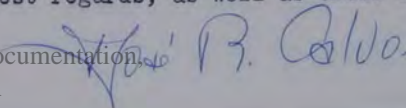
We are now receiving monthly letters from Zamorano, it seems to me they are now sending them to the graduados. Today I got another in which they ask to get boys and show them the schedule for admission tests. They have to be bachilleres now, or graduates from a normal school.

I really appreciate your interest in trying to get me another chance to continue my studies. I do hope it will be possible. While I wait for you in order to talk about this, I will be writing to those professors of Zamorano who know me and can recommend me for this purpose.

After Dr. Ortiz comes back and things come again to normality I will write again informing you how it goes. Right now we do not know what the policy will be in the near future since there are some rumors that they will change the Director. I would not pay attention to those rumors if I did not know how they feel about Dr. Ortiz at the Ministry, but right now they have to be taken in consideration.

Well Doctor, I hope I'll hear something from you when possible. I hope we will see you around here at the end of the year and I send you and Mrs. Popenoe my best regards, as well as those of Chele Granada and Juan Leiva.

Sincerely,



Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
13 October 1958

Dear José:

Many thanks for your long and interesting letter of 22 September.

You ask if I made definite recommendations regarding facilities which the school needs. I did, and I am afraid they were so numerous that it will take a long time to carry them out. I recommended a number of things for horticulture - a bodega, a plant house like we have at Zamorano, and a lot of equipment. For agronomy I did not go into so many details because I did not know just what implements were needed but I did recommend sheds for housing implements and a number of other things. I suggested a trapiche very much like the one we now have at Zamorano, which has been rebuilt since you were there, I believe, and which I consider just about ideal for our needs - and I think we have about the same amount of cane that you have. Probably I shall have an opportunity to go over the situation with the jefes when I come over to El Salvador again, which I hope will be early in 1958, for as things now stand, I believe I can finish the work here in time for us to get home by Christmas. Next week we are going over to Barcelona where I am to discuss with Salvat Editores, the best publishing house in Spain so far as scientific works are concerned, the preparation of a Manual Practico de Fruticultura Tropical. If I undertake to do the job it is going to mean a lot of work, but I feel that it would be very useful throughout tropical America, where we do not have anything very complete in Spanish.

My chief reason for writing at this time is to mention again the possibility of your going to Florida next year to work for an M.Sc. And I say Florida for two reasons: First, you have done your undergraduate work there, and it is usually favorable for a man to continue as a post grad where he has done his undergraduate work. And second, Florida is situated geographically so that the work is more adapted to tropical conditions than that of institutions farther north - though in certain branches one has to go to schools which specialise in those branches. For example, if I wanted to specialise in irrigation agriculture I would probably go to California, and if I wanted dairying I would probably go to Wisconsin as Memo Herrera has done.

If we can get you a Rockefeller Fellowship you would of course be free to choose the school you wanted to attend, but there is another factor in favor of Florida - living costs are probably lower there than in the north, partly because of the milder climate and the need of fewer heavy clothes. (I sent Hugh a necktie, and he has just written that he is afraid he wont need it, as he hasnt worn a necktie this year). You have done right in consulting some of your old professors at Zamorano, asking them to back you up. This is always the right thing to do, and you wont have any trouble from that angle.

Always sincerely yours,

Antigua, Guatemala, 4 marzo 1959

Ing. José R. Calvo,
Escuela Nal. de Agricultura,
Ciudad Arce, El Salvador.

Dear José:

We returned from California a week ago, and I am wondering if plans for your beca are coming along alright. After I wrote you about it last time, I had a letter from Dr McKelvey, saying that he would give you consideration this year.

I have a letter from Juan Leiva, dated 19 enero, at which time he still thought I was coming over to take charge of the school. By now all of you know that this was a mistake. Mr Mortensen of the Servicio Tecnico was over here last week and we had a long talk about horticultural work in El Salvador. He told me Daniel Amado Castillo got a beca from the government and went back to the States. Please tell Juan Leiva I am so busy I havent time to write another letter at present; I am still hoping to get over to El Salvador for a few days, but I dont know just when it will be; I am now being urged to go down to Venezuela for two weeks to help start a fruit improvement program.

Tell me if there is anything more I can do about your beca. I think Dr McKelvey must be coming down to tropical America before long to interview the aspirantes, but I have no definite word about this.

Best regards to all of you, including doña Margoth when you are in San Salvador again; I hope you and Rhina were able to get good living quarters at San Andres.

Always sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

Antigua Guatemala, 14 July 1959

Ing. José R Calvo
Escuela Nacional de Agricultura
Ciudad Arce, El Salvador.

Dear José:

On returning yesterday from Mexico, where I gave some lectures and demonstrations in connection with the III Curso Internacional de Horticultura, I found a copy of the letter Dr Paddock wrote you on 27 June, saying that EAP would not be able to assist you with a scholarship for post-graduate work at Gainesville. He suggest that you apply for a loan from EAP.

If you have not already applied for such a loan, it is probably now too late to make plans for entering Gainesville this coming September. In that case, I would strongly recommend that we begin very soon to interest the Rockefeller Foundation in giving you one for next year. Dr McKelvey has the matter in mind, and recently I talked with Dr Richardson in Mexico. He is now head of the agricultural program of the Foundation in that country. He told me the demand for scholarships is so great, you have to make application well in advance if you hope to get one. I know he will support your application - or rather, the continuance of your interest.

Let me know what you want to do and I will help all I can. I am disappointed that we did not get the scholarship this year. I may be over in Salvador within the next few months - I hope so; but I have been travelling so much I must stay at home for a while and work. Best regards to Rhina and yourself, and to Doña Margoth when you see her.

Sincerely,

Wilson Perence

June 27, 1959

Mr. Jose R. Calvo
Escuela Nacional de Agricultura
San Andres, El Salvador.

Dear Mr. Calvo:

Thanks for your letter of June 9th and the very complete information on your past history.

We have recently been making a general study of our scholarship program for advanced work and the following are points which you should know.

First, we do not plan in the future to use any EAP money for scholarships for the obtaining of advanced degrees. (i.e., Masters or Ph.D.). The reason for this is that the Rockefeller Foundation as well as other organizations, are doing a rather complete job of such support.

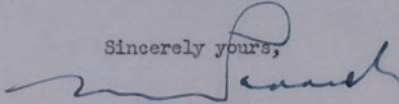
Thus, EAP scholarships will go only to support undergraduate study after graduation from the EAP.

Second, we hope to have some EAP money available on a loan basis. This will be loaned at 3% interest per year payable within three years after obtaining the degree for which the loan was made. The maximum amount that would be loaned would be \$1900.00. You would be eligible to apply for such a loan.

Third, to apply for a loan, a student must submit a letter of recommendation from his major professor, or advisor, recommending that the loan be made. In the case of our students who have been to Florida, we ask that Professor Muller make this recommendation.

You must realize that we have an increasing number of requests for scholarship money but that we are trying to distribute this as fairly as possible.

Sincerely yours,



Wm. C. Paddock
Director

cc: Dr. Wilson Popence
Professor A. S. Muller
Mr. G. E. Plá

San Andrés July 31, 1959.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.

Dear Doctor:

I received your letter two weeks ago. We were wondering whether you were in Costa Rica or Honduras, and we were speculating too have you here soon. Mario Jalil wrote Leiva from Turrialba and mentioned that he had been there with you.

I think Leiva wrote you a week ago, and he informed you about the new Director. I intend to write you later to give you an account of the school as it is now. Here I will give you only some details about the Director: He is Ing. Ricardo Cabezas, he studied two years "Ingenieria Civil" in San Salvador, then he was sent to study "riego y drenajes" in the States. After that he worked with the Engineering Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and was later appointed "Director de Agricultura" when Don Nicolás Mora was the Minister. He left the job in the Ministry and went as manager of the society Quiñonez-Meza Ayau; a big farm in Santa Ana. When Don Roberto died he left that job and was appointed Director of this school after he refused to accept the "Dirección de Ganaderia".

They say Ing. Cabezas has a good record. The school has improved since he came. Everything looks cleaner and orderly; specially the Administrative Department. There seems to be more enthusiasm in general.

I would't dare say anything about discipline yet. He says he goes for it, and the inspectors say it is better. But you know how bad it was; the indiscipline became a habit, and it requires a great deal a force to change it. We have been working on a "reglamento"; it was written by Granada, Leiva and myself, together with the inspectors. We hope this "reglamento" will be a guide, if there is really the wish to impose discipline. As I told you, I'll write a complete inform about the whole situation, as soon as I can.

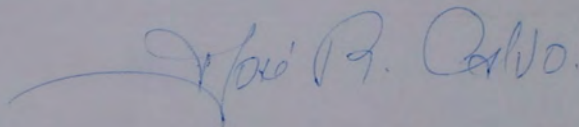
I did not apply for one of the loans they offer in El Zamorano; I thought I should wait and see what ever became of that Point IV. scholarship. Mr. Plá came and told me that it had been approved, precisely the day you wrote me. I went to ask Mr. Olmedo, but he told me the situation was the same as before; only the Point IV.'s approval, not that of the Government. I told Mr. Plá what Mr. Olmedo told me. Mr. Plá went to the Director to accuse Mr. Olmedo of undermining our morale. Mr. Plá himself told me that, and also that the Director would go yesterday to get the last word from the Minister. This morning he came and asked me if Mr. Olmedo had given me the information, I asked what information; he said the Director had ordered Mr. Olmedo to tell me what I had to do before leaving the school next September. I asked him if the approval had been given, he said it was being worked out!

As you see, that scholarship affair is all very funny, and very uncertain. Two months ago Mr. de Baca sent word that everything on me was ready. Then the trouble was that they would not pay my transportation. I said I would pay it, but the Point IV. would not accept that because the contract was that the Government has to pay for it. Then Mr. Plá got the Point IV.'s approval that I paid my transportation, but it turned out that the Government had not even approved to pay its 50%. Two weeks ago Mr. Plá came with the news that it had been approved, and that the Point IV had accepted my paying the transportation. You know now that the approval has not been given yet. Mr. Plá is very sure of the fact that they will approve, and he holds that they will get my scholarship for a year.

I am sorry I am not able to tell you anything conclusive regarding this matter, but there is only one month more to know the final result.

I appreciate your suggestions to apply again for one of the Rockefeller Foundation scholarship early, only that I would like to wait a little more to see what happens here. What do you think about this?

Best regards from Rhina and myself.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "José P. Calvo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

P.S. I'm going to Costa Rica with Jordán; we will go by car and for a week.

Box 2174, Union Station

Gainesville, November 11, 1959.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.

Dear Doctor:

I got your letter of October 12, but somehow I did not find or was not able to look for an opportunity to answer. Things are much more different here than they were at San Andrés, and between so many different activities one tends to neglect the nice pleasure of knowing about friends and making them know about one.

Fifteen days ago, our professor of statistics announced that in a week we would have our first examination. For a week I only studied statistics, and when he postponed the exam one more week, I kept on studying, because it is a difficult matter. I always thought I should take some courses in statistics, because for a long time I was under the impression that people in experimental stations arrive to conclusions which are based on more assumptions. This idea came from an incomplete knowledge of the subjects, and I had to come through this experience to realize that their assumptions are based on a better foundation. I intend to take one more course in statistics.

As you know, Doctor, my desire was to go on with agronomy since I could not graduate in Ag. economics, but Mr. Flá recommended me for vocational education, because that is what he wanted me to study. I am very glad I could manage to change the major from education to general agriculture, and I wrote my program officer in Washington asking her permission to change to agronomy two courses that I have scheduled in vocational education, so that my major can become agronomy and I can take two good courses. The teachers in vocational education are wonderful persons; so much so, that they do not even give exams in their courses, and so far, we have been wasting our time in those courses. After coming in contact with the ideas on education shared by Mr. Fox and Mr. Flá, I came out with the sense that most of it was rather social activities. I disliked their preachings on American agricultural vocational education, and their criticisms of the system which we wanted and which Zamorano brought into existence. I still thought that the real American way might be better, but today, I am absolutely convinced that that is not what we want. In fact, I feel ashamed when people know that I am in vocational education, because that is the easiest department in the whole University, and to it go the less gifted students, or the ones who do not want to make any effort. I think the American system is good for America; this is a rich country, and they can afford these vocational departments in their high schools, where the boys can take agriculture as one more subject, as we take "trabajos manuales" in some of ours. But from that to what we want, there is quite a distance. The American industrial vocational schools, on the other hand, is something which we could copy with advantage, but not vocational agriculture, unless it were as one more subject in high schools, but that is out of the question, considering the expense.

Some times I wonder if I should write these things to you, since you could think that I have it well deserved for not having waited for the scholarship you were working for me. But I already took

this Panza choice, and the best thing I can do now is to comment impartially about the real situation of vocational agriculture, instead of being gained to the said of those who misunderstand it. I suppose this is again a Panza consolation; but it is very hard to be a Quijote these times, although it might have always been this hard.

They have also invited me to become a member of their honorary fraternity Alfa Tau Alfa, and I am going to accept their offer, because it flatters me and I appreciate their invitation. I hope I can have a chance to discuss more frankly my opinions on vocational education and may be -- satisfy myself if a better knowledge of their work and philosophy shows me that they do serious work.

In 1956 two boys of the Alfa Zeta fraternity went to my room to ask me if I wanted to be a member of their fraternity, they told me they had to gather some information about me, which they would discuss before being able to invite me. They left and I never received the invitation. Somehow they decided I was not desirable, and since I had always wanted to belong to that fraternity, I think I should not have given frank answers to all their questions, specially one about my social activities which have always been very limited due to my own inclination, though I have changed a lot in the last years.

I did not know you had to pay your expenses to come here to the conferences of the Florida Crop and Soil Science Society. It's a pity Mamita Yunai does no longer pay. I have heard that they have lost much in the last times, with the problems in Guatemala and Honduras and the troubles with IRCA and the U.S. Government. I have many times criticized United Fruit policies, but I have always recognized how much the central american republics owe United Fruit, and how much more we should have to criticize our own governments for our misfortunes. I sure won't like to see them ruined. I realize the great importance the Company has in our countries, but I also have a romantic interest to see it living. I have grown under the influence of Mamita Yunai. When I was a child of four or five years my father rised and sold bananas to the Company, I remember him coming back late in the night with the bunches which they had "botado". But I remember too the hard times after the Company abandoned its plantations in the Atlantic, when my father had to abandone his farm and get a job as a mason. When I got my bachillerato I ended in Batan and later in Manila. I first worked cutting abaca stems under the rains and living with a bunch peasants, then as "cadenero" surveying the forests and later as assistant time-keeper. When I finally got a job in Cartago, I thought my relations with United Fruit had ended, but you know the rest. I went to Zamorano and from there on I begun to feel less fear and more appreciation towards the Company. I always get sentimental when I remember those times. I apologize for writing about this.

I hope your plans for the next photograph come true. There is no reason why you should not expect to do it, since it is possible.

Rhina and I send our best regards to you and Mrs Popenoe.

José R. Calvo.

San Andrés January 8, 1959.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala
Guatemala

Dear Doctor:

I had your letter some three days ago, and I was glad to hear from you after all this time; as you say. First of all I want to thank you and Mrs. Popenoe for your good wishes towards Rhina and me.

I also want to thank you for your interest in me and for the steps you have already taken to get me the scholarship from The Rockefeller Foundation. I am very interested in going to study for my Master's and I sure appreciate your help and your advise in relation to this matter.

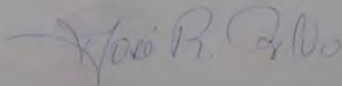
Regarding your letter to Dr. John McKelvey, I have to tell you that I have not written him yet, since I did not know to whom I would have to apply, but I'll write him soon and I'll make my application. I am glad I can see now something more concrete in relation to the scholarship, and I hope I can know more about it when you write me again and when Dr. McKelvey answers me, so that I may know what to do.

I want to inform you that Mr. Plá made a proposition to get me a scholarship with the Point Fourth to study Vocational Agriculture Education during six months in the U. S. I did not know about it, but he had been preparing the papers and he wants me to go to the Point Fourth offices in San Salvador in order to fill some applications. I have told him that I hope I can get a scholarship which will allow me to get a Master's degree and that it is not convenient for me to prefer one which will not give me the chance to study something seriously. He wants me to apply anyway and I do not want to hurt them, but I warned him about my plane. I would like to have your advise on this matter.

Diario Latino published the news about your coming to direct this school. A week later (that is before yesterday) Dr. Ortiz asked Mr. Pacheco about the news and was told that there was to be a change. That is all I know, but everybody is sure that you will come as Director of the school here. The reaction to the news was divided; someones thought it was a fine thing, between them Leiva, Granada, Leonel Ortiz, and some others who do not work at the school. Some others thought it was not fair to the able men of this country, and still some others thought you would change the programs on which they had been working a long time. Mr. Plá was an example for the last, but yesterday he told me it was all right for the sake of discipline, (which is now as bad as ever). Personally, I think they will resent it if you came, but they would finally realize that it is better, even thou their "liberty" might be somewhat curtailed.

Well Doctor, I hope you can receive this letter before you leave for the States. I also hope I can hear something from you soon. Please give our best regards to Mrs. Popenoe.

Sincerely,



Antigua, Guatemala, 16 Jan 1959

Ing. don José R Galvo
Escuela Nacional de Agricultura
El Salvador.

Dear José:

I hasten to reply to your interesting letter of the 8th. I need to reply promptly anyway, as a week from tomorrow Mrs Popence and I leave for Mexico City, where we will spend a few days, then for California. We have to be back here before the 25th of February as our airplane tickets are good for only 30 days.

Dr McKelvey acknowledged my letter of January 1, and said that he will be glad to interview you on his next trip to Central America. I believe he makes a trip early in the year, to various countries where the Rockefeller Foundations has candidates for fellowships. One of the things they always want to know - I remember it came up in connection with Mario Jalil's fellowship - is whether or not the candidate has a sufficient knowledge of English. Since you are a graduate of Florida there could hardly be any doubt about this, in your case. Another thing is this: they want to discuss your program and plans for the future. Here again you are in a good situation.

This is what I think you should do immediately if you have not already done it: write Dr John N. McKelvey Jr., The Rockefeller Foundation, 49 West 49th St, New York 30, USA. Tell him that he has already received a letter from me, recommending that you be given consideration in connection with scholarships for this year. If you have your record from Florida, send it to him; and ask Pelen to send you a transcript of your record from Zamorano if you do not have one, and send him that also. Tell him what you plan to do: that you are presently teaching agronomy at San Andrés, that you would like to work toward an M.Sc. with the idea of continuing in teaching work (or if you plan to specialise in some other or more limited field, tell him so very frankly). You will like Dr McKelvey; I knew him when he was with the Rockefeller group in Mexico and have since seen him in New York - just about a year ago. I feel confident we can get you the scholarship you desire.

Jaime Chacón sent me a copy of the article published by Diario Latino on 29 December. I don't know where they got their information, but there is nothing to it. I have contracted to prepare a Manual Práctico de Fruticultura Tropical for Salvat Editores of Barcelona, Spain, and it will take me at least all of this year to finish it. I plan to come over to Salvador some time this spring and will visit the school of course, and Santa Tecla, because I want to see how the work is coming along and have a good talk with all of you. Especially yourself and that nice Rhina. You lucky boy!

Sincerely,

I am not quite sure of the address of the school so am sending a copy of this letter to 21

Doble Via

San Andrés March 6, 1959.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.

Dear Doctor:

I have been wishing to write you, but didn't do it because I did not know your address in the United States. Anyway, I am sending this letter to Guatemala so that you may see it when you come back. Or maybe they will send it to you in the States.

I wrote Dr. McKelvey about the scholarship. I told him what I wanted as clearly as I could, and I sent him my transcripts from Zamorano and the University of Florida. His secretary answered, telling me that Dr. McKelvey was abroad and that he will see my letter when he returns to the U.S. by the end of March.

I also wrote Professor Muller and told him that I would like to take a major in agricultural economics and a minor in Ag. education; or a major in agronomy, if I can not go into the Department of Agricultural Economics. He answered and advised me to ask the forms for an application to the Graduate School. He says the Rockefeller Foundation can not consider my application without the certificate of admission from the University. He also advised me to write Dr. Greenman and Dr. Senn of the Ag. Economics and Agronomy departments respectively.

I already wrote to the Registrar, to Dr. Greenman and to Dr. Senn; now I have to wait.

The school here has not changed much. With the new system of evaluation, nobody can leave the school because of

failing grades, and nobody does. The students know that, and as a consequence, the grades are mediocre without any exception. Sometime ago the teachers used to defend the failing grades they had given, but now the Direction handles the student records alone, and we ignore what ever happens to them. On the other side, the system of evaluation is so complicated, that nobody dares to revise that mountain of additions, subtractions, divisions and multiplications necessary to obtain the final grade. At the end of each semester, two secretaries, armed with calculating machines, spend two weeks analysing the monumental amount of data.

Discipline works as anarchic and unpredictable as always. The same fault deserves different punishment at different times and with different students, so that the boys always willing to take the chances.

Three weeks ago we had great commotions here. An entire section refused to take an examination arguing that it had questions from the former semester. The professor reported the action and gave the names of the first two boys to leave the room. Dr. Ortiz and Mr. Olmedo got together and decided to expell the two boys. The father of one of the boys is a prominent banker in San Salvador and a friend to Don Nicolás Mora Castro. The boy assured the banker that he was not the first to leave the room. The banker and Don Nicolás came to talk to Dr. Ortiz, who told them he could do nothing, except if the professor wrote a memorandum telling that he did not recognize or could not recognize any leaders. The professor, of course, refused to do that. The banker threatened to sue him for calumny; the teacher still refused to write the memorandum.

The Direction called a Concejo de Profesores to see if they authorized the revision of the case. The Concejo, after a three hours oral fight, and after being given the promess that from now on the Direction would take no action without consulting it, voted unanimously that the case should not be revised.

The banker sued and Dr. Ortiz called each one of us apart before calling the Concejo again; we told him it was no use. Then Mr. Olmedo decided to ignore the Concejo and made one of his customary investigations; he prepared a questionnaire for the students, they declared that there were no leaders, and that they were ready to act as witnesses to defend the boy against the charge of leader. As a consequence, the Direction concluded that the questionnaire gave evidence of the innocence of the boys and both were admitted again, with apologies to their parents. The Direction considered enough punishment to give the boys the grade of the questions they had answered when they left the room.

The irrigation system, which the Ministry of Public Works has constructed for the school, is working very unsatisfactorily. We planted 3 manzanas of sugar cane which need water badly. Of the total 8 manzanas of field beans planned for this summer, only 3 could be seeded because there was not enough water; and even those 3 manzanas will be lost because the pump is out of order. The orchard is suffering much, and they have to irrigate with hoses.

Not everything is bad: Leiva is working very well this year; they have moved the orchard to flat land where the poultry used to be. Leonel Ortiz is working hard with the poultry and the

egg production has gone up to 70%. Our corn and rice harvests were not bad. We had 1250 quintales of corn from 34 manzanas, and 200 quintales of rice from 10 manzanas. (This was not irrigated rice). This production is not bad considering that it rained up to December (which spoiled the bean harvest) and considering what the people robs. I am finishing the writing of a practical course including 12 field crops, which will serve as a text book for the school. Leiva is also writing something as a text book for his course; he teaches Horticulture.

We are going to Zamorano for commencement in order to receive the tittles which will be given to all graduates with more than three years of practice in agriculture.

Rhina and I send you and Mrs. Popenoe our best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Jose P. Gallo

P.S. Your March 4 letter came right now, but I am sending this letter anyway since there is nothing to change, except telling you again that Mr. Plá wanted me to go to the States for one semester with a Point IV beca, and that except for filling the application forms which he brought here, I left the affair quiet since he left for Porto Rico on vacations. We all know now that your appointment as director of this school was not true. I'll write again very soon, but I don't want to delay this letter anymore. Thanks for your letter and best regards to Mrs. Popenoe and you.

Jose P.

San Andrés April 13, 1959.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.

Dear Doctor:

I sent you a long letter before going to El Zamorano and I promised I would write you again since I got your letter on the same date I sent mine. Here I am writing again and including the letter Dr. McKelvey sent me the 8th of April.

We went to El Zamorano in a bus hired by the Asociación Agronómica Salvadoreña. The graduation was as simple and good as it has always been. It was held outside Zemurray Hall and under the trees of the lane which leads to the hall. In all respects it was very similar to the graduations which I had seen before in El Zamorano; except that now there was some extra expectance for the tittle. There also were the Agronomic Associations of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, plus some graduates from Nicaragua and Costa Rica who went to receive the tittle of "Agrónomo".

The speeches were given by Mr. Quiros, who was the Minister of Agriculture under the second Figueres Administration; Dr. Paddock, who also acted as chairman, the same as you used to do; Mrs. Stone, who was referred as the "madrina" of the School; Mr. García, Guatemalan ambassador to Honduras, who gave Dr. Paddock the banner of ODECA sent by Mr. Trabanino; and a Cuban boy in the name of Class 59.

Mr. Osegueda, ambassador of El Salvador in Honduras, gave prizes "Presidente Lemus" and "Embajador Osegueda" to the best and second best boys of Class 59 respectively. Mr. Morcillo read the list of old graduates who would receive the tittle. Then Pachuco Zepeda, President of the Honduran Agronomic Association,

Valencia and David Arrazate were the most punished due to the fact that they are Protestants. For a while, I did not think much of anyone of them, but now, I realize that their ability as workers has perhaps nothing to do with their morals under certain circumstances. I also believe that this is a local situation, due perhaps to a lack of education, but I intend to retire from the Association.

In Tegucigalpa, I stayed at Mrs. Leiva's house and they were very nice to me. The city is dead at night; there were some persons at the Jardín de Italia, who left hurriedly after the explosion of two bombs that first night. Next night, I spent the evening talking with Roberto Villeda and Camilo Paguaga. Villeda has great enthusiasm as Director de Agricultura, and he has some plans which I only hope he can be permitted to accomplish. He intends to organize the experimental estations and to take advantage of the Point IV money and aid which they are almost wasting now. He is going to send Camilo Paguaga to study research methods in Florida, with the purpose of placing him as a worth counterpart with the ICA technicians.

Here in San Andrés, things are very normal now; I mean to say that there are no reorganizations or things like that which interfere so much with the work. Mr. Jordán, who has done a very good job in Horticulture with Leiva, is going to retire. You probably know that Dr. Birdsall is being transfered to Ethiopy.

As you may see from Dr. McKelvey's letter, there is no chance that I may go th study this year. In consequence, I want to remind you ~~that~~ of the Point IV scholarship to study vocational education for one semester, about which I wrote you sometime ago. I told Mr. Plá that I could not accept it because I was waiting for that Rockefeller scholarship, but now that he comes back from vacation he is going to insist and I am tempted to accept it. The trouble

gave a good speech and mentions of acknowledgement to Dr. Paddock, Mrs. Stone, The Honduran Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Morcillo who were present, and one to you which was "muy aplaudida". René Hum, President of the Guatemalan Agronomic Association, gave a speech which was not bad, and a bronze to the Alma Mater where they left a word out. (I saw it later). Jaime Chacón, President of the Salvadorean Agronomic Association, gave a speech and another bronze to the Alma Mater.

After the graduation, there was a dinner, served in the yard of the Director's house. It was very good and they had issued menus and invitations. Everyone entered the yard for dinner, after shaking hands with Dr. Paddock, Mrs. Paddock, Mrs. Stone and some other ladies and gentlemen whom I do not know. It was good to see some of my old friends there, as Roberto Villeda, Roberto García, Camilo Paguaga and others.

There was a dance after the dinner, only we did not dance because Professor Morcillo handled the tittles during that time. I had a long talk with Don Julio Pineda and Professor Morcillo, and then we left for Tegucigalpa at about 5 p.m. Next day we left Tegucigalpa at noon and reached San Salvador at 10 p.m. after the most violent trip I have ever had.

I am sorry to tell you that the trip was very disagreeable. There was no authority in the bus, and the directors of the Association, as well as the moderators appointed for the occasion, were the first ones to give the example of immoderation. The trip to Tegucigalpa was bad enough, but the way back was the utmost, due to Ron Carías and whisky. When I reached San Salvador my dress was a paste of squeezed tomatoes and oranges, talc powder and other substances, and my eyes were tearfull due to hits of seeds. Darío Bram

is that I do not like the idea of studying vocational education as I do like to study agricultural economics or agronomy, but they say education offers a good future too, even though I am not so sure of that. Another problem is that I see now the need to have a M.S. degree, and this scholarship is going to be for only one semester; but may be I could get an extension. And still another problem is that if I leave in September, I won't be here at the end of this year when they might come from the Rockefeller Foundation as Dr. McKelvey says. Anyway, I would like to have your advise on this matter before going to the Point IV offices with the rest of the papers.

Well Doctor, it is a fact that I can not write a short letter to a friend; I only hope all the things I write may be of interest to you.

Rhina and I send our best regards to Mrs. Popenoe and to you.

Sincerely yours,

Gov. R. Calvo.

P.S. I would appreciate if you sent me back Dr. McKelvey's letter, the case is that I file almost all the letters I receive, and I would like to have that one.

Antigua, 20 April 1959

Dear José:

Very many thanks for your letter of the 13th, with which you sent the one from Dr McKelvey. (I return it herewith). I have written to him as per enclosed copy. I cant quite understand the situation. It may be that they have so many applications awaiting attention (from last year) that they dont think they can consider any more this year; or it may be they are curting down on the number of scholarships granted, to use the money on other branches of the agricultural program. We will see what Dr McKelvey tells me in reply to my letter. I very much want to see you get the M.Sc. degree. Looking back over the past 20 years, I can see how important it is becoming to have a good academic degree here in tropical America. I am not entirely in agreement with all this, but I am the "still small voice crying in the wilderness" as I believe it was said of San Juan Bautista or somebody else just as worthy, and I think you Zamoranos who have the ability to go ahead, far ahead, in your work, will be handicapped 10 or 15 years from now if you dont have degrees of M.Sc. or better. The time will come when you will have to have doctorados. I dont like this too well, either, but that is the trend of the times, and we cant stop it. That is why I am going to do all I can to help the Zamoranos who were there in my time - and those who come later, if I know them well enough - to go ahead and get good professional degrees. My boy Hugh told me last year in Gainesville, "I know, Dad, that you think a man should stand on his merits, his work and his inherent ability, but you dont realise that the time has come when a doctorado is just like having a Union card; you have to belong to the Honorable Sindicato de Matadores de Chinchas or something of that sort. (Now dont you quote that to any of your jefes who are doctores!). But ~~like~~ Ramón, when I look back and reflect upon those good Zamoranos who are now working in many countries and doing a good job, I feel that after all our idea was not too bad: look for intelligent, hard working boys who would stay in agriculture, and give them a chance. And it is a source of pride to me that more than 98% of our graduates are in agriculture. No school in the Uⁿited States or elsewhere can boast of such a record. The agricultural colleges in the US are proud, very proud, if 75% of their graduates stay in agriculture.

Now as to your letter. I am very glad you boys went over to the graduation at Zamorano, and got your títulos. Doris and I worked for more than a year on this problem. Three years ago I went to the señor Ministro de Educación and we got out the Ley de Instrucción Pública and he decided that there was nothing which could be done within the law. Our charter which was written about 1941 said that we had the right to confer títulos of all kinds, but it did not say that the government would respalda our títulos. So that is where the matter stood for some time. And then, I am glad to say, this year things cleared up. Yesterday I had a visit from Jorge Sierra Morales, class 1947- maybe 1946. And I explained it all to him. He said "We dont want a título of Perito Agrónomo. It isnt worth anything here." And I said, "That is why I chose the título of Agrónomo which means agricultor técnico, and if you learned anything at Zamorano that is what you ought to be. And it is not a título which is used in these countries. They use Perito Agrónomo or Perito Agropecuario and no-one takes much notice of this title. I believe in being modest and

honest, and I believe th title agrónomo is worth something. It means something. And just as our Zamoranos have acquired a magnificent reputation in tropical America, in spite of their lack of títulos, I believe we can make the título of AGRÓNOMO worth a great deal. And I stand behind that idea. Now that it is recognized officially it has more value, and I am very glad that we at last got recognition. Arent you? Not all of our boys can go to the US for the degree of B.S.A or Master, but some will, and the rest will get alling better for having official recognition of the título, and as I understand matters, all Central Amrican countries, according to a convenio, have to recognize títulos given by any one of them.

Of course I was very sorry to hear that the guanacos, when they had been to Zamorana and got their títulos, had to come back in such a happy state that they allowed themselves to pasar la mano with the ron Catracho. You say it was "the most volent trip I ever had". Again I must say I am very sorry. If you talk to any of the boys about this matter, I hope you will tell them that I trusted them to behave properly. I tried to instill in all of you at Zamorano - and I know you believe this - the idea that a man can drink but he should drink like a gentleman. It is no use telling people they cannot drink. We tried at Zamorano to tell the students that when they went to Tegucigalpa, they could drink, but they must not det drunk. On several occasions I got telephone calls from town, Fulano de Tal is here in the Jardin de Italia or the MacArthur very drunk, and as you will also remember, I had to expel a boy every once in a while on this basis. When I come back to Salvador again, and I think it may be within the ne t couple of months, I would like to give the boys a lecture on this point, though it may not do much good. You may recall that the students from Salvador have always been the ones who gave us the most trouble at Zamorano - with exceptions of course, - on this matter of drinking too much.

I am very happy to see Villeda Toledo in that important position and I would back him in every way if I were still over there. I am sorry to hear that Jordán is leaving; though I do not know him I have received very favorable comments on the work he has been doing at San Andres. I wish you would tell him this and give him my best wishes. Yes, I have heard that Dr Birdsall is being transferred to Ethiopia. I wish the ICA people would be given a longer time in each country, but that is none of my business.

Finally, and to repeat, if you do not hear from Dr McKelvey in a month or so - or if I do not hear from him, in which case I will tell you what he says - then I think you would do well to go a head and take the scholarship which Mr Plá is kindly recommending for you. Tell him for me that I am glad to see he is so satisfied with your work. That I want you to get as much training as possible. That I want you to get an M.Sc. degree before you complete your training - for the reasons I have outlined above. You are still young enough to devote more time to preparing yourself for life than to making money at the moment. Get all the training you can. After ayfew years more you wont be able to leave your work to do it. And as the last word from this your old teacher who appreciates your intrinsic good qualities and who will never cease to be interested in you and to help you when he can, dont give up the idea of getting an M.Sc!

Tell that nice Rhina to remember me to her mother when she goes to the city next time, and say that I hope to drop in at 21 Doble Via not later than June, to cambiar impresiones and eat some of that good food she prepares.

Ever sincerely yours,

Gainesville October 7, 1959.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.

Dear Doctor:

I wrote you a letter some time before coming to the States, but I did not get a reply and somebody told me you were in Mexico or some other place.

Yesterday Rhina told me that when her mother had been in Guatemala you had asked her about the kind of scholarship they had given me, and I decided not to wait any more and write you now.

The Ministry of Agriculture finally agreed to accept my coming to study for one year. Mr. Plá had recommended me for one semester in Vocational Agriculture, but somebody changed his recommendation to one year and so it went to the Ministry. As the policy of the Salvadorean Government has been to give the "becados" their complete salary, they gave me the same treatment. I had to sign a contract where I agreed to work for one more year after I return; this was the contract with the Ministry, the contract with the Point IV. said I'd work in EL Salvador for two years after returning. I don't know why they had different terms.

When I arrived to Washington, I told my program manager that the University of Pennsylvania, to which Mr. Plá had recommended me, did not accept me for graduate work and they arranged my transference from Penn. to Florida in view of the fact that the Mission in EL Salvador had, at my request, sent them an aingram saying they did not oppose my doing graduate work.

When I came to Gainesville, I went to see Dr. Putman and Professor Muller. I explained to them that I.C.A. had accepted me for graduate work, but since I had only one year and could not graduate in that time in Vo.Ag. because my former major had been agronomy, I would not be able to get my goal anyway. Dr. Putman asked me what would I have taken if I had the choice and I told him that I would have taken agronomy. He said it could be arranged and asked Professor Muller if the purposes of I.C.A. could be obtained if I took agronomy; Professor Muller said yes and they sent me to Dr. Senn, Head of Agronomy. Dr. Senn called Dr. Garris, Head of Vo. Ag. and my contact with I.C.A. here and both of them worked out my schedule, so that I would take agronomy as a major and Vo.Ag. as a minor.

Two days later my program officer phoned from Washington to protest for the change, she wanted an increase in the number of Vo.Ag. hours. This took away my chances of getting a Master of Science and I had to accept working for a Master of Agriculture and 18 hors of Vo.Ag.

I was somewhat upset at first for not being able to get a M.S. but considering the whole affair, I had to be pleased that I had been able to change it to my advantage.

Rhina came 10 days ago with the baby. The boy is almost two month old and they both are all right. Rhina had to be operated because the baby was upside down. If were not for the expenses, I would say everything turned out very well, but you know how these things are.

I see Hugh quite often. The other day we had a long talk about what I could do to fix up my situation regarding the degree, he told me I could still work for a M.S. and come back at some later time to write my thesis and get my degree. For a while I thought I would do that, but then I realized I might never be able to come again, and I decided not to take any more chances. He also told me you would probably come next December to a conference of Horticulture.

At the present I am taking statistics, crop ecology and a problem in agronomy in the Agronomy Department. Methods in Vo.Ag. Methods in teaching adults, and practice teaching in the Vo.Ag. Department. The Vo.Ag. courses are very easy and do not give me any trouble; the agronomy courses are better, and that course in statistics is the hardest of them all.

Rhina and I send you and Mrs. Popenoe our best regards. I hope I can hear something from you, and specially what your opinion is over my situation now.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. C. W.

Antigua, 12 October 1959

Mr José R Calvo
Box 3174 Univ Station, Gainesville, Fla.

Dear José:

Many thanks for your good letter of the 7th which came this morning. I did get your earlier one when I came back from Mexico, but I think you were already lined up to go to the States so I could not be of any help to you. I really was disappointed that the Rockefeller Foundation was unable to give you a scholarship this year. I discussed this with Dr Ralph Richardson, head of their Mexican program, and he told me he would help get you lined up for next year; but I think you have done the best thing - not waiting. Mas vale pajaro en mano que dos volando, as Sancho Panza used to say.

I am really glad that you were able to enter at Florida instead of Pennsylvania. You know how many friends you have in Florida, all of whom will help you; you know that many of their subjects are more applicable to tropical America than are those of Pennsylvania. Of course I am as sorry as you are that you were not given a free hand to take an M.Sc. But an M.Agr. is allright too. And maybe things will yet work out so you can switch and perhaps with some summer course or other next year, get your M.Sc. I don't know much about these academic matters but I do know that there are a number of people at Gainesville who will help you all they can. I am glad to hear that you see Hugh often. There is a possibility that he may be down here for a few days at Christmas time, he says. I had been planning to go up to Florida about the end of November to attend the meeting of the Florida Crop and Soil Science Society but I have given up the idea. These things were fine when Mama Unite paid all the expenses - and they were extremely generous about such things, even sent Mrs Popenoe and myself to Europe two different years to attend the International Horticultural Congresses, of which I was always official delegate of Honduras but at expense of United Fruit. Now I have to pay my own expenses, and it makes a big difference.

I am glad to know that Rhina is finally with you and that things are going well. Mrs Popenoe and I are planning to leave here in the Volkswagen on October 30, spend a few days in Salvador, and then go on to Zamorano where I have to attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees of E A P on November 6. In Salvador I want to see Chico de Sola's fruit trees at Los Andes, on the upper slopes of the Volcan de Santa Ana; I want to see the school; I want to see the nurseries which were started under the program I helped to plan; and I want to see Chico de Sola's Altamira near San Salvador. And of course there are quite a few things I want to see in Honduras.

I spent two weeks in Costa Rica, the first time in 8 years. The meetings of the Caribbean Region, ASHS, were very interesting. I had a good visit with Rodolfo Zamora and Hilda, and several other Zamoranos. And Oton Jimenez and I had our photos taken, sitting side by side, in the same photo studio (Hernandez) where we had them taken exactly 40 years ago, by the same photographer with the same camera. We have made plans to have them taken again in exactly the same place 40 years from now.

Best regards to all of you, and do let me hear from you once in a while. Professor Muller will probably send me your grades along with those of other Zamoranos - he always does this.

Sincerely,

San Andrés Octubre 15 de 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala

Dear Doctor:

As you probably know, I graduated last august and I have been working here during the last month. Rhina and the child flew down here because they could not get a Mexican visa. I came driving a Ford Falcon which I bought in the States.

My trip through Mexico was a calamity in many respects. Even though I had all my papers in order, they made me lose three days at the border, for I had to buy a bond of forty dollars as a guaranty that I would not sell in Mexico my luggage, which they valued at 1,000 dollars. Getting this bond proved an expensive and involved procedure which took three days. After I finally entered Mexico I discovered they had made certain mistakes in my documents, which cost me a handsome tip in every one of the 12 inspections I had to pass in Mexican territory. To make a long story short, I expended 240 dollars to go throu Mexico, and a good part of my luggage was lost during the frequent inspections. Fernando Fernández made the trip with me and he was a great help; not only to share the driving, but to withstand all the impertinence and lacerny to which one is subjected when travelling in Mexico, as I had known by other people, and now by my own experience.

I came to El Salvador right in the mid of the political turmoil they had here during the days of the OEA conference in San José. Castro has many admirers between the university students. They are very emotional, and they get all exited because he has dared to insult the U.S.

The news of Plá's death was a shock also. He died the last day of August and his death is surrounded by much mystery. His wife took his body to Colonel Miller's home, right after he "shot himself during an argument with her". They say he had a love affair with the nurse here at the school. This nurse became very obtrusive, she used to ring him up, not minding his wife, who is a rather dominant woman. Mrs. Plá became a "lazarillo" to Jimmy, and he was constantly trying to get away from her. You may see from this why some people here, suspect she had something to do with the killing. They argue that she used to carry a gun in her purse, while he was always unarmed. They say he was hit by more than one bullet and they distrust her ability to drive his body to the I.C.A. Mission's head, who made all necessary arrangements to keep the case from going to the Salvadoreah authorities, and shipped the body and Mrs. Plá to Puerto Rico in two days: a further cause of suspicion. But there are some who do not believe she might have killed him. It is curious to see

how his male acquaintances believe she killed him, while the women think he committed suicide.

As you told me over the phone in Gainesville, the school has had a lot of progress. Everything is much more orderly and well kept. Discipline is rather good, and Mr. Cabezas is well respected. If I had to give my opinion on the direction, I would say that Cabezas is a man of strong will. He does not bother or interfere with our work, he is not always picking on one, but he does not waste a chance to exert his authority, and he is not afraid to claim if something goes astray. When he talks to me he does it with naturality, without trying to impress me, because, as far as I know, he is a sincere man. From my first salary he ordered a deduction of 100 colones, because I had come three days late. I wrote to him before I left Gainesville, and I asked permission to be three days late, since I had foreseen that possibility. When I found out about the deduction I did not like it, who would? but I did not claim because I hate to discuss about money. This incident, which illustrates his character, has not prevented me from appreciating him, and I believe that it would be difficult to get another man with his ability to run this school. He is also a director who does not need a subdirector. That's why Olmedo left.

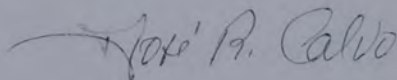
About Don Manuel, you can deduct my opinion from what I think about Cabezas. Don Manuel is rather unobstrusive; something which, I dare say, pleases Cabezas very much, and works for the benefit of the school's discipline, since there is unity of purpose. Don Manuel makes a daily visit to the Departments, and also to classrooms. He is very polite, and may be a bit too courteous for this environment. The teachers don't seem to take him seriously. You know Don Manuel, Doctor; some times one would wish everybody were like him.

You may know that Leiva left for the States. He got the ICA scholarship, but he could not get his salary. I advised him to accept the ICA scholarship anyway; it gives him 240 dollars a month and it pays for his fees and tuition. It is going to be a tight year, but he can make it, and if he can't get his master's in one year, Gattoni plans to get him one more semester. I got his house here as a loan; I have to give it back to him when he comes. This house makes me feel better here, since I used to live in two very uncomfortable rooms, where we could not even cook.

Shortly after you were in Gainesville, early this year, I cut the enclosed column by Smiley from the Miami Herald and gave it to Hugh. He wanted me to send it to you, something which I hate to do so late.

Rhina and the child are very well, we all send you and Mrs. Popence our best regards, and we hope to hear something from you.

Sincerely,



Antigua Guatemala, 27 Oct 1960

Prof. José R Calvo
ENA, Ciudad Arce, El Salvador.

Dear José:

Thanks for your letter of the 15th. Tell Rhina I have had a letter from her mother, who seems to be very happy in what I always said - I think you remember? "¿Cuál es la capital de la República de El Salvador?" Y me contestaron "Pues por supuesto, San Salvador" Y entonces y decía, Estás equivocado; es San Francisco de California". Which reminds me of a true story; do you know that New York is the largest Puerto Rican city in the world? More puertorriqueños in New York than in San Juan de Puerto Rico.

The account of your trip through Mexico is very interesting, Calvo; reminds me of Hugh's trip. He got all his documents from the Consul in Los Angeles, reached Nogales, and they told him, you cannot enter Mexico. And he said, But I just left Los Angeles two days ago and the Señor Consul told me everything was allright. And they said, pero que le parece, there is a new rule since then. And Hugh said, well, I will sleep right here in my jeep, 10 feet on the US side of the border, until you get this straightened out. And he slept there three days and they let him come in. Then when he got to Tapachula and wanted to take his jeep off the plataforma, they put up a ramp and he started to run the car down the ramp, and they said Pero aguante, muchacho, eso solamente puede hacer el sindicato. So he has to wait and pay the sindicato to watch him run his car down the ramp. You sure got stuck terribly; \$240 and lost some of your baggage.

I am glad you came down with El Gran Capitan, and I am glad he is back at Zamorano. I have been sorry to see so many of our old graduates leave there - Herman Fonseca and Paco Sierra and others. It was my policy to build up our staff with latinoamericanos who would come back to us and stay, after they had advanced training in the US. Mario Jalil was one of the great losses, but I am glad that he has such an excellent job in the FAO. Mario is sitting on top of the world.

-- I thank you for the details regarding Pla's death. All I knew was what Mortensen told me which was this: that Pla was riding in his car with his wife when he drew a revolver and shot himself. It is a very sad matter. I believe the school will get along very well, however, with Luis Gattoni and McKigney and I hope the latter will be able to stay for some time yet. I have known Gattoni since about 1925 when he was head of the agricultural school at Ambato in Ecuador; He is a very competent person, which so far as I am concerned is proved by the fact that I tried very hard to get him to join our staff at Zamorano, but at that time we could not pay the salaries they are paying now.

I do not believe ENA will ever get a better Director than Cabezas. He knows what he is doing, he is dynamic, and I think he is very practical in his outlook. Give him your full support - as I know you will.

I had a letter from Juanito Leiva just before he left for the States. You were quite right in advising him to take the ICA beca. I hear from Florida, however, that they are requiring our boys who have the B S and want to get the M S, to take some subjects which are not of great interest to them; I have discussed this with Pres Ritz and I can see their point of view. I think, however, that the problem is mainly with the Zamoranos who want to get 3 years credit toward the B S instead of the 2 we used to ask for. Florida has certain standards which it has to maintain. Just as we had at Zamorano; I remember the day Nato Alvarez from Panama came, and said I am not going to study English? And I said What is your objection to the study of English? And Nato answered, Well I am a Panamanian and I do not need to know English, and I dont like gringos anyway and dont want to learn their language. So I said, Bueno, Nato, think it over and tomorrow come around here at four o'clock and I will have you ticket ready so you can return to Panama. Well, you you may know the history of Nato. We sent him to Davis and he was so darn good that the head of the dairy department told me he would like us to leave him for one year more, so he could make a wonderful dairyman out of him. We could not do it. He went to Panama and got a job with the government and they sent him to Gainesville where I believe he got an M S in agricultural education or something of that sort -, and I guess he had to know at least a little English to do that.

If I can be of any help in backing Leiva for additional time so he can get his M S I sure will be glad to do it. And I want to tell you how proud I am of you Zamoranos who are or have been at San Andrés. I would like to see two or three more Zamoranos there, more particularly those who have had 3 years at Zamorano, then two at Florida. I think that is just the right combination. You get your practical training at Zamorano and in two years at Florida you have time to choose enough academic work in the particular branches in which you are interested.

Just when I may get over to Salvador again I cannot say, but ~~de~~ repente I shall drop in on you. Y mientras tanto, Mrs Popenoe joins me in warmest regards to all.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe