



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
5th Floor, Hunt Library  
Carnegie Mellon University  
4909 Frew Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890  
Contact: Archives  
Telephone: 412-268-2434  
Email: [huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://www.huntbotanical.org)

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized version of an item from our Archives.

#### *Usage guidelines*

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

#### *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.

16

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

HONOLULU, HAWAII

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 16, 1941

CABLE ADDRESS "COLWAI"  
BENTLEY'S CODE

Dr. Wilson F. Popenoe  
United Fruit Company  
Tela, Honduras

Dear Wilson:

During a recent visit with my friend David Fleming on a neighboring island here, I learned that he is planning tentatively to make a trip to Mexico and Central America sometime in the next several months, and because of his great interest in the field of tropical and subtropical horticulture I have suggested that he ought, by all means, to visit you if it is possible to arrange it. He has made several exploratory trips to the Far East in search of desirable varieties of fruit trees for introduction into Hawaii. He is manager of a large pineapple plantation on the island of Maui. While most of his land is used for the main purpose of pineapple production, he has considerable areas available for experimentation on other crops and interesting plants. He is developing quite an area of mangoes of several varieties, also litchi and many other promising species. In other words, he is our leading explorer and introducer in these islands today, and I am sure that you would find a few days spent with him exceedingly interesting and worth while.

As I know that you spend part of your time in New York, I wonder if you would be kind enough to write or cable Mr. Fleming concerning your prospective movements, so that he could plan his visit to Tela at a time when you are pretty sure to be there. His address is Baldwin Packers, Lahaina, Maui, T.H.

It has been some little time since we have had an exchange of letters, but despite this we have thought of you not infrequently and have hoped that everything is going well with you.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

/Yours very truly,

*Dave*

D.L. Crawford, President

*A cable addressed to David Fleming, Lahaina, Maui.*

W--I got in here yesterday and am all ready to start business this morning. Had a call last night from our old cousin Carl A. Poppino. I picked him up when I was here a year ago, and got him started on the Lemmy history. He knew nothing of his own, but through some clues I gave him has run down the whole history of his side of the family pretty well. I myself was surprised to find how many relatives he has discovered around the country, and now many different ways the name is spelled. We figure on getting out a comprehensive family history, and the last record once for all. He is in an agreement with the Gen. Electric Co.

September 16, 1941

77

Dr. Wilson F. Popenoe  
United Fruit Company  
Tela, Honduras

Dear Wilson:

During a recent visit with my friend David Fleming on a neighboring island here, I learned that he is planning tentatively to make a trip to Mexico and Central America sometime in the next several months, and because of his great interest in the field of tropical and subtropical horticulture I have suggested that he ought, by all means, to visit you if it is possible to arrange it. He has made several exploratory trips to the Far East in search of desirable varieties of fruit trees for introduction into Hawaii. He is manager of a large pineapple plantation on the island of Maui. While most of his land is used for the main purpose of pineapple production, he has considerable areas available for experimentation on other crops and interesting plants. He is developing quite an area of mangoes of several varieties, also litchi and many other promising species. In other words, he is our leading explorer and introducer in these islands today, and I am sure that you would find a few days spent with him exceedingly interesting and worth while.

As I know that you spend part of your time in New York, I wonder if you would be kind enough to write or cable Mr. Fleming concerning your prospective movements, so that he could plan his visit to Tela at a time when you are pretty sure to be there. His address is Baldwin Packers, Lahaina, Maui, T.H.

It has been some little time since we have had an exchange of letters, but despite this we have thought of you not infrequently and have hoped that everything is going well with you.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

D.L. Crawford, President

W-- I got in here yesterday and am all ready to start business this morning. Had a call last night from our 5th cousin Carl A. Poppino. I picked him up when I was here a year ago, and got him started on the family history. He knew nothing of his own, but through some clues I gave him has run down the whole history of his side of the family pretty well. I myself was surprised to find how many relatives he has discovered around the country, and how many different ways the name is spelled. We figure on getting out a comprehensive family history to put the factson record once for all.--He is an engnr with the Gen. Electric Co.

FF

Dr. Wilson F. Poppino  
United Fruit Company  
Tela, Honduras

Dear Wilson:

During a recent visit with my friend David Fleming on a neighboring island here, I learned that he is planning tentatively to make a trip to Mexico and Central America sometime in the next several months, and because of his great interest in the field of tropical and subtropical horticulture I have suggested that he ought, by all means, to visit you if it is possible to arrange it. He has made several exploratory trips to the Far East in search of desirable varieties of fruit trees for introduction into Hawaii. He is manager of a large pineapple plantation on the island of Maui. While most of his land is used for the main purpose of pineapple production he has considerable areas available for experimentation on other crops and interesting plants. He is developing quite an area of mangoes of several varieties, also litchi and many other promising species. In other words, he is our leading explorer and introducer in these islands today, and I am sure that you would find a few days spent with him exceedingly interesting and worth while.

As I know that you spend part of your time in New York, I wonder if you would be kind enough to write or cable Mr. Fleming concerning your prospective movements, so that he could plan his visit to Tela at a time when you are pretty sure to be there. His address is Baldwin Packers, Lahaina, Maui, T.H.

It has been some little time since we have had an exchange of letters, but despite this we have thought of you not infrequently and have hoped that everything is going well with you.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

D.L. Crawford, President



Antigua, Guatemala, 13 October 1941

Dr David L. Crawford,  
University of Hawaii,  
Honolulu.

Dear Dave:

Yours of 16th September has just come. I am very much interested in the proposed trip of your friend David Fleming. As far as I can see, I shall either be in Guatemala or in Honduras for the next three or four months. I have been travelling for the past nine, everywhere from Boston to Brazil, and I do not see how I can now fail to stick around these parts for a time, especially in view of the fact that we are undertaking the development of an all-Central American agricultural school in Honduras, which it will probably fall to my lot to organise and direct.

I am therefore cabling Mr Fleming that I expect to be here for the next several months. You say he is coming to Mexico and Central America. I assume he will proceed from the former to the latter and probably reach Guatemala City first. If he will inquire at the office of the United Fruit Co. in the latter place, they can tell him where I am. If I am in Guatemala, I will at least be in touch with my home here in Antigua. If I am in Honduras, he can come on over there as I think he will want to see our fruit collection at Lancetilla Experiment Station in any event. We have quite a batch of interesting things there, including the only collection of named mango varieties from Java in this part of the world, the largest mangosteen orchard in tropical America, plenty of rambutans, pulasans, and the biggest collection of lychees anywhere which don't bear fruit. Our climate is too wet for good fruiting on the part of mangos and some other things, but we have propagating stock and have been trying to disseminate the best things in areas where they should succeed.

Lancetilla is now a cooperative project with the U S D A which has established one of its major rubber-propagating and testing stations on our grounds. They have put a very able young chap there, named Edward Stanwood, who is handling the rubber and also looking out for our fruit collections.

Needless to say, any material which we have available is entirely at Mr Fleming's disposal. I am afraid he will be coming at a poor time to see things in fruit; most of the Asiatic things fruit with us from June-October. But tell him to come along by all means. There will be some native things in Guatemala which will interest him, but we have in this country few extensive collections of fruit varieties. Season for the Guatemalan race of avocados here in the highlands is principally February - May, but at varying elevations he will see a certain amount of fruit at almost any time. He may be interested in seeing the work on Cinchona in this country (cf. "Tropical Agriculture", Trinidad, April 1941). It is an extensive project.

I wish you were coming with him. It would be a great pleasure to see you again, after all these years. I have thought I might run into you up in the States some time, but no luck so far. I don't go there very often myself and I don't suppose you do either. There are not so many years left to me now, and I want very much to do something for the agriculture and horticulture of these tropical American countries before I check out; and the more time I spend in the States the less I will accomplish down here.

Best regards to you always.

Sincerely,



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

HONOLULU, HAWAII

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 24, 1941

CABLE ADDRESS "COLWAI"  
BENTLEY'S CODE

Dr. Wilson F. Popenoe  
United Fruit Company  
Tela, Honduras

Dear Wilson:

Thank you for your prompt reply to my recent letter concerning David Fleming's prospective plans for visiting your part of the world. I am sending this letter along to him for the detailed guidance and information which it contains. I am sure that he will be greatly interested in the things which you mention.

You will be interested and may be surprised to hear that, after fifteen years in the presidency and twenty-five years in this University, I have decided to resign and am now looking for another position. For several years I have had in mind a rather half formed idea that such a move would be a good thing, both for me and for the University, but I am not sure that I would have had the hardihood to go through with it if it had not been for the fact that a new Board of Regents came into control a few months ago and has adopted policies with which I am not at all in accord. For a few months I tried to make them see reason in these matters, but since they seem to be pretty determined to go along in their own way, I have decided to step out and leave the field to them. It has created a good deal of protest in these Islands from many people who think that we have done a good job during the years of my administration, and there have been a good many suggestions that the Board of Regents, rather than the President, should step out, but this is all part of the present scene and will soon be a thing of the past. It is human nature to reach a boiling point quickly over matters of this kind and it is equally human to subside soon and resume the former placid ways of daily thinking.

While my resignation, technically, is to be effective at the end of the academic year, next June, I am taking a leave of absence beginning November 1 and therefore will be leaving Honolulu sometime in the next few weeks to begin a search for another job somewhere else. I have had a lot of fun in this work and have no regrets in connection with it, and as for the future, I have no serious worry, since I am still young enough to find something worth while and perhaps have another chapter in my life as interesting as the one which is just closed. It is barely possible that I may have time and the opportunity to visit your part of the world during my

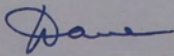
Dr. Wilson F. Popenoe - 2

October 24, 1941

present free period, before getting my nose onto another grindstone. If so, I shall let you know in advance so that I may be sure to connect with you.

With kindest regards and best wishes for continued success,  
I am

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D.L. Crawford', with a stylized, cursive flourish.

D.L. Crawford, President