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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.

Tegucigalpa D.C.
January 4 th., 1958

Dr. Wilson Popence
Calle de la Nobleza N- 2
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popence:

I hope that you and Mrs. Popence are having a good time in Antigua and have started the New Year with all kind of Happiness.

I am writing you about your kind offer of helping me to obtain a scholarship with the Rockefeller Foundation for advanced study in the United States. I guess I should have written you some time ago about this matter and sincerely hope it is not too late to do it now.

I delayed the request of your helpful assistance because I was 99 % certain that I would obtain the Scholarship offered by the Banco Nacional de Fomento, to later work with the milk powder plant in San Pedro Sula; in fact, I was ~~of~~ assured that it would be granted to me. Unfortunately, some facts have lately come up which have opened my eyes to realize the uncertainty of obtaining the scholarship offered and also the problems which would further develop if for " a miracle " it was going to be granted to me. So, I have decided to withdraw my application for the scholarship from the Banco Nacional de Fomento. For a while I forgot I am " extranjero " here, even if I feel myself like " hondureño ".

I am very much sorry now and even angry with myself for having preferred the opportunity offered by the Banco Nacional de Fomento instead of your sincere and kind offering of assistance which I am almost sure would have proven itself most beneficial to me.

Since I am interested in increasing the little amount of knowledge I possess, thanks to you, mainly, and specialize myself to be more useful to my family and fellow men, I now come to you again to ask you first to forgive me for not giving due consideration to your kind offer at the right time, and second, to ask you if there is still time, and I could still take advantage of your assistance to apply for a scholarship. If I am lucky enough to be hopeful about it, please advise me as to the steps I should follow.

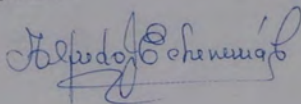
About my work here at the Direccion General de Ganaderia, I must tell you that we have a new Director, whom you know very well. He is Armando Quiros, who graduated in Zamorano in 1946. He was working in the Livestock Department of the Standard Fruit Co.. Even if he wants me to collaborate with him in this office, I have decided to resign because I do not want to work any longer for the Government. Being "extranjero" in this time of political changes, causes more headaches and problems than anything else and I am tired of this situation. For this reason I shall appreciate it very much if you let me know about the possibilities of making the application for the scholarship and more or less when I could know something final about it. I am not sure but I guess you told me that the Scholarship Committee of the Rockefeller Foundation would meet during the month of March. I make you this question in order to look for a job which would not engage myself for a long time, and in case I could consider myself a candidate for the scholarship.

Since I want to be sure of getting your answer, I would appreciate it very much if you send it registered at the following address:

Alfredo J. Echeverria C.
R/ Srta. Rhina Mejia
Tropical Radio
Tegucigalpa, D.C., Honduras.

Thanking your patience for reading this long letter and any assistance that you could give me on the matter mentioned and repeating my best wishes for you and Mrs. Popence during this New Year, I remain,

Very truly yours



Antigua, Guatemala, 11 Jan 1958

Sr Ing. Alfredo Echeverria C.
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Alfredo:

Replying to your letter of 4 January, I believe you should write immediately to Dr John McKelvey at the Rockefeller Foundation, giving him details regarding the grades you obtained at Zamorano (you would do well to get a transcript from Pelén) and the grades you got at Mississippi. Tell him what you want to do in the United States, where you would prefer to study, and what you intend to do when you come back. Write him in English - they always check up on this point and if I see him in New York I can tell Dr McKelvey that you are quite fluent in this language, as you are.

I believe you stand a good chance to get a Fellowship this year unless they have already committed all those which are available and I don't believe they make definite commitments before March 1st.

Mrs Popenoe and I are leaving here on 25 January for the States and as mentioned in my letter to Dr McKelvey I expect to be in New York on 5 February to attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP which will be held at the offices of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe
Director Emeritus

Antigua, Guatemala, 11 January 1958

Dr John McKelvey
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th St, New York City.

Dear Doctor McKelvey:

One of our graduates, Alfredo J. Echeverria C., who is presently Subdirector de Ganaderia in the Ministerio de Recursos Naturales at Tegucigalpa, spoke to me some months ago regarding the possibility of obtaining a Rockefeller Fellowship to work toward a Master's degree in the United States.

Alfred was a top-notch student at Zamorano. We sent him to Mississippi State College where he graduated with an outstanding record; then he worked for a time with the Tela Railroad Company and then came to Tegucigalpa where he has worked for several years.

I have no hesitation in saying that I believe Alfredo richly deserves one of your Fellowships and I have urged him to write you, sending along this letter. As you may know, I expect to be in New York on 5 February and if you are there at that time, and feel that you might possibly consider Alfredo for a Fellowship this year, I would like to discuss the matter with you personally.

With best regards,

Cordially,

Wilson Popenoe
Director Emeritus

Tegucigalpa D.C., 18 Jan, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe, Director Emeritus
Escuela Agricola Panamericana,
Calle de la Nobleza N- 2
Antigua Guatemala.

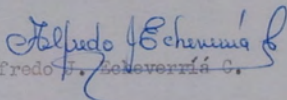
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you very much for your letter of 11 January which brought to me much hope about the possibility of obtaining a Rockefeller Fellowship. Thank you also for your nice letter addressed to Dr. McKelvey, which I am sending to him together with my letter, a copy of which I am enclosing to this short note. And thank you again for all the assistance you have given me and you can give me to make my dream come true.

I take advantage of this opportunity to wish you and Mrs. Popenoe a very pleasant trip to the United States.

With my best regards I am,

Sincerely yours,


Alfredo E. Echeverría C.

COPY

Tegucigalpa D.C., 18 January, 1958

Dr. John McKelvey
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49 th St, New York City
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

I take the pleasure of writing you as suggested by Dr. Wilson Popenoe, Director Emeritus, Escuela Agricola Panamericana, Honduras, and regarding my interest to obtain a Fellowship to work toward a master's degree in the United States.

To introduce myself I inform you that I graduated from the Escuela Agricola Panamericana in 1949. On account of the good grades obtained and good behavior shown at this School, this Institution granted me a scholarship to continue my studies in the United States. I attended Mississippi State College during two years and in 1951 I obtained the degree of Bachelor of Sciences in Animal Husbandry, with "honors". After graduation I worked in this country, in the Livestock Department of the Tela R.R. Co., and ever since 1953 I have been working for the Honduras Government, in the Livestock Division (Dirección General de Ganadería y Veterinaria)

I am much interested in specializing myself in the field of Animal Nutrition. Besides my personal preference for this subject, I feel there is much to be learned about this interesting science, especially under tropical conditions. If I have the opportunity to learn more about this matter and also get the necessary training, it is my intention, on my return to the tropics, to carry on some research and also possibly do some teaching, working for any Institution or government agency requiring personnel specialized in Animal Nutrition.

I understand that Florida University has a very good Animal Nutrition Department. This, besides the fact of being situated in a semi-tropical area, makes this University a suitable place to carry on my graduate work. Consequently, if I could continue my studies, I would like to attend this Institution.

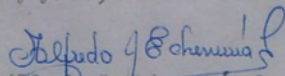
As I mentioned at the beginning of this letter, I am writing you regarding my interest in obtaining a Fellowship and I should greatly appreciate it if you could advise me about the possibility of considering me as a candidate for a Rockefeller Fellowship.

I am enclosing the transcript of my records made at the Escuela Agricola Panamericana and Mississippi State College, and some letters of recommendation. For your information I would also like to advise you that I am thirty one years old, married and have two children, one and two years old.

COPY

Hoping to hear from you and thanking your attention to this letter, I remain,

Very truly yours,


Alfredo J. Echeverria C.

P.S. I should appreciate it very much if you could send your answer by registered mail. You can write me to the following address:

Alfredo J. Echeverria C.
C/O Srta. Rhina Mejía
Tropical Radio
Tegucigalpa D.C., Honduras. C.A.

