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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.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20

AGRICULTURE

J. G. HARRAR, DIRECTOR  
ROBERT F. BURDEN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
ROBERT F. CHANDLER, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
JOHN J. MCKELVEY, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
KENNETH WERNIMONT, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

CABLE ADDRESS:  
ROCKFOUND, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE:  
COLUMBUS 5-8100

August 17, 1956

Dear Wilson:

I imagine you know Dr. Ralph Cummings of North Carolina University, currently with ICA in Peru. Dr. Cummings will be attending a meeting in Turrialba during the first week in October, and on that occasion he would like to visit Zamorano. I have cleared this visit with Boston and it is completely agreeable there.

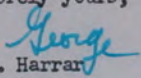
As I think you know, Dr. Cummings is highly thought of at North Carolina and is doing an important job in Peru while on leave of absence from Raleigh. He is an outstanding teacher, scientist and administrator with broad experience in the United States, which is now being reinforced by his assignment in Latin America.

In my judgment, Dr. Cummings would do an outstanding job as Director of an institution like the Pan American School of Agriculture. I do not know, however, whether he would have any definite interest in the possibility of leaving his present responsibilities for a new post. I think, however, that the importance of the School at Zamorano and the high level of achievement which it has had under your leadership demands that future leadership be of the same high order of excellence.

Dr. Cummings' visit is entirely informal. He would like to become acquainted with the School and we should like to have him do so. If, as a result of his visit, a mutuality of interests should develop, I think the people in Boston might wish to pursue the matter further. As you know, a rather wide effort is being made to locate a qualified individual for this important post, and a number of persons have been under discussion.

I will ask Dr. Cummings to let you know in advance of his arrival, and if you do not already know him personally, I am sure you will enjoy the experience, as I know he will his visit.

Sincerely yours,

  
J. G. Harrar

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Escuela Agricola Panamericana  
Apartado 93  
Tegucigalpa, HONDURAS

Copies to: T. J. Coolidge  
J. Wayne Reitz  
Ralph Cummings

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CABLE ADDRESS:  
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August 21, 1956

Dear Wilson:

I think you may know of Mr. Horace Holmes, currently associated with the Ford Foundation. Mr. Holmes has had long experience in various phases of agricultural education and development, and most recently has worked with the Asian Program of the Ford Foundation. Although he has been successful in his work with the Ford group, Mr. Holmes is at least considering the possibility of a change. He rather feels that he would like to become directly associated with an educational effort towards which he could direct all of his energies and experience.

Recently Mr. Holmes had an opportunity to talk with Mr. Coolidge and his associates in Boston. As a result, Mr. Coolidge invited Mr. Holmes to visit Zamorano on a completely informal basis in order to become acquainted with you and the Pan American School of Agriculture. This Mr. Holmes would like to do, and he tells me that the best time for him to make the trip would be on or about September 15. Mr. Holmes has also told me that Mr. Coolidge suggested that I might inform you of this plan, since, as you know, I have been working with the people in Boston, J. Wayne Reitz and yourself in searching for qualified candidates for the post as Director of the School.

Mr. Holmes has told me that he would like to make the trip next month and would like to arrange to have Mrs. Holmes accompany him. I think it has been generally agreed that a visit of from two to three days would be adequate. I have, therefore, suggested that Mr. Holmes correspond with you directly concerning his visit and that definite arrangements be made by mutual agreement between him and yourself. You will, therefore, doubtless be hearing from Mr. Holmes in the near future. This letter will, I think, give you the necessary background.

With regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

  
J. G. Harrar

Dr. Wilson Popence  
Escuela Agricola Panamericana  
Apartado 93  
Tegucigalpa, HONDURAS

JGH:ja

Copies to: T. J. Coolidge  
J. Wayne Reitz  
Horace Holmes

ROOM 4200  
111 WEST 50th STREET  
NEW YORK 20

CONFIDENTIAL

March 26, 1963

Dear Wilson:

It was good to have your letter of March 14 but I am sorry that you do not expect to be here for the April meeting of the Board of Trustees. I think all of us are disappointed not to have the meeting in Zamorano this year, but it was finally decided it was more feasible to hold the April meeting here in New York.

Thank you for sending John your proxy and we will, of course, wish to see it voted in accord with your wishes.

I am interested to learn of your talk with Wayne Reitz. Let me hasten to say that I am one of those trustees who would be fully in accord with the idea that we should select Chico de Sola as President of the Board of the EAP. I have so stated on numerous occasions and have said so to Chico in a telephone conversation with him about two weeks ago.

Chico has a counterproposal. He urges that under the circumstances I should accept the Presidency of the Board for a limited period of time after which he would commit himself to accept if the Board would want him to do so. Chico seems to have his reasons for this judgment and it has been difficult to change his mind. He urges that I should be willing to take the interim responsibility if he is willing to pick it up for a longer period, let's say beginning next fall or at the most a year hence.

My own feeling is that you and Wayne are right and that we should try to convince Chico that the best arrangement would be to elect him President in April. Today he is firm in his attitude but perhaps it can be changed and I would, therefore, suggest that you may wish to write him and urge your point of view upon him.

With respect to the Executive Committee here again I would prefer to see others take over the responsibilities of this Committee. Henry Allen Moe and Tom Cabot would be good

March 26, 1963

members and I would be happy to see Wayne make a special effort to accept the assignment to this Committee. I know that he is extremely busy as we are all, but he would be an excellent representative on the Executive Committee.

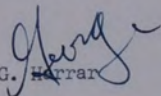
Let me make myself clear if I can. I believe that every member of the Board is a potential president, vice president, or committee chairman, and should serve for a reasonable period of time if asked to do so. Therefore, I would be willing to do anything. I could be helpful in any assignment given me by the Board and have so acted in the past. Now, however, my responsibilities here at the Foundation put me in somewhat an anomalous position if I accept any principal office on the Board of the EAP. I would like the Foundation to be free to continue to look at the School upon its merits and to consider assistance to the School in the future as it has in the past. As President of the Board I would feel that my position would be untenable in this respect. Even as Chairman of the Executive Committee I would not be entirely comfortable but as a last resort I would be willing to serve in this capacity for a limited time if the Board so desires.

I would agree with you that we should elect Bert Muller to the Board in April and this, I think, we propose to do. Bert seems to be doing a wonderful job thanks to his own experience, ability and his previous association with you. I very much hope he is going to decide to cast his lot with the EAP on a permanent basis.

In conclusion, let me thank you for your final paragraph which is most objective, and I think the way I think all of us would like to see our role on the Board. I think, however, your ideas are excellent and that the Board generally is in agreement. The only real problem, as I see it, is in convincing Chico that he should become President now and this, I hope, we can do.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
J. G. Harrar

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
c/o W. L. Taillon  
12 Calle Oriente 6-61  
Guatemala City, Guatemala  
JGH:ls  
Copy to Dr. J. Wayne Reitz  
Mr. John W. Weeks

Antigua, Guatemala, 3 January 1958

Dr J G Harrar  
The Rockefeller Foundation  
New York City.

Dear George:

If you had a hand in sending me a copy of Principles of Plant Pathology I certainly appreciate it. I don't even mind if I later receive a bill from the publishers. I haven't read the whole work yet, but I have read the chapter on "Plant Diseases of International Importance" which is the first treatment of its kind which I have ever seen, and which I consider particularly useful, in part because you have brought together so much information which came out of the work done by your group in Mexico.

Jeff Coolidge had just written that I am to appear in person at your office, 10 ante meridian, 5 February próximo futuro. Helen and I plan to leave here 27 January, stop a few days in southern Florida to check up on new developments in the tropical fruit field; then spend three days in Gainesville, and on to New York; then a couple of weeks in Washington so as not to reach Madrid until the frost is out of the ground.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

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COLUMBUS 5-8100

January 3, 1958

Dear Wilson:

This will acknowledge and thank you for your letter enclosing copy of the confidential report you made to the Subsecretary of Agriculture in El Salvador. I have read this document with great interest, and think you have done a thorough job of examining, analyzing and reporting the situation as you encountered it.

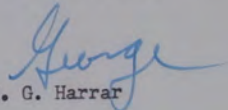
These new schools of agriculture are bound to have birth and growing pains, but it is to be hoped that those which are needed can be soundly conceived and properly supported to serve the needs of the country concerned. Your long experience and firsthand knowledge of all of the problems connected with this sort of development can, I am sure, be most helpful to the responsible individuals concerned.

I expect to go through Central America later this month, and wish I might stop at El Salvador. However, my schedule is so tight that I can only stop briefly at Zamorano and I hope Turrialba, en route to Colombia and Chile from Mexico. I suppose you will be in Guatemala, or perhaps Spain, so that I will not have the pleasure of seeing you and Helen? On the other hand, I understand that we expect to see you here in New York on February 5th. I hope that this may be the case, as your presence will, of course, be most valuable at the Meeting of the Board at Zamorano which is planned for that date.

I appreciate the copy of your letter to Ralph Richardson, as well as the paper on increasing food production in El Salvador.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours,

  
J. G. Harrar

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Antigua  
GUATEMALA

JGH:CC

March 14, 1963

Dr. J. G. Harrar, President  
The Rockefeller Foundation  
New York, New York

Dear George:

John Weeks has sent me notice that the April meeting of the Board of Trustees of Escuela Agricola Panamericana will be held in New York instead of at Zamorano. Since it will not be feasible for me to return from Guatemala (where I go on the 20th of this month) in order to attend, I have sent John the necessary form, authorizing you to vote my proxy. I trust that you will be agreeable to this.

A week ago I had a long talk with Wayne Reitz, and we drew up a "slate" for which we would both vote if it appears that such a slate would have the approval of a majority of Board members. We would like to see don Francisco de Sola elected President of the Board, if he is willing to accept. As you are well aware, "Chico" has been in close contact with EAP for many years. On numerous occasions, he has shown, we believe, that his philosophy and objectives for the school are thoroughly realistic and sound. He not only lives in Central America and knows Central America, but also, he has established a reputation throughout that area as an able, patriotic, and highly influential member of society. Above all, he is keenly interested in the welfare and progress of Escuela Agricola Panamericana.

As regards the Executive Committee, we would very much like to see you continue as Chairman; the two other members (we believe that number will facilitate prompt and decisive action) to be Henry Allen Moe and Tom Cabot. I had thought of Wayne as a possible member of the Committee, but he has told me he just simply cannot assume any more obligations. We both consider Henry Allen Moe's sound judgment and long experience invaluable. Tom Cabot was, I believe, a member of the Board of Directors before this was



enlarged to become the Board of Trustees. In the old days, he and his wife Virginia paid several visits to the school and seemed wholeheartedly in favor of the program and the results we were obtaining.

Incidentally, we assume it will be in order at this meeting to elect Bert Muller to membership on the Board. This would be in line with the practice established in my day. In my recent talks with Bert here in Gainesville I have been delighted to hear of the progress EAP is making.

Finally, I would emphasize, in case the above suggestions do not meet with approval, either of yourself or a majority of Board members, I would expect you to vote my proxy for any program which seems to you most desirable.

Faithfully yours,

Wilson Popenoe

cc: Pres. J. Wayne Reitz