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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.

Sunday [7/10]

Dear Dr. Popper:

I am sorry to hear that you have been indisposed since your arrival, since I would very much have liked for you to meet my Father and Brothers, and also show you some small attention.

If there is anyway in which we could be of service to you whilst you are in San Salvador or if there is any data or information which we may able to supply you with, please feel

quite free to call
upon us, and consider
us entirely at your
commands.

Trusting this will
find you feeling quite
well again, I am.

Yours very truly

Edw. H. S.

- 2 -

A mi regreso de Norte America me daré el placer de comunicarme nuevamente con Ud. por cualquier detalle de ultima hora que se quisiera considerar.

Atentamente,

Francisco de Sola
Presidente
Junta de Directores

FdeS/elm

Mr. P. Spence: I think our friend from Tela RR who does press work should be alerted. Siempre a sus ordenes.
Cheers.

Dear Helen and Dora

Thank you so much
for your message of
sympathy at the loss
of my mother. She
went peacefully and
finally is at rest. After
much suffering it was as
if she wished to reassure
us and ease our pain.
It was an unspoken message
of love and dignity of
a great lady.

Thank you again
Ches.

May 27

Dear Helen & Mr. Popper:

It is such a pleasure
to present to you our
friends, Juan and Mrs.
Gaden Leptosa. Mr.
Leptosa is Assistant
Secretary of the Treasury
and has been here
with the U.S. Delegation
at the nitro meeting
of the Banco Interamericano
de Desarrollo. They
are going to Antigua

- during a short
recess of the meeting -
for a few days rest.

I have taken the
liberty of giving
them this note to
you since we know
how much you will
enjoy meeting them
- as much as we have.

Love to you
both

Chas

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLECIDA 1940

APARTADO DE CORREOS

Nº. 128

TELEFONO:

~~XXXX~~
3689

GUATEMALA, C. A.

22 de Julio de 1940

789

No.1394

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua.-

Todo comprador de Nitrato Chileno
está obligado a remitir el Pase Franco
a la Administración de Rentas en su
Jurisdicción.

Muy estimado Dr. Popenoe:

De acuerdo con instrucciones recibidas de Mr.
J.P. Armstrong hemos despachado a la consignación
de Ud. un saco de Nitrato Sódico y le adjuntamos
a la presente el correspondiente envío del Ferrocarril.

Lo saludamos atentamente y nos suscribimos
como sus muy Attos. y Ss. Ss.

p.p. De SOLA & CIA.

G. W. D. Franklin

GWFF:rg

Encls.

ORIGINAL SENT BY AIR MAIL

July 23, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
ANTIGUA, Guatemala

Dear Sir:

Our Mr. G. W. F. Franklin, of our affiliate in Guatemala, de Sola & Cia., has advised us of the interesting meeting with you and don Carlos Dávila, Director of the Chilean Nitrate Sales Corporation, New York, whom we represent in that territory, on the subject of the application of Chilean nitrates to Guatemala agriculture.

He has also advised us that you were kind enough to submit to him a confidential memorandum of your own, on the use of these nitrates, and the object of this letter is to express to you our appreciation for the courtesy you afforded our Mr. Franklin.

If at any time we can be of service to you in this country we request you please to feel free to call upon us at will.

Very truly yours,

FdeS:gb

Antigua, Guatemala, 14 July 1940

CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum for Mr. Franklin on Fertilizers
in Guatemala.

The following ideas and suggestions are based on my experience in Guatemala and elsewhere around the Caribbean, and are offered for what they may be worth to you. They cannot be considered as final in any sense. There is still plenty of room for argument regarding the use of fertilizers in such countries as England and the United States, where long experimentation on diverse soils under many different climatic conditions has brought together a large body of knowledge. Here in the tropics we are still very much in the dark. We cannot depend wholly on the results which have been obtained in the temperate zone. We must gradually build up our knowledge, based on experimentation under local conditions. During the past ten years, the United Fruit Company has experimented extensively with fertilizers in connection with banana cultivation in Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia and Jamaica. We believe we have learned enough to show that we can make money by using fertilizers under certain conditions, and we believe we have learned something regarding the relative value of different fertilizer materials. But we still have a long way to go.

IN THE FIRST PLACE, I believe that anyone in Guatemala who proposes to use fertilizers in connection with the cultivation of any crop plant, must ask himself these questions: (1) What elements do I need - nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, or only one of these, or two of them, or all three? And then he must ask, In what form

can I get them most economically?

Research workers in the tropics frequently receive soil samples from agriculturists, with some such inquiry as this: Will you please analyse this soil in your laboratory and tell me what crops it will grow? and again, Will you please analyse this soil in your laboratory and tell me what fertilizers it needs to grow good bananas, or coffee, and so on?

All such questions are more or less futile. It has been our experience - and that of others - that the only real tests are field tests. When we want to find out what fertilizers are required to make banana production more profitable, we lay out a series of field experiments, and test the effects of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potash alone and in combination. After we have conducted such trials for three years or so, we put the results into practice,

My own fertilizer experience is confined mainly to banana culture. In this connection, we have found that nitrogen is usually the principal element required to increase production. Admittedly there are soils which require the addition of other elements, but in most cases nitrogen is so much more important that we have concentrated our attention on this, and today all the fertilizers we use in connection with banana cultivation in the tropical divisions of United Fruit are nitrogen-carriers and nothing else. I suspect that our experience will apply in large measure to other crops grown in Guatemala.

Here in Guatemala we are a long way from the source of most of our fertilizer materials. It is important, therefore, to get these in concentrated form. Otherwise they become too costly. And it is further important to buy only those elements which one needs. In this connection I wish to mention that much money has been wasted in the past.

Let us take the case of Nitrophoska for example. This is an excellent fertilizer, highly concentrated and containing all three of the standard elements, N, K, and P. If you need all three of these elements, in approximately the proportions carried by Nitrophoska, then you could probably not do better than buy this fertilizer. But it is my feeling that there are probably few instances in which this is the case; and if you need nitrogen mainly - as is the case in banana growing - then you are wasting money by purchasing Nitrophoska because you must obviously pay for the phosphorous and potash which you do not need. The answer is to find out first just what is required, and buy only that.

And again, if you need nitrogen only, and buy it in the form of a fertilizer which contains only 4 or 5%, you are paying freight from somewhere on a lot of material which you could get more cheaply right here at home. Granted that organic matter is desirable, and that some of the fertilizers which carry nitrogen also contain organic matter, I see no economy in sending abroad for this material.

NOW, coming down to the consideration of nitrogen-carrying fertilizers, in which you are chiefly interested, and which I personally believe are those which in the majority of cases will pay biggest dividends here, I would like to offer a few considerations based on experience in the banana business.

CHILEAN NITRATE (NaNO_3) contains 16% of nitrogen, all in the nitrate form, which means that it is instantly available to plants, the moment it is put upon the soil. We have found that this material gives excellent results with bananas, under most conditions. Where we are afraid of Panama disease, we use it in preference to Sulphate of Ammonia (NH_4)₂ SO_4 because the latter is an acid fertilizer and we are afraid on theoretical grounds of acidifying our soils,

since we believe that Panama disease moves more rapidly in acid soils than in alkaline ones. Synthetic Nitrate of Soda from the States and Chilean Nitrate contain the same amount of nitro~~g~~^ogen and *WC* consider them equally valuable and equally satisfactory in every way.

The disadvantages of Nitrate of Soda are that (1) it leaches rapidly from the soil, (2) it contains Sodium, which on theoretical grounds is considered to have an injurious effect on certain heavy clays, making them less permeable to water (a result which we have never observed to be serious in practice, and (3) the freight cost is relatively high because of the relatively low percentage of nitrogen when compared with such fertilizers as Urea, containing 46% of nitrogen. I must add that it is my personal feeling that the last-named disadvantage is outweighed by the fact that it is difficult to use Urea economically in practice.

As far as banana culture is concerned, the chief competitor of Sodium nitrate is Calcium cyanamid. This fertilizer contains 22% of nitrogen, only a small part of which is present in available or nitrate form. We find that its effect lasts longer; but we also find that it does not work as satisfactorily on dry and sandy soils as does Sodium nitrate. It is therefore not correct to say that these two materials are altogether competitive. Based on present knowledge, we incline to favor Nitrate of Soda on sandy soils and in dry climates (such as the south coast of Jamaica and in our Colombia Division) and Cyanamid on the heavier, moist soils such as those of the Motagua valley and the north coast of Honduras.

Personally, I feel that Chilean Nitrate has a good future in Guatemala and that you can and should build up a good demand for it in this Republic. It has a long and successful history. In cost

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1896

CABLE ADDRESS
DESOLA

ALL STANDARD
CODES USED

SAN SALVADOR, C. A.

ORIGINAL AIR MAIL LETTER
(DUPLICATE BY STEAMER)

July 23, 1940

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
ANTIGUA, Guatemala

Dear Sir:

Our Mr. G. W. F. Franklin, of our affiliate in Guatemala, de Sola & Cía., has advised us of the interesting meeting with you and don Carlos Dávila, Director of the Chilean Nitrate Sales Corporation, New York, whom we represent in that territory, on the subject of the application of Chilean nitrates to Guatemala agriculture.

He has also advised us that you were kind enough to submit to him a confidential memorandum of your own, on the use of these nitrates, and the object of this letter is to express to you our appreciation for the courtesy you afforded our Mr. Franklin.

If at any time we can be of service to you in this country we request you please to feel free to call upon us at will.

Very truly yours,

H. de Sola

Fdes:gb

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLECIDA 1940

APARTADO DE CORREOS

NO. 128

TELEFONO:

2433
3689

GUATEMALA, C. A.

16th August 1940

899

No.1432

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.-

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

Thank you for your letter of the 13th instant.

I am sorry you have had trouble over the "pase franco" and to-day I addressed myself to the I.R.C.A. requesting them to forward the "pase franco" corresponding to the nitrate to you as soon as possible, to enable you to conform with the law by delivering it to the Administrador de Rentas.

Gibson placed an order with us ^{for} 5 sacks of super-phosphate and we have already issued our orders for its despatch to Finca El Naranjo.

Many thanks, and looking forward to seeing you whenever you can spare the time to drop in at the office and, in the meantime, with kindest regards I remain,

Sincerely yours,

G. M. D. Hankins

GWFF:rg

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA
GUATEMALA, C. A.

20th August 1940

Dear Doctor Popescu

I was sorry I missed you
the other day when you called
at the office.

About the 'Pase Franco'
covering the bag of Solite, I have
ascertained that it was
delivered to the 'Camionero' whose
truck transported it to Antigua.

Therefore, with you please
ask the 'Empresa de Camiones'
(I think it is Godoy) in Antigua
for the 'Pase Franco' and deliver
it to the Administrador de
Recursos. All this is a terrible bore
for you but in this tough, tough
world I suppose we must not expect
anything rational.

Best regards to you.

Sincerely, Gerda Franklin

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLECIDA 1940

APARTADO DE CORREOS

No. 128

TELEFONO:

2422

3689

GUATEMALA, C. A.

No. 1503

14th September 1940

1045

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala.-

Dear Doctor Popenoe,

I am sorry to bother you again but I have now received replies from Mr. Taillon and from the Chilean Nitrate Sales Corporation.

1. W.L.Taillon alleges that experiments have convinced them that the synthetic nitrates and the Calcium Cyanamid they use have a higher nitrogen content and better leaching properties than the Chilean Nitrates.

We are forwarding to the Chilean Nitrate people copies of Mr. Taillon's letters so that they may give their technical comments.

2. Free distribution: We have now received permission to distribute free of charge 5 metric tons of nitrates among responsible agriculturists who will conduct the experiments properly and who will, in due course, render a reliable report upon the results obtained and possibly take photographs of the plots fertilized and unfertilized for comparison.

We are anxious to make this distribution as sensibly as possible and experiment in all commodities produced in Guatemala.

We have thought of drawing up a list of 10 names and giving them 10 qq. or 6 sacks each. Further, we should like to make the distribution amongst planters of

Coffee	Wheat
Bananas	Corn
Cane	Rice
	Frijol

and, as you know every agriculturist of account in the Republic, I wonder if you would help me to choose the ten names. Or would you suggest making up a list of 20 names

DE SOLA & Co.
GUATEMALA

and give each 3 sacks?

Also, do you recommend that we distribute potassium or sodium?

Thank you very much for the help you have already given me and with the kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Guad. Lankin

GWFF:rg

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLECIDA 1940

APARTADO DE CORREOS
NO. 128

TELEFONO:

3-128
3689

GUATEMALA, C. A.

19th September 1940

1066

No.1510

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua Guatemala

Dear Doctor Popenoe,

Many thanks for your letter of the 17th instant.

I hope I shall have the good fortune to see you on your return, in order to talk nitrates, but if not, I shall look forward to receiving the letter you so kindly offer to write me about the list of those who are most competent to carry out experiments.

A good trip to you and kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

G. W. D. Sola

GWFF:rg

La Lima, Honduras, 30 Sept. 1940

Mr. G. W. F. Franklin
De Sola and Co.
Apartado 128, Guatemala City

Dear Mr. Franklin:

Referring to your letter of the 14th instant, I have talked with our people over here about fertilizers and find that, as pointed out by Mr. Taillon in his correspondence with you, they are using synthetic products which are considerably more concentrated than Nitrate of Soda and which do not leach so badly. All this does not mean the Chilean Nitrate is not good stuff: I think its widespread and successful use for many years is sufficient evidence to the contrary. It merely means that, under our particular conditions and for the crop we are growing - bananas - other fertilizers seem more satisfactory.

I have given some thought to your request for suggestions regarding the placing of experimental quantities of Chilean Nitrate with agriculturists in Guatemala. I would like to talk this over with you when I come back there toward the end of October. In the meantime, I suggest you consider the following possibilities:

Coffee: 10 qq. to Gordon Smith, Moca, and 10 qq. to Pedro Cofino, Antigua. I believe these two men are well prepared to give the material a careful trial and to report results intelligently.

Bananas. 10 qq. to Manuel Herrera, Hda. Velasquez. As you know, it is necessary to make any test in connection with bananas on farms which have Sigatoka control, and Don Manuel is one of the major private growers who has this. Furthermore, he is a keen agriculturist and much interested in any problem of this sort.

Cane: How about El Salto? Or Pantaleon?

Wheat: I should think Axel Pira at Tecpan or Teofilo Glinz at the same place would be the best bets. Both are intelligent agriculturists, accustomed to operating such experiments.

Corn, Rice, and Frijol: I would like to give some more thought to these three, and will talk them over with you later. As to which type to distribute, I would prefer the "potasico", since it contains potassium in addition to nitrogen and at very slight extra cost. We do not know how useful the potassium may prove in every case, but in some instances at least it should be of value.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe

BC: W. E. Turnbull

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLISHED 1940

CABLE ADDRESS:
DESOLA

ALL STANDARD
CODES USED

GUATEMALA, C. A.

ORIGINAL AIR MAIL LETTER

(DUPLICATE BY STEAMER)

8th October 1940

1131

No.1532

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Tela Railroad Co.
La Lima,
Honduras.-

Dear Doctor Popenoe,

Thank you so much for your letter dated the 30th September in which you kindly give us the benefit of your views upon Chilean Nitrate and it's propaganda.

I have carefully noted all you write and I shall act upon your suggestions.

Young John Smith is off next month to join the R.A.F.

Gordon Smith has had another heart attack since you left but, thanks to Ainslie and careful nursing, he is now well on the way to recovery.

I shall look forward very much to seeing you on your return to Guatemala and, in the meantime, send you the best regards.

Sincerely yours,

G. H. B. Franklin

GWFF:rg

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS
SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

Agosto 14 de 1957

Sr. Ing.
Mario Levy van Severen
Co-Director de "SCASA"
Santa Tecla.-

Estimado Mario:

Envío con la presente 1.000
aguacates que he comprado en el mercado,
y que ruego a ese Servicio acepte como ob-
sequio de mi parte, para el Programa de
Fruticultura que se está iniciando.

Atto. y S. S.

Francisco de Sola

cc: Ing. M. Pacheco
Dr. W. Popenoe

FdeS/nlh.-

it will stand comparison with other nitrogen-carrying fertilizers. I do not have recent figures, but a few years ago we worked up data on this subject: at that time Nitrate of Soda, Cyanamid, and Ammonium sulphate were closely alike in cost per pound of nitrogen and this is the basis on which one should calculate cost of such fertilizers.

Without having given this whole subject profound consideration, I am going to offer the following suggestions for what they may be worth to you:

If I were in charge of Chilean nitrate sales in Guatemala, I would urge agriculturists to determine, by simple field tests, if nitrogen is not the principal element needed by them in any given case. I would then point out to them that they can obtain nitrogen in readily available form and at an economical figure, by buying Chilean nitrate. Without knocking any particular product, I would argue against the use of complete fertilizers (which must necessarily be more costly than Chilean nitrate, if they contain the same amount of nitrogen in addition ^{to} of K and P) except in those cases where experience (i.e., field trials) has shown that complete fertilizers are required.

Wilson Popenoe

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1896

CABLE ADDRESS

DE SOLA

ALL STANDARD

CODES USED

SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

September 13, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua, Guatemala
C. A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Yesterday I received copy of your letter to Paulin, for which I thank you and I hope to receive some of their descriptive literature soon.

I am very sorry that I shall not be able to go over this week but I am sending this letter over with Leonora, who is going today to visit with Marta de Sherwood in Guatemala City. Since she is going to be there a few days, I have asked her to try and drive over to see you and Helen, so she may be dropping in on you some time next week.

I have not been able to get any clear picture of how far the work on the Viveros has progressed, except the statement from Mario Lewy saying "estamos trabajando". I will let you know as soon as I can come over and I am certainly looking forward to this visit.

The other day I received an offer from Tram Combs on Alexandre-Olivier Exquemelin "Bucaniers of America", London 1684, at \$160.00. And speaking of luxuries, what do you think of this buy?

"(EXQUEMELIN, Alexandre-Oliver): Bucaniers of America: Or, a True Account of the Most Remarkable Assaults Committed of late Years upon the Coasts of the West-Indies, By the Bucaniers of Jamaica and Tortuga, Both English and French. Wherein are contained more especially the unparallel'd Exploits of Sir Henry Morgan, our English Jamaican hero, who sacks Puerto Velo, burnt Panama, &c. Written originally in Dutch, by John Esquemeling, one of the Bucaniers, who was present at those Tragedies, and Translated into Spanish by Alonso de Bonne-maison, M.D. &c. The Second Edition, Corrected and Inlarged with two Additional Relations, viz. the one of Captain Cook, and the other of Captain Sharp. Now faithfully rendered into English. pp. (11), (55), 80, 84, (12); one folding map, four portraits, four plates (two folding), one text-engraving, small quarto, speckled calf, probably 18th century binding (old signature and old library stamp on title). LONDON: Printed for William Crooke, at the Green Dragon without Temple-bar. 1684. 160.00

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala
Sept. 13, 1957

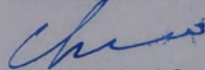
The great classic of buccaneering history, and one of the classics of literature in English; as Philip Gosse states in "The Pirates" Who's Who: "almost innumerable editions and reprints have appeared" of this book. With the history of the pirates by Daniel Defoe (published under the pseudonym, Capt. Charles Johnson), this is the principal source of information on the buccaneers.

The relation of Morgan's expedition and successful attack against Panama and return along the Central American coasts to Jamaica occupy some 50 pages. This edition contained for the first appearance in print the very important, historically, narrative of Capt. Sharp. **SPLENDID COPY; as fine as I have seen."**

I did order a copy of Longfellow's "Poems of Places", which contains, according to Tram Combs, poems on Yucatan, Central America, West Indies and South America. I was completely ignorant of any work of Longfellow relating to these southern climes, so I am curious to see what it turns out to be. Did you ever know Louis Agassiz? Apparently he and his wife wrote "A Journey in Brazil" in 1868, which I have also asked him to send me. I also asked him to send on approval, Griffith Hughes "The Natural History of Barbados", which I hope to be able to show to you before buying or returning.

With kind personal regards to you and Helen,

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1896

CABLE ADDRESS

H. DE SOLA

ALL STANDARD

CODES USED

SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

October 2, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala,
C. A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th. I am sorry that I shall not be able to get over until some time in November. The reason being that I am going up to San Francisco on the 13th, to attend the International Industrial Development Conference. I expect to be back about the end of the month.

Thank you very much for sending the copies of your paper on *Cupressus benthami*.

As regards books, I decided against buying the Esquemelin, but have received several good ones from Tram Combs recently. The Longfellow book is really an anthology and includes poets of many parts of the world, but all of them with reference to Latin America. I shall bring it over as a curiosity. The Agassiz book is extremely interesting and very well written and I am happy to know that you have some association with him through your friend Thomas Barbour. I look forward to seeing you, either here or Antigua, early in November.

I have now heard directly from the Paulin people, thanks to your kind letter and I am going to invest in one of their altimeters.

I am enclosing copy of an amusing newspaper interview which Mario Pacheco sent me.

With kind personal regards to Helen, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf
Encl.

MINISTRO DE AGRICULTURA DE ESTE PAIS ESTA DISPUESTO A DAR APOYO A LA INDUSTRIA FRUTERA EN NICARAGUA (Declaraciones del señor Ministro de Agricultura con relación a la pérdida de varias especies de frutas nacionales, al ser interrogado por el Diario "La Hora".

-Qué opinión le merece el señor Ministro el abandono a que se condenan los frutos autóctonos de Nicaragua, por el cultivo de especies comerciales o exportables como el ajonjolí, el algodón, la higuera, etc.?

-Ese es un problema de difícil solución, pues se ha hecho solamente cuestión de intereses.- Se ha abandonado el cultivo de frutales por motivos que en su mayor parte son culpa de nosotros los mismos nicas. En épocas de abundancia, se ven en los mercados carretadas de frutas que los vendedores tienen que dar a precios irrisorios por que no hay consumidores, pues parece haberse desarrollado en el nicaraguense el snob de comprar sólo lo que viene del extranjero, como las uvas importadas que se venden en abundancia, hasta a ocho córdovas la libra.- Lo mismo sucede con las peras, melocotones y manzanas, compradas a precios carísimos despreciando nuestras frutas que, como el melón, la papaya, el níspero, el zapote é infinidad de productos nuestros, tienen riquísimo sabor y alto poder nutritivo.

Por otra parte el agricultor al ver que sus productos no se venden, decide de inmediato dedicarse a otros cultivos cosa de la que no se puede culpar. Sin embargo hay aún quienes se dediquen al cultivo de frutas como sucede con varios finqueros de Rivas que están trabajando para mejorar la calidad de nuestros melones, que ya mismos son de excelente calidad.

-No cree usted Señor Ministro, que en Nicaragua podría haber una industria productiva de conservas y enlatados de frutas, tal como existe en Puerto Rico, República Dominicana y Cuba, por ejemplo?

-Claro que puede practicarse tal industrialización, siempre que los productores pudieran asegurarse el mercado interno y de disposiciones que limitaran la importación de esos artículos del extranjero. Hay países en los que se han impuesto tales limitaciones a fin de proteger la industria nacional.

-Por que no se le ha otorgado al cultivo de los frutos nacionales el interés que merece, aunque sea desde el punto de vista cultural, con propaganda de folletos, divulgaciones periódicas, etc., sobre todo aconsejando a la población lo conveniente que resulta incluir la fruta en la dieta diaria?

-Esa es una pregunta que podría hacerse a los dietistas del Ministerio de Salubridad Pública, pues ellos podrían aconsejar la cantidad, la calidad y las características alimenticias de nuestras frutas. Ahora bien, el Ministerio a mi cargo prestaría toda su cooperación a los agricultores, si el Instituto de Fomento Nacional decidiera abrir una línea de créditos a fin de subvencionar a los industriales que se dedicaran al enlatado de

frutas y de sus derivados, siempre contando también con que los pequeños industriales abandonen los viejos métodos de trabajo para dar lugar a continuas mejoras en sus productos, lo que redundaría en bien de la economía privada y la del país.

-No le parece que el Ministerio podría disponer la formación de reservas de viveros de nuestros frutales?

-El Ministerio a mi cargo ayudaría de inmediato y de lleno una vez que pudiera comprobar el interés por la mencionada industria, tanto de los finqueros, como del público consumidor pues si pagamos hasta diez córdovas por un tarrito de mermelada extranjera, desde luego produciendo esa jalea en el país y con nuestras propias frutas, el costo bajaría enormemente. En este aspecto tienen pues la palabra los agricultores y el público a los que repito, que el Ministerio está dispuesto a ayudar.

-Qué consecuencias económicas cree el señor Ministro que puede tener para Nicaragua el desarrollo de una industria a base de nuestras frutas?

- Sería, indudablemente, una fuente de riqueza".-

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Antigua, 14 Sept 1957

Dear Chico:

We were in the City yesterday and dropped in on Mr Frankli to see what he knew about your plans, and he told us Leonora would arrive at noon and had a letter for me, but that you could not come. We got the letter in the afternoon, and we hope Leonora and friend or friends will visit us any time next week as you suggest. We expect to be here. Mighty sorry you cannot come right now, but from one point of view it is just as well: I had forgotten how bad the weather can be, here in the highlands, in September. We could get around allright, but it rains practically every afternoon and would cramp our style a trifle. Come as soon as you can - we will be here. About the first of November I think it may be a good plan for us to drive over to Salvador, look over the work at Izalco and Santa Cruz Portillo, and go on to Honduras for a week.

I sent you yesterday three copies of a little paper on *Cupressus benthami*, which I have a suspicion will meet with your approval. At least I hope so.

I have seen various editions of Esquemelin or Esquemeling in years long past. As stated, it is "the great classic of buccaneering history" and I were collecting that sort of thing I would want it. But for all practical purposes one of the later editions would be just as good as the one of 1684 which is offered, and it is a lot of money, unless as aforesaid you are greatly interested in the history of the buccaneers.

That book by Longfellow, poems on tropical America, is a new one to me as it is to you. I have never heard of it. Was Longfellow ever down this way? Of course it is not essential that he ever was, for Prescott wrote his Conquests without ever having been to Peru or Mexico, and wasn't he blind besides, when he wrote them? It seems to me he was.

Anything you can get regarding Louis Agassiz will be really worth while. The Chair in which he sat at the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard was later occupied by my friend Thomas Barbour (who died some ten years ago) and I have spent many hours in the room with Tom, whom you too may have known. He came to Salvador with Allison Armour on the Yacht Utowana about 1939; George Lopez Harrison met us at La Libertad, I believe it was, and took us up to the capital. Tom, who weighed some 225 lbs, ate pretty well, and I recall his saying when we sat down to lunch, "Oh, just bring me a small five-egg omelet".

Hugh Craggs spent a day with us and browsed thru our library which we now have pretty well organised. On pulling some of the books his eyes stuck out like those of a blue crab. Hugh is a real bibliophile and I promised that when you come over we will go down to Palin and have lunch with him - and see his plants as well as his books.

Franklin says Victor has been down with the flu. I hope not a serious case. Helen joins in warmest regards.

Sincerely,

November 6, 1957

MEMORANDUM

A: DON FRANCISCO DE SOLA

DE: ROBERT P. ARNOUR

RE: MANZANOS EN GUATEMALA

A sugerencia del Dr. Wilson Popance, la huerta del Sr. don Francisco Juarez, Finca "EL CARMEN", Chichicastenango, Guatemala, fué visitada el día Jueves 24 de Octubre de 1957. Esta plantación se encuentra a las orillas de Chichicastenango a una elevación de 6,700 pies. Esta huerta es una de las mencionadas por el Sr. Roberto Ticho en su reporte sobre el Cultivo de Árboles Frutales en Guatemala y existen hoy día varios árboles marcados por él en esta huerta.

Los siguientes puntos de interés fueron anotados durante esta visita:

- 1) CANTIDAD DE ARBORES: 900
- 2) COSECHA POR ÁRB. (PROMEDIO): 600 quintales
- 3) VARIETADES: Red Delicious, Jonathan, y "Juarez"
- 4) TAMAÑO DE LAS FRUTAS: Grande: 4" de diámetro. Mediano: $2\frac{1}{2}$ " de diámetro.
Pequeño: $2\frac{1}{2}$ " - $1\frac{1}{2}$ " de diámetro.
- 5) VENTAS: Por Caja: Tamaño Grande: 120 manzanas por caja.
Tamaño Mediano: 250 " por caja.
- 6) PRECIOS: Caja de Fruta Grande: Q. 26.00
" " Mediana: Q. 21.00

PRECIO puesto en Chichicastenango. Para estimar el precio puesto en Guatemala agregar Q. 1.00.

- 7) PLAGAS: El Sr. Juarez indicó que una infección dañina, aún no alarmante, de insectos existe en las raíces de ciertos árboles. Para control de dichos insectos el Sr. Juarez estaba usando "Metasistox" un insecticida el cual debido a su carácter "sistémico", no me pareció muy indicado, y probablemente peligroso, para uso en una siembra de

árboles cuyos frutos estan destinados al consumo humano. Muestras de las raices infectadas fueron traídas a San Salvador, en donde el Dr. Berry las identificó como Eriosoma lanigera (Afido lanoso) y sifides (parásitos) sobre el Afido lanoso. (Vease carta al Sr. Juárez, fechada 5 de Noviembre).

ROBERT P. ARMOUR
Horticultor

RPA/bf

cc: Dr. Wilson Popenoe

*This was a very interesting
visit + I am grateful
for your suggestion that
I stay.*

DUPLICADO

S

Antigua G., 31 Dec 1957

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

For a month we have been hoping to see you over here almost any day, hence I have not thanked you for your Fukunaga's report and that interesting Treasury Circular, sent with your note of 18 November.

I am advised that Mario Lewy and Ernest Mortensen will be here on 6 January to spend a few days with Benitez and myself, getting in touch with material that can be obtained in the future for the fruit program in Salvador. I have just received word that I am expected at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP in New York on 5 Feb. We will probably fly up to Florida on 27 January and spend a few days lining up material which I will need in Spain in connection with the program we hope to inaugurate there in March.

Mercer Russell et ux were here last week and told me that no one has yet come to ~~Zamorano~~ from Salvador for training in propagation. We'll have to get something done; maybe Mortensen can do it. I will of course talk with him and with Mario Lewy about this problem. It is the present bottleneck, in my opinion, for without more training and lots of supervision I don't think Portillo and Castillo are going to make howling successes of the nurseries we have started.

Mario Jalil writes that he is not going to stay at Zamorano and is looking for a post in FAO, preferably in Ecuador. Russell says Jalil is not interested in coming to Salvador. I wish we could change his mind, for I consider Jalil and Benitez the two best Latin American nurserymently in Central America. Look at their nurseries and see!

Helen and I both hope to have the pleasure of seeing you over here before we head North. Best regards to all.

Ever faithfully yrs,

Antigua Guatemala, 5 October 1957

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

In my report regarding the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura I suggested quite a few dependencias which the school needs - such as a dairy barn, a creamery, bull paddocks, calf stables, galera for plant propagation, and so on. I know they intend to build some of these and I believe it would be well for the man who is going to design them to go over to Zamorano and see what we have done which is good and which not so good. They can get some ideas and avoid some of our mistakes. I do not like to suggest that their program of construction be based too much on Zamorano, but it occurs to me that you might feel free to make a suggestion to Ing. Pacheco at an opportuna moment. If you agree, will you please do anything you think wise?

Jorge and I went up to San Rafael yesterday - on the old road from Guatemala City to Antigua, 6815 feet. Fine crop of apples, very much worth seeing. When you come we will take you there, and to a number of other places. We still hope you will come soon; just as well you have not come earlier as the weather has been vile for field work. If possible, let me know or have Mr Franklin let me know about when we can expect you, so we will be on hand. No long trips on the boards until about the last week in this month when we plan to come over to Salvador to see how the work is getting along.

Helen joins in warmest regards to all of you.

Sincerely,

Antigua, 13 January 1958

Dear Chico:

Mario Lewy and the Great Dane left here two days ago, after spending a week with Jorge Benitez and myself making a pretty thorough tour of the major fruit-producing regions. I think we picked up a goodly amount of information and located some plant material which Jorge can collect and send when the nurseries in Salvador are ready for it. I will probably be out of the picture for the rest of this year; Helen and I are planning to fly on 25th instant to Miami where I want to spend a few days seeing Mrs Fairchild and going over the fruit work with Johnny Lynch and Roy Nelson and Bruce Ledin; then we plan to spend a few days at Gainesville, then to NY for a meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP on 5 Feb, then to Washington for a couple of weeks with the kids, then to SPAIN where we will take up the lovely little project at Almuñecar on the coast right south of Granada. During the summer we hope to meet Ticho somewhere, probably Israel, and see a bit of that end of the Mediterranean. Further deponent saith not, but we will see how we feel. The main thing is to do something useful, wherever it may be.

Discussion with Mario and the Great Dane bring out the fact that they don't have any faith either in Portillo or Castillo, and something must be done to push ahead the nursery program. Mario would like to get Jorge Benitez over there for a month at a time, maybe two or three times, to train perhaps a dozen young chaps in the art of grafting, some of these chaps to be chosen by you. I think this is a good idea. Mortensen doesn't feel he has enough authority to get right out in the field and tell the boys what to do. I do not agree in this; I believe he could train propagators himself without jeopardizing the popularity of ICA - I sure would take a chance on it myself if I were in his shoes. Of course there is also the fact that Jorge has had more experience in the propagation of avocados and mangos. The sum total is that it will be up to you and Mario Pacheco to push ahead the program as best you can. I feel - and I hope you agree - that the groundwork has been laid and that the ground is solid.

Dr Stern of ICATTI called me in to discuss the possibility of my making an investigation and report as per enclosed outline. I had to turn it down, for two reasons, first, I do not believe Guatemala is ready for a fruit and vegetable packing plant, and secondly, the job as outlined could not be done satisfactorily in less than about a year. I hope you will look over the outline carefully and be prepared to give Dr Stern your views when you see him again. I think he is a very able man.

Helen and I greatly appreciated your telegram of the 31st ultimo and hope you had a pleasant visit at Zamorano. I understand Jalil has had to turn down an offer from the govt of El Salvador because he is making a good deal more at Zamorano. I am encouraging him to stay there; he can continue to be very useful to all of Central America and if he leaves Zamorano we will lose much of the horticultural ground which has been gained.

Ever yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1888

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SAN SALVADOR.

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

January 20, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala,
C. A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I have been away in Honduras and Nicaragua and just returned the day before yesterday and found on my desk your letters dated December 31st and January 13th.

I went over with my friends the Brooks (who met you in Antigua) and spent one night at Zamorano. We were out up at the Lake house and only met Mrs. Paddock, since Dr. Paddock was away on a short field trip. We had a nice visit with her, as well as with the Allens and Russells. I had forgotten that Mercer was a graduate of Williams College, so it was nice to have him meet Bob Brooks, who is Dean of Williams, and they had a nice reminiscence together. Mercer has had some conversations with Mario Pacheco, as you know, and may be coming over for the School here, but I have no definite news on this. On the other hand I know that the Ministerio is going to request a leave of absence for Paul, from February 15th to April 15th, for him to come over here and do a thorough botanical study on Aceituno, including the collection of herbarium species. Paul is well inclined and I believe he will accept this offer provided he gets the leave of absence. The Ministerio wanted to get Mario Jalil's services, but was unable to do so on account of the difference in salary, which is a great pity. I do hope he follows your advice and stays on at Zamorano, rather than going back home.

I have not yet had time to talk to Mario Lewy, or to Pacheco, after their Guatemalan trip, but will certainly do whatever I can to push the nursery program. In my opinion it will take a full time man to keep the program activated and the public interested and I am afraid that whatever Jorge may start here may not be continued as it should be.

I regret to note that you are leaving on the 25th and all I can do is to wish you and Helen the very best for a happy, pleasant trip, as well as a fruit ful one. I do hope we can meet over there, although the prospects look very unlikely at this time.

It will interest you to know that we also went to San Alejo and Lancetilla during our trip in Honduras. Lancetilla looks very much spruced

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1896

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SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

March 31, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Rancho California,
Almuñecar (Granada)
Spain

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

It was nice hearing from you, as per copy of your letter of March 25th, addressed to Mario Lewy.

I do not think that they were able to get Jorge Benitez's services for the grafting work and I think that, failing this, your second suggestion is the best; that is to say to send boys over to work under Mario Jalil.

However, Paul Allen is going to stay here for a year, as from August, doing some work for the Ministry of Agriculture on a practical Tree Manual, and at the same time doing some work on the aspects of Simarouba glauca, which Bob Armour is not covering in his own program. This will refer mostly to extension work on Simarouba glauca; or rather its adaptability to different regions in this country. It may be that Paul may have time to instruct some young men on grafting as well, but this, of course, is up to the proper authorities to decide.

As regards the fruit program, I don't think that this will go ahead really until we have a top quality man at the head of it, with full authority to push it and also a personal desire to see things done.

I am sure you are having an interesting and pleasant time and hope to be able to keep in touch with you often. If there is any material you would like from here, please ask for whatever you need. It is not much trouble nowadays to ship material by air by K.L.M.

At Los Andes everything is very dry, but the fruits look good. This year we should have the first avocados from some of the trees you first sent me in September of 1955.

Please give my kindest regards to Helen.

Sincerely yours,

Francisco de Sola

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala
January 20th, 1958

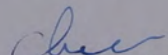
up, cleaner and tidier than when I saw it last. The boy in charge is Moscoso and he seems to be fitting in very well. I spent the whole week-end there looking for birds with Mark Trafton and Hank Lindellie and we saw some wonderful specimens. I also almost got indigestion with pili nuts, of which they have a fine crop this year. ~~In~~ our return we stopped at Cortéz and drove to see the old Omoa castle. Unfortunately, it is being used as a penitentiary and it is rather a depressing sight. We then drove back next day to Tegucigalpa over the Yojoa road, and after a day's rest in Tegucigalpa we drove to Matagalpa. Here we went looking for Quetzales, but unfortunately did not see any. We also went to Jinotega and I admired the region in general, which seems to be very well suited for coffee growing.

This is probably the last communication you will receive from me in Guatemala, but I would appreciate very much hearing from you from Spain and would like to have your address, so as to be able to keep in touch with you.

Thanks for sending me the ICAITI outline on fruit and vegetable packing. In my opinion, it will not be very long before some sort of fruit preservation program is needed here. For instance, the strawberry crop at Los Andes is now giving us a hard time, since we deliver the market about 1,200 lbs. a week and cannot get rid of all of them without some spoilage. This figure could be easily tripled at Los Andes if we found a way of preserving the fruit adequately which, of course, means a small jam or jelly operation. The Rubus glauca is also on the increase. What looks best of all are the avocados and we are leaving a few trees with flowers to test the quality this rainy season.

Much good luck to you and Bon Voyage and pronto regreso.

Sincerely yours,


Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

411
Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
1 May 1958

Dear Chico:

Many thanks for your letter of 31 March, which I don't believe I have answered, tho my affairs here are not very well organized and I can't exactly be sure what I have done from day to day. I don't think I have acknowledged receipt of Bob's excellent report on aceitunos, which I read with much interest.

I was greatly interested in the news about Paul Allen's plans and have today received a letter from him, written in San Salvador, giving me more details. I am sure he will prove very useful there. He is extremely well qualified and a hard worker. I still hope that eventually he might take over Lancetilla and spend the rest of his life there. It is a great place, and unless we get a competent person like Paul to stay there and utilize the results which are constantly accruing, I don't know what will happen to it. I have just heard that Dr Thornton has been appointed Associate Director of Research, UFCO, right alongside of Dr Hobson, the new man at Boston; and I think this augurs very well for a sound future. I think very highly of Thornton.

As regards the fruit program in El Salvador, Mario Lewy wrote that they are going to give up Santa Cruz Porrillo because the soil has not proved very satisfactory; and they move to a site near to Chichimeca. This may be a good idea. The last time I was at Porrillo I was worried about the lack of drainage in the nursery area. But the big thing is to get some plant propagators trained and somebody behind the project who will really push it. I had cherished the hope that the Great Dane would do this, but was worried when he explained the conditions under which the ICA men work: advisors and nothing more. It seems to me quite probable that the fruit program will languish this year; maybe that doesn't matter, just so long as it doesn't lapse into a state of innocuous desuetude. Paul Allen could help on the nursery work but I greatly doubt that he will be invited to do so, don't you?

We are getting off to a fine start here. I believe this month we shall receive scions (L.H. Bailey insisted on cions) of about ten avocado varieties from California, Texas and Florida. I have been surprised to see more than 100 avocado trees between Motril and Marbella on this coast, including all three races, tho the only representative of the Guatemalan race is a fine grafted tree at Motril, 20 yrs old and in full bearing, which turns out to be my Benik from Guatemala, sent over here by the USDA along with a bunch of other varieties all of which died after going by sea to Vigo and then down here by train.

We are getting lined up to fly to Rome in June to chat with the FAO boys and look at some of Helen's pet museums: then to Greece for a couple of weeks, then to Istanbul so she can see St Sophia, then to Rehovot (Israel) where I am lined up with Tichō to go over all their interesting work. Then back here and in late August or Sept probably to Canaries and Madeira to bring some material over here. It is lots of fun and I believe the work is going to be useful, tho at my age I don't cherish too many illusions, you know.

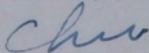
Helen joins in affectionate regards to all of you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Almuñecar, Granada, Spain
May 30, 1958

I am sending this letter in duplicate, one to Rancho California and one to your Madrid forwarding address, in the hope that one copy at least will reach your promptly.

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

cc: Dr. Popenoe - Madrid

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

May 30, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Rancho California,
Almuñecar (Granada)
Spain

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Yesterday I had a chat with Messrs. Prieto and Pacheco, Minister and Undersecretary of Agriculture, respectively. They asked me to write to you and inquire whether the post of Director of the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura might interest you. You know the present situation here in this respect, so I need not elaborate on it further. I can tell you, however, that both, the Minister and Undersecretary are most interested in your considering this job and all of us feel that if you were to accept it, you would be doing the Escuela and country in general a signal favor. It may not be for a very long time, if you would not desire it, but I would suggest at least two years, so that if you would not wish to commit yourself for any greater length of time, you could during that lapse of time train up some one else to take over.

Of one thing I can assure you and that is that you will have the most complete support from all sectors here, both public and private and it is my hope that you will give this possibility serious consideration.

Would it be possible for you to give me your frank reply at an early date? The Minister requests that you favor us with some reply, one way or another, with any questions you may care to make, some time in June, since they would have to start making arrangements of a fiscal nature soon after that time. Unfortunately, I shall be in New York City and thereabouts as of June 18th for about three weeks, so that your reply presumably would not reach me here before that date, but should you care to write to me in New York you may reach me at Hotel St. Regis, 5th Avenue and 55th St., New York 22. I shall keep in touch with Messrs. Prieto and Pacheco.

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

June 11, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Rancho California,
Almuñecar (Granada)
S p a i n

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I came back on Sunday from the Conference of Central American Ministros de Economía, where I was asked to attend as a part of the Salvador delegation. It was a most interesting conference and I am happy to tell you that four treaties were signed. One establishing free trade movements for about 200 different products; another agreement on highway matters; another one on uniform road signals and finally the Tratado Multilateral de Libre Comercio e Integración Económica Centroamericana. This last one is the most important of all, since it has been designed to promote new industries in Central America, the products of which will have free access to all the five Central American nations.

On returning to my office I found your cable of the 6th, which indicates that you received my letter of the 30th May, and are interested in the possibility of the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura, for which I am extremely grateful and now look forward to your promised letter. I took the liberty of communicating this news to Lico Prieto and Pacheco, who were delighted to get the news and look forward with interest to what you have to say about it.

I am leaving for New York on Saturday the 14th, so I hope your letter may arrive before that date.

Whilst in Tegucigalpa I went up early one morning to visit Dr. Standley at Hospital Viera and I am happy to tell you that he was in excellent spirits and appears to be in good shape. He told me that he had not had to have any medical treatment at all since he entered the hospital. I gave him your news and he asked me to send his best regards.

Thank you for your letters of the 1st and 3rd June and especially for the enclosures of Dick Hamilton's letter, and your note for Dr. Coit.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Almuñecar, Granada,
Spain

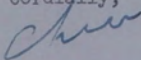
I shall ask Bob Armour to attend to the Carob seed, since I will not have time before I leave.

I am enclosing clipping from La Prensa Gráfica which refers to your fruit program. Bob informs me that this is going along quite well now and that there is room for optimism. The Great Dane went to Havana for the Horticultural Meeting and should bring back some valuable plant material, we hope.

I have particularly enjoyed your letter written with a Typewriter and if we can be of any help in obtaining Missionary strawberry-plants for you, please let us know. We could easily send you some by air.

I close in haste to catch the mail and hope to hear from you within the next day or so.

Cordially,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf
Encl.

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

July 11th., 1958

DR. WILSON POFENCE
c/o Mr. Robert Ticho
43 Pine Road, Mt. Carmel
HAIFA, ISRAEL

Dear Dr.:

I received your nice letter of the 16th. June while I was staying in New York City and had not replied to it since I wanted to await my return here. Now, I have discussed with Lico Prieto the pertinent parts of your letter and he tells me that he will be in touch with you very shortly just as soon as they have time to take this matter up officially. I certainly hope that they make you a proposition which may turn out to be satisfactory to both parties and I am only sorry that if this goes through we shall have to wait until next January to see you here.

I envy you your trip and would love to be on it with you.

I cannot give you any gossip from this end since I only got back the day before yesterday and also because I believe that if one does gossip it should be as juicy as possible. The only factual news I can give you is that Jaime Guiscafré will no longer be with I.C.A. as of August, so we are looking for a new Director for the Instituto de Investigaciones de Café. I find that we have several solicitations from Dutchmen who have had some experience in the East Indies. Dick Dyckman is here with the Instituto on a short term contract. Do you think he would work out as Director Técnico?

Last June I went to Tegucigalpa as a member of the El Salvador Delegation to the Conference of Ministros de Economía and I am happy to inform you that the Tratado Multilateral de Comercio was signed by all five countries, as well as the Tratado de Industrias de Integración. This last Tratado, in my opinion, is the most important one since it will allow products of certain new industries to move freely across the five Central American borders during a period of 20 years. Once ratified this should stimulate new and relatively large industries which can only exist with a large potential consuming market. The Central American market is already one of 10,000,000 inhabitants and since it increases at the rate of slightly over 3% per annum, it will double itself in about 23 years. In effect the Tratado de Integración Económica is the start of the Central American common market. I know that this news will hearten you.

Other heartening news: I visited Dr. Stanley at Viera and found him in surprisingly good shape. We had a nice long chat which, as usual, was most pleasant and informative for me. He told me he has not had the need of any medicament for about one year, which is very good news.

- - - -

DR. WILSON POPENOEJuly 11th., 1958.-

Since I seem to have gossiped anyhow, I will go on to tell you that I took young Chico up to Andover where he has been accepted for the Fall Session and where he will attend Summer School. I am sure you know this School and will concur with me in the opinion that it is a fine training ground for young Central Americans. I was particularly impressed with the Bird Sanctuary on the campus.

Will you give my kindest regards to Helen and hoping that you will continue to have a pleasant, interesting and restful trip I remain,

Very truly yours,

Chico
Francisco de Sola.

FdS/aem

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

August 15, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
c/o Mrs. Marta Sussmann,
Embajada Americana,
Madrid, España

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you for your note of the 14th July.

By this time you will have received my previous letter, outlining the set up, as it was at that moment in reference to the School. In recent conversation with Pacheco and Prieto they told me that they have not yet been able to discuss the question finally with the President, but expect to do so within the next few days. This refers to the fact that by statute the School's Director should be a Salvadorean, although both of these two functionaries are insistent that this aspect must be waived in order to obtain the right person for the job, and both of them are completely of one mind that that person is W. TITENO

Paul and Dorothy Allen are back here and are installed. They arrived during the Fiestas de Agosto, but Paul started charging around the country, nevertheless, as usual. His stay here will be of great value to all of us.

I envy you your trip to Israel with Ticho and hope to do it one day myself. Please thank Helen for her nice card from there.

Things at Los Andes are going along nicely, specially the avocados which look very healthy and happy.

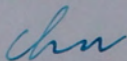
Jaime Guiscafré left definitely, since his contract with Point 4 apparently was not renewed and we were not able to come to terms for the Instituto de Café job. The Instituto (I.S.I.C.) is in the market for a new Technical Director and have had many requests from Dutchmen with experience in Java. What we really need is a man with experience in running a coffee research station and such men apparently are scarcer than "colmillos de gallina". Fred Wellman has been approached and has shown some inclination, but has asked my

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Embajada Americana
Madrid, España

own personal opinion which I shall try to give him during the next week or so. It would be a difficult move for him, having only recently accepted the post at Rio Piedras.

Kind personal regards to both you and Helen and many thanks for your newsy letters.

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada)
17 August 1958

Sr don Francisco de Sola,
San Salvador, Rep. de El Salvador.

Dear Chico:

We arrived here from Tel Aviv ten days ago, since which time I have been swamped with writing up material for the new edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, the FAO, and answering a pile of mail. And I came to Europe to get away from things!

I am sure I have not written you about the best part of our trip - the stay of ten days in Israel. Robert Ticho was extremely good to us; through his good offices, and those of Chanan Oppenheimer and Mr Rapaport we saw everything in the horticultural line. I will give you the details when I see you; they have an avocado country and are going right ahead with commercial plantings, mostly Guatemalan x Mex hybrids like Fuerte and a few straight Guatemalans, mainly Nabal and Benik. Mangos do pretty well and they are going in commercially for anonas (a hybrid between cherimoya and squamosa) and guayabas. Good people; very thorough in their horticultural work; and up against just about the toughest conditions you can imagine. I am for them.

I have several letters from you which I have not answered. Perhaps I have delayed a bit, expecting to hear from don Lico Prieto, but I suspect, knowing that I will not be free until the first of the year, he feels there is no hurry, and this is probably a good idea for a better solution to the problem might show up. I stand by what I have written you; that I will come if it seems that my presence is really needed and may solve a difficult problem. I am standing off a wealthy philanthropist in Venezuela, who wants to finance a fruit improvement program like the one we started in Salvador last year. My pal Jim Kempton, for 16 years agr 'l attaché at our Embassy in Caracas, is urging me to tackle this project, but if the work in Salvador develops I feel it should have preference. I could pick out someone, Mario Jalil for example, who could handle the Venezuelan job, which would only be for six months to a year anyway.

In your letter of 11 July you suggested the possibility of inviting Dick Dijkman to become director of the Coffee Institute. Much as I like Dick - and I know him well because he worked with us a year at Zamorano - I don't believe that is the job for him; and before I had time to write you to this effect, in comes a letter from Freddy Wellmann, saying that he has been asked to consider the job. He is absolutely my choice. He may need a little help on the administrative side, but I don't believe you will get anyone else as good, and I enclose for your information a copy of the letter I have just sent him.

This must be all until we get back from the Canary Is about the 5th of Sept; our address had best be Almuñecar until at least the 15th September. Just one last item; could you ask Bob Armour to pack in Vinyl and send by first class air mail to Ing. Luis Sarasola, about 20 or 25 nicely rooted runners of Missionarystrawberryplants? I believe this is about the right time of year to have them available - now or next month.

Always cordially yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1896

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SAN SALVADOR,

EL SALVADOR, C. A.

September 3, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Rancho California,
Almuñecar (Granada)
Spain

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I wish to reply to your letter of the 17th August, for which I thank you. It is extremely interesting to hear your views and opinions on your visit to Israel, not only in your own letter, but also in the copy of your letter to Fred Wellman, which you enclosed. Incidentally, I am enclosing a copy of my letter to him of this date.

The reason why the Institute decided in the favor of the Dutchman is that they believe that this salary would be more attractive to him than to Fred and also, because they took into account that Fred would have to leave a post which he has just started on and this would be somewhat of a responsibility if he did not like it here at the end. I am of the opinion that Fred would be completely adaptable, even though he is somewhat specialized in the field of coffee, but he could run the Instituto in the technical level as well as anyone. We still have not heard from the Dutchman, but I shall keep you advised. Incidentally, this Dutchman was highly recommended by the Rector Magnificus of Landbouwhogeschool at Wageningen, and also recommended personally by Dick Dijkman, who happened to have worked with him some years ago in Java. His name is Johannes Cornelis van Schooneveldt. With such a name, he should go places. Incidentally, if you are going to be around Wageningen on your way home you would do us a favor if you could get any information on this or any other "aspirant". I say this since we have not yet definitely heard from Cornelis as to whether he has accepted the job or not.

Now in reference to the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura, I think that they have already made you an offer, but I am under the impression that you may find it low and, if this is the case, I hope you will come back and tell them frankly how you feel about it. The difficulty seems to be the "presupuesto nacional" and the general level of salaries. However, I do not think this is unsurmountable, since there

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Almuñeca (Granada)
Spain
September 3, 1958

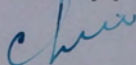
is a very strong desire to have the benefit of your directorship, not only at the Ministerio but also at the presidential level.

Bob is arranging to ship the strawberries to Ing. Luis Sarasola, which go with our compliments and best wishes for success.

It will interest you to know, I am sure, that a group of us (Compañía de Inversiones S. A.) has commissioned ICAITI to make a thorough study on the possibility of establishing a fruit and vegetable canning plant in El Salvador. This is the direct result of the interest aroused by the Popenoe Fruit Program (Point Five) and will, if the venture is finally undertaken, be the economic basis for the success of fruit culture in this country. This study should be finished in about 90 days, at which time we shall take a decision and before that time I hope we may have the benefit of further consultation with the Director of Point Five (Dr. Wilson Popenoe), as to actual areas for plantings of specific fruits.

Many thanks once again for your interesting letter and with kind personal regards for you and Helen, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf
Encl.

September 3, 1958

Dr. Frederick T. Wellman,
c/o Agricultural Experiment Station
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

Dear Fred:

Sorry I have delayed so long in answering your letter of July 30th, but it arrived while I was away and since my return I have been moving around quite a bit and have not been able to get down to the basis of the question raised in your letter.

Finally, at a meeting of ISIC (Instituto Salvadoreño de Investigaciones del Café) last week, the question of the directorship was brought up for final discussion. This after lengthy correspondence with several applicants from Holland and also after having considered other possibilities. It was decided to offer the job to a Dutchman from Holland, who had been highly recommended on the basis of his past experience in the Far East. The salary is of \$800.00, which I do not think would be of interest to you at the present time. However, if I am mistaken, please let me know and should the post not be filled, I would then suggest your name, if you authorize me to do so. The position of the Instituto is good in my opinion. It has done good work and its programs are well liked. It probably suffers from the usual desire of trying to do more than it can with the limited human element at hand, which in turn is based on salaries which are not always attractive to the properly qualified people. There is only one question in my mind and that is, whether the Government will continue to give it as a full support as it has up to now, since the drop in coffee values has, of course, seriously affected the Government budget and the Instituto lives from this budget. We are studying the possibility of a different system whereby all of the coffee industry may be more closely related to the work of the Instituto and participate in its budget on a permanent basis. This, of course, would be the best solution for permanency in the work.

As regards the future of shadeless coffee, I think it is too early to tell and that two aspects of it still have to be worked out; the level of fertilizer required for proper health of the trees and a

Dr. Frederick T. Wellman,
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico,
September 3, 1958

pruning system to assure continuous reproduction of bearing surfaces. There are many trials going on here, carried on by private individuals, but I do not think that any conclusions can as yet be deduced. I have a small patch at Altamira which is going into its fourth year and will give you some comparative results after the coming crop season.

I have been in touch with Dr. Popenoe and have enjoyed hearing of his experiences in Spain and Israel.

With kind personal regards and thanking you for your letter, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf
cc: Dr. Wilson Popenoe

DUPLICADO

Rancho California, 8 Sept 1958

Sr don Francisco de Sola,
San Salvador, El Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Just back from ten days on the island of Tenerife, pretty darn nice place. The Jardín de Aclimatación de Orotava, founded by Carlos III in 1788 (and they say locally it is the only good thing that monarch ever did), would make your heart leap with joy. All those magnificent old specimens - everything, I think, but the African baobab tree (which as you will recall, Tartarin de Tarascon had in his collection); about 1500 species altogether, from all parts of the world. Juan Bolinaga, a Basque who ran the garden for 46 years, retired a few years ago and now lives in Puerto de la Cruz, where we stayed in a lovely little hotel at \$2.50 per diem per capita, used to be a correspondent of mine; we went to see him and told him about it; he sighed and said, "you know I have reached the stage where I can't even remember my own name!" The islands grow bananas and tomatoes and potatoes, and what a job they do on their bananas! As I have just written Paul Standley, they water them with their tears, and the plants get a good irrigation every time those Canaries (as my friend the chief horticulturist over there calls them) put on any other water at 7 US cents a cubic meter. Actually, their cultivation is wonderful: they build walls of dressed stone, 10 feet high, around half an acre of bananas, in areas where the wind is strong. And they simply pour the chemical fertilizers onto the land - about four times the amount we used to employ in Central America.

Not many aguacates - not as many as I hoped and expected. Perhaps 2000 West Indian seedlings on the island of Tenerife. No orchards, except one of 18 months standing, mostly Fuerte. They have three varieties of local origin, propagated at the Jardín de Aclimatación, none of which sounds very interesting. Fuerte seems to be their best bet, so far. Strange: we all cuss out Fuerte and we cuss it out again, then we just go on planting Fuerte. This has been the case for the last 30 years. Most of the seedlings - nearly all in fact, are door-yard trees and not much fruit gets into the markets; almost none, except at Santa Cruz de Tenerife where we were able to buy 300, shuck out the seeds and bring them back here to plant for rootstocks. The more we see of avocados here, the more we feel the West Indian is going to be our rootstock.

We came back from Tenerife on the Cabo de San Roque, a new Spanish steamer (Ibarra Line) out of Buenos Aires bound for Genoa with 550 pasajeros; first class all sold out so we took "Economía" a term which we Nordics call second class but economía is less offensive to delicate Latin sensibilities, apparently. (They are now using it on the airplanes, ~~also~~ maybe the gringos like it better too). But the point is, we had an air conditioned cabin, lots of pretty decent grub with all the vin rouge you wanted with meals, and the price was \$22 for the four days' trip. Hard to beat that. I am thinking of booking a passage to Buenos Aires and return, ~~just to~~ live cheaply for a month - the round trip is somewhat under \$400. We had a half day on shore in Lisboa, and hustled right up to the Estufa Fria, where our minds is just about the most beautiful horticultural sight in Europe. About a hectare under half-shade, full of tree ferns and palms and camellias and foliage plants in general. The Portuguese, as I have told you several times I am sure, are really great gardeners.

On arriving here I found your letter of 15 August, and one from don Federico Garcia Prieto. I am enclosing for your confidential information a copy of my reply. I really feel that a manual of tropical fruit growing, based on practical experience, is something very much needed. If I don't do it now I will never do it; and if I don't do it I don't know who will. It may be a long time before anybody else will show up who has spent half a century in close contact with the culture of tropical fruits. Helen thinks the work should be published in English as well as Spanish; this will be up to Salvat Editores of course. I think it might be possible. Naturally, I won't make any money out of this job; I may get sufficient royalties to pay for the illustrations which I have to furnish - this is about what happened in connection with my Manual of Tropical and Subtropical Fruits. But I have never regretted writing that book. And incidentally, the proposed manual won't require much research (as those half-baked travel writers call ten days spent at the Library of Congress). I did all the "research" in connection with the first Manual, and now it will be a matter of telling people how to grow things.

If I were not convinced that this is the thing I ought to do I would hasten back to Central America and tackle that school, though I would, in fact, do so with fear and trembling. But I would do it anyway. The terms don Federico outlined are satisfactory; he asked for my ideas regarding salary, and I am sure there wouldn't be any trouble from this angle; I am not exigente and if I took the job it would not be with the idea of making a lot of money, it would only be to help make a real success of that school. From all I hear, the situation is not too bad. There are three departments to consider: Agronomy, Livestock, and Horticulture. In agronomy they have Plá who is capable enough, but who struck me as a bit theoretical. His ideas on vocational training are modern and struck me as a bit too advanced for Central America. Maybe I am wrong. Under him you have José Calvo, a fine tico whom we trained at Zamorano and then sent to Florida. They don't come any better than José. Then in livestock you have McKigney, who is excellent; and under him you have Ricardo Granada of Sta Ana, who struck me as a good teacher; he may need a little pushing in order to get out to the stable before the cows are milked. He also is one of our boys and a Florida graduate, as you know. Then in horticulture you have Jordan, from Puerto Rico - I don't know him but have good reports; and Juan Leiva, another tico and one of our boys who was sent to Florida where he did very well. Plá, McKigney and Jordán are of course ICA men, not supposed or likely to be permanent but if I am correctly informed they are all taking an active part and they might not leap with joy if they heard I was coming. The three Zamoranos are fine material; you are not likely to get much better because you cannot pay salaries which will attract Ph Ds - maybe I don't feel so badly about that as some folks do.

In short, the only problem seems to be the Dirección, and I wonder if that can't be solved locally. You have the backbone of a pretty good teaching staff. I would like to see about three more Zamoranos, preferably salvadoreños, on the list. Dr Ortiz obviously lacks the background to handle the school - and in a small school like San Andres and like Zamorano, I am afraid the Director pretty nearly has to run things. I found this so at Zamorano, after trying hard to appoint committees and have staff meetings and student councils and all the other modern trimmings. Again maybe I am wrong, but I am persuaded that the Director and with him, a loyal Asst Director, has got to make an awful lot of decisions and handle an awful lot of details which would be handled differently at the University of Florida with 12,000 students.

In my letter to don Federico I have said enough, I believe, for the official files. I believe they should try someone else, and a salvadoreño at that, as Director; they might hit a good one. If Manuel Chavez Vialud could be given an assistant who has a pretty strong hand things might go alright. Fifteen years experience at Zamorano has left me with the feeling that you simply must have a mano de hierro en guante de seda, and I believe in the long run the students prefer it.

Now to other matters - as regards San Andres, basta con lo suficiente as we used to say in Mexico. I do hope you get Freddy Wellman for I think he can do a good job. I had him in mind as a possible successor at Zamorano but he wanted to stick to coffee research. Paul Allen seems to be going strong, as one would expect. He is a tremendous and capable worker. I am wondering if anything was ever done about training two or three young salvadoreños at Zamorano, to make good plant propagators out of them? Or of course Jorge could do it in Guatemala. Or maybe Mortensen has already done it; I felt that he was a bit shy about stepping into the picture that far, his indoctrination having been to the effect that he was to "advise as desired". We can not very far until we have two really good propagators. If you only had Mario Jalil! He, by the way (and as you may know) expects to leave Zamorano early next year; it is probable that FAO will take him on. Ticho is strong for the idea and so is Pansiot with whom I worked three days in Rome (incidentally, it gave me quite a thrill to feel that I had a job in Rome, going down to the office every morning, past the Coliseum and the Forum). I wish FAO would send Mario to Salvador, but I suppose there is no need for him with the Great Dane there, and they do need him elsewhere. Pansiot told me the hardest jobs FAO has to fill are the horticultural jobs. They seem to have in mind some Latin American post for Mario. Of course I shall regret seeing him leave Zamorano; there will be a new point of view regarding many of the projects he and I have fostered - it can not be avoided. Mario has sent me a photo of the young mango orchard, the 14 varieties including the 12 new ones from Florida. You want to keep you eye on that planting. Some interesting things are sure to come out of it.

Dont forget the Missinay strawberry plant young ones. We are today receiving 15 lychees from Johnny Lynch but I don't have much faith that they will survive. Nothing much harder to move than a young lychee.

Helen joins in affectionate regards, which include all at Mirasol.

Ever yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

October 17, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Rancho California,
Almuñecar (Granada)
Spain

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Federico García Prieto has given me a copy of your letter addressed to him, under date of September 8th, and I am very sorry to hear of your decision. I don't know if I can honestly blame you and I am quite sure that the work you are going to do for Salvat will be of great lasting value and interesting to the tropical world, so that at least there is this consolation. Es consuelo de tontos. The tontos, of course, refers to ourselves in Salvador not to you.

We have already engaged ICAITI to make the survey for the fruit canning plant and this report should be finished and in our hands by the end of the year. I hope that it will be positive, so that when we may take some action quick.

Is there any possibility that you might be available for our Escuela de Agricultura after the Salvat job is finished? The Minister has asked me to ask you whether your decision not to come was based on an unfavorable reaction to his offer (demasiado poco "pisto"), or whether the Salvat thing is of more interest to you at the moment. Please answer me frankly. I myself think that there certainly was not enough "pisto" in the offer and it was an improper figure to present to you, and that this can be revised.

Sincerely yours,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Antigua, 16 January 1959

Dear Chico:

Next week we hop off for Mexico City, where we shall stay a few days to see the Turnbulls and talk with Ralph Richardson and Ernest Casseres (good lad, that!) and then we fly on to California, where eight years' absence has put me behind the times, both in a family and in a horticultural sense. We will have to be back here by 25 February as we have cheap 30-day excursion tickets (as a matter of fact I chose them because I want to be able say it is materially impossible for me to hang around California any longer; I have to get back to work).

I havent cambiared many impressions with you since we got back from Europe, but if you dont come over here in March we will probably come over to Salvador in that month or April. After collecting signatures and buying timbres for five days we got our new Volkswagen out of the aduana in San José de Guatemala two days ago, only to find when we got it bedded down in our zaguan that it cannot leave until the 1959 placass arrive, y solo el buen Dios, en su sabiduria infinita, nos dirá cuando eso pasará. It irks Helen tremendously to see Ou Donc III, as he is named, sit there in the zaguan straining at the bit.

Four separate and distinct friends have written me about the article which appeared in the Diario Latino, fecha 29 del mes pxmo ppdo. One might regret the misinformation in a way, but I dont. The article has brought forth some extremely interesting comments, mostly at second hand of course, which convince me if any convincing were needed that I would have a rather tough job on my hands if I tried to take over that school this year - or whatthe ICA boys like to call the foreseeable future. I have written my friends who have written me, telling them simply that there is nothing to the report published in the Diario Latino, but that I am and always shall be anxious to help El Salvador in any way within my power undrided the help is wanted.

Enrique Garcia Salas, presently Minister of Agriculture here, was a discipulo of mine back in the 1920s, at Lancetilla. I had a long talk with him the other day and he has asked me unofficially to take a good look at the Barcena school, which I shall be glad to do when I get back from California.

Helen joins in affectionate regards to all of you.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

February 5, 1959

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala,

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

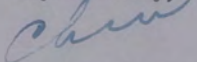
I have been extremely remiss in my correspondence with you and have before me your letter of September 8th from Rancho California, which came together with your letter of December 16th from Madrid, as well as your last letter of the 16th January from Antigua.

I shall refrain from commenting on these wonderful letters, since I hope to see you soon in Antigua once you are back from California.

Yesterday we had the visit of some Chapines cafetaleros, headed by John Smith. They have formed an Asociación Experimental Cafetalera, to do coffee research and came over here to see what they could see. In the course of conversation I mentioned the Juarez apple at Chichicastenango and Norman Lind said that he thought this might be one of the introductions made by you years ago. I would be interested to know whether this is the real history of this wonderful apple.

I am anxiously looking forward to visiting you and Helen and hope that if I cannot get over there shortly that you will be able to come and see us.

Very sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Antigua, 25 Feb 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola,
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

We got back from California three days ago (my brother Herb sends old-time regards) and before I had time to answer your letter of the 5th, which arrived during our absence, in wlaaks yesterday the Great Dane et ux with all the recent naws from your neck of the woods (I wish there were more real woods in El Salvador). Helen sent you, via the Great Dane, something we bought for you in Tel Aviv; a facsimile of one of the Dead Sea Scrolls, of which we saw the original in Jerusalem.

I went over the ground in California; talled with all of the surviving old timers, Dr Coit, Wm Hert~~z~~am, Ralph Cornell, Th~~o~~more Payne and the few others left; talked with Knowles Ryerson, Art Schroeder, Bob Hodgson, and others; and came back refreshed horticulturally. And now I am faced with another prob~~lem~~ (which reminds me of Juan Fernandez, on our last day in Zamorano; he came in sat down, mopped his brow, and said with a long-drawn-out sigh (Doctor, Problemas, problemas, problemas!). They want me to go to Venezuela - the Eugenio Mendoza Foundation, to help line up a program of fruit improvement which I suspect is based on the one you and I lined up for El Salvador. I have offred to go for two weeks to look it over: no salary, ~~no~~ further commitments; just a desire to help and maybe we could organise something worth while if they will take on one or two good men to do the job.

The Great Dane says the program in El Salvador is getting along, but that the govt made a similar program for Fomento and they dont need two. He also tells me Danial Amado and Portillo are no longer in the picture. He says they did not send two men to be trained at Zamorano because there was too much delay in making arrangements. I told him there is still time. He says they have trained some local lads who are allright. And he adds that he is happy I did not come ovet to tackle the agri school, wh other folks have also wirtten as I have passed on to you. The thing now is for you and me to put our heads together and ask, Quo vadis? Although I sometimes think the time has come for me to join the group who stood up in the Forum and said, Morituri salutamos.

I regret to say the Juarez apple at Chicastenango is not one of my introductions so far as I am aware. When Jorge Benitez and I talked with the owner~~of~~ the trees last year I got the imptession that it is a variety sent to him by a Canadian friend. Jorge is coming over here tomorrow and I will ask him and add a note to this.

Maybe we can stop off a few days in El Salvador on our way down to Venezuela in late March or early April. Our new carrito is standing in the Zaguan since 5 January pxmo ppdo because the new license plates have not yet arrived, so we cant drive over to Salvador as yet.

There is so much yet to be done, and so little time in whiiah to do it! We have to work fast.

With warmest regards from us both,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

May 29, 1959

ans June 3

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

It is some time since we have been in touch with each other, which I understand is due to the fact that both of us have been travelling.

On my last return I found that Roberto Quifonez have had a serious set back in health caused by a brain hemorrhage. This eventually brought on his death on May 21st, which was a shock to all of his friends. I enclose some press clippings which contain a very fine picture of Roberto.

I know you will want to get in touch with Emma, if you have not already done so, but I believe that she is going up to The States within a few days for the graduation of his youngest son, Fernando.

When shall we have the pleasure of seeing you again over here?

Very sincerely,

Chie
Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf
Encs.

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

March 3, 1959

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

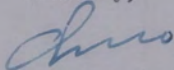
Many thanks for your letter of the 25th and thanks specially for the copy of the Dead Sea's scroll, which the Great Dane brought over and which is extremely interesting.

I am happy to know that you have been invited to go to Venezuela. This means that there will be more knowledge of fruit growing in Latin America; the more the better.

I only regret that I will not be here the end of March, since I am leaving Monday with the official party going to Washington. Although the official trip is only during a span of 10 days, I plan to stay up there to spend a couple of weeks with Chiqui during part of his Easter vacation.

Many thanks again to Helen and with kind personal regards to both, I am,

Sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Antigua, Guatemala, 15 July 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola
H. de Sola e hijos
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

You will perhaps understand why I have not written you in such a long time when I say that after my three strenuous weeks in Venezuela I had two idem in Costa Rica then two more idem in Mexico, taking part in the III Curso Internacional de Horticultura, under the auspices of the Organización de Estados Americanos. All very interesting, especially the Venezuela job, which I will tell you about one of these days.

It was good of you to send the clippings regarding the death of our dear friend and most useful citizen, Roberto Quifonez. Helen wrote to Emma immediately upon receiving your letter. Too bad he had to go so young. He did so very much for his country and would have kept it up.

I hope now to stay in Guatemala for a while, but you never can tell. I thought I had a green light ahead, but already they are hounding me to come up to Gainesville (Florida) for some meetings about the first of December. Fortunately, that is a long way off. And I would like to run over to Salvador for a few days - perhaps when my son Hugh is here around the end of August. He plans to come down for a short vacation. They seem to be keeping him pretty busy up at Gainesville.

You doubtless have heard that the University of Miami (Florida) has closed down the South Campus where they had all the fruit trees and plant propagation. In Costa Rica the boys told me Roy Nelson plans to start a nursery; Johnny Lynch might stay on as a teacher. And you probably heard, also, that the Minister of Agriculture, here in Guatemala, has announced that he is going to liquidate the Point Four cooperation as of 31 August. I have just seen Jorge Benitez who doesn't know just what he is going to do. Because of his excellent work here, I think he might be kept on under the new set-up, whatever it is. There is talk of turning the experimental work over to the Asociación Guatemalteca de Agricultores. We shall just have to wait and see what finally happens. If Jorge should be out of a job, I greatly wish you could get him over in Salvador. In Costa Rica, by the way, I asked Tommy Vilanova how the fruit program is coming along and he said he thought it is making satisfactory progress.

Writing your address reminds me of the story I heard in Venezuela. Boy comes along the street with a heavy basket on his head, shouting "mangos y hijos" and a woman on the fifth floor of the apartment house motions him to come up. He climbs the five flights, enters her door, and she says to him "Oiga, muchacho, no se dice mangos y hijos; se dice mangos a hijos" and sends him down again.

Both Helen and I send affectionate regards to all of you and hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Antigua, Guatemala, 16 July 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola,
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

You are quite familiar with the work of the Caribbean Region, American Society for Horticultural Science. We started from scratch and we have become a going concern, especially since Ernesto Casseres took over the job at the meeting in Mexico City which you attended.

With financial assistance from the Rockefeller Foundation, Ernesto has been able to publish most of the papers read at the last two meetings in the form of Proceedings, which we cannot ask the parent Society to publish because (1) too many of the papers are aimed at tropical horticulture, while the Society is northern, and (2) costs of printing are so high in the States. In Mexico City Ernesto and I discussed seriously the problem of securing funds for this work - we do not feel we can or should ask the Foundation to finance it indefinitely.

What are your ideas about this? To at least help pay the costs for the Proceedings of the Mexico City meeting, I am asking the United Fruit Company for a contribution of \$100. I myself am chipping in \$60. Do you want to help? There is so little literature coming out on tropical horticultural subjects that Ernesto and I feel the publication of the Proceedings is a real contribution, and it will get better year by year, if we can keep it going.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

CABLE ADDRESS
DESOLA

ALL STANDARD
CODES USED

SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

July 21, 1959

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you very much for your interesting letters of the 15th and 16th. I had heard that you have been travelling and I note that you have covered quite a bit of ground. I hope that your next trip will be this way and we certainly look forward to your visit.

I have finished a small house at Los Andes, so that we can now go and stay overnight. Things are looking better all the time up there and I am sure you will enjoy a few days of relaxation in this wonderful climate. More avocados are going in this year, next week to be exact, so that the original planting will now reach the total figure of about 700 trees. The only fruit we have had up to now is a few Aztecs of fair quality only. The peaches are beginning to produce, but they are not yet up to any standard of excellence either in appearance or flavor. The plums are still playing dead. However, the old plum trees we found there have given us very good fruit and we have taken sufficient grafting material from them to allow for a planting of about 196 trees this month. These are of three different types, the identity of which we do not yet know, but which were introduced by the former owner of the place. The strawberries are doing quite well and we have increased the area of the plantation with Missionary, the local variety which we call Aroma, and some Florida 90. The Rubus area is being increased considerably, since this is the most promising of all the horticultural ventures. Just for variety we have two Scotch Border Sheep dogs and they are great fun to watch with our scrawny flock of criollo sheep.

I had heard of the new development with the Point IV Program and have been wondering what would happen to Jorge Benitez. I will certainly try to find him something here, where I am sure he could be used to very good advantage.

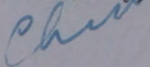
Referring to your letter on the subject of the publication of the ASHS papers, certainly I am willing to help. What is the amount involved and how much should I chip in with?

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala
July 21, 1959

Young Chico is here on his summer vacation and I have plans to go over to Guatemala with him to show him bits of the Capitanía General. This largely depends on activities here in the office which do not seem to slack off ever. However, I shall be in touch with you, if the trip materializes.

My best regards to Helen.

Sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

RieS/bf

Antigua, Guatemala, 17 Sept 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Many thanks for your letter of 21 July. I have not answered because you suggested there was a possibility that you might be over here with young Chico, but since the schools in the US are opening about now I suspect he has had to go back and therefore you may not get over here right away. When you do come, by all means plan to come over to Antigua and if possible spend the night with us.

The notes on Los Arides are most interesting. Your report on Aztec jibes with what I hear from other sources. It is a remarkably strong grower and productive, but the fruit is not of fine quality; in fact well below average. I am not recommending it for further planting. I am afraid the peaches are not going to be first-class in that climate, any more than they are on Yuca. They need more heat during the ripening period; but they should bear well, and those Florida varieties will be better than the seedlings we now have. I think your plums all belong to the Satsuma group, which are not really dessert plums, but very much worth growing. Kelsey is one we are now going in for, along with the old reliable Santa Rosa and the so-called Meina Claudia of Ecuador which I am convinced is a Japanese plum, and has nothing to do with the Reine Claude group from Europe. As for strawberries, up at Irapuato in Mexico they grow nothing Klondike for export - and the business is a tremendous one - but they like Florida 90 for local use; heavy bearer and good quality. They do not seem to use Missionary. As for Rubus, I wonder if you ever got the fine form of R. glaucus which George sent us from South America and which was growing on Yuca when I left. I think it may be superior to the form you now have.

As you now know, the ICA cooperation is liquidated but I am told six or eight of the American Technicians are going to be kept on as "asesores tecnicos" and the most promising projects are being taken over by various local agencies. I feel pretty sure Jorge Benitez will be kept on; he has done such an outstanding job and everybody knows it.

I am happy to learn that you are willing to help out with the publication of this year's ASHS Proceedings. It is a project eminently worth while, and if you are so inclined, I would suggest that you send a draft for One Hundred Dollars to Dr Ernesto H. Casseres, Oficina de Estudios Especiales. Londres 40, Mexico D.F. I think this with what we are getting from other sources will take care of the job and I for one am going to stick by Ernesto in his laudable effort to continue annual publication of the Proceedings. We have far too few good publications in the field of tropical American horticulture.

With cordial regards to all of you, in which Helen joins,

Sincerely

Antigua 11 Oct 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador

Dear Chico:

Tomorrow being the Dia de la Raza, Helen has just decorated with flowers the excellent portrait of el Almirante del Mar Oceano which we got in Granada last year; and I am here to tell you that I am booked for a meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP at Zamorano to take place on 6th and 7th pxmo futuro. We plan to drive over, and how would it be if we stopped the first night in Santa Ana, at our favorite hang-out the Hotel Florida, and went up to Los Angeles el dia siguiente? I dont know that you will be in San Salvador, or that you could get away if you are there, but I think we will plan to arrive at Sta Ana the evening of Friday 30 Oct or Saturday 31; we could shove it ahead a day if more convenient. I would really like to see how the avocados are doing, as well as a lot of other things - I am especially interested in the plums right now. If you are tied up - or absent - maybe Bob Armour could go up with us. In any case, I will call you by phone when we get to Santa Ana.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

October 16, 1959

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I am delighted to know that you are coming over here soon on your way to Zamorano. I do not approve at all of your staying in any hotel, except Hotel Mirasol. However, the last days of this month are very full ones for me, since we shall be in the throes of the first Meeting of Central American Business Men which is being held by ODECA and I must take part in this. How would it be for you if you came on straight through to Mirasol on your way to Zamorano and on your way back from Zamorano plan to spend a week-end with me at Los Andes? We now have a house and proper accommodations there, so that we could all be comfortable, and I am particularly anxious to go over the avocados, plums and others with you. How does this plan suit you? Please let me know, but in any case if you would rather not alter your original schedule even though I could not be with you at Los Andes, Bob could meet you in Santa Ana and you could then see the finca at your leisure. I do hope that you can change over to the week-end of November 14th and November 15th, on your way back to Zamorano. A vous la parole.

Cordially,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

P. S. Thanks for your letter of Sept. 17th, am sending my cheque to Ernesto Casseres.

F. de S.

Antigua, 21 Oct 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Many thanks for your prompt reply to my recent letter.

It will suit us perfectly to stop with you on our way back from Honduras to Guatemala - week end of 14 and 15 November. Figure on that, because I want very much to go over Los Andes with you, and see what is new.

On our way over to Honduras, we may plan to drive to Sta Ana on Sunday Nov 1 and arrange with Mario Lewy and Mortensen to come over that way on Monday and look at the Izalco and San Andres nurseries; maybe also visit the school. But we will leave San Salvador and Altamira and Los Andes until we are with you on the way back. We want to be with you when we can cambiar impresiones con calma, and there are a good many to cambiar. For instance, we have a new lily which I think is going to be swell for cut flowers and it comes when the common Easter lily is not in bloom. Maybe Bob already has it - I believe it is Lilium philippinense var. formosanum and is now in flower here, less than 18 months from seed.

It will be a tremendous pleasure to see all of you again.

Faithfully yours,

Wilson Popenoe

Octubre 27 de 1959.

Sr. Francisco de Sola
H. de Sola & Hijos
San Salvador, El Salvador.

Muy estimado Don Francisco:-

A nombre de la Región del Caribe de la American Society for Horticultural Science, me complace expresar a usted nuestro agradecimiento por su generosa donación de U.S. \$100 para ayudar a la publicación de las ponencias de esta Sociedad. El interés y cooperación mostrados por usted asegura aún más el fortalecimiento y continuación de la Sociedad en esta región.

De usted muy cordialmente,

Ernesto H. Cásseres
Secretario-Tesorero

EHC/ett

* This stops in
El San Salvador.
about 11:20 AM

Dr. Penner:

Many thanks for yours of the 22nd.
I expect to
I ~~may~~ pass thru on TACA ~~771~~ 771 changing
to TACA 701 in Sant. City on Mon. 2nd. on
my way to CR. Back via LACS on the 7th.*
This is a private trip due to serious illness
of my mother. Will try to see Bob Hunter. Afirmé Ernst

Antigua, Guatemala, 26 Oct 1959

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Rec'd a radiogram from Bill Paddock last night saying the meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP, scheduled to be held at Zamorano 5 and 6 November, is cancelled. Not too surprising, in view of all the things which have been happening at Boston recently.

Ergo, we will not leave this weekend for Salvador, thence to Zamorano; but I do think we will run over to Salvador about the middle of the month, for a few days. I will try to make it the 14th and 15th November in accordance with your suggestion; our plans will depend to a small extent upon how many more blunders the masons, carpenters, plumbers and electricians commit before they finish these two bath rooms. It takes time to correct blunders, you know. Reminds me of Joshn Billings who said, If you go into a restaurant with a worn-out umbrella and come out with a new one, that's a mistake, but if you go in with a brand new one and come out with a useless one, that's a blunder.

I will keep you informed of our plans. I am hopeful regarding the 14th and 15th proximo futuro.

Ever yrs,

Wilson Popenoe

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

November 3, 1959

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thanks for your letter of the 26th. I would be delighted to see you over here for the week-end of the 14th/15th. I suggest we meet at our office in Santa Ana:

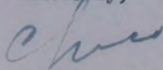
Agencia H. de Sola e Hijos,
11a. Calle Poniente No. 18,
Santa Ana

and from there we can go straight on to Los Andes. We could spend Saturday night there and come back Sunday to Mirasol. If you will just send me a wire and tell me your estimated time of arrival in Santa Ana, I shall be there to meet you.

With reference to plant material, Bob would like to know whether you could contact Jorge Benitez, to whom he wrote under date of August 10th, as per attached copy of letter, and may be you would be good enough to bring over the Nisperos. However, I think six would be too much for your car, perhaps one or two would fit comfortably, but if this is not practicable, please disregard it entirely. Also Bob would like, if possible, 24 scions of "Tanaca" Loquat.

I am looking forward to seeing you and Helen. Leonora left today for Dallas to hear Callas with some friends, but Hotel Mirasol will still take on all comers (read Popenoes).

Sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf
Enc.

Agosto 10, 1959

Sr. don Jorge Benitez,
12 Avenida No. 9-50,
Zona No. 1,
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Estimado Jorge:

Hace algun tiempo que no hemos cruzado correspondencia y espero que usted y su familia estén bien en Guatemala. Hemos estado discutiendo con don Francisco nuestras necesidades para árboles frutales en la propiedad "Los Andes", y él me pidió que le escriba solicitando su valiosa ayuda, una vez más, para obtener ciertas plantas de Guatemala.

Las plantas que necesitamos ahora son las siguientes:

<u>Cantidad</u>	<u>Clase</u>	<u>Observaciones</u>
200/300	Durazno nativo de semilla	Para usar como patrones, tamaño entre 2 y 4 pies de altura. (plantas en escoba)
6	Misero Chico Zapote (Achras zapote)	Plantas injertadas seleccionadas de árbol de fruta grande. Selección de ustedes. (plantas en pilón).
Cantidad será establecida según oferta.	Manzana variedad Juarez	Plantas injertadas de la finca de los hermanos Juarez, Chichicastenango. (plantas en pilón).

En el caso de las manzanas, preferimos no decidir la cantidad, la cual será establecida hasta que tengamos la oferta de ustedes. Una vez que tengamos los precios ofrecidos, podemos enviar nuestra orden de compra por medio de la firma De Sola & Cia., Guatemala, quien efectuará el pago por cuenta nuestra. A la vez será más conveniente para usted entregar dichas plantas en la oficina de esta compañía en Guatemala, nuestra única recomendación siendo que las plantas sean empacadas en cartones o cajas adecuadas para su transporte a San Salvador.

Esperando tener buenas noticias suyas dentro de poco, aprovecho para enviarle un atento saludo de parte de don Francisco y el suscrito.

Atentamente,

Robert P. Armour
Horticultor

RPA/bf
Sr. don Francisco de Sola

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Antigua, 13 Novbre 1959

Mr Franklin:

Anoche recibí 200 matitas de durazno para patrones, pedidas por Don Francisco de Sola, - como hablamos ayer. Estoy mandando mi jardinero Gonzalo con dos muestras para que la Direccion de Sanidad Vegetal extienda el Certificado necesario para que las plantas sean recibidas en San Salvador. Las llevaré mañana como equipaje en TACA que sale de la Aurora a las 11.05 horas.

Si tenga oportunidad para hablar con Don Chico hoy, favor decirle que vengo con las plantas ^d pedidas; que llego en TACA un poco antes de las doce (creo) y que seria muy conveniente llevar las plantitas a Los Andes mañana - si esto fuese posible - y abrigo esperanzas pero tengo mis dudas.

Ademas, y por ultimo, necesito unos dos costales o sacos de yute o henequén para estos 200 arbolitos; y le agradecería si pudiera Ud decirle a Gonzalo donde los pueda comprar en Guatemala, para traerlos hoy en la tarde.

Afmo y SS

Wilson Popenoe

55615

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLECIDA 1940

APARTADO DE CORREOS
No. 128TELEFONO:
3653

GUATEMALA, C. A.

Noviembre 13, 1959-

Nº 315-M

Señor Dr.
Wilson Popenoe.
Antigua G.

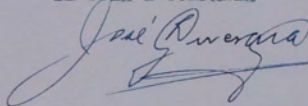
Apreciable Doctor:

Le damos las gracias por su atenta carta fecha de hoy, dirigida a Mr. Franklin, y de conformidad con sus deseos le estamos enviando con el mismo portador los 2 sacos pedidos así como el Certificado de Sanidad por los 200-arbolitos de durazno.

Agradeciéndole su atención y deseándole buen viaje, quedamos

Attos. Ss. Ss.

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA



Jlgg

56322

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA

ESTABLECIDA 1940

APARTADO DE CORREOS
No. 128TELEFONO:
3653

GUATEMALA, C. A.

Enero 21, 1960-

Nº 24-M

Señor Doctor
Wilson Popenoe
Antigua G.

Muy apreciable Doctor:

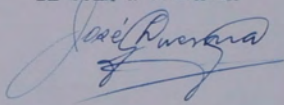
En cumplimiento de instrucciones de don Francisco de Sola, tenemos el gusto de remitirle adjunto a la presente nuestro cheque N° B19888 a su orden y contra el Bank of London & Montreal Ltd. por Q 60.00.

Le estimaremos se sirva firmar y devolvernos el recibo que también adjuntamos que es necesario para nuestra contabilidad. Muy agradecidos.

Sin otro particular de momento quedamos,

sus Attos. y Ss. Ss.

DE SOLA & COMPAÑIA



Incl./ Cheque y Recibo-

jlgg/

Receipt returned 9 Feb 1960 by mail
to apartado 128 Guatemala

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Antigua G, 9 Feb 1960

Dear Chico:

I got back from Florida last night. I went to be with Hugh when they slapped the doctoral hood over his head; then he and I did a swell tour of horticultural south Florida - a week.

I did not have time to get the peach seedlings before I left; I will encargar them tomorrow on my way into town and I am sure will be able to ship them within a week. Peaches are still perfectly dormanthere so I think they will move very well. I got your check for \$60 to pay for them, and thank you for the same.

I have the correspondence (copies) in re the plants of Rubus glaucus sent to Mr Turnbull and greatly appreciate all that Bob did in this connection. His cultural notes are excellent and will be useful to me as well as to Mr Turnbull.

I will write when I deliver the peach seedlings to Mr Franklin. Helen and I plan to leave here about March 10 ~~tan~~ Volkswagen; will sleep in Sta Ana in order to spend the following day at the Escuela Mal de Agricultura and Sta Tecla; and will spend that night with you if convenient. Will give you due warning, por si acaso.

I saw a lot of things in Florida which I want to pass on to you, - the observations, that is! Helen greatly enjoyed the visit of Leonor and friends here; I am sorry I missed them. If there is anything I can bring over from here when we come next month, do not hesitate to let me know.

Ever yours,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Antigua G, 15 Feb 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador

Dear Chico:

This noon my cliente at San Lucas brought down what he says are 500 peach seedlings. I havent counted them but I guess he is about right. The main thing, to my way of thinking, is this: I like the size of the seedlings, which I obtained after showing him a lead pencil. I do not believe seedlings more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter ~~are~~ desirable.

I am driving into town tomorrow morning to leave these trees with Mr Franklin, and am taking two separately for him to send to Sanidad Vegetal and get a pase franco or whatever you call it. They only asked for one last time but I thought we could afford two, this time. I do hope these seedlings will do as well as the last lot. And here is otro sí; a chap came down from Carmona last week and said the dueños wanted you to know you could have any propagating material you want from Carmona. You want that Kelsey plum, say I; and when you are ready to graft these peach seedlings just tell me how many Kelsey buds you want and I will roll up to Carmona and get them for you. Without much doubt the Satsuma group is your best bet, but if I were in your shoes I would put in some Kelseys and some Santa Rosas, por si acaso.

Ever yo rs,

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Antigua G, 1 March 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola,
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

It now appears that we will roll out of here in the Volkswagen on Saturday 12 March. Sleep in Santa Ana at our favorite hotel, Florida; Spend Sunday in Santa Ana, calling on Carlos Lopez y Lopez and perhaps one or two others - we are likely to meet them at the hotel, you know how it is in these towns. Then on Monday 14th we would go on down the road and stop at the Escuela Nal de Agricultura for a couple of hours, especially if Manuel Chavez Viaud is there; then maybe stop at Sta Tecla, and roll into San Salvador evening.

I want to thank you and Bob for taking care of Mr Turnbull, in re the Rubus glaucus plants. He was very appreciative, as am I. When I was in Florida a couple of weeks ago they told me about a couple of varieties of red raspberries which might do well down here. I think one of them must be what Scott got some years ago and in spite of my misapprehensions produced good fruit at Toncontin. Incidentally, I believe you know that my nephew John Popenoe has taken over the job of horticulturist at Homestead left vacant by the untimely death of Bruce Ledin, so we can count on continued cooperation from that angle. They have some good things there; I saw them on my recent visit, and we must get them.

Ever yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

March 1st, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I am ashamed that since my return from our visit with you we have not given you a sign of life, nor have I acknowledged your letters of the 9th and 15th February.

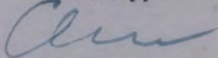
In the meantime the VIP party has been over and met you and, I may say, completely charmed by all of you. The Uptons party were delighted with your visit and yesterday I received a book which I am to deliver to you, but which I shall hold for your arrival.

The peach seedlings arrived in fine condition, sent by special courier from Guatemala, which is the way that Popenoe material should always travel. If you don't mind being courier yourself for the next remittance, could you bring me Kelsey grafting material for about 100 rootstocks or so. I have about 200 rootstocks ready, but I think about 100 Kelseys would be enough. Also would you mind bringing for me some Ruby citrus material.

I am going over on Thursday to San Pedro for a meeting. Will spend a night or so at San Alejo with Hank and a couple of nights at Guanaja.

We look forward to seeing you and I am planning to go over to Zamorano to hear your address.

Sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Antigua, 6 March 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola,
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Two hours after your letter of 1 March arrived (yesterday) Jorge Benitez rolled in and together we went up to Carmona to see about the Kelsey scions (puas). I can get them. Because of our lack of really cold weather (I assume) some of the trees have a few fruits which will ripen in a month or so; others are now in bloom. I am glad you want Kelsey; to my way of thinking it is the eatingest plum we have here, and it certainly has a good reputation in the US for its dessert quality but I think Sta Rosa is better commercially; and just because I think that Reina Claudia from Ecuador is commercially a darn fine thing I am going to bring over some scions; because I am not sure you already have material of this variety and if you dont you should.

I will bring as many buds of the Ruby orange as I can get off my tree. There wont be too many and the trees at Pintada are not producing any good budwood now. However and I went there yesterday to get the last of the Cleopatra mandarin fruits. We cleaned up the tree; I sent (previously) 3400 seeds to Venezuela, and Jorge has all he can use here. Wish I knew if you need any in Salvador; we have the last of this year's crop, from what I believe is the only bearing tree in Guatemala (we planted it at Pintado in 1930 I believe). Those trees to which Tommy Vilanova introduced us down on the road between San Salvador and La Libertad are probably producing more seed than Salvador can use.

As previously advised, Helen and I expect to arrive in Santa Ana on the evening of next Saturday 12 March. I will try to phone you, and you can then tell me what to do with the budwood - if I get it across the two frontiers successfully. I will take along a document from here por si acaso.

If I had to recommend three plums right now, for local conditions, I sure would say Santa Rosa, Kelsey and the so-called Reina Claudia of Ecuador which has done so well on Uyuca. Fine commercial plum.

We are glad to hear you plan to go to Zamorano, not to hear my brief talk but I think Mario Jalil will be over there too, and we can check up on some of the fruit possibilities. I would like to go with you two as far as Guinope to see those two apple trees at 4400 feet which bear pretty fair small apples - George Darrow saw them as was much interested. He thought they belonged to the group known as Spanish crabs - but they are not bitter like some crabs. Make good apple sauce.

Ever yours,

Antigua G, 10 April 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

To bring us up to date: After you left Zamorano, Pelen and I went back to Guinope (en route, I showed Pelen the maculizo and he promises to take care of the seed job) where we saw the Rodriguez perote trees and found about ten more, mostly two cuadras below that casa estilo Tegucigalpa. There were plenty of sprouts. As you know, I was rather afraid to take any from the Rodriguez trees, there were so few and as you said the season is not favorable. But since there are plenty of sprouts elsewhere, we got some, and I left them with Vasquez at Monserrat, but I wouldn't give 15 centavos for their chances of growing. They might be saved in a northern greenhouse with bottom heat and high humidity. Maybe one or two will pegar at Monserrat. I think the way for us to get this thing started is to have some rootstocks and bring scions from Guinope. We should work from this angle.

This matter of Spanish (and perhaps other) crabs or perotes is something you and I are going to follow up. A decent apple even though a small one which will produce at 4500 feet is worth while.

I left some plants of the Petraea with Vasquez which I believe will grow. I had some more which I was bringing over here but by mistake left the package at Santa Ana, thinking it was some puas of the Red Ceylong peach. We don't need the Petraeas over here, and perhaps Jorge will be able to use the Red Ceylon Peach puas here - I gave them to him. This peach may not be the right sort of thing for you - too much like the Florida varieties. But if Jorge gets some started we will see you have a few to try. The Red Ceylon is undoubtedly the peach will fruit here at the lowest elevations.

This pill nut business: I am getting enthusiastic, because you are. I don't think you miss many good bets. I left you some nuts which the boys got me at Zamorano. I am going after this thing and try to get a lot of trees started here in such regions as San Antonio Suchitepequez and ~~and~~ Chocoma/ Jorge will help us. I believe we can run these boys from Hawaii with their macadamias off the map. Bob Armour, who left here a week ago, says the pill is hard to graft and I believe it; but he and I both think it can be done. That is the first approach - good varieties vegetatively propagated. But we will go ahead mientras tanto with seedlings from the best trees.

I left Leonore the Velasquez picture you requested. We were able to get up to San Antonio. He had about 8 pictures on hand and Helen picked out the best; she says he is losing ground though this one is as good as he has done in the old days. He is selling almost no pictures today because Helen is not at Zamorano to put out the propaganda and Elizabeth in Tegucigalpa is going out of business, or so she says.

We were sorry to miss you in San Salvador. Leonore took awfully good care of us as usual, and we had a dinner with the Zamoranos at Siete Mares. There is a lad at Zamorano, Tomas Salgado, who is doing a fine job on the nursery. If he could be used in Salvador, he would be an asset. He would like to leave Zamorano because he wants to get married and there is no housing. He is from El Paraiso, Honduras. He would be a fine man for the Great Dane but he is not a salvadoreño. Good plant propagators are scarce down this way. Verbum sap.

Ever yours

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

April 25, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

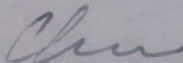
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I am writing in haste, since I am taking off for Costa Rica within a few minutes.

I did want to send you the check for the Velasquez, which I hereby enclose in the amount of \$25.00. Thank you very much and thank you also for the Pili Nuts, the Perotes and the Petreas.

I will write you as soon as I get back from Costa Rica.

Sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Enc. : Check No. 6242, on The First National City Bank of New York,
in the amount of \$25.00.

Antigua Guatemala, 1 May 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador

Dear Chico:

Thanks for your note of 25 April, enclosing check in the amount of \$25 US cy for the Velasquez picture. I do not believe those Pili nuts from Zamorano are going to be very good propagating material. I have opened several I brought over here. Climate perhaps dry?

I am writing to say that the Director General of the Instituto de Fomento Nacional at Managua has written me saying, "Estamos interesados en desarrollar explotaciones de frutas tropicales para la exportación, principalmente a Estados Unidos de America". He has asked me to come over and talk things over in a preliminary fashion, and I have offered to go for a few days around the last half of May, without feeling, however, that I can be of great help at this stage of the game. They are interested in frutas para la exportación, "ya sea en forma fresca o procesada". You will recall what you told me about Mr Fox, who had been offered a large tract in Nicaragua for production of citrus for Minute Maid.

You are so well informed in all this field, if you have any advice about what should be done in Nicaragua, which you care to pass on to me, I would be glad to have it.

Warmest regards always,

Sincerely,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

May 3, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I got back Saturday from a trip to Costa Rica, having gone there as a member of the Salvador Delegation to the Conference of the Ministros de Economía. Once this was over, last Thursday, Leonora joined me and together we took a trip up behind the Irazú, to try and see some quetzales (the kind with feathers on them). We visited with Mr. and Mrs. Rodrigo Thun, he being an Ornithologist, and we had a very interesting day.

When next we see you I shall give you my impression of what is going on on that cloud forest. In order to get back we went through the finca of Mr. and Mrs. Franz von Tattenbach. This is a large finca in cloud forest, at about from 2,000 meters up to 3,000 and going down again to about 1,200 meters. I was struck by the total absence of fruit trees, or aguacates, and I mentioned to them that it would be very interesting to try and introduce plums, peaches and aguacates. I offered to write to you asking for advice on possible varieties and I would be willing to ship from my stock a few grafted trees. The one difficulty there may be is the rainfall, which is in the order of about 3,000 millimeters, spread over about seven months of the year. Can you give me any advice on this, so that I can act with these friends?

Incidentally, I think Costa Rica needs a fruit program and I wonder wheather you would be willing to help them, like you did with us in Venezuela, providing the proper invitation was made to you, under conditions acceptable to you.

Kind personal regards to Helen.

Sincerely,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Antigua G, 7 May 1960

Dear Chico:

Yrs of 3rd just recd. It is always a great pleasure to hear from you, because we have so many interests in common and so many of them present real possibilities.

Speaking of those feathered quetzales reminds me that Doña Amparo de Zeledón, whose husband I knew very well in those dear dead days beyond recall (I believe he was the owner of the Botica Francesa) had a fine place right at the end of the Sabana, just to one side of what was the airport until a couple of years ago; and she had a big aviary in which she had some quetzales - giving for the first, in my experience, the lie to the old tradition that quetzal would not live in captivity.

About a fruit program for Costa Rica: I have been rather afraid to tackle one, for two reasons, (1) at elevations above 6000 feet around the meseta central it is pretty darn wet, and (2) I have felt that Turrialba with its excellent technical staff would handle all such problems. On the slopes above Cartago, road to Irazu, they have some peaches and they haven't done too well. At the Roberts dairy last year we saw a few plum trees carrying good crops. If anything will thrive in that region I think plum would be the bet. Incidentally, I am struggling with one Satsuma and one Reina Claudia (Ecuador) right now in my patio, both of which are carrying some fruits and both of which are still in bloom. You know better than I that our first project in these countries should be plums! I want to tackle peaches next because so little has been done with them. We will get some first-class hard clingsones of the Chinese group which people won't say are soft and mealy! Bigger and better than the present seedlings.

I am flying to Nicaragua on the 16th instant to see what I can do to be of assistance, as I have written you. I do not feel that the possibilities there are nearly as great as they are (1) in Guatemala and (2) in Salvador and (3) in Honduras, though I think things will move slowly in the latter country.

But in response to the last paragraph of your letter, I would be glad to help in Costa Rica in any way I can, and it would not be a question of money. I have decided that it is best to help on these projects - as I did in Venezuela - on the basis of actual expenses as I did in Spain and Israel also. You folks in Salvador were good to me, on that first job after I left EAP, but I have begun to fear that such contracts may lead to criticism of the govt which pays gringos enormous salaries, and total nada. Let's devote the remaining years of our lives to trying to be useful, and forget about the money because (trite remark) we can't take it with us anyway.

I enclose copy of a letter to my old compadre George Darrow. I believe we can beat this apple game. Something better than the Guinope apple and adapted to the same climate. Best regards to all of you, in which Helen joins.

Sincerely,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

CABLE ADDRESS
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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

May 9th, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No.2,
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Doctor:

I refer to your letter of the 1st. and certainly believe that you should accept the Nicaraguan invitation although I do think that you should insist on a fee, even though this may go against your grain. It is quite a coincidence that your letter crossed with mine of the 3rd. where I mentioned a similar activity in Costa Rica. Since we both belong to the Pili Club (you are the President and I am the Secretary) I suggest that both Nicaragua and Costa Rica may have excellent unused tracts of land where contented Pilies can grow.

Please advise what date you wish reservations for at Hotel Mirasol.

Sincerely,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/elm

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

May 12, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I was afraid that you would confirm to me that the type of country I was in, in Costa Rica, was too wet for most fruits. In any case I am sending a few plums, aguacates and R. glauca.

I am delighted to know that you are going over to Nicaragua. Although things may move more slowly there than in other countries, I am sure there must be very good growing conditions for many different types of fruits. I would urge you to reconsider your stand as regards remuneration. There could never be any criticism on the work done by you.

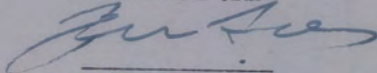
You haven't really told me whether you would accept a Costa Rican invitation, or not. Would it be too much to ask of you to reconsider this again? No definite date need be set, but if you would prefer to defer this, I would quite understand.

Thanks for the copy of your note to Dr. Darrow. Of the suckers you were good enough to bring me, one appears to be taking hold and we will look after it like a new born babe.

If this letters reaches you in time, can you give me your flight number since I would like to go out to chat with you at Ilopango.

With nothing further for the moment, Sir, I am your obedient servant.

for the Pili Club



Hon. Sec.

FdeS/bf

Antigua G, 15 May 1960

Dear Chico:

Glad to have yours of the 9th instant. I am with you heart and soul in this Pili business. Our job now is to find the best seedlings over in Honduras and get them propagated by grafting. I suppose Hank is the one to do the selecting - I don't know when Paul Allen will get back from the Far East. Another point: every time I crack a Pili I say, A lot of lazy folks aren't going to bother with these hard shells. But then, a lot of lazy folks crack black walnuts in the US, and look what they have done by selection only to thin down the shells of the pecan. It will take some time, and I shall never eat thin-shelled pilis - perhaps you will - but it should be an objective.

Pelen sent over the enclosed seeds of the white macuelizo - una miseria - and I have written him to get a lot more. He is due over here on 2 June and I hope he brings the seeds with him. I will get them to you; no problem. He says it is raining hard at Zamorano and intimates for this reason they can't get seeds. It will stop raining one of these days.

I think I told you that the Satsuma in my patio is carrying a few fruits, idem the "Reina Claudia". Both trees are now carrying a second and larger crop of flowers, as are the Kelseys at Carmona. I have just been looking up the question of cross and self-pollination. Best account is in "Growing Tree and Small Fruits" by H.B. Knapp and E.C. Auchter, John Wiley and Sons, New York 1941. I know Knapp well; he did a wonderful job on the vocational school at Farmingdale, Long Island, and visited us at Zamorano. Auchter, now dead, was Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry in Washington; I knew him. This book is written for vocational schools and is absolutely invaluable; put in an order for it when you next indent for a batch of books.

They say Satsuma, Kelsey, Beauty, Climax, Duarte and even Methley need cross pollinations for good crops. I think we should think this in mind in planning plum orchards though we know we get some fruit without cross pollination. I hope we can learn what that wonderful lot of Reina Claudias at Uyuca does in the way of production this year. Certainly there were flowers in evidence!

As I have written you, we are going to make a killing with plums in Central America. Maybe even in Costa Rica; I think we simply must get that Reina Claudia of Ecuador down there. (Oh, how badly we need a good propagator who can help us on these projects!) I believe we can do something worth while with those Spanish crabs - George Darrow, the best pomologist in the US, will help us. I don't feel optimistic about pears; would feel almost hopeless were it not for that fine little orchard of Bartlett's at Cantel near Quezaltenango; Ticho and Jorge found it and Jorge took me there last August. Really excellent fruit, too small because they hadn't done any thinning and the crop was tremendous. I don't think we need to worry about peaches; the job is easy.

I leave tomorrow on the 501 for Managua. Will let you know what I find down there. Maybe the Somosa boys will show me those 100,000 acres of orange land which Mr Fox spoke to you about. I am taking my soil auger.

Always faithfully yours,

Antigua G, 16 May 1960

Dear Chico:

Helen went down to the GPO (as they put it in England) with a letter to you and came back with yours to me of 12th instant. I had really thought of advising you that I am hopping off for Managua about 4 hrs from now, but then I decided it would be more useful to bother you when I come back; so I am going to let you know when I am to return - it will be about the end of the month and I think the planes come thru San Salvador at a convenient hour - so if it is convenient for you to come out to the airport I would be delighted to have a chat with you. I like that latin term, *cambiar impresiones*. Covers everythin

I am glad you are sending a few things to CR. As I wrote you, I believe we can do something down there with the plums. Perhaps with other things. I would want to look for relatively dry climates above 6000 ft before we went in for apples, even those Spanish crabs (I am getting a bit enthusiastic about them) and we might even try the *Kieffer* pear; I am going to study this matter further. What you have done with *Rubus glaucus* is a milestone in the development of tropical American fruit culture.

You say I havent really told you whether or not I would accept a Costa Rican invitation; and why I dont hit the Somosa boys for a fee. In re the latter, the present invitation is just a look-see, they said ten days. If I should really go in there for a major operation I think I would - I think I would have to - ask for something. But the big job in any of these countries, is to have a man on the ground who know how to propagate and grow fruit trees. Our program in Salvador has done well at the Izalco nursery; So far. Now we have to get ahead with orchard plantings of the best things. You can do it - and I will help you if an when I can.

In 1915 and for a few later years I was Chairman of the Tropical Fruit Committee of the American Pomological Society. Believe it or not. This Society went through a period of innocuous desuetude (dont you lik that term) and has now come into being again. So much so that they gave me the Wilder Medal a few years ago - an honor I consider to be the highest in North American pomology. Now I want you to sit right down - or mejor dicho, have that nice secretary of yours make a note, to write to Dr George M Kessler, Editor, Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest, Dept of Horticulture, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan; send a check for \$3, annual membership in the American Pomological Society; and ask for the journal "Fruit-Varieties and Horticultural Digest" beginning with No. 1 this year. This Society has a history of 112 years; L H Bailey (on whom be peace and the blessings of Allah) was a leader in its activities for many years; and I am sure you will like their little journal, though you dont have much time to read these things.

We will get some more suckers of the perote from Guinope later but I think our best bet is to have some rootstocks grown somewhere and graft them. By and for the American Pili Society,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

June 3rd, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza 2
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

I have before me your letters of May 15th and 16th but since then I had the pleasure of seeing you at Ilopango.

I have also received the seeds of Macuelizo which Pelen sent over. Thank you very much.

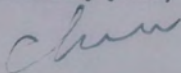
I have read your report of Nicaragua with great interest. As usual I find it complete, objective, simple and pleasant to read. Let us hope it is properly implemented.

I hope you will consider my suggestion of writing up some stories on plant introduction, at your convenience. My friend Devin Garrity, is anxious to publish anything that you may wish to write on this subject.

As per your suggestion I am applying to the American Pomological Society for membership. Thank you for the suggestion.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

P.S.

Can you give me the genus of the fruit known as "Caruba" I have received some seeds from Colombia and would like to propagate them. We are planting about 300 Pilis at La Cabaña this season.

Antigua, Guatemala, 16 June 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador

Dear Chico:

Yrs of the 3rd instant recd and contents noted - as they put it in Kansas. Pelen brought a lot of macuelizo seeds and I have sent some to Ed Menninger in Florida, my nephew John Popenoe at the Subtropical Exp Sta, idem, and Mr Moir in Hawaii. This is the best crop of macuelizo seeds we have ever lifted (as you say about coffee) and I still have some left. Anybody you would like to suggest as a recipient?

About strawberry plants and *Rubus glaucus* wh Nicaragua is interested in getting from you - and about which I spoke to you at Ilopango - I realise they are not yet prepared to receive plant material. When they get a piece of land up there near Jinotega, at 5000 ft, I want them to have *Rubus glaucus* and Missionary, Klondike and Florida Ninety strawberries. I think I can get Missionary here; Klondike we shall have to get from the US and perhaps the other one, because they ought to have several hundred plants of each. The success of the project in Nicaragua hangs on having a guy like Jorge Benitez in charge of it and I don't know where we are going to get him; though Mario Jalil feels that Carlos Cuevas one of the Nicas who graduated at EAP, can handle it; he is now working for the Ministerio de Agricultura but could probably be shifted over to the Instituto de Fomento Nacional (hereinafter referred to as INFONAG, as they say in the States when writing up articles of incorporation).

Yes, I think I can do something for Devin Garrity. Tell him to write me, outlining what he wants. I have quite a few fotos on hand, taken during the days when I was agrl explorer for the USDA.

As for the Curuba (sic), these are several species or as we write it, spp, of *Tacsonia*. I know them well. I have even grown some of them in Zamorano. The commonest sp is *T. molissima*, but that doesn't matter, curubas are curubas. I think they will do well enough at Altamira. The fruits make excellent sherbets and refrescos, much like that yellow *Passiflora* you have. I believe they might do better at Los Andes than Altamira. Try both. They climb just like their first cousins the *Passifloras*.

Mr Malcomb the soil chemist of ICA stationed at Sta Tecla was here yesterday and I talked with him about the slow growth of avocados and other things at Los Andes. I am not clear as to how much he may have told you. But he says those soils, where the avocados are growing - or to put it more correctly, are not growing, just standing still - are extremely low in available nitrogen. He says he talked with Bob Armour, and Bob told him they had been fertilized, but he doesn't think they got nearly enough. Malcolm and I recommend that you give each tree one half pound of Chilean nitrate of soda once a month until the end of the rainy season. If you don't have Chilean nitrate use an equivalent; and don't worry too much about P and K. Here I am using Ammonium phosphate, 16-20-0; I don't need the 20 all the time but it doesn't do any harm. Chilean nitrate works fast; you know because you used to handle it. And you've got to get action on those avocados (and other trees) at Los Andes.

I was going to end this epistle with that first page but I guess I cant. To end the discussion of Los Andes, do see what you can do to give those trees in general a good shot of nitrogen, not once but every month as long as the rains continue. Malcomm does not think anything is blocking growth; he thinks it is just simply insufficient nitrate nitrogen in the soil and I am inclined to believe he is right.

About those pili nuts: Our job is to get Hank to pick out the best trees, or Paul Allen to pick out the best at Lancetilla (if he ever gets back there) and then we have a still bigger job: to get somebody to propagate the good trees by grafting. I believe we should start right now by getting someone to plant seeds and prepare a nursery; it will probably take a year to get seedlings ready for grafting. I dont know who can do this, but I think it should be done at Lancetilla. I do hope Paul Allen will get back there before too long.

Plums are coming into season - fact is, Sta Rosa has been in season for a long time, as you know by having seen fruit in the markets of El Salvador. The two trees I have in our little garden here, which came from Ecuador as Reina Claudia, are not, neither one, the Reina Claudia of Ecuador which as you know is not one of the numerous Reina Claudias of Europe either. One of them looks very good - a few fruits are about to ripen. Both of these trees need some cross-pollination to produce good crops. I am going to recommend that everyone plant about three plum varieties together, in the hope of getting bigger crops. Amado Pelen went up to San Bartolo yesterday (where I got your peach seedlings) and brought back fruits of two pear varieties. One I believe is Kieffer; it is mature now. The other probably Seckel. Hedrick in his monumental "Pears of New York" says Kieffer is really not worth eating; probably it isnt, compared with Bon Chretien (Bartlett) and Beurre d'Anjou and others, but I ate this Kieffer last night and I dont think we ought to pass it by, because it seems to do well here at about 6500 ft. Seckel is not mature yet; I will get some more specimens later, because I have a hunch that Seckel is the very best pear we can hope to grow here, as far as our experience with pears goes, to date. Of course that grove of Bartletts at Cantel, 7400 ft, is the finest thing in Guatemala but we dont have many areas at 7400 ft.

I assume you are going to Eyrope on your vacation next month. I know you will have a grand time. I hope sooner or later you will visit the Costa del Sol in Spain - you doubtless know it well already but I doubt that you know the horticultural features, which are few but interesting. Get Luis Sarasola at the Rancho California, in Almuñecar, to show you around - Malaga, Torrox, Almuñecar and Motril.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, 21 June 1960

Don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Many thanks for copy of your letter of 10th instant to George Harrar. Especially because I note you expect to be present at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of EAP in NY in 21 November. I hope to attend. I did not go to the one in June because I realised it was almost wholly concerned with raising funds for EAP and I am useless in that business.

In November I think we shall have to make pretty definite plans in re future policy of EAP. Is it to remain on a junior college basis, with emphasis on vocational training, or is it to go on a university basis, still attempting to emphasise vocational training? I don't know. Bill Paddock has stated that he intends to make EAP the "principal agricultural university in Latin America". I have no objection to this, so long as we don't get too far away from the vocational training which to my mind has been successful at Zamorano, and so far as we don't get into that vicious circle of university strikes et id genus omne. When I was in Nicaragua two weeks ago the Director of the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura, Ing. Mora, an awfully fine young man, told me that the Esc Nal de Agr has no connection whatever with the Universidad Nacional which is at Leon, but every time the university students go on strike, his students join - simple case of *compañerismo*.

Three of the best vocational schools in the U S, the splendid New York State School of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, the California Polytechnic Institute at San Luis Obispo, and I believe also the National School of Horticulture in Pennsylvania (which I do not know personally) have in the last ten years been forced by popular pressure to raise their academic standards and give BSA degrees. I don't know how this has affected their vocational training. But perhaps EAP is feeling, and will feel, the same pressure. What to do?

I understand quite a few of the *bachilleres* (and we now receive only *bachilleres*, as you know) are not very much interested in vocational training and are leaving. I am afraid too many of the *bachilleres* come from the cities; not enough from rural areas. In my time we had about 15 to 20% of *bachilleres*; the rest were boys from the country, some with one to three years of *secundaria*. And some of them have done remarkably well in the general field of agriculture. Though perhaps I should not say all were from rural areas.

I hope you will give this matter some thought, and know you will. One reason I like the junior college basis (requiring two years for a BSA in Florida or elsewhere) is that I think when a boy has had three years at Zamorano, he is likely to get a tremendous lot out of two years in the States - he can choose a number of subjects which are of special interest, and he is sitting at the feet of a large staff of specialists, which we can never have at Zamorano. If we give the equivalent of a BSA at Zamorano, I doubt that 20% of our graduates will ever get to the US but with that BSA they are going to feel themselves full-fledged *profesionales* and expect jobs accordingly. Again, I am so glad you are going to do your trick at standing at the helm of EAP.

Ever yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

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SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

June 23, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Many thanks for your letter of the 16th.

Since I shall be away as of July, and in case anyone from Nicaragua wants Rubus plants, would you ask him please to address himself to: Guillermo Menéndez, Servicio Agrícola, H. de Sola e Hijos, San Salvador.

I am delighted to know that you might contemplate writing something up for Devin Garrity and have advised him accordingly. I think that some of the stories that you can write, together with early photographs that you hold, should make some mighty interesting reading - like they say in Kansas - and I personally would appreciate receiving an autographed copy from the author, in due time.

Thank you for the information on Curuba. I have noted that the introduction should be registered as Tacsonia mollissima. When the plants are up I would like to send you some.

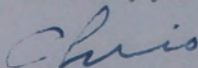
I shall follow your advice on the Nitrogen applications up at Los Andes on Aguacates. Thank you very much.

As regards Pili nuts, I have already been in touch with Hank, but he tells me he will have no grafting material until the end of the year. By that time I should have 500 to 600 seedlings to work on and we could get these into the ground at La Cabaña by June 1961. In the mean time I shall get some more seed from Hank, just to keep the thing going, in case other people get interested. I have also written to Paul Allen and suggest that we make him a member of the Pili Club, providing you are agreeable Mr. President. He might bring back some useful material with him, since he should be in the Philippines at this time. Incidentally, Paul's address is the following: U. F. Co. Research Expedition, c/o American Embassy, Office of Ag. Attaché, A.P.O. 928, San Francisco, California. It sounds like a war time address.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua, Guatemala
June 23, 1960

My old plum trees are again bearing, the most delicious, juicy plums I have ever eaten anywhere this side of Kansas. I have already put in the 100 apple tress up at Los Andes, high up above the Comun where the Juarez is vegetating happily.

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

P. S. After dictating the above, I have received your letter of the 21st which I shall file away and give a lot of thought to, before the November 21st meeting. I sincerely hope that you will be present as well.

F. de S.



P. S. Daniel Amado Castillo has just come to ask me for a job.
What is your evaluation of his capabilities as a Horticulturist?

June 10, 1960

Dr. J. George Harrar, Vice-President
The Rockefeller Foundation
111 West 50th Street,
New York 20, N. Y.
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Harrar:

It was kind of you to write your welcoming letter to the Board of Trustees of the Pan-American School of Agriculture.

I have accepted this nomination with full recognition of its worth and will of course devote whatever time may be necessary to this most interesting assignment. Through my long standing friendship with Dr. Popencoe and his kindness in asking me often to the School, I was able to come into contact with it and its problems on many occasions and thus was developed my interest in its future. The work that has been done there over the past 15 years is of great significance to the agricultural economy of many of the Latin American nations and in the years to come, where development is the key to survival, the work to be done at Zamorano with the new generations is of critical importance. Fortunately, this has had a wonderful start due to the vision of those responsible for its founding, through the dedicated efforts of its Trustees and the implementation of these objectives and ideals by Dr. Popencoe and his associates.

Now that the School is going through a state of transition and has become an autonomous educational institution, the challenge is greater and I feel much pride and satisfaction in being one of those called upon to face and help solve the problems which may lie ahead.

I note that you will be visiting Central America in July and regret that I shall not be here to meet you. As of July 4th I am leaving with my family on an extended vacation to Europe, but will be back in New York September 11th. We shall be staying at the Blackston Hotel, 50 East 58th St., New York, and at that time I shall have the pleasure of calling on you. Although I shall have to return to San Salvador, I have taken note that the next Board meeting is to be held in New York City November 21st, at which time I shall be present.

Sincerely yours,

*Very kind regards to you
& Helen
Chavez*

Antigua, Guatemala, 30 Sept 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador

Dear Chico:

Due to the tremendous cuts the UFCo is making in tropical personnel, there are two or three good horticultural men who are or are going to be looking for jobs. I have just had a letter from Tommy Grieve, who will be available at the end of October.

I brought Tommy out from Scotland about 25 years ago. He worked first in Jamaica, under Alfred Butler; then we sent him to Tenguel in Ecuador where he worked on cacao improvement, especially vegetative propagation which as you know is quite a trick. Then we sent him to Quepos in Costa Rica where he has had charge of cacao work for quite a while.

Tommy is 52 years old; he has a wife and three children (I think he married an American nurse in Costa Rica), one of the children being in school in Scotland. The family is now in Scotland, until he gets lined up in this part of the world if he can.

I consider Tommy something on the order of Bob Armour; a good horticulturist, perhaps technically not quite so capable, but practically about equally as good. We are so short of good horticulturists in Central America that I do not want to see Tommy get out of our hands. I do not suppose his salary in UFCo - though I do not know - would have been more than \$350 or \$400 per month with housing of course. I am wondering if you are interested. I am going to recommend him for FAO and for Venezuela (Gorge Benitez may go there for a couple of years, by the way) and one or two other places which seem to be open. Tommy's address until the end of October is Thomas D. Grieve, Division de Quepos, Cia Bananera de Costa

Francisco de Sola

Antigua, 1 Oct 1960

Chico:

Speaking about apples, Jorge Benitez and I have recently made the rounds of the apple country over here. Winter Banana is by far the most important commercial variety, I suppose because it bears so heavily and is a fairly good fruit - the local market is not too critical. We went to the Juarez orchard in Chicastenango in which you are much interested. The son of the old Juarez, who died a year or so ago as you know, was very kind to us. We got specimens of the three varieties which are growing here, the "Juarez" and Delicious and Jonathan. All three are good; "Juarez" has the firmest flesh and the most sprightly flavor. Not more attractive in color than Delicious. I am not sure that the Jonathan is really this variety. It doesn't matter. It is a good apple.

Jorge thinks Delicious is better than "Juarez" because of its color. Jorge tells me he has about five grafted trees of Juarez in his nursery near Quezaltenango which he can let you have, if you are interested. The present owner of the orchard in Quezaltenango tells me he has no young trees. Jorge has a magnificent nursery of East Mallin rootstocks at Quezaltenango - several thousand which he got from a nursery in Oregon or Washington which George Darrow recommended. These rootstocks are resistant to wooly aphis (*Pulgon lanifero*) which is a tremendous advance. I think he has the only ones in Central America and *pulgon lanifero* is a serious pest in the Quezaltenango region.

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

CABLE ADDRESS

DE SOLA

SAN SALVADOR,
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

ALL STANDARD

CODES USED

October 19th, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza #2
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

On returning home October 4th I found your letters dated September 30th and October 1st for which I thank you and which I shall comment on as follows.

Tommy Grieve: I heard about this man through Bob Armour and do hope we can hold him in Central America since I agree with you that this type of man is very valuable. However, I regret I do not see any possibility here at the moment either in the private or public sector due, unfortunately, to the situation here which has caused a certain amount of nervousness although I do think that this will be overcome in time.

Incidentally, Bob Armour has written me that he also would like to come back since he found that he was not yet quite ready for Scotland. I am trying to find a place for Bob since I believe he is a most useful person and should not be allowed to escape from useful application of his knowledge of tropical horticulture.

Thank you for the copy of your suggestions for the experimental planting at Santa Lastenia. From observations at Los Andes I question the advisability of introducing the peaches until we know more about the quality. Up to now mine have proven to be of poor quality. Whilst on the subject I am sorry to report that I have lost the good manager I had at Los Andes due to personal differences with others in the organization and I am now looking for a substitute. Pedro Adolfo Rivera, Zamorano 1951, has been recommended to me and is coming for an interview tomorrow. He now works with Lopez y Lopez in Santa Ana in the creamery. Could you give me your impressions of this young man for the job in mind.

Jorge Benitez: Please thank Jorge for his generous offer of the grafted Juarez trees which I accept with much appreciation. Although it is late, if these could be pulled and put into large 5 gallon cans and delivered to Gerry Franklin I think we can hold them up at Los Andes throughout the dry season by judicious watering. On the other hand if you believe that it might be better to leave them where they are until next April I would follow your advice. I am very anxious to have these trees because I consider them of great promise. The single individual I have at Los Andes has shown good growth and looks quite happy in its ambiente. Last Sunday I looked at it and also looked over the hundred apple trees of the four varieties which you recommended and which are now in the ground up at 6300 feet. All have taken well but McIntosh looks more chipper

than the others.

Zamorano: I do hope that Amado will be able to identify the trees up at Uyuca before it is too late and that the plan made by Jalil will be located.

Trip: We had a most excellent trip in Europe and I have many strong impressions which I should like to share with you, amongst them; the beauty of the French rural scene; the Olympic games; a short trip to Israel (what a country!); several sessions in the U.N.; special convocation at Williams College where I received an Hon. L.L.D., and so on. I hope we can meet soon but it does not look like I can get over to see you in the near future although I am sure we shall meet for the Zamorano meeting in New York City November 20th.

Muchos saludos

Chw

P.S. I am enclosing copy of a letter received from Paul Allen which I think will interest you.

FdeS/lh

UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES, 80 FEDERAL STREET

BOSTON 10, MASSACHUSETTS

JESSE E. HOBSON
VICE PRESIDENT

Jesselson, North Borneo
July 18, 1950

Sr. don Francisco de Sola
H. de Sola e Hijos
San Salvador, El Salvador

Dear Chico:

Your good letter has finally caught up with me here, after sundry re-routings through Manila and Singapore. I will try to answer your several questions as well as I can, but you must make allowances for the fact that I have no reference library at my disposal, and must depend on my none-too-reliable memory.

Caraba is a very superior member of the Passifloraceae that is usually put in the genus *Troscopia* rather than *Passiflora*, for technical reasons that escape me now. The species might be variegated, but I am far less sure of that. I think Bailey lists them, with illustrations, in his Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture. We used to see them in the Bogota markets, and have the juice served as a perfectly delightful sorbete at frequent intervals. They should do well at Los Andes, but in a shelter somewhere protected from wind, and with adequate moisture, since the Eastern Andes are wringing wet. My guess is that the concentrated and quick frozen juice would have an immediate appeal to the Salvadorean public, and that it could be developed as an item for export to other countries. You may remember that a similar use was made of the so-called Naranjillo (*Gynecomandra*) in the Chiriqui Highlands in Panama, and that samples were brought to the meetings in Mexico City.

Pili nuts command a good price on the retail market in the U.S., but have the same drawbacks as a cultivated crop as the Aceituno, in that there are separate staminate and pistillate trees (about 30% males in the stand at San Alejo, as I remember it) and a great deal of individual variation in production. Reproduction of superior clones is theoretically possible by budding, but the Fruit Company hasn't made much progress in that direction at Lantetilla. It would certainly be worth your while to have a look at the plots in Honduras, since it will give you an idea of the potential yield if the technical problems can be licked. Pili nuts sold in the Philippines are usually gaudied, a barbarous custom that completely destroys the delicate flavor. Supplies there are reported to come entirely from wild trees, which are planted by the great hambilla that scatter the seeds about. Nothing seems to have been done there, or anywhere else in the Far East, for that matter, toward developing them as a plantation crop.

As you may possibly know, we spent eight months in the Philippines, where we covered the country from the proverbial A(parai) on the north coast of Luzon to Z(amboanga) in southern Mindanao, with the Sulu Archipelago and Palawan thrown in for good measure. A total of 261 varieties of bananas were collected and sent to Honduras as well as established in a trial plot at the Philippine College of Agriculture at Los Banos. Two weeks of delightful vacation in Japan followed the above, with a week each on the way here in Formosa (where we had a good look at the local banana industry), Hong Kong and Singapore. North Borneo is a typical clean, well organized British Crown Colony, with just enough color to make it interesting, but much more nearly like what I would have expected to find in pre-war Java. Spectacular Healing Wax palms (*Ortostachya*) and Fisher plants (*Hepneria*) were collected. We have collected some 24 cultivated vari-

ieties and I will species of bananas since our arrival, with two of the wild types probably new to science. We expect to be here and in adjacent Brunei and Sarawak until well into the fall, before moving on to Malaya, Thailand, Ceylon, East Africa and Madagascar, with return to Honduras scheduled for sometime in 1961.

We wonder if you have heard anything from the Arcours, and about the school and our many friends in El Salvador, since little mail reaches us. Dorothy is out here with me, as you possibly know, and joins me in warmest regards.

As ever,

[Paul Allen]

Antigua, 20 Oct 1960

Sr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

The mails do not seem to have been working too well recently, hence I write this to ask if you received my letter regarding Tom Grieve of Costa Rica, who has had charge of cacao work down there for many years; is a good horticulturist generally (I think he had the same training as Bob Armour). His address is Quepos Division, Cia Bananera de Costa Rica, San José. He is being dropped as at the end of this month, along with so many of the older but not too old, experienced men in UFCO. I just don't understand it all. If you are at all interested in Tom Grieve I would suggest you bring him up to San Salvador for a talk.

The Great Dane was here a few days ago. Says they may have to close down the nurseries we started, of which Izalco has been especially successful. Says they can find money for these nurseries in the budget. I asked him, but don't they credit the nurseries with the sums received for trees sold? And he said "No", that money goes elsewhere. Now, here in Guatemala, the trees Jorge grows and sells at 50 cents each, yield cash to pay his salary and cost of operating the nurseries. Jorge is swamped with orders for trees. He has about 40,000 citrus coming along, mainly Navels and some Valencia's. He does not sell many aguacates (too much like llevando agua al río) but he is doing a very useful job. I think I wrote you that he may go to Venezuela for two years, early in 1961. It isn't definite yet.

I am working on the apple problem, as per enclosed. I believe we have the plum problem licked - simply a question of more trees of Japanese blood and putting the good cross-pollinizers close together. Mario Jalil who was here yesterday says Formosa is a grand one. Incidentally, Mario says one of the Point Four boys has taken up the project of establishing temperate zone fruits in Costa Rica and has ordered a lot of trees for delivery this winter. So I guess that project - about which you spoke to me - is cared for.

Are you going up to the mtg of the Board of Trustees in NY on 21 November? I have been thinking of going, but in the first place I committed myself some months ago to handling a conference of the UNICEF boys from all America here in Antigua and now find that they are coming at just that time; and in the second place, I do not believe I could be of much help at the NY meeting. The big issues seem to be (1) raising funds on a big scale, and I am certainly no good at that, and (2) speeding up the course by the trimester system, so as to give the boys the equivalent of 4 yrs in three, with a degree which will let them enter a college in the southern US as post-graduate students and get an M Sc in one year.

Always yours,

Antigua, Guatemala, 23 Oct 1960

Dr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Before I undertake to answer your letter of the 19th please let me tell you how delighted, absolutely delighted, I am about that honorary doctorate from Williams. I congratulate you heartily. And one should not forget that Williams is not a college that passes these things out in bunches.

I have written Tommy Grieve that you feel there is no opening for him in Salvador, at the moment. I am going to see if I can get him anything in Venezuela or in the FAO. We really should not lose a good horticulturist in tropical America. And I have to add, somewhat ironically, that for 25 years I have been trying to find horticulturists for important jobs in tropical America, and for the first time I am trying to find jobs for horticulturists. Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.

When Bob Armour et ux went thru here about Easter time, I said "Well, Bob, I have been in Central America a long time. Everybody has to go home once. I give you a maximum of three years to come back." Once they come back, they stay. I hope you can get Bob lined up.

Of course I will have to go along with you about those Florida peaches, except that us gringos used to like the ones we grew on Uyuca. I think our best bet here is to pick out some good local clingstones, such as Jorge and I saw in Quezattenango a month ago, and propagate them by grafting. I won't push the Florida peaches too hard but I do think they are worth testing in several areas - maybe they will turn out better than they have at Los Andes.

I enclose a letter I have just written Amado about Pedro Adolfo Rivera. Amado has all the records and furthermore, remembers a lot of the boys better than I do. The only thing I have in mind is this: if he had been outstanding in horticulture I would probably remember him pretty well, as I was with those boys more than those who worked or were interested more particularly in the dairy department.

About that Juarez apple. If Jorge should go to Venezuela, which is still doubtful (if he goes it will probably be about the first of the year) I suggest he dig those apple trees, put them in 50 gallon cans and bring them to me. I could keep them here until your rains commence at Los Andes. Of course we could send them across at once, as you suggest. But in any case, if Jorge leaves we should get hold of them before his departure. I am glad to hear McIntosh looks so promising. I am still backing Winter Banana as our best bet for the lower elevations.

I sure want to have a visit with you and hear all about your trip, especially Israel. I keep in touch with Oppenheimer at Rehovot. As you say "What a country!". As I have written a few days since, I doubt that I shall try to go to the New York meeting.

I do hope that you will go, for I am sure your voice will be heard. Ernest Casseres has just written me; he does not seem to feel certain that the members of the Caribbean Region are going to want the meeting next spring in southern Florida. I have told him if they do not, we will line things up here in Guatemala. He says if they have a bad frost in Florida this coming winter things may not be very interesting up there. I think another factor, a number of our tropical members know that costs are pretty high in Florida - Ernest mentions \$12 to \$15 per diem plus local transportation. I have the feeling that Billy Krome is going to do better than this. And there is such a lot to see in southern Florida - the avocado and mango groves, Chapman Field and the Fairchild Tropical Garden, those excellent avocado and mango and citrus nurseries, and so on. I think Nixon Smiley who is practically sitting in the driver's seat, can get the Miami Chamber of Commerce to grease the rails for us.

Thanks for the letter from Paul Allen, which is very interesting. I would feel more hopeful regarding his work in the Far East if UFCO was not cutting down so drastically and so rapidly on research as on everything else. As regards the banana breeding program, which you realise will take a long time before anything practical can be accomplished, I just wonder whether they will solve the problems or the Company will go broke first. Those forty million bunches per annum from Ecuador seemed to have knocked the props out from under. But no use going into all this, because I would rather talk about pilis.

Paul is of course right about the necessity of stimulate as well as pistillate trees, and the importance of variation in productiveness among individuals. And Hugh Craggs, who has recently come back from Hawaii, says that the macadamia growers are getting a maximum of 300 lbs of nuts per tree, though the average is nearer 100. Just the same, I do not think we ought to give up the pilis. I'll bet if they had by chance reached Hawaii before the macadamias did, they might today be more important than the latter. But I must say, I didn't imagine that the macadamias bore even as much as 100 lbs per tree. These trees in Antigua do not.

You speak of the French rural scene; if you can beat parts of Auvergne, tell me where. And Normandy. But as for the Riviera, you can give me the Costa del Sol in Spain (Motril down to Marbella) any time. If the Paris-Lyon-Mediterranee had put you down in Malaga instead of Marseille or Nice 100 years ago I don't think there would be any Riviera today.

Warmest regards to all the family, and I hope we can see you before long - probably the next time you come over to check up on your affairs in Guatemala. I don't want to travel much more until we go up to the ASHS meeting in Florida next spring. Incidentally and apropos de rien, Ernest Casseres says he is finding the job of Secy-Treas rather onerous. He is just doing too darn good a job, that is all.

Ever yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

CABLE ADDRESS

DEMEXLA

SAN SALVADOR,
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

ALL STANDARD

CODES USED

November 15th, 1960

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza #2
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Doctor Popenoe:

I have before me your letter dated October 20th. In the meantime you must have received copy of my letter addressed to Tom Grieve of Costa Rica.

I am going up to the Board Meeting in New York the day after tomorrow and I am very sorry to hear that you will not be with us. On my return I hope we can meet either here or over there and I will inform you fully of the Board's deliberations.

If you have the "American Fruit Grower" October's edition, would you mind turning to page 13 and tell me something about the article describing the method in which the blackberries are trained by the Matlock family. I do not quite understand from the literature nor from the photograph, exactly how these canes are trained but specially how the pruning takes place and therefore how the production is increased - as stated in this article.

My best wishes for you and Helen.

Sincerely yours,

Chris

P.S. I have just tasted the first fruit of Choquette and Aztec from Los Andes. The skin and texture are splendid. Not so the flavour but perhaps this is because these are the first fruits.

*Many thanks for your
rich letter of Oct 23rd and
your generous remarks on the
fruit*

Antigua, 10 Dec 1960

Dr Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Your letter of 15 November came some time ago, but I have been waiting until I felt more or less sure that you had come back from the States, and the meeting of the Board of Trustees. I wonder if you could find time to dictate a few lines about the latter, I have not had any word as yet and would like to know ^{what} decisions were reached. I suppose we will get an official memo from Mr Putnam one of these days.

About the Matlock boys and their blackberries. I read the American Fruit Grower regularly and am delighted that you seem to be doing so. You are a terribly busy man. But in your horticultural interests I know you are finding pleasure and you are making yourself more useful. I don't know just why we want to make ourselves more useful, do you? But we do; I suppose because we enjoy it.

In the first place, those Matlock boys are probably growing blackberries of what we call the Oregon Evergreen type, which belong to the Himalaya group. These blackberries make long trailing growths, as compared with the Eastern blackberries of the U.S. They can therefore lay them down as described and shown in the picture.

In the second place, the saving of money by using two strands of wire instead of three and posts farther apart. Every book which treats of grape growing in the Eastern U.S. has a chapter or two about this.

In the third place, we must remember we are dealing with Rubus glaucus, a tropical species, somewhat more inclined to upright growth than many other berries, certainly more upright than the Himalaya group of blackberries, and I say this because I grew the latter in California when I was a kid. It struck me that you are doing a fine

job with glaucus at Los Andes. I would say that the only problem which needs some attention is just how and how much to prune the plants to get the maximum production of fruit. And no book can tell us that.

And now as to the aguacates. You ask about Choquette and Aztec. When I was in Homestead last February I asked George Ruehle, at the experiment station, What are the three best commercial avocados for South Florida, and he replied without hesitation, Lula, Booth 8, and Waldin. My nephew John who is now horticulturist at the Exp Station recently asked me, Why are you recommending Booth 8; the quality is very poor. I have been recommending Booth 8 (in only a few cases of course, because I am not having much to say these days) because as Ruehle has in mind, it is a regular bearer, a good-looking fruit, and comes at a good season. Lula has taken over the northern market in the winter months because it looks like Fuerte, it ships well, and consumers are not too critical; if they were we could not sell Ben Davis apples. Waldin is good because it comes in between the main West Indian crop and just before varieties like Booth 8 and Lula. Waldin eats well, it has a very large seed, but like all West Indians it bears a good crop every year. So, commercially I think George Ruehle is sound.

But to return to our muttons. Choquette looks good. My nephew John is for it. I think eventually it will not be planted extensively because it is so large. You know that the American housewife does not ask how many calories are there in this aguacate; she does not want a large aguacate, because she is just going to garnish a few leaves of lettuce and some grapefruit slices, and she does not want to spend too much money on one aguacate. Which reminds me - I may have told you - that those poor devils in California have only been getting six to eight cents a pound for their Fuertes this year because of the tremendous crop. Next year there will be very few Fuertes but they

will get 20 cents a pound. No hay mal que por bien no venga.

You say the flavour of Choquette (and Aztec) from Los Angeles was not too good. In the first place, you are right in thinking that young trees do not produce fruits of flavour as rich as old ones. This I found when I was sampling fruits down here from old trees and then sending home budwood, to be told later that the quality of the fruits was poor. And we must remember that Choquette is a Guatemalan x W I hybrid. This will bring down its oil content, but strangely - or perhaps not strangely - many people prefer West Indians with 6% oil to Guatemalans with 18% oil. And of course many people (myself included) think there is nothing like a small black Mex (as we call them) with a big seed and some fiber in the flesh with perhaps 20% oil and that wonderful nutty flavour.

So don't give up Choquette. Give it time. If it bears regularly, as I believe it will, and is a fine large fruit, and matures about November in El Salvador, hombre, you've got something. As for Aztec, I have to confess that I have misjudged, altho Jorge Benitez is pretty strong for it, primarily because it is a very vigorous grower and produces a lot of fruit. I don't think they really gave it a thorough trial in California, but the quality is not too good and the thin skin makes the fruit subject to anthracnose. I have just written Spain about it, where the trees started when I was there are coming into bearing. They don't care too much for the quality. I have the feeling that Aztec will pass out of the picture; but some varieties do well in one place, others in another, just as we used to say "alius aliud dixit". Hang onto a couple of trees for a couple of years.

When are you coming over? I am working on this deciduous fruit business and would like to talk with you about it.

Ever yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

CABLE ADDRESS

DESOLA

ALL STANDARD

CODES USED

SAN SALVADOR
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

January 13, 1961

Dr. Willson Popenoe,
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I certainly owe you a letter - and then some -
since receiving your very interesting notes dated December 10th.

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was to me very interesting. Those attending were Doris; Putnam; Stillman; Stacy May; Reitz; Tom Cabot, Gardner and one other fulano of the Fruit Co. whose name I have forgotten. The meeting took place all day Monday and up to Tuesday noon. We spent most of the time on the review of the budget for 1961 and the need for raising more funds so as to strengthen the endowment. To my mind I think we can cut down some of the expenses of running the School and all of this will be looked into during the course of this year by the different committees which have been named. New trustees were proposed and accepted; Roger Stone and Galo Plaza, both of whom have since accepted the nominations. We have not yet found a speaker for next March, although several were suggested. My suggestion was Roberto Hurtemate of Panama. It was decided to start a fund raising campaign through South, Central and North America and we are all supposed to look for someone to head up this program. I tried to get Mario Lewy van Severen but he is already engaged. I am now getting into touch with Orellana Solis, who I believe you know. I am on the Academic Standards Committee, together with Dr. Reitz and Dr. Harrar and we hope to have the meeting next month at the School. I found all of the gentlemen trustees very agreeable and the only gentleman that was missing was yourself, which I deeply lament. I do hope you will come to the next meeting, whenever it is called, as I believe your guidance is still necessary. Fifty thousand dollars were obtained as a grant from the U. S. Government through the Program of Aid to American Sponsored Schools Abroad. This amount will be used for physical improvements to the school, which Dr. Paddock believe are essential, such as replacement of equipment, machinery and buildings.

Going back to Rubus glaucus, I shall take your advice and keep on making observations, so as to find out which is the best way of pruning. At the moment I have as Administrator a man who told me he was a Zamorano graduate. After taking him on

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala
January 13, 1961

I found out they tossed him out after the second year because he seemed to have some sort of mental paralysis - in other words he got lousy grades. Amado Pelen was here the other day and he told me he has no other apparent difficulties. This man claims that there are certain guías in the Rubus that produce fruit and others that do not, so he is pruning the unproductive guías. Is there anything in the literature on this? He seems quite confident, and I am letting him have his head, as one should sometimes with young Zamoranos. In any case, the plantation looks beautiful and during the year of Our Lord 1960 produced no less than 203 qq. This from 4,000 plants, most of which are plantía. According to Bob Armour, who has now left the wild steppes of Scotland for the comforting embrace of Gainesville, we could expect production of about 20 lbs. per plant of Rubus glauca. Again, is there anything in the literature on this?

As regards the aguacates, these are beginning to produce some fruits but very slowly. All of them, I must say, look very fine and I suppose I just have to be patient. I know that you must have heard already about Bob through your nephew John. I think that Bob has done a wise thing to go back to school, to get more instruction on tropical fruits and for all of us it is a good thing to have him closer by. I still have hopes that we may be able to get him back here. A fine person.

Amado tells me that you have done quite a lot of work on your book, although the Salvats have changed their mind about publishing it. Would you like me to try with Devin Garrity, at the Devin Adair Publishing Company? This firm specializes on different kind of books and Mr. Garrity was personally much interested and looking forward to meeting you at the time of the Zamorano meeting. Do let me know if you would like me to try it. Incidentally, he just published a book on Guatemala, called *Land of the Quetzal Feather* by Friedrich Morton. Have you read it? You must have known this bird when he lived there, I assume, since you usually are very well up on all tropical fauna as well as flora.

I don't know when I can get over to see you, we are so busy here now; but whenever that may be, I shall show up at your gate and bang your friendly door again.

Cordially,

Chico
Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Antigua, 6 March 1961

Dr Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Some peripatetic horticulturist has told me you plan to attend the Miami mtgs commencing the 19th. Magnifico (I just recently bawled out Professor Crist from Gainesville, who spent a week with us; I said we dont say "magnifico" in Spain; the word is obsolete. It is now "estupendo"). I am planning to spend some little time in Florida after the mtgs; Hugh (who was up in the Verapaz for several weeks and left here only two days ago) threatens to line me up for some lectures at Gainesville. I think I have told you that I have become a very popular lecturer for three reasons, (1) I never talk more than 20 minutes, (2) I dont charge anything for my lectures, and (3) I dont tell the audience anything but jokes. You cant beat that layout.

After Gainesville I plant to work down the West Coast for a week or so, one of my old stamping grounds. If you want to see any part of this territory and would like me to go along, we can line things up. Some way or other I have a hunch that this is my last chance to see subtropical ~~horticultural~~ horticulture in Florida con calma.

Many thanks for the information about the NYC mtg of the Board of Trustees, and en passant, I want to say I am extremely happy that you are a member. Not long ago George Putnam passed thru here and Helen and I had an afternoon with him. We liked him very much and felt that he has acquired a great deal of the philosophy of Sam Zemurray and Jeff Coolidge regarding EAP. I have not been in favor of putting the school on the Facultad de Agronomia basis, and for that reason have not been any more popular in some quarters than a snake at a Sunday School picnic. I believe what Latin America needs is not more Facultades de Agronomia but more good sound intensive vocational training such as we tried to give at Zamorano for 16 years. I still like the idea of training all our students along the old lines, and then picking out - maybe 10 a year - for further academic training in the U S. With a school of 150 or even 250 students, how can we ever expect to provide the number of courses and the excellent teachers that they provide at Gainesville, for example, where the faculty number about 750. And if we give all our boys academic degrees, quite a high percentage of them are going to step right into arm-chair jobs and become first-class bureaucrats. I dont want this; I want our boys to know agriculture in the field and the dairy and the truck garden, and to go out of EAP with an enthusiasm for showing farmers how to do things. I think we made a mistake in requiring the bachillerato for entrance, but that is water over the dam. I could name you right offhand at least ten of our graduates who have B S A's and M Sc's from Gainesville and who are doing excellent work in tropical America, who were not bachilleres.

44711100 05

CEMEXO YREHICY
LEONCICADLEY: HONORARY

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

But let us return to our muttons. Ed Farnsworth has just asked me about planting Rubus glaucus at his finca near Palin. Jorge Benitez and I have told him we do not believe this berry will provide commercially profitably at an elevation as low as his, 3200 ft. I told him I would recommend that he try to get ten plants from you and grow them about two years before planting on a commercial scale. You ask about the literature on R. glaucus. I know of nothing whatsoever in the horticultural field. I believe you are the first man who ever grew this fruit on a really commercial basis. I would think Bob Armour's guess would be as good as anyone's or I might say the best. And speaking of Bob, I hear from him occasionally. And Hugh sees him often. Hugh says it will take Bob two years to get his BS A and after that he may be able to go on for an M Sc, and I hope this is true. Perhaps the Rockefeller Foundation would help him after he has the B S A. Hugh says his ultimate aim is to come back to the tropics, maybe with the FAO.

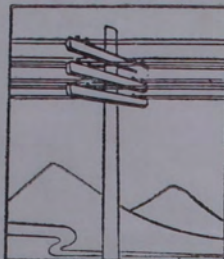
Hugh has wangled an arrangement so that he teaches one semester at Gainesville, then has a semester for research; and he has wangled some sort of grant from somebody or other to the end that he can continue his studies here in the Alta Verapaz on milpa agriculture. In other words, as you know, he thinks the time is coming when we had better begin to stop felling, burning, planting and abandoning. He is terribly enthusiastic about it all, which pleased me, and he has the cooperation of the Hempstead boys who have a very large area of what we call milpa lands in the Verapaz. I want to get Hugh over to Salvador with me one of these days. He expects to come down again in May to work on his field experiments. I feel that he is pretty sound in his thinking and one cannot deny that he has had good training, both in California and Florida, plus a lot of experience in Siam, the Philippines, the Amazon basin and elsewhere. And I like the fact that he is put out for the money; he has been offered \$10,000 a year several times but he is going to do something on this milpa agriculture problem, come Hell or high water.

I hope you are giving the aguacates at Los Angeles plenty of nitrogen. Hugh told me last week that we do not need to worry much about potash in these recent volcanic soils. They need some phosphorous, from time to time. We are using a lot of Ammonium phosphate, 16-20-0 here in Guatemala; more phosphorous than we require in every application but I guess it doesn't cost us any more than it would to buy Ammonium sulfate which I sure would prefer here in my garden which is pure ripio with a pH of 8.5.

No, I have not seen "The Land of the Quetzal Feather". I will look for it here. About the Manual of Tropical Fruits, Ernest Casseres who was here two weeks ago wants me to let Turrialba get it out. We will talk about this when I see you again. My trouble is that there are so many demands on my time; and my physical energy is not what it was 25 years ago. Oh, and before terminating, I have signed up Chris Hempstead and Hugh as members of the American Pili Society. They were over at Lancetilla last week; they say the records (5 yrs) show that some trees in that little orchard produce four times as much fruit as others (I hope they are including the males) and they want to plant a lot up on the shores of Lake Yzabal.

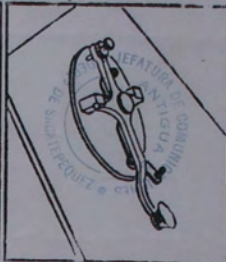
ESCUERA VERICOLA PANAMERICANA
Ever yours,

TELECOMUNICACIONES NACIONALES GUATEMALA CENTRO AMERICA



TELEGRAMA

DR WILSON POPENOE.



24 VA HZ 25 DH RADIO 1100 1200

SAN SALVADOR, 27 MAR 1961

ON RETURN HERE YESTERDAY DEEPLY SHOCKED AND MOVED BY NEWS OF TRAGIC
LOSS SEND YOU SINCERE CONDOLENCE AND SYMPATHY.

FRANCISCO LEONORA DESOLA.

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

Antigua, Guatemala, 27 March 1961

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Dr don Francisco de Sola
San Salvador, El Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Your radiogram has just come, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for it. You know how Helen and I have felt about you and Leonora. Just about the best friends we ever had. This has been a terrible blow and I don't just know where to turn. Bill Paddock came over for the funeral and yesterday we had a long talk. He was very frank. He said things were getting very difficult for him at the school. I told him, "When you were appointed Director, I wanted to get out of your way; I did not want to stand on the side lines and offer advice. That was one reason for our going to Spain for a year". He asked me to come over to Zamorano and look things over carefully, and report to the Board of Trustees. I told him "Since you ask it, I am going to do it" and I am planning now to fly over to Honduras next week or the week following, and stay about a week. I think he can handle the job if he can get the right personnel; this is his problem. It was my problem too!

I want to bring back some of those Reina Claudia plums from Ecuador. Krochmal says they produced magnificent crops this last year. There may be a few other things I should bring back here - and to you. In Florida my nephew John showed me the most magnificent chichapote I have ever seen - at Homestead. I have Jorge Benitez lined up to propagate it here, and you must have it too. Our meetings up there were a grand success by the way, only lacking your presence to make the situation perfect.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala, 14 May 1961

Dr Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Dear Chico:

Please forgive me. I received your kind invitation to come over and spend a few days with you. I was just then leaving for Honduras, to get away from things, and I called your nice secretary from the airport in San Salvador and she told me you were in Rio de Janeiro; and I told her I was going to Zamorano and hoped to get some of those "Reina Claudia" plum trees from Uyuca, and would bring them back with me. When I got up to Uyuca I found that the the young trees were all gone. You remember you and I saw quite a number which had been grafted on root sprouts from plum and peach trees. But as soon as Jorge Benitez has rootstocks ready here we will get some budwood from Uyuca. Mario Jalil is now working in Guatemala and Nicaragua and Costa Rica and stops occasionally in Honduras. We simply must have that so-called Reina Claudia in Salvador and Guatemala.

Uyuca is pretty nearly abandoned. When I was up there last month I was told that no one from the school had been there since last November. Apparently there is no interest. And this year, I suppose because of climatic factors, there is practically no fruit on the trees up there; almost no plums, almost no peaches. The pears are showing up better than anything else and I think we might go on with them in Guatemala. They are varieties from Florida.

A telegram came from you in Guatemala City, saying you would come over here to see me; but it did not reach me in time to get word back to you. What I am now planning on is this: they are going to give me the Medalla Agrícola Interamericana in Costa Rica the first week in July. I plan to go down there just about July first, and on the way back, if nothing happens, I would like to stop a few days in El Salvador and see if I can be of any help. I had the good fortune to find the Great Dane at the airport when I went through to Honduras and we had a good chat. I would like to go up to Los Andes and perhaps stay overnight. I have been getting Jorge budwood of some of those "poteses" (hybrid crabapples) from the States - perhaps better than the one from Guinope.

Hugh, who is spending much of his time now on his project up on the north side of Lake Izabal, wants me to spend quite a lot of time with him in Florida, from September onward. I might do it. If we can keep our nurseries going in this part of the world, I could shuttle back and forth with some fine propagating material.

I will get in touch with you, to see if you are going to be in El Salvador about the 10th of July. I am not going to burden you and Leonor, but maybe I can still be useful somewhere or other.

Best regards to all of you,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1898

CABLE ADDRESS

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ALL STANDARD

CODES USED

SAN SALVADOR,
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

May 19, 1961

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2,
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th. I was extremely sorry to miss you in Guatemala. I went over for two days to attend the annual meeting of the Federación de Cámaras de Industria de Centro América and I was hoping that would find you in Antigua.

Leonora and I would very much like you to come over and stay with us for a few days. How about next week-end? I suggest you come over Friday, the 26th, and we hack around in relaxed fashion, spend a couple of nights at Los Andes, look around the countryside in general, etcetera, etcetera.

Leonora has formed a garden club with Angelita Sol and some other ladies and they all would like to hear words of wisdom from the Master. We could have some fun.

Last night a few Amigos de la Tierra got together to plan the 15th anniversary celebration, August 28th. It was suggested, moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that you be invited to come over and give us a chat on a subject to be determined with you at a later date. You will be receiving an official invitation, but I thought I would give you this advance notice so that you might make your plans accordingly. I suggest you plan to come one or two days ahead, say August 26th, or so.

Congratulations on the Medalla Agrícola. I did not know that this existed. I wonder who is the sponsor, is it Turrialba? An excellent thing.

Many people here want to see you; Cabezas who is now Director of the Escuela Nacional; the Great Dane who soon will be leaving for another country; Napoleón Viera Altamirano; all of the Zamorano boys and all of the de Sola boys as well.

Last Sunday I had Dr. Malcom up at Los Andes to look over the Aguacates, Strawberries, Plums and Peaches. The Strawberries are doing fine, although we had got away from the Missionary and Florida 90 varieties. We are learning more each year and things are getting better all the time.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala
May 19, 1961

Last year at this time we had produced 27 quintals, whilst up to yesterday we had produced 90 quintals. With Moras it is the same story, 105 last year, 195 this year up to date.

As regards Aguacates, Dr. Malcom, who was there a year ago, tells me that he has noticed good growth for the year. The trees are not bearing well, however. Dr. Malcom has taken additional soil samples and will give us his report.

The peaches are heavily laden with crop, specially Waldo which seems to be the most precocious. Angel and Jewel also have nice crops, so you had better hurry up and come over to help me eat them before the birds get at them.

Could you get me some more yellow cartucho bulbs (Richardia)? I have a feeling that this can be a commercial crop and I have already started out at Los Andes. I like it because it is easy to grow, ships well, lasts well as a cut flower, and is still sufficiently rare and exotic to be interesting in the market and relatively free of competition.

OTRA MOLESTIA: Malcom thinks I should get some seed of Ceylon Red peaches from Florida. Would you mind asking Huzh or John to ship me a round?

I am thinking seriously of planting Macadamia commercially up at Camp David (Los Andes). Dick Hamilton says that 2,000 ft is about the maximum elevation but of course this is for Hawaii which is lat. 20° N. Since we are at 13°N, I take it that the equivalent of that climate here would be about (300 ft. x 7° = 2,100 ft. + 2,000) 4,000 ft. I am higher than this and I wonder whether I should attempt it. You see, there are many reasons why you should come over here and help me untangle myself. The Macadamias at Altamira on the other hand are producing a modest crop. Also I would like to show you the African oil palm in La Cabaña.

In reference to Reina Claudia, apparently you have forgotten this, but you gave me some of the ones that Mario Jalil brought about three years ago. Not only are these doing very well, but with budwood from them we have grafted several and these are all set out already since last year and looking up very nicely. In fact it is a better grower than any of the local varieties at Plan del Hoyo and certainly better than Santa Rosa, Duarte, or Beauty. Santa Rosa for the first time has produced a few plums but they are not yet ripe.

I await word from you as to your arrival, have set the week-end aside, and sincerely hope you can come Friday the 26th.

Cordially,

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

TELÉCOMUNICACIONES NACIONALES GUATEMALA CENTRO AMERICA



TELEGRAMA

DR WILSON POPENOE
CALLE DE LA NOBLEZA 2



47 OPZ HZ 16-

1100 1630

SAN SALVADOR, 20 MAY 1961

LEONORA Y YO ESPERAMOS PODRÁ VISITARNOS PROXIMO FIN SEMANA SUGERIMOS
VENGA VIERNES 26 REGRESANDO MARTES SALUDOS.

CHICO.

TELEGRAMA

Guatemala, 22 mayo de 1961

FRANCISCO DE SOLA
H. de Sola e hijos
SAN SALVADOR, Rep. de EL SALVADOR

Sumamente agradecido pero Nixon Smiley llega hoy para estar conmigo
una quincena escribiendole.

WILSON POPENOE

Firma del responsable:

Direccion: Antigua Guatemala.

Antigua C, 22 May 1961

Sr Doctor Francisco de Sola
San Salvador.

Sr Dr Francisco de Sola

Dear Chico:

Helen always said you and Leonora are the best friends we ever had in Central America. Your telegram came Saturday, inviting me to spend this coming week end with you. I would jump at the opportunity, were it not for the fact that Nixon Smiley, agricultural editor of the Miami Herald, is coming today with his wife to spend a fortnight with me. Nixon is going to get a lot of material for publication in the Miami Herald, which as you know has a tremendous circulation, and I am going to encourage him to build up our tourist trade. It is slumping badly, due I believe to fears in the U S of the political situation in Guatemala. Maybe Nixon can dispel some of those fears.

As I believe I wrote you, I am booked to be in Costa Rica the first of July to receive the "Medalla Agrícola Interamericana". I am planning to stop in El Salvador either going or on my return, depending on whether or not you will be there. There are a number of things I want to discuss with you. I believe we are making some progress on plums and apples, and even on pears.

I am extremely grateful for your ever warm friendship, Chico.

Faithfully yours,

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1908

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SAN SALVADOR,
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

July 25, 1961

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza # 2
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

I have been informing myself about you through Gerry Franklin and am glad to know you are recovering from your recent operation. He tells me you will be going to Gainseville shortly and am sorry I shall not be able to see you before that date but hope we shall be able to meet sometime soon.

Please remember always that mi casa es su casa and that the latch key is always out for you when you wish to visit us. When you have time drop me a note and tell me how you feel. Will you be able to come to the Amigos de la Tierra 15th Anniversary? Everyone hopes that you will be with us August 26-28, the three days of celebration.

Up at Los Andes the jardín clonal Wilson Popenoe is full of Trioza anceps Tuthill and we are feeding the nasty little things Oleofolidol Bayer A.G.

Sincerely,

Chio.

Francisco de Sola

FdeS/frr

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

ESTABLISHED 1908

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SAN SALVADOR,
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

July 24, 1961

Mr. G. E. Putnam, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer
Escuela Agrícola Pan-Americana, Inc.
67 Milk Street,
Boston, Mass.

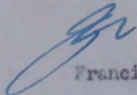
Dear George:

I have been desirous of writing to you ever since I learned that you are leaving Boston for B. A.; first, to congratulate you, and second, to commiserate with the Trustees in view of the loss that your resignation as Secretary-Treasurer signifies to the School. However, I do not believe that your resignation as Trustee of the Board is necessary, and I am sending a copy of this letter to all of the Trustees.

Therefore, I am not enclosing my proxy for the August 1st meeting, since the vote, as expressed in the form you have sent, would be; to accept your resignation as Secretary-Treasurer, and, at the same time to elect a new Secretary-Treasurer who would also be a Trustee.

I believe that you should stay on the Board and that someone else could be named Secretary-Treasurer. I hope this can be solved satisfactorily and only regret I cannot be present at the special meeting.

Sincerely yours,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

cc: Board of Trustees

AIR MAIL LETTER

H. DE SOLA E HIJOS

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SAN SALVADOR,
EL SALVADOR, C. A.

July 27, 1961

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza No. 2
Antigua, Guatemala

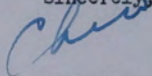
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

It was so nice to hear from you again, and am glad you are feeling better.

En contestación a su atenta comunicación de fecha 23 en curso, tengo el honor de decirle lo siguiente Yes I have Kelsey, the ones you gave me last year. They are growing very vigorously and seem to be even more precocious than Reina Claudia, although I still have had no fruit from either of them. Santa Rosa is lethargic. I think it may be the rootstock they sent it on from Florida.

I would be delighted to get the CRABAPPLES, and peaches you say you have found with Jorge Benitez. I have come to regard Jorge Benitez such as a ship that passes in the night..... everybody talks about him, but you never see him and it is awfully hard to get hold of him. Our office in Guatemala has been trying to get him for several months, since I want about 500 more bulbs of yellow Richardias and about 1,000 seedlings of rough peach, pero no se encuentra. I have bought some beautiful duraznos in the market place here, large and luscious and they say they are from "JALAPA". Where could that be?

Sincerely,



Francisco de Sola

FdeS/bf

Antigua, Guatemala
July 23, 1961

Dear Chico,

I would have written you long ago but simply have not been able to write. I think Mr. Franklin has told you my troubles and we won't discuss them anyway for I prefer to talk about fruit. I have a long letter from you written I suppose three months ago which I will answer if and when I can dig down far enough in this tremendous pile of mail on my desk. What I want to say at present is lo siguiente: You doubtless have the catalog of the California Nursery Co. for this year. At my instigation they have added the Kelsey plum to their list. The people at Carmona were recently kind enough to send me a nice lot of these and I still think it is the sweetest and best of all plums. George Roeding of the California Nursery Co. agrees but he says that it does not ship well and they therefore prefer Wickson, which I am sorry to say does not seem to be growing here in Guatemala. I think you ought to get Kelsey to have at least a few to supply fruit for your own use. As things stand now I would be inclined to recommend Santa Rosa as our best commercial sort, then I would take a chance on Wickson and Kelsey and certainly have some Satsumas because they bear well and may be pretty good on the market.

Jorge Benitez and I think we are getting some crabapples lined up which are going to be something like the one from Guinope so far as climatic requirements are concerned but larger and better. We also think we are getting some large-sized clingstone peaches which are going to be excellent for this climate. They have fine flavor and are so firm they will carry beautifully. As for plums and pears, we think Seckel is the best bet for quality but Keifer, the variety most common in the markets here, is well worth growing because of its productiveness and large size even though the quality is not too good. Jorge also thinks Pineapple is well worth growing.

I hope I may see you before long. There are many things to discuss. It looks now however as though it may be best for me to go up to Florida for a long stay with Hugh at Gainesville. I hope to get away not later than early September, perhaps even in August.

Always sincerely yours,

Antigua, Guatemala
July 28, 1961

Francisco de Sola
San Salvador

Dear Chico,

Thanks for a copy of your letter of 24 July addressed to George Putman. I am very glad to see you go on record in such a wholehearted and appreciative way regarding the work he has done for the school. It has really been a remarkable job and we shall miss him greatly.

I also wish to thank you for your letter to me of 25 July which probably crossed in the mail with one I wrote to you recently. Yesterday Hugh and I were in the City and made reservations on Aviateca to fly to Miami on 7 August. I think I told you that Hugh has secured a nice little apartment for us only three or four blocks from his office on the campus. Hugh plans to come to Guatemala about Christmas time with half a dozen of his colleagues who are interested in the Tropical Resources Center which Hugh is organizing at Gainesville. I may come with them.

When Doris was through here right after the meeting at Zamorano, she talked of the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held in November. Since I will be closer to New York than I am at present, I may go to this meeting. I regret that Bill Paddock may not get back in time for it but he expects to attend. I think it rather important that he should do so.

I have been over all the literature I have here and have not found a ray of hope regarding control of Trioza. If you get results from your Oleofolidol do let me know for this pest is a great nuisance here. It does not seem to affect the trees seriously but it sure makes a mess out of them.

Many thanks for reminding me that I am always welcome in your home. I appreciate this more than I can express. In my recent letter I told you that I do not yet have enough strength to take part in the anniversary of the Amigos de la Tierra, which I regret exceedingly. I am gaining ground steadily though slowly. My doctor says it will be several months, probably before I am in good shape again.

I hope you won't fail to get some trees of Kelsey, and Wickson plums when the shipping season in California rolls around. I cannot hide my enthusiasm for the fine eating quality of Kelsey. It is way, way ahead of Santa Rosa but unfortunately not a good shipper as I have told you previously.

My address at Gainesville will be: 1722A NW 2nd Ave., Gainesville, Fla. I do not ~~not~~ want to lose touch with you and shall be keeping an eye out for notes of interest.

Warmest regards always,

Antigua, Guatemala
July 29, 1961

Dr. Francisco de Sola

Dear Chico:

Thanks for your letter of 27 July. Hugh's presence is making it possible for me to work now and then into my mail basket and begin to think about a few things which are worth thinking about. As for Jorge Benitez, he is a very poor correspondent, as you have found out for yourself. He told me a few days ago that he has located a man that has the yellow callas but the price is too high. He says he can get peach seedlings here where I got some for you a year or more ago.

The only Jalapa is the one here in Guatemala not far from the road over to Salvador. I would think they might have peaches there, though in general I have found that the old woman in the market will almost invariably put you off the trail, and just as far off the trail as they can get you. They seem to think we are out to cut into their business.

I assume the Kelsey plum you have was grown from material you got at Carmona. I am pretty sure this is the real thing. I wonder if I have told you that the Reina Claudias which Mario Jalil brought from Ecuador have turned out to be a mixed lot. I have two trees of this shipment in my garden right here at the house. One of them appears to be Satsuma, the other I cannot identify but it is not Reina Claudia. We do have the true Reina Claudia of Ecuador up on Uyuca. I think the trees you and I saw in blossom up there were practically all authentic.

Yes I believe the Turrialba Institute is the organization which stands behind the new Medalla Agricola. I am supposed to get the third one to be conferred but I don't know when I shall get down to San Jose to pick it up.

You mention that you have given up Missionary and Florida 90 strawberries. Have you gone over to Klondike? I am afraid Los Andes is not a very good place for aguacates. I am glad to learn that Waldo seems to be turning out pretty well.

I believe Nixon Smiley can get seeds of the Ceylon red peach for you at Miami. I left a fine tree of this in my back yard in Zamorano from which propagating material except for seeds could be had in fair quantity. I have not yet seen any fruit on this tree.

I think you have seen the Macademias which Jorge planted here at Pintado thirty years ago. Pintado is slightly more than 5,000 feet in altitude and the trees there while they are growing slowly are healthy and have borne fair crops. I believe Jorge has seedlings of good stock from Hawaii. As for the African Oil Palm, Hugh and his partner Chris Hempstead are seriously interested in planting it up on Lake Izabal and Hugh has some interesting information regarding hybrid strains from Malaya.

Always sincerely yours,

Antigua, 27 July 1962

Dear Chico:

Hugh and I were all set to drive to Santa Ana when Jerry Franklin told us you had gone to England and would be back about now. Hugh expects to be in Guatemala about the end of August to record results of his plots on Lake Izabal but I shall perhaps be in Honduras at that time. Doris has asked me to meet her in Tegucigalpa on 16 August. I shall try to do this, then spend a week at Zamorano and another at Lacetilla. I want to get the Peli nut business started, for one thing.

We were sorry you could not come to any of the June meetings. Two weeks ago Jorge spent some days with me - we went to the highlands and tried to get as much information as possible on apples, pears, plums and peaches. In re the first-named, I think you must try Winter Banana and Red Delicious at Los Andes, up where you put the Juarez tree. Red Delicious at the Robles place above Quezaltenango is fine eating; better than at Chechicasterango, but obvious it is one of the varieties which does not require a lot of cold weather. I like Gravenstein also, from that stand point.

