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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.

Almirante, Rep. de Panama,
Sept. 11th. 1940.

Dear Popenoe,-

It is a long cry from March to September; but, -well, I have been here and as busy as I care to be and you have been goodness knows where. Your good letter of March 11th. fell into a group that has been neglected.

Anita and I hope that yourself and Mrs. Popenoe have been usefully employed. We frequently speak of our brief but most pleasant visits in Changuinola and San Jose'.

It is getting on toward the end of Summer and I expect to hear of your being in Costa Rica any day now. Do not fail to drop in here.

The probable Costa Rica "exporting" is not exactly distasteful. Something should, -and we believe could-, be done for the poor devils we saw last February. However, I am pretty completely committed to this "Abaca Thing". I shall not discuss it in this note. Face to face is the thing for this delicate subject. Six or eight months more should give us an idea of where we are as regards our present program. After all, I should rather talk to you about it than otherwise.

The following should be in parenthesis,-

We have passed the 300-bale mark in Hagotan production; but are getting nowhere fast. I have recommended that it be stopped, -no reaction to date. Perhaps I am in "THE DOG HOUSE."

The three Bowmans spent an afternoon with us recently. They look well, happy, contented. Were on their way from Colombia to La Lima.

I have recently received a fine shipment of roses from Lancetilla. Practically all survived their air journey. Your rose garden was, is a fine institution.

Anita and I send very best regards to Mrs. Popenoe and yourself and look forward to our next visit, wherever it may be. (We hope it will be here).

FARM REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDED

NOVEMBER - 1940

PRODUCT C A C A C

FARMS	ACREAGE		EXPENDITURE		PRODUCTION		COUNT RATIO	COST PER ACRE			COST PER ACRE ONLY
	IRRIGATED	IN BEARING	Farm Maintenance and Disease and Insect Control	HARVESTING	POUNDS	LBS. PER ACRE		Farm Mice.	Harvest- ing	Farm Depn.	
				48	WEEKS						
CHIRIQUICITO		792	\$ 2269	\$ 3057	146792	185.3	\$.018	\$.021	\$.014	\$ 3.37	
		792	2892	3351	214490	270.6	.019	.015	.009	3.55	
FARM THREE		2608	18768	17119	1179901	452.4	.016	.015	.004	7.20	
		2617	9187	20001	1433716	547.8	.006	.014	.004	3.31	
FARM FOUR		931	8068	3207	222638	236.1	.009	.015	.003	2.22	
		933	7032	5643	407740	437.0	.017	.014	.002	7.94	
FARM EIGHT		3017	26666	19052	1345416	445.3	.020	.014	.010	8.84	
		3018	21084	25100	1788420	592.6	.012	.014	.008	6.99	
GUABITO		2557	9856	12289	789278	308.7	.012	.016	.007	3.85	
		2558	11742	11557	838842	327.9	.014	.014	.007	4.59	
NIEVEOITO		3309	11494	17001	1215062	367.2	.009	.014	.007	3.47	
		3318	17874	14689	1039735	313.4	.017	.014	.008	5.39	
SIENOSRI		776	1781	3555	195600	252.1	.009	.018	.012	2.30	
		790	1920	3420	222753	281.3	.008	.015	.011	2.43	
COSTA RICA		4154	14192	17855	1117057	268.9	.013	.016	.008	3.42	
		4158	15041	16766	1101932	265.0	.014	.016	.008	3.62	
DAITONIA		3150	12210	14086	942835	292.5	.013	.015	.008	3.88	
		3150	12317	11034	715747	227.2	.017	.019	.011	3.91	
MARGARITA		1772	7912	8912	528853	298.4	.015	.017	.011	4.47	
		1780	7148	9544	665005	373.6	.011	.014	.009	4.02	
CATARINA		850	2441	3651	258965	304.7	.009	.014	.009	2.87	
		854	2571	3693	263362	315.4	.010	.014	.009	3.01	
Total PERIOD		23916	109637	119864	7940404	332.0	.014	.015	.008	4.56	
		23968	108808	124768	8697244	362.9	.012	.014	.007	4.54	
Total MONTH		23894	7898	20830	1502420	62.9	.005	.014	.004	.33	
		23955	6136	13832	1120670	46.8	.005	.012	.005	.26	
LIVESTOCK GENERAL											
Total PERIOD			6	51							
			235	3468							
Total MONTH			2	22							
			12	146							
GRAND TOTAL											
P E R I O D		23916	109643	119813	7940404	332.0	.014	.015	.008	4.59	
		23968	108573	121320	8697244	362.9	.012	.014	.007	4.53	
M O N T H		23894	7900	20852	1502420	62.9	.005	.014	.004	.33	
		23955	6148	13976	1120670	46.8	.005	.012	.005	.26	

*Average under irrigation included in "In Bearing" figures.
†Counts, Pounds, etc.
Use two lines for each farm. Show last year's figures in red
△ Report even dollars only eliminating cents.
© Farm Depreciation (include Irrigation and Disease Control)

FARM REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDED

December 1940

PRODUCT

CACAC

FARMS	ACREAGE		EXPENDITURE		PRODUCTION		COUNT RATIO	COST PER COUNT			COST PER ACRE MICE. ONLY
	IRRIGATED	IN BEARING	Farm Maintenance and Disease and Insect Control	HARVESTING	Pounds	Lbs.		Farm Mice.	Harvest- ing	Farm Depn.	
						PER ACRE					
				53 Weeks							
Chiriquicito		792	2445	3490	171542	216.7		.014	.020	.014	3.08
		792	3041	3750	239073	301.9		.013	.013	.009	3.54
Farm 3		2607	19904	19670	1334961	512.1		.015	.015	.004	7.83
		2517	10028	22027	1357155	535.0		.008	.014	.004	3.83
Farm 4		931	2308	3792	250868	269.5		.009	.015	.003	2.48
		933	7273	3077	454803	489.0		.017	.014	.003	7.00
Farm 8		3017	28059	21442	1484246	492.0		.019	.014	.010	9.30
		3018	28395	25105	1973059	653.8		.011	.014	.008	7.45
Quabito		2557	10928	13656	857598	335.4		.013	.016	.007	4.27
		2558	12367	12773	907633	354.8		.014	.014	.007	4.83
Nievecito		3309	13142	18040	1260779	381.0		.010	.014	.007	3.97
		3517	15219	16033	1118759	337.3		.017	.014	.008	5.79
Senosri		776	1685	5873	213490	275.1		.009	.018	.012	2.43
		750	2025	3915	237381	301.1		.008	.018	.011	3.36
Costa Rica		4153	16128	18958	1153107	280.0		.014	.016	.009	3.88
		4153	13099	18336	1165441	283.1		.013	.013	.016	3.82
Daytonia		3150	13098	14840	976765	310.1		.013	.015	.009	4.15
		3150	13361	12259	763759	243.8		.017	.013	.011	4.31
Margarita		1772	8572	10059	591183	333.8		.014	.017	.011	4.84
		1750	7713	10717	717874	403.3		.011	.013	.003	4.35
Catarina		850	2628	3938	272775	320.9		.010	.014	.009	3.09
		854	2695	4072	292501	343.5		.009	.014	.008	3.13
Total Period		23914	119093	131756	8577434	356.7		.014	.015	.008	4.98
		23937	118455	135130	9447869	394.2		.012	.013	.007	4.85
Total Month		23694	9455	11904	637030	26.7		.015	.019	.010	0.40
		23935	7547	15512	730323	31.3		.010	.018	.005	0.32
Livestock General											
Total Period			40	547							
			283	3982							
Total Month			54	595							
			48	514							
Grand Total											
Period		23914	119045	131121	8577434	356.7		.014	.015	.008	4.98
		23937	118172	135148	9447869	394.2		.012	.014	.007	4.85
Month		23694	9402	11308	637030	26.7		.015	.018	.010	0.39
		23935	7599	15528	730323	31.3		.010	.017	.005	0.32
				1939 -	52 Weeks						
				1940 -	53 Weeks						

Almirante, Panama

January 8, 1941

DAT

*Average under irrigation included in "In Bearing" figures.
†Counts, Pounds, etc.
Use two lines for each farm. Show last year's figures in red.
△Report even dollars only eliminating cents.
○Farm Depreciation (Include Irrigation and Disease Control)

AGRICULTURE OF COSTA RICA

COMPANY,

SUCROS

DIVISION 22

FARM REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDED

DECEMBER

PRODUCT

CACHUZA

FARMS	ACREAGE		EXPENDITURE		PRODUCTION			COUNT RATIO	COST PER COUNT			COST PER ACRE MTCE, ONLY
	IRRIGATED	IN BEARING	Farm Maintenance and Disease and Insect Control	HARVESTING	53 Weeks STEMS	COUNTS	Counts PER ACRE		Farm Mlce.	Harvesting	Farm Depr.	
<u>PARRITA EAST</u>												
Parrita	310	838	33246	13756	126627	181347	218.40	.971	.487	.078	.113	106.30
Barbural	620	763	67089	11450	146002	162066	215.19	.976	.414	.073	.128	89.00
Nicoya	580	688	64270	11900	173304	164819	233.56	.983	.393	.078	.098	95.40
Cocac	657	705	64815	11358	176056	169795	240.84	.984	.380	.067	.094	91.00
Palo Seco	701	927	76562	16702	252572	240703	259.68	.953	.318	.069	.086	82.50
Nachazo	-	-	764	45	692	600	-	.667	1.23	.073	-	-
Superintendence	-	-	22477	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL MONTH	4245	4280	45944	6939	108328	100333	22.49	.961	.458	.069	.106	10.73
TOTAL PERIOD	3148	3911	383903	64859	958223	919899	235.05	.963	.418	.071	.163	98.16
<u>PARRITA WEST</u>												
California	358	478	45481	6011	60795	80681	169.21	.911	.567	.074	.138	85.00
Los Angeles	507	675	69496	12043	178022	154845	229.40	.900	.442	.078	.088	108.96
La Palma	-	-	-	89	1790	1590	-	.868	-	.056	-	-
El Tierr	-	12	407	174	2942	1939	161.58	.825	.210	.020	.234	35.20
La Leona	18	117	5274	2473	26477	23876	304.07	.903	.246	.104	.085	80.20
La Union	-	-	-	210	201	-	-	.777	-	.020	-	-
Superintendence	-	-	8300	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL MONTH	1198	1266	13056	4153	47349	44676	35.22	.944	.398	.073	.092	10.30
TOTAL PERIOD	860	1282	125498	20667	291326	263131	205.85	.903	.492	.079	.128	101.00
<u>DAVAS</u>												
Pocayes	-	-	47	140	2405	1983	-	.823	.024	.071	-	-
Trinidad	-	-	-	18	59	43	-	.729	-	.419	-	-
Valeria	-	-	-	4	525	419	-	.795	-	.010	.333	-
Superintendence	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL MONTH	-	-	48	161	2941	2405	-	.819	.020	.065	-	-
TOTAL PERIOD	-	-	48	162	2989	2445	-	.818	.020	.066	-	-
GRAND TOTAL MONTH	5446	5546	59046	11243	162616	147417	26.56	.966	.401	.074	.114	10.68
GRAND TOTAL PER.	4008	5193	513449	85688	1249536	1184555	230.17	.948	.433	.072	.160	98.17

*Average under irrigation included in "In Bearing" figures.
 †Counts, Pounds, etc.
 Use two lines for each farm. Show last year's figures in red.

DATE

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, MONTH OF *December*19 *40*

DATE	*TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY												AVERAGE RAINFALL FOR DIVISION	REMARKS
	Normal			Local			Total			Total				
	(Station)			(Station)			(Station)			(Division)				
	TEMPERATURE			TEMPERATURE			TEMPERATURE			TEMPERATURE				
Max.	Min.	Relative Humidity	Max.	Min.	Relative Humidity	Max.	Min.	Relative Humidity	Max.	Min.	Relative Humidity			
1	80	73	79	80	75	75	90	72			77	69		
2	90	70	83	82	75	78	90	70			81	71		
3	90	70	75	82	75	79	90	70			77	69		
4	89	72	75	80	75	79	88	72			77	69		
5	90	71	72	79	75	90	90	71			81	71		
6	88	68	68	75	72	91	88	68			80	61		
7	90	70	79	83	72	83	90	70			81	71		
8	89	69	79	83	72	81	85	69			85	71		
9	90	70	83	75	73	64	90	70			86	72		
10	91	72	75	75	71	91	91	71			83	71		
11	87	69	75	75	73	91	87	69			86	71		
12	90	70	72	80	75	91	90	70			83	71		
13	90	71	75	88	81	72	92	71			74	71		
14	90	70	65	88	79	76	90	70			78	71		
15	90	71	75	85	75	75	90	71			75	63		
16	89	70	72	80	72	91	89	70			80	71		
17	90	70	75	87	81	69	90	70			78	71		
18	92	71	75	85	82	72	92	71			77	71		
19	92	72	72	86	80	75	92	72			74	71		
20	92	72	75	88	82	79	92	72			75	71		
21	92	71	68	85	79	76	92	71			78	70		
22	91	70	72	80	85	70	91	70			76	71		
23	91	71	72	79	72	75	91	71			74	61		
24	92	70	68	86	78	85	92	70			75	71		
25	92	70	72	87	80	77	92	70			75	61		
26	92	72	72	87	83	79	92	72			75	78		
27	92	72	68	92	72	75	92	72			69	71		
28	93	69	68	79	72	75	93	69			78	71		
29	93	72	72	87	83	79	93	72			78	71		
30	92	70	68	75	73	74	92	70			71	71		
31	92	69	75	80	75	73	92	69			75	71		
Month This Year	95	68	75	89	71	80	95	68			75	72		
Month Last Year	89	66	82	-	-	-	89	66			92	72		
Period This Year	91	64	90	86	83	93	101	53			85	72		
Period Last Year	104	65	91	-	-	-	104	65			81	72		

REMARKS

See Form 1261 for detail of daily rainfall by farms for each district.

* For this particular data, the Division is represented by three typical stations

(Date)

My best air mail address is:-
c/o U. F. Co.,
Sixoala, Costa Rica,
C. G.

Almirante, Rep. de Panama, C.A.,
August 26th. 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Research Department,
Tela Railroad Company,
La Lima, Honduras, C.A.

Dear Popenoe:

Thanks no end for your good letter of August 14th. "All a same like cool breeze on damn hot day." Pardon my Chinese, but these are Chinese days here in Panama. I expect to be one of the last ones to be shoved over the side.

I'll take your letter more or less as it comes.

I expect to greet Harry Edwards, Dr. "Jim" Kempton and J.S. Mc. Daniel at the Sixoala Airport tomorrow morning. They are coming at a most inopportune time from most standpoints; but I am more than glad that they are coming. We are in sore need of something to "stir up the mud". We have plenty of mud and it is in need of stirring. I hope that Dr. Kempton will give ~~xxx~~ me as good news as he gave you, - not to mention the other "visiting firemen".

Now for cinchona; - Cheers for the accomplishments to date. Perhaps, someday, I shall rise high enough in altitude to be of some use to this most useful, and no doubt, profitable venture, - providing that, etc. etc.

Your notes on the rubber venture are interesting. As you no doubt know, I am in on this in a small way. I have about 75 Belem Trees growing here out of about 7,500 very poor seed that were shipped to me last April. It is possible that you have copies of my correspondence regarding this item.

Ramie, perhaps, is best left in the hands of the people who now are making their living at it. Unless decortication can be done by machinery, and effeciently, it does not look like a Western Hemisphere crop to me.

I am pleased that the Research Department is on the make and making nothing but good. I often wonder if I have been scratched from membership or if I am still carried on in a sort of a way. The answer is "Yes", I hope.

To me, Mr. Zamurray's School Project is a very fine thing indeed. I hope that it materializes as he has it in mind and I am sure it will if you all give it the usual push and nothing comes in between to divert attention from it.

I certainly hope that you enjoyed your visit to Guatemala. If anyone should, it would be you. I hope to go up some time with Anita if/when everything seems right and so on and so forth.

my mistake to take the paper, I'm full of mistakes for P.

Dr. Popenoe

-2-

Aug. 26th. 1941.

Now for the Coconut - Banana Deal:-

Dwarf Coconuts:-

I refer you to my letter of Sept. 29th., 1938 to Mr. J. F. Aycock, copy to you, regarding the shipment of nuts. The names employed in that letter are still in use as you will note below;

After receiving your letter yesterday evening, I inventoried my stock of coconut planting material this morning with the following result:-

Green

- 1.- Dwarf Coconut/(Coco Nâno) from Philippine Islands:
50-plus mature seed ready for shipment
100-plus or minus small growing plants available for shipment.
- 2.- Dwarf Coconut, Yellow, From Java;
30-plus mature seed ready for shipment
2 small growing plants available for shipment,
(This tree is dying, red-ring, I believe. I have a few young specimens growing but, if you want it, I should say that now is the time to get it.)
- 2.- Semi-dwarf Coconut, Green, from Java:
16-plus mature seed ready for shipment
35-plus or minus small growing plants available for shipment.

There will be more good seed available in time from Numbers 1 and 3 and possibly a few more seed from the single mature tree of Number 2. If you should like to have these seed gathered for your use please advise me.

Now for Reinking's Variety 67:-

We have a half hectare of this variety in cultivation and shall be more than pleased to send you a very fair amount of planting material if you will be good enough to request it.

This is the only banana we eat here these days and I consider it superior to the "good old commercial" Gros Michel.

This is a long letter for me but it does not say very much. I shall try and remember to give you a review of the Edwards, Kempton, McDaniel visit.
My best regards to all who know me at La Lima.

Anita and I send best regards. we are sorry that you will not be with us for the next few days. It would almost complete the picture, - what I mean is, if the Senora Popenoe were also here the picture would be completely complete.

Please do give our best regards to Mrs. Popenoe.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Permar
J. H. Permar

Almirante, Rep. de Panama, C.A.,
Dec. 3rd, 1941.

Dear Popenoe:

Your letter "Antigua, Nov. 22nd, 1941" arrived this afternoon.

This letter was a very refreshing document indeed. I thank you for it. My reason for replying immediately is that I want you to know that I was more than pleased to hear from you again. (My last to you was of August 26th. and no reply materialized.) I know how busy you have been and all that, so I composed myself to wait until you had time to catch up.

This letter will go to you on the plane that I expect to return to me Anita, who has been on a little vacation North. We shall discuss all of the points and angles of your letter and you may expect another letter from me a week from now.

But right now, before conferences, I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness and suggestion that I consider this opportunity. You have it about right, - I mean about what we probably really want to do. After all, riches are unimportant; - moderate comfort and interesting activities are really things of primary consideration.

- - - - -

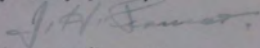
There is no use for me to say any more at this time. I shall write again a week from now.

The "go" or "no go" of the stripping plant should be a decided fact by February, I believe. If I am right, this will not crowd things too much.

- - - - -

My very best regards to Mrs. Popenoe and yourself,

Very truly yours,



P.S.² If you care to waste air postage on me, it is best (fastest) to address me as follows, -

J. H. Permar, c/o United Fruit Company,
Sixaola, Costa Rica, C.A.

DEC 10 1941

Almirante, Rep. de Panama,
Dec. 3rd. 1941.

Dr. Popenoe,
Research Dept.,
Tela Railroad Company,
La Lima, Honduras, C.A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

The shipment of planting material of banana Variety 67 requested in Mr. Turnbull's letter of Nov. 10th. was shipped from here Nov. 25th. and from the Canal Zone to Puerto Cortes on Nov. 30th.

Mr. Turnbull's letter did not reach me until very ~~recently~~ recently, -having been misdirected to the Chiriqui Land Company. There has, however, been quite a radio correspondence regarding this shipment. I feel sure that all interested parties have been informed. If the material does not arrive in good condition, it can be replaced very easily and I suggest that any treatment or disinfection ~~extensive~~ that may seem necessary be done at the receiving end.

- - - - -

I should like very much to have a statement regarding the possible need you may have of plants or seed of Dwarf Coconuts. Two of the trees of the original planting (1926), -one dwarf green and the dwarf yellow have died of Bud Rot, -not Red Ring as noted in my letter of August 26th. I have a quantity of seed collected. Several of them are germinating. If you have any need of planting material, this would be a good time to get it. I hope to hear from you regarding this.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Permar
J. H. Permar.

Sixaola, Costa Rica, C.A.
Dec. 12th. 1941.

Dear Popenoe:-

I am pleased to report that Anita came back on a very clear, quiet, sunny day, -Friday the 5th, and that she is "in the pink" as to health and spirits and is glad to be "home" again.

As promised in my December 3rd. note, I am writing further as regards the opportunity mentioned in your 22nd., Nov. letter to me from Antigua.

Anita and I have discussed the proposition and (whether wisely or not) she leaves it up to me, -so I am going to do my best to discuss it with you, -hoping that I do not bore you or bother you unduly.

There are a number of angles to the question. To make your reply (if any) simpler, I am going to number them. This may save you time in confirming or refuting them as you see fit.

1.- Since 1925 I have been interested in the abaca project and have been eager to see it given a real commercial trial. Due to the failure to secure a proven stripping plant outfit and to the delay of producing a substitute stripping plant outfit, the project is at the moment completely out of balance.

We are promised action, or trial action, by the middle of January, 1942. I sincerely hope that the plant being developed will operate satisfactorily.

If the project does go into action, I should very much like to stay with it and put my best effort into seeing abaca production put on a profitable, commercial basis in this hemisphere. I am sure you will see my attitude on this. This is the only actual thing that I have had a hand in during my almost twenty years with the UFCO, -and it would be hard to leave it if it promised to be a going proposition.

Popenoe - 12/13/41/

Perhaps you know much more about the UFCO's attitude toward abaca production than I do, - and my chances with it. If so, please inform me.

2.- If employed by the "Escuela Agricola Panamericana", am I still a UFCO employee? Do I have a contract for a definite period? Am I available for transfer back into the UFCO? Am I still on the Retirement Plan of the UFCO? What salary might I expect and what perquisites?

All of this will sound most mercenary to you, as it does to me, but these little items are, after all, worthy of consideration.

3.- I have never done any teaching nor have I ever felt very kindly toward being a teacher. I do not say that I could not teach the rudiments of horticulture; but to do it in Spanish, - well, I doubt that I could give the boys their money's worth. True, I understand (Banana Land) Spanish fairly well and can manage to converse with interested persons; but whether I could put anything over convincingly to students (who are critical and usually only passive, - requiring an interesting, inspiring person to bring out their abilities) is, - well, - not at all certain. I do not at the moment read Spanish too well and write it very little.

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I should like your reaction to all of this. I do not want to embarrass you nor do I want to go off on the wrong tack myself. Again, please give me your reaction to the above and especially to item "3".

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Now that all of the above is "off my chest", I want to say that the prospectus, as you present it, is very attractive indeed. The altitude is just about perfect. The described climate is fine. The projected work is all very interesting.

Please find time to write to me regarding my items "1", "2", "3" above. I feel sure that there will be time for this before your nominations are sent to G.H.Q.

Anita and I send Mrs. Popenoe and yourself our very best regards and wishes.

Very truly yours,

J.H. Permar
J.H. Permar.