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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.

CRISTOBAL AGENCY

Cristobal, C. Z.
January 3rd, 1941.

AIR MAIL

PERSONAL

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
c/o United Fruit Company,
Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Dear Doc:

I wired Molanphy yesterday to find out whether or not you are in Guatemala. David Burpee, President of the Burpee Seed Company, was here yesterday. He left last night for Costa Rica, where, as you probably know, he has an experimental seed garden just outside of San Jose. This Costa Rican project has been so successful that Mr. Burpee wants to look into the possibility of a similar project in Guatemala, his idea being that he does not want all his Central American eggs in one basket.

I have told Mr. Burpee that you, as the most eminent Horticulturist in Latin America, are the best man to advise him as to the best location in Guatemala. I have also told him that you can put him in touch with the people in any of the other countries and if the Costa Rican and Guatemala projects work out, he has in mind the possibility of starting another one some place South of the Ecuador, probably in Chile.

While anything that Mr. Burpee starts will probably be on a small scale to begin with, it seems to me that the idea has very real possibilities and is something that Guatemala ought to welcome with open arms. I have given Mr. Burpee a letter to Jack Armstrong and have asked Jack to try and get him an interview with President Ubico and with the Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Burpee will arrive in Guatemala on Thursday, the 9th, and will be at the Falce Hotel. I do hope that it will be possible for you to see him.

With very best regards and sincere wishes for a Happy New Year to both of you in which Dora joins, I am, always,

Very sincerely yours,

*He is a close personal
friend of Dora's and
mine & I am sure you
will enjoy him*

G. S. BENNETT

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAYS OF CENTRAL AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRESIDENT
GUATEMALA CITY, CENTRAL AMERICA

J. P. ARMSTRONG

PRESIDENT

August 11, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Research Department,
La Lima, Honduras.

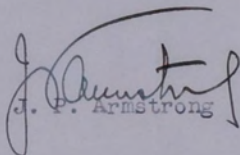
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I have your letter of August 7th about the
appointment of the Burpee scholar for one year's
study at the Florida State College of Agriculture.

I heartily concur in your proposed appoint-
ment of Sr. Moncrieff.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



J. P. Armstrong

JPA:lfa

DAVID BURPEE, PRESIDENT

W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., SECY.-TREAS.

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AT 18TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

W. Atlee Burpee Co.
Seed Growers
Philadelphia

CABLE ADDRESS, "BURPEE," PHILADELPHIA

FORDHOOK FARMS
PENNSYLVANIA
FLORADALE FARMS
CALIFORNIA

August 18, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Research Department,
Tela Railroad Company,
La Lima, Honduras, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

Thanks for your good letter of August 6th.

I am glad that you are pushing ahead with arrangements for Mr. Moncrieff or someone else for the Scholarship in Horticulture at Gainesville.

The end of this week, August 22nd, I am flying out to California. My address until about September 6th will be Floradale Farms, Lompoc, California.

As I wrote you, Senor Fernando Alvarado is visiting the United States, so I imagine you had better go ahead with the arrangements without waiting for him.

I had a very nice letter from Dean Hulme of the University of Florida. He expects to be in Philadelphia the end of this week and we are hoping to have an opportunity of talking this over together.

Don't you think it would be a good idea if you got the Scholar to Florida one or two weeks before their opening date so that he could sort of get acquainted?

Now you mention the necessity of getting the approval of President Ubico. I am just wondering would it be the diplomatic thing to ask him to make the appointment of the first student. That is just a thought and, of course, I want the matter to rest in your hands.

I certainly should like to come down to Guatemala in either November or December. However, I have been unusually busy as

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- 2 -

Dr. Wilson Popenoe.

directly west of Chicago, to establish a mid-western mail order branch.

If you are writing to Senor Don Dunny tell him that I shall be back in Philadelphia by September 20th and if he comes through this way, I hope he will stop off to see me.

You will be glad to know that Lois and Jonathan are doing splendidly.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

David

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August 20, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Research Department,
Tela Railroad Company,
La Lima, Honduras, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

That is a fine letter you wrote to Mr. Joaquin O. Moncrieff.

I am very glad that you have settled the matter of the Scholarship for this year for, as my Father would say, "The enemy is advancing".

We haven't much time left, so I am sending check for \$500. to cover this Scholarship to Dr. R. S. Atwood.

As I am leaving for California Friday, I am wondering what we should do about paying for Mr. Moncrieff's transportation to Florida. Can you make the arrangements and let me know how to make the payment?

As I wrote you in my last letter, I believe it would be very advantageous for Mr. Moncrieff to arrive at Gainesville a least a few days before the college opens.

With my thanks for the fine way in which you are handling this matter and with best regards,

Cordially yours,

David.

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September 2, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Research Department,
Tela Railroad Company,
La Lima, Honduras,
Central America.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Your letter of August 14th is received while
Mr. Burpee is in California; therefore, I am
taking the liberty of forwarding the seed to
Dr. Dunlap and trust they will reach him safely.

Mr. Burpee expects to be back in the office
some time next week and I shall bring your letter
to his attention at that time.

Yours very truly,

(Miss) M. C. Gifford

Secretary to
Mr. David Burpee.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE

September 16, 1941.

Dear Mr. Burpee:

Your check for \$500 was tendered by us to the State Board of Control at a meeting yesterday for the purpose of establishing the BURPEE SCHOLARSHIP IN HORTICULTURE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA. The Board accepted the scholarship and requested that I express to you its deep appreciation for your interest. I wish also to extend to you my personal thanks and appreciation for your generosity. This will be a great help to us in forwarding our program of Inter-American relations at the University of Florida. The scholarship has been made available to Mr. Joaquin O. Moncrief as suggested by Mr. Arnstong, Dr. Popenoe, and Mr. Chacon.

Cordially yours,

(signed) John J. Tigert

President.

Mr. David Burpee
W. Atlee Burpee Co.
Philadelphia

c o p y

Río Segundo, Costa Rica,
October 5, 1941.

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

Dear Dr. Popence:

I want to express my sincere appreciation for your visit while you were in Costa Rica recently. I regret that you could not have spent more time here, as I would have liked to talk at greater length with you.

I have had a letter from Mr. Burpee, in which he suggests that I go over to Guatemala beginning about November 8th. However, I am writing to ask you if you plan to be in Guatemala at that time, as the date is flexible, and I can arrange to make my visit either earlier or later, and would like very much to be in Guatemala some time when you would be there. I would appreciate it immensely if you could let me know what time would be most convenient - in which to impose on your cordiality!

Thank you again for your visit and your past cooperation.
With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Popence,

Sincerely yours,

Jerome H. Kantor
Jerome H. Kantor

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October 8, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

I think you will be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Moncrieff. Enclosed also is copy of my reply.

Do you agree with me that it might be well to let Mr. Moncrieff work a couple of months in our testing grounds at Fordhook Farms next summer?

I am terribly sorry that I am unable to come to Guatemala this November but I hope Jerry Kantor will have an opportunity of seeing you there and I shall look forward to that pleasure probably in February.

With best regards to Helen and yourself,

Cordially,

David

(Enclosures)

University of Florida
P. O. Box 2398, University
Gainesville, Florida
September 29, 1941

Mr. David Burpee
Philadelphia

Dear Mr. Burpee:

It is a pleasure for me to address this letter to you in order to thank you very heartily for the "Burpee Scholarship of Horticulture" you have very kindly, created for Central America and of which I have the honor of being the first holder. I wish to thank you in my own name as well as in the name of my country, Guatemala.

The creation of this scholarship gives to the young people of Central America a wonderful opportunity to learn something which is of vital importance to those five countries where we have marvelous natural resources still unexplored on account of lack of horticulturally and agriculturally trained men. Besides this, it gives us a better understanding of the American institutions, and, I am sure that the relations of friendship established between American and us, Central American boys, may bring better connections between United States and Central America.

I arrived in Gainesville on September 20th. and registered in the University on Monday 22th. I am carrying 3 courses in Horticulture and 3 in Soils for the first semester.

I like the University very much, and I think that your selection of this school to study tropical and sub-tropical horticulture has been a very wise one.

I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you before I go back to my country.

I think you again for your kindness.

Yours very truly,

(signed) Joaquin O. Moncrieff

October 8, 1941.

Mr. Joaquin O. Moncrieff,
P. O. Box 2398, University,
University of Florida,
Gainesville, Florida.

Dear Mr. Moncrieff:

I am very pleased to receive your good letter of September 29th and to learn that you have started your studies at the University of Florida.

If there is anything that I can do to be of assistance to you while you are in the United States, please feel free to write to me at any time.

It has occurred to me that after college closes in June, it might be a good thing for you to come up and work a couple of months in our experimental gardens at Fordhook Farms, Doylestown, near Philadelphia. I think this practical experience would be of value to you and it would enable you to see a little bit more of the United States before returning to Guatemala.

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Antigua, Guatemala, 9 October 1941

Mr Jerome H Kantor,
Rio Segundo, Costa Rica.

Dear Mr. Kantor:

Your letter of the 5th has just come. I have recently heard from Mr Burpee that you will be coming up this way shortly, and I am looking forward keenly to your visit.

As to the best time, I believe I will be more certain to be in Guatemala around Thanksgiving than at the date you suggest - November 8th. I am planning to go over to Honduras in connection with the location of our new agricultural school, and I doubt that I shall get back here before the latter part of November. I want very much to be here when you come, for there are many things we can talk over together, and I would like to be of assistance to you in connection with securing land here, in case you decide to do this. Perhaps the best plan would be for you to drop me a line about the first week in November. Then I will be able to tell you more definitely when I shall be on hand. You can address me at Antigua. If I am over in Honduras Mrs Popenoe will be here and can tell you when I shall be back.

If and when Fernando Alvarado returns to Costa Rica, I hope you will speak with him about lining up a student for the Burpee Scholarship at Florida next year. It is not too early for us to be thinking about this.

With best regards always,

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe

cc David Burpee Esq.

Antigua, Guatemala, 12 Oct 1941

David Burpee Esq.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear David:

Yours of the 8th, with copies of correspondence with Joaquin Moncrieff, has just come. I think your idea of letting Moncrieff spend a few months working ~~for~~ you at Fordhook next summer is excellent, provided Moncrieff makes a good record at Gainesville as I feel sure he will. It further seems to me possible that he may develop into a man you could use here in Guatemala later if you open up seedgardens here. If you don't use him, I think it quite possible he might fit into the agricultural school we are planning to establish in Honduras for the benefit of Central America as a whole.

In any event, I believe he is going to prove useful in the further development of Central American horticulture.

Helen and I both regret exceedingly that we are not to see you next month, but we hope you will be able to make the trip later in the winter. I enclose copy of a letter I have written Kantor about his plans. I think we can work things out so I can be here when he comes.

When I wrote you last week asking for a lot more seeds and bulbs, I forgot to thank you for the batch sent to La Lina. Our people down there will make excellent use of these and I hope it will stimulate an interest in vegetable gardening in that region. And by the way, when we get our new school started in Honduras we must include a course in vegetable growing under tropical conditions. We'll nominate you Godfather of this course.

We are getting ready to receive Dr. and Mrs. Fairchild tomorrow. Helen is rushing around putting flowers all over the house and Sebastian is cutting the lawn in the main patio.

Affectionate regards to the family from both of us.

Sincerely,

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
Harrisburg, Pa.

OCT 27 1941

Date OCTOBER 24, 1941

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that samples of the following seeds received from
W. ATLEE BURPEE CO.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

TO BE SHIPPED TO:

DR. WILSON POPENOE
UNITED FRUIT CO.
GUATEMALA CITY
GUATEMALA

have been officially inspected by a representative of this department
and are apparently free from injurious insect pests and diseases:

(Here list the seeds)

200 SDS ZINNIA
100 .. RHUBARB CHARD
1 PKT FORGET-ME-NOT
3 COLL FLOWERS FOR CUTTING
4 PKT DELPHINIUM
1 .. CALENDULA
2 COLL ASTER
1 PKT CELERY
1 .. MARJORAM
4 OZ LETTUCE



G. H. Schick
Inspector for Bureau Plant Industry

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HARRISBURG

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY



SPECIAL CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the nursery stock contained in this shipment,
consisting of 100 Asparagus 100 Phloxes
shipped by W. H. H. Surpless & Co. Philadelphia
grown at Mount Holly State of New Jersey
consigned to Dr. Wilson Pope United Fruit Co. Guatemala City
has been officially inspected and found to be apparently free from injurious
insects and diseases.

Date of inspection

Oct 22, 1941

Central Amer.

Inspector

George B. Neumann

Rio Segundo, Costa Rica,
November 3, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua, Guatemala.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I am writing you again at this time, in accordance with the suggestion made by you in your letter of October 9. I do hope you are now able to say rather definitely at what time you might best be able to spend some time with me in Guatemala.

I have not yet seen Mr. Alvarado, but believe he is due to return if he has not already done so. I know of two possibilities for the Scholarship for 1942, and I suppose these should make their application. I can talk to you about these two possibilities when I see you later this month.

I have not yet made any definite plans for my time in Guatemala, but am prepared to stay three weeks or longer if necessary. I should like, first of all, to have a good talk with you, then to visit the various locations where our friends have been running trials, so that we can eliminate the poorer sections, and then devote a good part of my time to investigating properties in the regions that look most favorable. I suppose you know we would like to rent the ground for the first year or two, at any rate, with renewal options. I believe you know our requirements quite well, and I can go over these in detail with you.

Looking forward to seeing you again soon,

Very Sincerely yours,

Jerome H. Kantor
Jerome H. Kantor

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CABLE ADDRESS. "BURPEE," PHILADELPHIA

November 3, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

Thanks for your good letter of October 12th received some days ago and copy of your letter to Mr. Kantor.

It is indeed very kind of you to suggest that we might use Moncrieff as an assistant to Mr. Kantor if we start growing in Guatemala next spring.

I am hoping that Kantor will be able to find about forty acres of good level ground and well located in Guatemala. Then I would plan to come down and look the situation over in February so that we might get started in Guatemala early in the spring.

I am glad to know that you might start a course in vegetable growing under tropical conditions at your new school in Honduras. We certainly would like to cooperate with you to the fullest extent.

I have been thinking maybe it would be just as well not to urge Fernando Alvarado to take any action about the Burpee Scholar for next year. You might run into a young man in Honduras or Guatemala, that you would want to send up here. At any rate, I imagine the matter can wait for a while.

I have not heard anything about Moncrieff's traveling expenses to Florida and I think it mighty generous if the United Fruit Company bore these expenses.

I am wondering if we should increase Moncrieff's allowance by one or two hundred dollars.

I can well imagine what a pleasant visit you must have had from Dr. and Mrs. Fairchild and I certainly hope that I shall have the

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- 2 -

Dr. Wilson Popenoe.

Thanks for your note of October 30th which is just received this morning. I am taking the paper home with me and shall read it with a great deal of interest this evening.

With all good wishes to Helen and you,

Cordially yours,

W. Atlee Burpee

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W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., SECY. TREAS.

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CABLE ADDRESS, "BURPEE," PHILADELPHIA

November 17, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

I have read with a great deal of interest the paper you prepared for the meeting of the Presidents of the Land Grant Colleges in Washington and I appreciate very much your mention of the Burpee Scholarship in Horticulture for Central America.

By now Jerry Kantor is probably in Guatemala and I certainly envy him. I should have been there too had it not been for our acquiring the new building in Clinton, Iowa, and the necessity of staying pretty close to the job because of the changing conditions caused by the war.

It looks as though I shall be able to come down to Central America shortly after February 1st providing I get back to Philadelphia before March 15th. Later on perhaps you can let me know if you expect to be in Guatemala at all during that period or, if not, perhaps I could look you up in Honduras or wherever else you happen to be.

Both the bulbs and seeds have been sent to you and I trust they arrive in good condition. Remember, you are going to send me another list of things that some of your friends might be interested in.

Our Dahlias and Gladiolus have now been dug and I shall be very glad to send a collection of both to Mrs. W. E. Turnbull, c/o Miss Concha Bogran, 605 United Fruit Company Building, 321 St. Charles Street, New Orleans.

Please let me know any time I can send any seeds or bulbs to any of your good friends.

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- 2 -

Dr. Wilson Popenoe.

Yes, I know that Dean Hume feels that the Burpee Scholar ought to have two years at Gainesville especially if he does not know English on arrival. I think we may sometime want to keep a Scholar up here for two years but feel that each case should be considered separately and that it is best for us to commit ourselves in advance only for the one year.

We have thought that the next Burpee Scholar should come from Costa Rica. However, it seems to me now that the most important thing is to get a good Scholar, no matter from what Central American country he comes.

I would be very glad if you could give some publicity to the Burpee Scholarship in any or all of the Central American countries. If this Scholarship plan works out well, I think we shall some day want to give an additional Scholarship for some of the other Latin-American countries.

With best regards to Helen and yourself,

Cordially yours,

W. Atlee Burpee

Antigua, Guatemala, 19 Novbr 1941

David Burpee Esq.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear David:

Your letter of 3rd November came some days ago. I have waited to reply until we had taken a look at the situation with Mr. Kantor. As he doubtless has written you, we have taken a hasty trip through the Antigua region; thence to the Pacific coast at the upper levels around San Antonio, Mazatenango, and San Felipe; thence back through the highlands. All in all, Mr. Kantor, seems to feel that the Antigua valley offers the best combination of climate, soil, and accessibility. As we have mentioned in our discussions, a seed garden in this valley would be seen by several thousand American visitors each year and have some advertising value to you. This would scarcely be the case elsewhere. But this is not the principal factor, of course. We seem to have, here, the best combination of elevation plus a fairly dry climate.

Mr Kantor is going to investigate the situation further and will report his findings to you. The chief difficulty with regard to Antigua seems to be the difficulty of securing land here. But I think this could be handled, one way or another. Land in this valley is expensive, but I think if you spread the cost over a period of ten years, the difference between price here and price on the Pacific coast would be compensated by savings in transportation, freights, and time lost in getting back and forth to Guatemala City. And no matter where you are, you will have to go to the City occasionally to attend business matters.

You have mentioned that you would like to lease a piece of land at the start, with option of buying. From the talks we have

had with people here, it seems doubtful that this will be possible in many cases. If you find just the piece of land you want, and it is possible to buy it at a fair price but not to lease it, I believe you would do best to shoot the works. Land in the Antigua, purchased as a fair price, is pretty certain to be marketable later if you should want to sell. It is rare that good land is on the market in this valley, and when offered it is promptly sold. That is why I am fearful that it will not be an easy job to get what you want here, should decide that this is the best region.

I am going over to Honduras at the week end, to spend a month at Tegucigalpa. I have fixed up things for Mr Kantor to look over the Mazatengo-San Felipe-San Antonion region in detail with our men who handle the bananas from that area, and who know every property. He will go over it thoroughly, and will then take up the situation in the Antigua region with Don Pedro Cofiño and Don Manuel Herrera, who are the two best men to assist you here. We have also discussed possibilities along the railroad down toward Puerto Barrios, and Mr Kantor plans to run down that way - as low as 1500 feet - and see what the situation offers.

Returning now to your letter: I think you are wise not to get too deeply involved, as yet, regarding the Burpee student for next year. Mr Kantor tells me you might consider leaving Moncrieff at Gainesville for a second year if there is a strong probability that you would want him for your own work when he finishes. I think this is definitely worth keeping in mind. I see no reason why you should not use him later, if you want him and he wants you. As for increasing his allowance, I am inclined to think \$600 may not be too much; but I would suggest that you wait until the end of the

first semester, then ask Dr Atwood (if he is the one who is handling Moncrieff's finances at Gainesville) what he advises. Incidentally, I have been greatly pleased at comments I have heard here regarding Moncrieff's acceptance of the scholarship. It seems he was tickled pink to get it; and several people have told me we could not have made a better choice. I enclose copy of a letter from Moncrieff to Mr Taillon, and one of a letter I have just written Moncrieff, for your information.

Helen stays here at Antigua until the first of the year. I will fix up a place in Tegucigalpa for us to live while we are developing facilities at our new school. We have purchased 1500 acres of land near there and have a fine appropriation for buildings. It is to be called the "Escuela Agrícola Panamericana", and we hope eventually to turn out an applicant or two for the Burpee scholarship. But that is in the future. You can continue to address me here at Antigua. I am always so uncertain about my plans, and it takes so little time to forward by air to Tegucigalpa, that this is the best bet until we get definitely established over there. If you come down in February, by the way, and I can be of any service to you here in Guatemala, I think I can arrange to fly over for a couple of days. We are only two hours from Tegucigalpa by air.

Helen joins in affectionate regards to the family.

Sincerely yours

DAVID BURPEE, PRESIDENT

W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., SECY-TRES.

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PHILADELPHIA

W. Atlee Burpee Co.
Seed Growers
Philadelphia

FORDHOOK FARMS
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FLORADALE FARMS
CALIFORNIA

CABLE ADDRESS. "BURPEE," PHILADELPHIA

November 20, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

In your letter of October 27th from La Lima, you suggested the possibility of sometime including Colombia within the scope of the Burpee Scholarship in Horticulture.

It is strange that you should have mentioned this for I had been thinking along somewhat similar lines.

When Fernando Alvarado was at Fordhook, he seemed a little bit disappointed at the possibility of our leaving Costa Rica and going to Guatemala. He said there is more good land in Colombia or Venezuela.

I am almost convinced that we want to establish a place in Guatemala next spring if we are able to get suitable ground at a reasonable rental.

It may be, however, that we will want also to operate in either Colombia or Venezuela at some later date. Therefore, I have been wondering if it would not be best to give a separate Scholarship for either or both of these countries.

I do not want to be committed to do this every year but would be glad to do so for 1942-43 if you can find a really good young man in either or both of those countries. We want them to be intelligent fellows, of course, but we place most emphasis on character and reliability.

Some day I think we shall want to go much farther south and explore the possibilities of growing seed below the equator. Preparatory to that, it might be advisable to give a Scholarship in Horticulture to some lad in Brazil and in Argentina.

Will you let me know if you can locate a promising man in either or

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W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., SECY-TRES.

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- 2 -

Dr. Wilson Popenoe.

both Colombia and Venezuela?

I have been wondering if the young men we bring up to the States on Scholarships could come in early spring, perhaps April, instead of September and work for the summer on our Floradale Seed Farms in California or at Fordhook before starting their studies in September.

With best regards,

Cordially yours,

David

Antigua, Guatemala, 1 December 1941

David Burpee Esq.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear David:

Yours of November 17th and 20th arrived some days ago. Since then I have had two visits with Jerome Kantor, but before discussing that end of the work I will reply to your questions re the scholarship.

I have written Moncrieff for certain biographical data and when I get these will publish a note in "El Imparcial" the leading paper in Guatemala City; and in "Agriculture in the Americas", a monthly review put out by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U S D A in Washington. I think I shall also prepare something for the "Revista de Agricultura" in San José de Costa Rica.

Kantor thinks he may have a good prospect for next year's Central American scholarship in Costa Rica. Other things being equal, I would like to see the next scholar come from that end of the Isthmus, so that it would be clear that we are not going to limit the benefits to Guatemala or any other one region. But I agree with you that what we want is the best man available, without regard to country of origin. Kantor has promised to look into his prospects more fully. I suggest we try to settle this matter when you come down in Feb, so far as next year's candidate is concerned.

Now about a man from Colombia or Venezuela. I am glad to see you are interested in this possibility. When in Colombia last June I met a young chap who struck me very favorably. His name is José Vicente Arboleda Romero, and right now he is in charge of a government fruit tree nursery in the Department of Caldas. He comes from Cali and looks to be about 24 yrs old. He is keen on horticulture and was trained at the agr'l school in Cali; he sadly needs further training. He asked me if I could help him get a scholarship in the States. He has a wife, but said he would go up for a year's training if he could get a scholarship of any sort. He to be a worker, and I believe he would make good. I am going to

him right away and ask him if he still wants a scholarship - with.

telling him just what I have in mind.

As for Venezuela, I am not so well acquainted there, though I have been there four times in the last few years and know some of the boys. But we have just brought to Guatemala, as Director of the government agr'l school here, an American named Albert Muller, who has spent four years in Venezuela, teaching in the agr'l school at Caracas. Muller can give us excellent advice. Kantor has met him, and I want you to meet him when you come down. He is at Chimaltenango, only 20 minutes' drive from Antigua.

On the whole, I believe Colombia is a better bet than Venezuela, both with regard to prospective students and future sites for your own work. Colombia is up and coming. They have lots of agricultural land, and are keenly interested. Venezuela has less agricultural land; less young men interested in practical horticulture; and petroleum befogs all agricultural issues. Maybe for these reasons it is all the more important to help Venezuela! I would like to discuss all these matters with you when you come down. As I have written you, I will do my best to fly over here for a couple of days when you come; and if I cannot possibly do it, then perhaps you could fly over to Tegucigalpa (it is only two hours from Guatemala City) and spend a day with me.

I think it would be a fine thing to take the next scholar to Ferndhook in the spring and let him work there until school opens in Sept. Especially if he does not know English, this would give him an opportunity to get hold of it before entering school and might eliminate the need of a second year at Gainesville. The man I have in mind in Colombia does not know English.

Now about Kantor's visit: I believe he flies back to Costa Rica tomorrow. He spent last Saturday here with us, Muller also being present. We have lined up a few tentative possibilities in the Antigua valley. Kantor feels that climatic conditions here are more favorable than anywhere else in Guatemala, but land is going to be expensive. When you come down you can look over the situation. My own feeling is that you would do better to pay the price and get good land where you want it. The additional cost would be offset in the long run by savings in time going back and forth to the

But you can decide for yourself when you come down. Kantor has gone over the field pretty thoroughly and I believe he has done it intelligently. We all like Kantor here. He has been energetic in getting around and making contacts and looking things over.

By the way, and between ourselves, Kantor seems to feel that perhaps Fernando Alvarado is not very interested in being on the scholarship committee. There is no need to make any move at present, nor perhaps in the future; but if you should pull out of Costa Rica it might be worth considering. Or you may want to keep one man permanently on the committee in that area. It seems logical. If a change is desirable at any time, I would be glad to take the matter up with you. Fernando Castro, one of the leading Costa Rican agriculturists, is going to be on the committee for our school in Honduras. Alfredo Volio, present minister of agriculture, and a California graduate, is also a good bet, as is Luis Cruz, present Director of Agriculture. Of the three I would rather favor Volio offhand. He is a good citizen.

Many, many thanks for having sent the seeds and bulbs to us, as well as those requested for Mrs Turnbull. Ours should be showing up soon and we have the ground ready for them. I expect to go over to Honduras this week; I have been delayed, waiting for the papers to be signed over there, transferring the site to us. The transaction is now complete.

Helen joins in best regards to all the family.

Sincerely yours,

DAVID BURPEE, PRESIDENT

W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., SECY-TRES.

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CABLE ADDRESS. "BURPEE," PHILADELPHIA

December 11, 1941.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe,
Antigua,
Guatemala, Central America.

Dear Wilson:

You certainly were very good to Kantor during his visit to Guatemala and, of course, you know that I appreciate it.

I am hoping soon to receive his full report of his trip and I am still hoping that I shall be able to visit Guatemala in February. If so, I am sure that I could find time to fly over to Tegucigalpa to see you. This war with Japan, Germany, and Italy may upset my plans. Of course none of us knows what is ahead.

Since writing you I have given more thought to the subject and I also feel that "Colombia is a better bet than Venezuela". Under present conditions we do not want to get too far involved so I think we had better give up all thought of a Scholarship for Venezuela.

Even under these conditions I want to continue our work in Central America and our study of conditions in all Latin-America so far as they pertain to seeds, both production and sales.

It is too bad that the young man in Colombia Jose Vicente Arboleda Romero does not know English and at the same time is married for I do not think without a knowledge of English to begin with he could get enough out of a one year's stay in the States to make it worth while. Or, at least, it would be better if he knew English to start with or could stay for two years.

Under present unsettled conditions and until I get Kantor's report, it is rather difficult to write you in much detail. However, I shall hope to write you again in the very near future.

DAVID BURPEE, PRESIDENT

W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., SECY-TRES.

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- 2 -

Dr. Wilson Popenoe.

Will you let me know if you can use any more seeds or
bulbs?

Lois joins me in best regards to both Helen and you,

Cordially,

W. Atlee Burpee

Antigua, Guatemala, 2 Jan 1942

David Burpee Esq.,
Philadelphia.

Dear David:

On reaching here just before Christmas I found your good letter of 11 Dec. We are glad to hear that you still expect to come down in Feb. I hope you make it.

Times are likely to get pretty thick in the near future, I suppose, but I hope you will not have to make any change in the program for the Burpee scholarship. I have heard from José Vicente Arboleda Romero of Colombia. He is anxious to come up to the States and will come on any basis offered. You mention that he is married, and that he does not know English. True, but he doesn't expect to bring his wife, and seems anxious for the chance to advance himself even at this sacrifice (and if you could see his wife, you would realise what a sacrifice it is! She is mighty attractive). The Director of Agriculture at Bogotá is anxious for Arboleda Romero to have this opportunity. I wrote him, asking his advice on the subject. My feeling is this: if Arboleda could come up to Fordhook say about May 1st. and stay there until time for school to open in Sept, I believe he would get enough English to start in at Florida on a fairly satisfactory basis; and I further believe it might be best for him not to take too many general courses, but to devote most of his time to work in the greenhouses and the experiment station, learning propagation and care of plants, especially fruit trees and vegetables. This is what would most increase his value to Colombia, I believe. They have a good many intelligent young chaps down there with theoretical training, but almost none of them can grow plants.

About Moneriff: I wrote you that I wanted to give the matter a little publicity down here and had asked him for some biographical details. I received these and was preparing something for the local press when I found our people had already publicised the matter, when he went up to Florida. There was a good write up in "El Imparcial" with photo of Moneriff. I am sorry I can not send you a copy at this late date. I think I will prepare a short note for publication in Honduras and another in Costa Rica, just as soon as I can get around to it.

I assume you have been advised that the President's committee on Interamerican Cooperation in Agr'l Education passed a resolution at their meeting in Nov, expressing

apprediation of the work you are doing through the Burpee Scholarship. They sent me a copy.

Helen and I are leaving for Tegucigalpa on Monday to settle down there and push ahead the work on the school - Escuela Agrícola Panamericana. Naturally we are rather concerned about getting needed equipment from the States, these days; but I hope we can go ahead without too much delay. Our address from now on will be care Tela Railroad Co., Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

We join in affectionate regards to all the family.

Sincerely,

DAVID BURPEE, PRESIDENT

W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., VICE PRES. & TREAS.

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CABLE ADDRESS: "BURPEE" PHILADELPHIA

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October 29, 1957

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Apartado 93
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Wilson:

Many thanks for your good letter of October 21, and for sending me seeds of the Dahlia popenovii.

It indeed seems a long while since I have seen or heard from you and I was delighted to receive your letter; however, it is hard for me to realize that you are retired. Under separate cover I am having mailed to you one of our 1957 catalogues, and I shall put you on the list to receive one each year.

May I have the pleasure of sending you a few vegetable and flower seeds for your garden either in Guatemala or in Spain?

Please excuse the lack of my personal signature as I am laid up with the flu at present.

With the best of good wishes for Helen and you,

Sincerely your old friend,

David ^{D.C.}

Antigua, Guatemala, 15 January 1958

David Burpee Esq
W. Atlee Burpee Co
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear David:

This is a tardy acknowledgment of your letter of 29 October last, and at the same time I am writing to say that Helen and I are going North next week - first to attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Escuela Agricola Panamericana, then to spend a couple of weeks with the F_1 and F_2 generations in Washington, after which we are flying over to Europe for a long sojourn. I am undertaking to assist in the development of subtropical fruit culture on the Mediterranean coast of Spain, due south of Granada. In the lovely valley of Almuñecar where they grow sugar cane and bananas we shall try to develop some nurseries (back to my first love again!) and introduce some good avocados and other subtropicals.

Thanks for your offer of seeds. When we get back from Europe we shall be glad to accept - providing we can do something for you down here to reciprocate. This trip to Europe will probably be Custer's last fight.

When we get back I intend to settle down here in Antigua and devote what strength I have left, if any, to fruit improvement in Central America. "And how can man die better, than by facing fearful odds, for the ashes of his fathers and the temples of his Gods?" The odds are not so fearful, but it takes a long time to make real progress here in Central America. I have been at it 41 years; I just wish I had five sons instead of only one, to carry on. Helen joins in affectionate regards.

DAVID BURPEE, PRESIDENT

W. ATLEE BURPEE, JR., VICE PRES.-TREAS.

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January 20, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Apartado 93
Antigua, Guatemala, C. A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you for your letter of January 15.

Mr. Burpee is, at the present time, in California on business, but I know he will be most happy to hear of your plans upon his return in early February.

Sincerely,

Dolores Cardimon

Mrs. Dolores Cardimon
Secretary to Mr. Burpee

(DC)

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SANTA PAULA
CALIF. 93060

August 18, 1965.

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

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

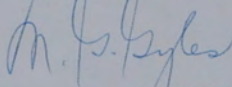
As Mr. Burpee is inspecting our
seed crops, I am taking the liberty of acknow-
ledging your letter of August 16th.

Under separate cover I am sending
you some seed, with Mr. Burpee's compliments,
and trust these will do well for you.

I shall bring your letter to Mr.
Burpee's attention upon his return to the office.

With good wishes,

Sincerely yours,



Secretary to
Mr. David Burpee.

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LOMPOC, CALIF. 93436

SANTA PAULA
CALIF. 93060

Fordhook Farms
August 30, 1965

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Casa del Oidor
Antigua
Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Wilson:

On my return from California it was a real pleasure
to receive your 16 August letter.

During my absence my secretary sent you the seeds
and I hope they have arrived safely before now. If not, please
let me know and I shall send you some more.

It is good to know that Hector Murga and Ernest
Casseres are doing so well.

Whenever you come this way I hope you will let me
know, for I certainly would like to see you again.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

David

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LOMPOC, CALIF. 93436

SANTA PAULA
CALIF. 93060

September 14, 1965.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala, C. A.

Dear Wilson:

It was good to get your letter and I hope sometime I may have the pleasure of meeting your nephew, John Popenoe, of the Fairchild Tropical Garden. Some years ago I had a very interesting chat with Mr. Fairchild there.

It occurs to me that you or some of your friends might enjoy a new Tomato we introduced last year. The first time I tasted it I exclaimed, "It's Delicious" and that became its name. It is large, very meaty and, in my opinion, the best flavored of all Tomatoes. Three packets I enclose.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

David