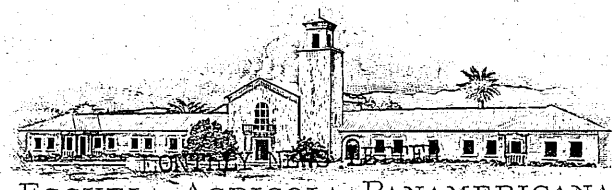

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA
HONDURAS

JULY 1952: Classroom work has continued without interruption. The first fiesta of the school year took place on Sunday the 13th, some 300 people from Tegucigalpa and nearby regions being present (most of them were of the gentler sex, and not too far advanced in years). The boys entertained their friends at luncheon, followed by a dance in the assembly hall.

We are beginning to see interesting results from our experimental plantings of temperate zone fruits at 6000 ft. near the summit of Uyuca mountain, a few miles from the School proper. Numerous varieties of peaches have produced fruit. Jewel, Waldo and Angel (from Florida) have done better, up to now, than any of the varieties from California. Dorothy N., also from Florida, is the strongest grower of all and this year bore large crops. It begins to appear, however, that the climate on Uyuca is too cool and damp for peaches to ripen well. At the same time, we are getting valuable information regarding the ability of various kinds of peaches to grow normally in the tropical highlands. Many varieties are showing delayed foliation (lack of sufficient chilling) and will have to be discarded. The Excelsior plum came into bearing this year, but is not as good as the Santa Rosa. The Satsuma variety also produced a few fruits and looks promising. Our applies are not doing much: White Winter Pearmain and Winter Banana so far appear to be the most promising. The Pineapple pear is growing well, but here, as elsewhere in the tropics, makes long unbranched growths and its fruit is not very appetizing. The Orient variety looks more promising. The collection of avocado varieties from Mexico which has been established at this spot is coming on nicely and will prove valuable as a source of propagating material. Hass, a variety of the Guatemalan race from California, came into production this year.

Species and varieties of Rubus do particularly well on Uyuca. The Shankberry (Rubus Shankii) a native species discovered on this mountain by our forester Paul Shank, has borne excellent crops of large blackberries of good flavor with small soft seeds. This berry attracted the attention of Dr. George M. Darrow of the U.S.Department of Agriculture when he was here last spring. He believes it may prove valuable in other regions and for breeding purposes. The Youngberry does very well here, also the Nessberries from Texas. Black raspberries have fruited this year, but red raspberries are so badly attacked by rust (which we have not yet attempted to control) that the plants cannot attain mature size. The Missionary strawberry grows well on Uyuca and produces fruits of better flavor than at Zamorano.

The School was honored this month with the overnight visit of 10 U.S. educators. The group and their escorts arrived on July 24th and departed on the 25th to enplane for Guatemala. The group was composed by: Dr Gail Murphy, American Institute of Foreign Trade, Phoenix, Arizona; Dr W. L. Stangel, Dean of Agriculture Texas Technological College; Dr N. K. Ellis Purdue University; Dr. A. M. Eberle, Dean South Dakota State College of A.&M.; Dr. H. M. Briggs, Dean University of Wyoming; Dr L. Ellis, Dean University of Arkansas; Dr Madison Sturgis of Louisiana State University; Dr. Melvin Thomas, Dean of Engineering New Mexico College of A. & M.; Dr Robert Nichols, Dean New Mexico College of A. & M.; and Dr Eldon Wittwer, University of Nevada. Messrs. J. R. Silver and V. E. Scott, officials of the United Fruit Co., escorted the group on their visit to the School.

Other prominent visitors during the month were: Professors Dan Stanislawski, M. J. Howard and J. F. Bergmann University of Texas; Dr. G. Zentmyer of California; C. O. Crocker, STICA Paraguay; G.A. Neale, SCIPA Peru; F. T. Wahlen, FAO Italy; A.Cordoba FAO Mexico; W. Sandermann FAO Germany; Dr. T. P. Haas Philadelphia College of Pharmacy Dr J.M. Ochse and John Archbold of Florida;and Mr. Paul Slud, ornithologist.