



MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

JULY 1956. Vocational schools of agriculture in tropical America are increasing in number and importance. We have only been in the business 14 years and do not know all about it, but we are going to discuss this month what we think the most important feature of such schools - the teaching staff. We think it vital that many teachers work with the boys on the practical side as well as in the classroom - but this, after all, is obvious.

Julio Pineda, a Honduran trained in the United States, teaches our first year of English. Later he teaches poultry production. We do not claim that a teacher of English has to know all about raising poultry, but it has proved to be a fine combination. José Tobías Cornejo of Salvador teaches first and second year mathematics, and assists Julio in the poultry department. No harm in his knowing the mathematics of mixing feeds, how many eggs per year, and so on.

Most of our botany is taught by Antonio Molina, Honduran, a graduate of EAP who later went to the United States on a Guggenheim Fellowship and is rapidly becoming one of the best Central American botanists - thanks to the training he is receiving under our Dr. Louis O. Williams. Zoology and the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources are taught by Manuel Chávez Viaud of Salvador, who was trained in Switzerland and California. As a side line, Manuel handles sanitation on the campus. Tropical hygiene is taught by René Díaz Salinas, a graduate of the medical school of the University of Honduras, who also takes care of the boys in our infirmary if and when they are sick or get kicked in the shins during a football game.

Eduardo Jiménez Saenz, Costa Rican, a graduate of EAP who was sent to Florida on one of our scholarships (he was the first of our boys to get an M.Sc.) teaches introduction to horticulture, vegetable crops, plant physiology and supervises the training of the boys in vegetable production. Francisco Sierra of Guatemala, a member of the first class to be graduated here (1946), and who later was sent to Florida where he got his B.S.A. with honors, teaches chemistry, soils and fertilizers, and does research work in the laboratory.

Paul H. Allen, with twenty years experience in tropical America, teaches pomology and English and with the assistance of our Honduran graduate Adán Rivera, supervises work in the orchards and nurseries. Luis E. Morcillo, Colombian, who has recently returned from Michigan State College where he held a Rockefeller Foundation fellowship and got his M.Sc. in agricultural engineering, supervises field crops and teaches this subject as well as agricultural engineering. Luis is one of our old-timers; he was with us about nine years before he had the opportunity to go to Michigan. He is assisted by our graduate Roberto García, Costa Rican.

Rodolfo Zamora, Costa Rican, who was graduated here and then sent to Florida where he got his B.S.A., handles the dairy herd and the swine. Guillermo Herrera, also Costa Rican and another of our graduates, who subsequently got his B.S.A. at Mississippi State College, runs the creamery and trains the boys to pasteurise milk and make good butter and cheese. Both he and Rodolfo have classroom work in their respective fields. Dr. Louis Williams, our botanist, teaches conversational English and a class in beef cattle (he grew up on a ranch in Wyoming). Walter Fick, with long practical experience in tropical agriculture, has classes in farm management and teaches the boys how to cut beefsteaks which look like beefsteaks and make bacon which tastes like bacon. Dr. Ramón Peruga, our Spanish veterinarian, teaches the elements of veterinary medicine and trains the boys in the practical applications.

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