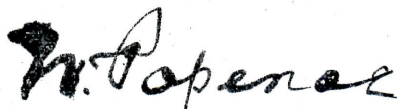


There were a number of interesting visitors during the month, but less than we usually have in the period January-March. Dr. Menalco Solís, Director of the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura of the Republic of Panamá, accompanied by Mrs. Solís and their young son, spent three days here at the beginning of the month. Since his school is organized along lines similar to ours, Dr. Solís devoted much time to studying details of operation, and gave us many new ideas, based upon his own experience. Mr. A. A. Pollan, Executive Vice-President of the United Fruit Company came and stayed overnight; it was his first visit to the school. Ralph H. Allee, Director of the Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agrícolas at Turrialba, Costa Rica, was here at the same time. Since there are many ways in which EAP can work in cooperation with the Instituto Interamericano we were happy to have this opportunity for discussing mutual interests. The well-known writer Zora Neale Hurston, Litt. D. from Howard University, spent several days with us around the 9th. On the 22nd and 23rd we had with us Dr. E. C. Stakman and Dr. J. G. Harrar of the Rockefeller Foundation. Dr. Harrar is in charge of the Foundation's agricultural projects in Mexico. Mr. John W. Richardson of the Tela Railroad Company spent several days with us around the 25th. Miss Helene M. Robinson, formerly secretary to Dr. Thomas Barbour of Harvard, member of our Board of Directors whose death last year is greatly lamented by all of us, arrived on the 28th to spend a week as guest of Dr. and Mrs. Louis C. Williams. And on the 30th, Mr. David D. Zingg of the United Fruit Company arrived to spend several days.



Wilson Popenoe
Director

Reports

Activities this month have centered around the selection of students and the organization of the new school year which commences on 2 June. The new class numbers 70 students, all but four of whom are on hand; one Nicaraguan is yet to arrive, and the three Cubans who were selected have been delayed because of formalities in connection with securing permission to leave the Island. Incidentally, the new class is by far the largest we have received since 1943, when the school opened with 72.

The teaching staff has devoted much attention to the classroom program, with the result that we believe several improvements have been made. Chief among these is the addition of a third year of English, with a view to giving the boys more practice in speaking the language. We have found two years of this subject ample to give the boys a good reading knowledge, but some of them have been timid about speaking English and all are anxious for more practice in this regard. As now set up, the curriculum for 1947-48 is as follows:

First year:

- 1 Inglés I
- 2 Ciencias Biológicas
- 3 Matemáticas
- 4 Orientación Agrícola
- 5 Orientación Ganadera

Second Year:

- 1 Inglés II
- 2 Ciencias Físicas
- 3 Elementos de Agricultura
- 4 Cultivos tropicales
- 5 Elementos de Ganadería

Third year:

- 1 Inglés III
- 2 Ingeniería Rural
- 3 Ganadería Mayor
- 4 Ganadería Menor
- 5 Administración Rural

Construction work continued on a modest basis. The diesel ranges in the kitchen were put into service and are a tremendous improvement over our old wood-burning range as well as a direct means of cutting down consumption of firewood. The acequia to increase the amount of water coming to the hydroelectric plant was completed and put in service. Work continued on the additional quarters behind the kitchen, and on the storage shed for the Livestock Department.

The new incubator, a much needed item in the Poultry Department, was put in service. The last of our ensilage was early this month, and lateness of the rains has resulted in a shortage of green feed with consequent reduction in milk production. Land was prepared for sowing rice, sorghums and other field crops, but planting cannot be commenced until the rains set in. Our water supply has gone so low that we have had difficulty in keeping the ice plant in operation.