

Monthly News Letter-January 1947

The big event of the month was the arrival of eleven registered Toggenburg goats - 1 buck and 10 does - from the United States. Carlos Herrero went down to the end of the railroad at Potrerillos to meet them, and brought them here in our truck, a drive of 16 hours. Three Hampshire sows farrowed, one with nine pigs, and two with eight each. We have been harvesting a fine crop of pigeon peas and kaffir corn from the vega at Monte Redondo, and a crop of sweet potatoes from the field near the trapiche. The nursery of avocado seedlings became ready for grafting, and many of the students had an opportunity to get some practice in this popular subject. They also began the grafting of roses. Two grape varieties, Carignane and Valdepeñas, began to ripen small crops, and several of Fennell's hybrid grapes are carrying fruit. Classroom work proceeded without interruption.

With the beginning of the new year, we started several new, though minor, construction jobs. In the livestock department, a combined crib for storing feedstuffs such as kaffir corn and pigeon peas, and a storage shed for tractors and other equipment, is under way; also an extension of our facilities for raising pigs - this being one of the most interesting and useful of our livestock projects. At the dining hall, we commenced some alterations to the kitchen. In the field crops department, we began to rebuild the furnace and boiling pans for making panela or crude sugar.

There were many visitors. Some of the most interesting were (in chronological order): Dr. Albert S. Müller, director of the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura in Guatemala. Miguel Varona and Jorge Salinas two young Colombian agronomists who have been studying abroad. Rodolfo Rivera, Julio A. Bianchi, and Luis López, all of the Instituto Agropecuario Nacional, Guatemala, who were sent to study the organization and physical plant of the school. Mr. Taillon brought a very interesting group from the United States, including ex-senators Robert M. Follette and D. Worth Clark and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Corcoran of Washington, and Joseph W. Montgomery of the United Fruit Company. This group remained overnight at the school. Capt. Charles Baldwin of the United Fruit also spent a night here. Ambassador John D. Erwin brought out Dr. Paul Saunders, of the directors of United Fruit, and Abe Plough, a journalist from Memphis, Tenn. David Corcoran, brother of Thomas Corcoran above mentioned, came with his wife, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Honey of Tegucigalpa.



Wilson Popence
Director

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