



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA
TEGUCIGALPA HONDURAS

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

MAY 1950. Preparations are complete for commencing the new school year on the first Monday in June. There will be about 80 students in the class of 1953; ten countries will be represented. Our staff has been strengthened by the addition of two men: Albert S. Muller and Julio C Pineda. Mr Muller, who has been appointed Assistant Director, has an extensive background of experience in agricultural education in tropical America. After serving two years as Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology in the College of Agriculture at Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, he joined the staff of the late P. H. Rolfs at the Escola Superior de Agricultura, Vicosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil. He served for eight years as Professor of Plant Pathology and for a time interim-Director. During the administration of Professor Rolfs - who had previously been for many years Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Florida - the school at Vicosa established a remarkable reputation as one of the best practical schools of agriculture in the American tropics. In 1937 Dr Muller went to Venezuela, where during four years he was Head of the Department of Plant Pathology and Professor of Botany in the College of Agriculture at Caracas. He then served as Director of the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura de Guatemala for nearly nine years. He comes to us from the last-named post.

Julio C Pineda, who will teach first and second year English, was trained at Malcotal, Honduras, by Harold I Brosious - a man who is famous for his success in teaching this language. He then went to the University of Minnesota, and for many years taught English at Malcotal.

The rainy season set in about the 20th of the month, much to our relief, as our pastures were in the customary bad condition at the end of our long dry season. We had, however, an abundant supply of ensilages for use in the dairy. Plans are being made to increase our production of grain sorghums this year - seed of numerous varieties has been obtained from Texas A&M College. Land has been prepared this month for planting these as well as the necessary acreages of rice and pigeon peas.

Perry Garst of Davis, California, who has been here for the past several months conducting a careful experiment in the use of urea mixed with ensilage, to increase at a low cost the protein intake of dairy cattle in the tropics, terminated his project at the end of the month and is working up the records. Results of this interesting experiment - which was mentioned in our January News Letter, will be reported as soon as available.

Dr and Mrs A. W. Warnock of San Pedro California were visitors on the 3rd. Mr Jonathan Garst of Davis, California, spent a few days with us around the 5th, reviewing the experiment which was being conducted by his son Perry. On the 7th we entertained a group of about 50 distinguished visitors (including the President of Honduras) at a luncheon in honor of Dr Alberto Lleras Camargo, Secretary-General of the Organization of American States. On the 14th we entertained a group of about 75 delegates of the Federacion de Cafetaleros de Mexico, Centro America y Las Antillas. They had come to attend a convention in Tegucigalpa. A few days later we were visited by Dr Manuel Elgueta of the Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agricolas, Turrialba, Costa Rica, and Dr Jose Rafael Berli, Director of Agriculture in Venezuela. On the 23rd we had with us about sixty normal school teachers and students from El Salvador, accompanied by about twenty-five from Tegucigalpa.