



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA
TEGUCIGALPA HONDURAS

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

AUGUST 1957. During the past three weeks, we have collected a mass of figures. Some are interesting enough to pass on. For instance:

In 1957 our students will produce 3000 budded rose plants, 4000 avocados, 4000 mangos, 5000 citrus and 1000 miscellaneous budded ornamentals---nearly all of which will be given away. They will also make 650,000 lbs. of feed concentrates for our cattle and poultry, the latter will produce 120,000 eggs.

They will grow 10,000 lbs. of cabbages, 8,500 lbs. of lettuce, 1,500 lbs. of radishes, 10,000 lbs. of tomatoes, 10,000 lbs. of chiles, 135,000 lbs. of corn, 55,000 lbs. of rice, 15,000 lbs. of gandule, 2000 lbs. of beans, 75,000 lbs. of camote, 90,000 lbs. of yuca. They will make 22,000 lbs. of brown sugar from our own cane.

The boys will butcher 280 steers and 180 hogs which will give us 89,000 lbs. of beef and 50,000 lbs. of pork. While keeping busy at this they will make 9,000 pounds of cheese (4 different kinds!), they will milk 280,000 quarts and separate 24,000 lbs. of cream, and they will make 7000 lbs. of butter.

While treating our own animals, the students will also run several hundred tuberculin and brucellosis tests along with 1000 vaccinations and miscellaneous clinical tests on cattle from our neighbors' farms, all under the direction of our veterinarian.

And while all this is going on, in 1957 the collective weight of the students will increase by 1600 pounds!

And the school dining room will serve 220,000 meals and make 592,030 (give or take a couple) tortillas which will require 30 pounds of corn a day! The year will see the school freeze 600,000 lbs. of ice. To maintain or add to our own 137 buildings (which are on our 4200 acres of land) the school's sawmill will produce 75,000 board feet of lumber while the quarry will produce 8000 hand cut blocks of stone.

The 167 students will be working under the supervision of an 18 man faculty (1 faculty member/9 students) which will teach in the classroom an average of 9 hours a week--better than the American Association of University Professors represented on our faculty.

The school, by the way, has graduated 543 students, all but ten are now working in some type of agriculture. The boys entering average 19 years 4 months of age and have (we think) an average of 9.3 years of education. On graduation they are ready, if they wish to go on (and one out of every 5 does), for the junior year (by U.S. standards) in college. To absorb so much academic training in three years while at the same time producing each year, 8000 budded rose plants, 4000 avocados, 4000 mangos. . . we've been through this haven't we?

Well, it's quite a feat, no?

It is something for which the school is extremely proud. And now that Dr. Wilson Popenoe has retired and left us free to say what his modesty would not permit to appear in this news letter, we wish to say this: the above figures will indicate only a part of the size of the contribution Dr. Popenoe has made to Latin America through his administration of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana. It indicates that we have as neatly a buttoned-up curriculum as can be found anywhere. But one cannot express in figures the tolerance, the sense of discipline, the leadership which he has instilled in our graduates. Figures, then, cannot express the nature of Dr. Popenoe's contribution.

Nor can figures express what the school shall always remember of our Acting Director, Mr. Robert M. Beasley (who returns to La Lima this month): his careful, considerate, and always understanding help.