

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - MONTH OF AUGUST, 1946

Considerable progress has been made this year in the production of field crops, and due to favorable growing weather of the past four months, the harvest promises to be good. We are giving attention to sorghums and leguminous plants for ensilage. We have fine areas of rice, sweet potatoes, yuca and various beans coming on. The corn variety known as Venezuela No.1, introduced last year, promises to yield an excellent crop, in contrast with commercial hybrid corn from the United States which was planted experimentally. We have abundant stands of sugar cane. This year students made 22,000 pounds of "panela", or crude sugar. Since we cannot consume even half this quantity, we sold 16,000 pounds for some \$1800.00, which amount was placed to the credit of the Students' Benefit Fund.

Due to absence of customary heavy rains in June, the vegetable garden has remained in fine condition throughout the summer.

During the month 22 pure-blooded Hampshire and Duroc-Jersey pigs were dispatched to various parts of the country where they are to be used for breeding purposes. We plan shortly to discontinue distribution of these animals (which are sold at a nominal price to encourage improvement of local stock) and commence to produce our own pork, lard, ham and bacon. So far, we have been buying native pigs for this purpose, in order to make breeding stock available to Central American farmers.

During the month, we received a clipping from the newspaper "La Democracia" of San Juan, Puerto Rico, with photographs and an extensive description of our first graduation. This bore a New York dateline and was sent out by the Agency SIPA, so we assume it may have appeared in other Latin American papers. The principal newspaper of the Dominican Republic "La Nacion" carried on 26 August a lengthy account of the school, with photographs, prepared by three of our Dominican students. All three editions of the "Bulletin of the Pan American Union" (English, Spanish and Portuguese) have carried recently a lengthy paper by the Director entitled "The Development of Inter-American Cooperation in Agriculture" which is accompanied by photos of the school and the first graduating class.

The Director spent a week in Guatemala at the middle of the month assisting in the preparation of a report on Guatemala agriculture which is to be issued by the American Ambassador, Hon. Edwin J. Kyle.

The Rockefeller Foundation seems to be making it a policy to have Latin Americans, who have been studying in the States on their fellowships in the natural sciences, visit the school on their way back to their home countries. During the month three of these - one from Colombia and two from Chile - were here. These men are always interesting and intelligent visitors and because of the important positions which they will occupy at home, can do the school much good. The Chileans, in particular, - of whom five or six have been here in the past year or so - seem particularly interested in this type of vocational education.

Mr. Webb, of the American Embassy in Tegucigalpa, brought out Dr. Henry Grattan Doyle, a well known educator of Washington, D. C. on