I regret beyond measure that I cannot accept invitation to proceed London Brussels and probably other places in connection with Barcelona Traction STOP Were it not for unavoidable and urgent obligations which make it indispensable for me to be in Mexico now and I believe for the next two months I would make every personal and other sacrifice to make this trip and would already have left for London STOP You know how closely I have followed the affairs of the Barcelona Traction in recent years not only because of the importance of the matter for the Company but also because I have realized the repercussions in so many ways which the continuance of the unjust and outrageous treatment which the Company is receiving from the Spanish authorities and others will have on matters affecting countries and peoples in a degree even more important than the effect on any one Company STOP While as a matter of ordinary justice and correct practice the treatment which the Company has received is utterly improper it is my considered opinion that basic principles affecting international practice, private enterprise, and a maintenance of economies are concerned STOP In these days more than ever the maintenance of just treatment and proved sound constructive international practice are at stake in an equitable solution of the Barcelona Traction matter and as an inequitable solution will in my opinion be certain to have serious repercussions not only for the Company and Spain but for the maintenance of principles in which all right thinking countries are concerned and which is in their interest, I am all the more deeply grieved and grieved that I am not in a position to accept your invitation to make this trip and to lend such humble support towards a just solution as might be in my power.

George S. Messersmith.