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GENOVA 44
MEXICO CITY
MEXICO. D. F.

February 3, 1954

Dear Jimmy:

After I dictated my note to you on Monday, February 1, after returning from Cuernavaca, Maryssael told me yesterday that he had had a telephone conversation with your father on Monday from which it appeared it had been practically decided that you were to have an operation for your back this week. I am terribly sorry to hear this but I have always feared that in order to get real relief you might have to come to this. I gathered that the operation would take place this week and I hope that by the time this letter reaches you the operation is well over and that you will be over the worst of it. At the best I am sure the immobilization which may be involved will be awfully difficult and tiresome, if not painful. Marion and I, I need not tell you, pray for and wish you all the best and I hope that you will soon be comfortable. It is going to be an annoying experience and a difficult one at the best and our thoughts will be with you.

I am feeling much better and have gained back some of the 4 kilos which I lost so quickly. My diet is somewhat improved but I am taking it extremely carefully. I wish that I could go north and see you and your father and the family, but it is now quite impossible for me to think of it, much as I want to do it more than ever, because I will not be able to travel any distance for some weeks at the best. I shall have these x-ray examinations again next week to see what the real situation of the hernia of the esophagus is.

I have had a letter from Hugh Fullerton who asks to be remembered to you. He is thinking of giving up his work at the American Hospital and coming back to this country to live, and thinks of living in Mexico. I doubt whether in his particular circumstances it would suit him to live in Mexico City or in Cuernavaca, but I will give him the information he wants.

Benson and his wife from Toronto (National Trust) have arrived this morning for several weeks, as he is here to sign the additional Series D Bonds we are giving the Financiera. I have asked them and Bernier and Ayres for the weekend at Cuernavaca.

Mr. James H. Heineman,
Woodale Road,
Greenwich, Connecticut.

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I have a good deal that I should be doing that I have not been able to do for the last weeks because first I had this skin infection which kept me in bed for almost a week and now this other trouble which was of course much more serious and which has pulled me down a lot.

Marion joins in love and good wishes to you and June and all the family.

Cordially and faithfully yours,

GSM/cbc

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "John" or similar, written in a cursive style.