



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Buenos Aires, Argentina,
May 6, 1947

H. 1192

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REPI: 16 May					
FILE: Hesse-Smith					

Dear Dannie:

I am taking a moment when I am not pressed to write you a few lines. Marion and I have been thinking of you all very much, and hope by this time Hettie has completely recovered and that you are feeling fit.

I have been very busy these last few weeks--in fact, ever since my return from Washington. There is something happening in this country every day, and I have to keep in very close touch with what is going on and it keeps me more than busy. I am glad to see that the press is somewhat more objective about what is happening in the Argentine, but it still leaves a good deal to be desired. The situation here is one which has to be carefully watched, but, in my opinion, it could easily be much worse. Developments here will be to a considerable extent dependent upon how we and other handle the situation. The important thing, of course, is to get our situation with the Argentine on a normal basis, because the present situation is completely abnormal and does not make any sense. We can talk things over and help towards stability and reasonable programs if there is an atmosphere of friendly collaboration, and that we cannot do as it should be done when there is such an abnormal situation as the one which still persists.

If we were to carry on relations in a completely normal manner only with those countries in which we think everything is as we would like it to be, I wonder whether there is any one country with which we could have altogether normal and friendly relationships.

I am not going to permit myself in this letter to

talk

Mr. D. N. Heineman,
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talk about the situation here or in the rest of the world for you follow things so closely that to do so would serve no purpose, and it would take a book to give anything like adequate comment of my own on the changing and developing situation. None of us can be very happy or content these days, but we have to struggle.

Marion and I hope very much that the circumstances may be such that we may be able to take a holiday of several months before the end of the year. We both need it and we are eager to spend several months at home, and in that case, we will be spending some weeks in New York. I cannot make any definite plans yet, as I cannot under any circumstances leave here until we have the position cleaned up.

Lee Fraser has been ordered by the I. T. & T. to Europe for a six months tour of duty, and Louise went with him. I think they are sailing on the AMERICA just about this time.

Marion's niece, Ann Layton, whom you will recall, has just married again. She lost her husband, as you know, during the war and has two little children. She married a boy from Wilmington whom she had known very well years ago. She just had a serious operation on a kidney a few days ago, but she seems to be getting on quite well.

My stomach is much better, but I am still on a diet and I am taking the medicine which Doctor Dresel prescribed. The last week or so my old pump has not been going as it should, and the doctor says that there is nothing organic but that it is due overwork and tension over a long period, and that I ought to take it more easily. Marion is quite well but this climate here does not really agree with her. Mexico in every respect was much better for us both than this place.

I wonder what Jimmy is doing! Is he still thinking of the Foreign Service? Tell him I would be very happy to have a word from him.

This is a very unsatisfactory letter, but I have been trying to use a little interval to get off a few words. I do hope that Hettie is very much better and that you are feeling fit. Marion joins in love and good wishes to you both and to the family and to Edna and Miss Janssens.

Cordially and faithfully yours,

