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GENOVA 44
MEXICO CITY
MEXICO, D. F.

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May 9, 1952.

Dear Dannie :

It was very thoughtful of you to call me on the telephone a few days ago, and I was delighted to hear your voice. I was really distressed to think that you were planning to go to Brussels today, and I do think that those whom you wish to see should come over to New York rather than you flying over there, but knowing you as I believe I do, I fear that you are going to make this trip, and this means that there will be no prospect of seeing you down here before I see you in New York.

I talked with Mr. Stewart in Toronto yesterday on the telephone, and I think we cannot have the meeting of the shareholders until the end of June - 27 or 28. As June 28 is a Saturday, it may have to be June 27. I told Mr. Stewart that the Board meeting of Mexlight which precedes the General Meeting would be an important one, and as we have so many important things to talk about at that meeting, we may have to count on two full days for that Board meeting - that is, probably June 25 and 26, or 26 and 27 - depending on the date of the shareholders' meeting.

In any event I am planning to leave here with Marion by rail on June 14, 15, or 16, and I should be in New York not later than June 18 or 19. I am hoping that you will be there because there are some really very important matters to talk over concerning Mexlight, and I would be glad to do so before I go to Washington after a few days in New York. I will have to spend a few days in Washington before going to Toronto as for my orientation and that of the members of the Board it will be very important to talk not only to the people of the International Bank of Mexlight matters, but also with others, and I would be happy to have an opportunity of talking with you before I go to Washington.

I have told Mr. Maryssael and Mr. Martinez that I think it is almost indispensable that they go to the Board meeting in Toronto. As it is difficult for the three of us to leave here at the same time, the probabilities are that they will fly to Toronto rather than go by rail, and will not be away from here more than a week. Neither Binder nor Leeper are coming over from London for the June Board meeting, and I do not believe that it is necessary for them to come. I do know, however, that all of the directors resident in New York will be

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able to attend the meeting, and I am exceedingly hopeful that you will be able to do so. Arthur Dean can only be away from New York these days with great difficulty, but I feel sure that he will make every possible effort to attend the June meeting. As soon as we have fixed the dates of the Board and general meetings, I will write him so that he will be able to make his plans.

We are in constant contact with the Government here on our short- and long-term financial problems. They have promised us to give us some information by May 15. I think we will get some resolution from them on the short-term problem, but it will be more difficult to get one for the long term problem. On the other hand we feel very strongly here in the Company and have said so to the Government, that we consider it very difficult for the Company to reach certain decisions with regard to the short term problems without having definite information with regard to the Government's attitude on the long term problems. We are making every effort to get resolutions from the Government on both aspects before I leave for New York. I think we must have this data and the attitude of the Government so that the Board will be in an adequate position to form its conclusions and to reach certain decisions. There are many things which affect the whole life of the Company and which will have to be discussed at least in a preliminary way, and very fully at the June meeting of the Board, and it is for this reason that I think it will be indispensable for Mr. Maryssael and Mr. Martinez to be there.

I am sure Hettie and Edna and all of you will be occupied with the move to Greenwich, and I hope that you will be able to carry through without too much inconvenience. I suppose you will be established in Greenwich by the time that I arrive in New York with Marion. We will stay at the Carlyle if they can take us in.

Marion will spend only a part of the time in New York as she will wish to spend most of the time we are north with her family. My present plan is to stay in New York and thereabouts until around the middle of July.

This is a hurried note as I wanted you to know my plans. Marion and I are both well. I have some minor troubles, and shall have to see a doctor while I am in New York - a specialist - but I will tell you about it when I see you.

With affectionate good wishes from Marion and myself to you all,

Cordially and faithfully yours,

GSM/go


George S. Messersmith.