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Mex. City - Feb. 9/59 (4)

FEB 21 1959

Dear Connie -

We are having wonderful weather here these days. I'm sorry we missed the last week end there, as it was wonderful there. Marion and I went to the Valentine Ball of the American Committee for the Blind last Saturday and I didn't go ^{home} until after one - the latest I have been out for years. We had to go to this Ball as I have been the advisor of these ladies who work for the blind - for some years - and they would have been unhappy if we didn't go.

The Duchess of Kent and her daughter Princess Alexandra are in Mexico for some time now - the British are using her in Latin America that was they used to

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use the Prince of Wales, and so every
one was supposed to wear fairs. Under
protest I did. It was the first time
in some six years I had worn a white
tie and I doubt if I will again. I
had a conversation with her - and she
seemed like a very pleasant person. She
is about 52. The American women here
are about the only people who do
anything for the blind - and they print
Braille books, teach the blind to read,
and teach them occupations such as
weaving etc.

The papers here are full about
the visit of the to Acapulco
and expect miracles from it - which

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of course won't happen. I am glad
I made up my mind not to go.

Last Thursday night, a week ago,
Mamie & I went to ~~celebrate~~
Carnegie, and before going to
bed, I gargled my throat. It
made me cough and I spit into
the John, at the same time auto-
matically pulling the string. My
upper plate flew out - and you
can imagine my feelings when
I saw it disappearing in the
John. We had so many things
happen to me - that I couldn't

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help but laugh. The next day I
had the plumbers at work to try
to retrieve it - but no good.
Fortunately I had an old plate
that served me until the dentist
here was able to make a new
plate for me. I can laugh at
minor tragedies now!

We are going to Chihuahua
this Thursday evening as I want
to get out of the depressing
atmosphere of Mexico City for some
days. Things should be going
well here - but the new committee

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is following the bad example of the
the last 18 months of the preceding
one - one spending and hoping
we will pull them out of the hole.
Most responsible people here are
disturbed, and so many come to
see me, Mexicans and Americans,
and I can't give them much
comfort. A balanced budget is
essential, and private capital
& initiative are getting continually
a worse deal here. My biggest
trouble is serious trouble and it
means harm not only to the

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Company - but to the Economy of
the Country: Margrossel has the
struggle pretty well alone, but then
isn't here much. He has been away
for two weeks, returns here this
coming Saturday, and will leave
again Sunday evening. Some of
my friends in Washington say
he hopes to succeed McGowan
Saturday for Defense!

We hope to see Anthony
Edes and his wife over the
week-end in Tennessee.
He said he would come up

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for lunch or dinner again.
He will be returning shortly
to England.

Mr. John Adenauer is
much distressed over Dulles'
illness for they have become firm
friends and Adenauer has full
confidence in Dulles, which
confidence I know is mutual.
Under the best circumstances
the activities of Dulles will
be limited, but he may be
able to play a predominant

role for some time, until this
 plague carries him away. I
 know you do not feel about
 falls quite as I do, but I
 shudder to think of that home
 of the people who are waiting
 to step in his shoes, may do
 so far they are such second
 rate people.

I hope this letter finds
 you & all the family well.
 The worst of the winter at
 home must be over. It has

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Was a severe one. Some and
Grace Katz read their best
wishes to you both.

Marian joins me with
love and all good wishes to

you all —

Truly yours

Gray