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Rec.d Oct.22,59

Tuesday, Oct.20, 59

Dear Dannie,

We spent the week end at Cuernavaca and had friends with us but the weather was horrible, it rained practically continuously day and night. We have had one of the "Norte" storms we often get in October and we gained about 18 millions in few days at Necaxa. Another storm is in the making, and we may get another 10 millions if we are lucky. It is not likely we shall have more than 100 millions at Necaxa by the end of the rains, and that is bad for us - when all other factors are so unfavorable.

The new Finance (?) Committee is meeting next Tuesday, to-day a week, and Taylor told me this morning that John Snyder is coming for it, arriving Friday the 23, or on Saturday. I shall try to get him to Cuernavaca for the week end as there are a lot of things I want to talk over with him. In my opinion we have not had such a serious situation in the company since I first joined it in 1947. I think Gustave understands it fully as we had a long talk last Thursday night here at the house. I shall have a long talk with Taylor before the week is over. Taylor went to Lerma this last week end - he had to make the last part of his trip in a jeep and he said the road were as bad as in Korea when he was in command of the troops there. Taylor is making a very real effort to learn as fast as he can and he is an extremely intelligent man. I was going down to see him this morning, but he is spending most of the day to-day at Lecheria. He wants very properly to see all of our plants.

We have some old friends from Cuba coming to spend the week end with us. The situation there is really terrible and serious, and we at home are doing nothing about it. The conference at Santiago, Chili, should never have been held at that time and the principal results were to tie our hands more than ever. I doubt whether in many years we have had such mediocrity in our government.

In the big picture we shall have trouble with Macmillan who is bound for a summit meeting before we are ready for it. We shall have less trouble with de Gaulle than with Macmillan. We cant make any comparison between Macmillan and Chamberlain, but in some ways Macmillan is creating the same atmosphere as Chamberlain did.

Can you conceive of a British Government ready to sell planes to a mad man in Cuba, when we know he is a mad man and wishes to use them to attack Santo Domingo and Panama.

This visit of Lopez Mateos to the U.S. will have either very good - or very bad results. It is too early yet to say. I see Draper made a speech in Chicago yesterday before some insurance people and he should keep his mouth shut about Latin America for really he knows nothing about this part of the world. It is difficult to determine if Draper is more interested in this new business of his - or in politics. Some still think the latter.

I am feeling better on the whole and have less discomfort. I wish I could be more active physically but one cannot have everything! We have had practically no sunshine for months - and I do miss that especially during the week ends.

I shall have a busy day, but at home. The Minister Counselor of the Embassy and the Chief political officer are coming in for lunch and I have a number of people who want to come in this afternoon. I find everyone very unhappy about the course of events in Mexico and there has to be a change of policy soon, or every one will suffer.

I hope you are having better weather in Greenwich than we are having here, and that this note finds you all well.

Marion joins in love and good wishes.

Faithfully,

GEORGE